

**MINUTES OF MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF THE
THATCHER TOWN COUNCIL
October 20, 2014**

Present: Mayor Bob Rivera, Vice Mayor Bill Mulleneaux, Councilmembers Don Innes, Ken Larson, Wayne Griffin, Aaron Allen, Joy Martin

Staff: Terry Hinton Manager, Matt Clifford Attorney, Shaffen Woods Chief of Police, Lona Duncan Town Clerk

Absent: Don Innes

Visitors: Kim Rhodes, Ned Rhodes, Layton Rhodes, Van Green, Ryan Rapier, Walter Stradling, Balt Bermudez, Van Green, Ainsley Allen, Jamie Davis

AGENDA

Mayor Rivera welcomed all and called meeting to order at 7:00pm stating there was a quorum. Mayor asked God bless our men and women in the armed forces God Bless our first responders the fire fighters and police.

Pledge of Allegiance lead by Judge Ned Rhodes

Roll Call.

PUBLIC HEARING:

- A. Adoption of Zoning for Riverwalk Annexation.
None

- B. Proposed Revised Final Plat of The Village – Scott Curtis

Heath said Mr. Curtis had the final plat approved some time ago. He has been trying to get this public report approved so he can sell lots. In order for that to happen and entity has to be responsible for maintaining the retention basin. Because it is a small sub division he has decided take the small basin's and attach to the lots. So whoever owns the lots will maintain that basin. In order to do that we have to go through the final plot approval again. The P & Z Commission has approved it and staff agrees.

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Walter Stradling stood and said he lives on the corner of 11th Ave and 2nd Street. The City came in and resurfaced the road and changed the dynamic a little bit and I am the low spot on that road so the water flows over into my yard. It goes over the sidewalk into my yard. My neighbor has the same problem he has had to put a dike in the road. We would ask that the Town look at it to see if there is a solution to the water drainage rather than dump into our yards. Jordan Flake stood and said he is the neighbor on north east corner of 8th Ave and 2nd Street it goes directly through my front yard. I have to sand bag my front door whenever there is any rain.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES:

- A. FMI Fire Department Grant Presentation.

Jamie Davis stood and said he was the General Manager at FMI. We had a request from the Thatcher Fire Department came to us for help in paying for air packs. Mr.

Davis said he would like to present the grant check of 132,000.00 which will cover about 50% of the cost . Assistant Chief Van Green and Fireman Balt Bermundez were present to accept the check. Mr. Davis said to give a little bit of history the mine relies on the local community to help out in the case of an emergency. Thatcher Fire Department is the first organization we go to when we need help or training. So when we received this request from your Fire Department we felt it would be a good way to help and show appreciation for all you do. Mayor Rivera and Council thanked him for the grant money.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Action Item

- A. Approve minutes of the September 15, 2014 regular Council Meeting.
- B. Planning and Zoning Monthly Report.
- C. Police Monthly Report.
- D. Approval of Invoices.
- E. Financial Reports.

Councilman Griffin said in the minutes the motion to donate 5000.00 needs to have the name of Boys and Girls Club stated.

Vice Mayor Mulleneaux made motion to approve Consent Agenda with the amendment to the minutes. Councilman Larson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion, consideration and possible action

- A. Town Council Meeting date discussion.

Terry said it has been a year since we moved the Council meetings from the 2nd Tuesday of the month to the 3rd Monday of the month. I have talked with staff who are involved with the meetings and they are pleased with the 3rd Monday. Councilwomen Martin said she has talked with members of the community and because of Monday traditionally be a family night they can't attend. The first two months of the year the holiday's fall on that Monday which might create a problem, plus the third week in March is spring break. I would like to see it taken back to the second Tuesday or even another day. Councilman Allen said one of the problems is the school tries to keep their activities off Monday which then stacks all their activities during the rest of the week. We are here to run the government so what is best for everyone including staff is good for me. Mayor Rivera asked why are we moving it for a church group. I am concerned that another group can come and say you did it for them why not us. I would rather leave it on Monday. How do we mix State and Church? Councilman Griffin said my preference is Tuesday but will do whatever everyone would like. There was no motion to change the night so it will remain on the 3rd Monday of each month.

- C. Health Insurance discussion.

Terry said I have given you a packet with all the insurance information and expecting

more information from our current company. We have an employee committee consisting of Heath, Tommy, Jared, Shaffen, Lona and myself that will go through all of them and make a recommendation to the Council. We are looking at a Self Funded plans and a Trust this year along with maybe a drug plan. Councilman Allen said he knew the hospital had a self funded plan. Terry said so does the College and the City of Safford is in a trust. We are looking at everything. We hope to keep the cost at what we have now and still have good or better coverage.

NEW BUSINESS: Discussion, consideration and possible action

- A. **ORDINANCE NO. 175-2014:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER, ARIZONA, AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP FOR THE TOWN OF THATCHER, ARIZONA PURSUANT ARTICLE 3, SECTION 3.3 REZONING REQUESTS AND ZONING TEXT AMENDMENTS, OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER ZONING ORDINANCE BY ADOPTING THE ZONING DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION FOR THE RECENTLY ANNEXED 38.0 ACRES LOCATED NORTH OF THE MOUNTAIN ESTATES SUBDIVISION AND WEST OF PORTER LANE KNOWN AS THE RIVERWALK AREA; ZONING ADOPTED BEING R1-43. (CASE #Z14-03).

Terry said we have by state statue 6 months to zone once it is annexed. We have chosen to maintain the 1 acre lot which is how the County had it zoned. The R1-43 maintains the 1 acre lot and this document makes it official.

