

**MINUTES OF MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF THE
THATCHER TOWN COUNCIL
December 15, 2014**

Present: Mayor Bob Rivera, Councilmembers, Wayne Griffin, Don Innes, Ken Larson, Aaron Allen, Joy Martin, Ryan Rapier

Staff: Terry Hinton Manager, Matt Clifford Attorney, Chief Shaffen Woods Police Department, Chief Mike Payne Fire Department, Lona Duncan Town Clerk

Absent: Bill Mulleneaux

Visitors: Janna & Josh Cortez, Luke Hoopes and family, Ryan Rapier, Shannon Rapier, Mercy Rivera, Juanita Ornelas, Steve Allen, Don Carter, G.A. Espinoza, David Ramirez, Carlos Montano, David Sawders

AGENDA

Welcome and Call Meeting to Order.

Pledge of Allegiance lead by Councilman Elect Ryan Rapier

Roll Call.

SWEARING IN OF NEWLY Elected COUNCIL:

Terry asked the three men who were elected to the Council to stand and repeat the Oath of Office. Ryan Rapier, Ken Larson, Don Innes stood and repeated the Oath.

ELECTION OF MAYOR AND VICE MAYOR:

Mayor Rivera asked for nomination to the position of Mayor. Councilman Innes nominated Bob Rivera with a second from Councilman Griffin. No other nominations were made. The vote was