Councilman Griffin made motion to approve Ordinance No 175-2014. Councilwomen Martin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

- B. Acceptance of Revised Final Platt of “The Village”

Terry said Heath explained the reason for the revised plat. Terry said staff and the P & Z Commission approved the revision.

Councilwomen Martin made the motion to approve the revised Final Plat of “The Village”. Councilman Allen seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed

- C. Re-Appointment of Magistrate – Ned Rhodes

Terry explained that he received a letter from Judge Rhodes expressing interest to be re-appointed. Terry said this is a two year appointment, he has done a great job and we would recommend he continue being our Judge.

Vice Mayor Mulleneaux made the motion to reappoint Judge Ned Rhodes. Councilman Griffin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous Motion passed

Judge Rhodes stood and repeated the Oath after Terry.

- D. Acceptance of infrastructure for Eagle Meadows Subdivision.

Terry said we discussed a few months ago excepting the drainage and possibly making this a community park. Everything is in, streets, sidewalks, sewer and water. We recommend accepting the infrastructure.

Vice Mayor Mulleneaux made motion to approve the infrastructure for the Eagle Meadow Subdivision. Councilwomen Martin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed

E. Updated Arizona Mutual Aid Agreement approval

Terry said several years ago all the Arizona agencies signed a master mutual aid agreement. This is a revision they have listed the changes on the second page. The County will collect all signed documents and return the master copy to us.

Councilwomen Martin made motion to approve the Arizona Mutual Aid Agreement. Councilman Larson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed

F. Joint Activity Center Project Discussion.

Terry said we have been in an ongoing discussion with Thatcher School and the College about the need for an activity center or community center. We haven't gotten anywhere with the College who has land in that area. The High School approached us because they also have land by the tennis courts they are interested in that project. The Thatcher School District would like to meet with some of us to discuss what might work for both entities. Mr. Nelson, Mr. Mangum, Doctor Bryce, Mr. Alder and Ms. McAtee will be coming from the school. We would like Heath and I and two or three members of the Council. Councilwomen Martin, Councilman Allen and Councilman Griffin said they would like to be on the committee. Terry said this is in the very early stage.

G. Town Equipment needs.

Terry said as you know we are getting ready to start the Riverwalk Improvement District and will have to rent a 613 paddle wheel scraper. The flood control basin needs to have a lot of sand removed. I am thinking it would be better to purchase rather than rent. I have looked around and found five different used scrapers ranging from 30 to 60 thousand. I would like to keep looking if Council thinks that might be a benefit to the town. Councilman Allen asked what the rental would be and Terry said he did not know but probably several thousand dollars a week. Councilwomen Martin asked is that something we do every year. Answer was yes we hire it done. Councilwomen Martin asked what would it be used for after that, answer was sand and road projects. We have the responsibility to take care of the dam and behind the dam. Councilwomen Martin said she would like to see more figures on rental costs. Heath said behind the dam is worse than Terry is saying we have to do something whether we do it ourselves or pay to have it done. Terry said at this point I am looking for your approval to look for the right piece of equipment and bring it back to you at next Council Meeting for your approval or disapproval.

Councilman Larson made the motion to approve staff to look into and bring back bids for the purchase of a scraper. Vice Mayor Mulleneaux seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous Motion passed

10. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

A. Town Manager's Report:

Terry said Church Street is behind due to the rain. As of today we have 16 booths

signed up for Santa in the Park. We have ordered a new transformer for the park in order to have more electricity leads. The drill rig is set up at the Waste Water Treatment Plant, but I haven't seen any drilling take place. Heath said they did some today. The plan is to get Church Street done then the Improvement district and then the pipe in with the hope of being able to get water to the ball fields. We want to get grass on the out fields of all four fields. The Walking Path is done except one spot that needs to be fixed and one driveway that needs to be cut out and filled because it creates a poodle when it rains. Councilman Griffin asked about fogging the park it is pretty bad. We have done some but there is so much water everywhere it doesn't help much. We do treat the waste water treatment plant.

B. Fire Department Report.

Chief Payne was attending class in Prescott.

C. Police Department Report.

Chief Woods last week we receive our new patrol car it is out back if you want to see it. I will be taking it to Phoenix area Wednesday to it detailed. Officer Shield who we put through the Police Academy started work today with Sheriff Department so he is no longer with us. The Makayla Sanchez homicide case which was tragic is moving forward. We filed it with the Graham County Attorney Office. I am very proud of the officers they put a lot of effort into that case. It was a hard case to work very heartbreaking. I received a call from a concerned citizen about sex offenders and where they live mainly Daley Estates. What citizens need to understand is that the police department has no say as to where a person can live. When they are release they choose where to live they have the same rights as you and I. If you want to know where sex offenders live you can go to the DPS web site it is public knowledge. Also Halloween is coming soon and there is also a football game so there will be a lot of people on the streets. We did request Search and Rescue to help with Quail Ridge but have not heard yet.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Safe House – Councilwomen Martin said there is a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on Oct 24th from at 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the Odd Fellows in Safford. It is \$5.00 a plate you can eat there or take out. Go and support them.

B. Chamber of Commerce - None

C. SEAGO – Mayor Rivera said our Economical Development Planner is going to leave to go to Greenlee County he has some big shoes to fill so they will be working finding someone.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Mayor Mulleneaux made motion to adjourn meeting with a seconded from Councilman Griffin. Vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8: 20 pm

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Lona Duncan, Town Clerk

Robert Rivera, Mayor

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular/special meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Thatcher held on the 20th day of October, 2014. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Lona Duncan, Town Clerk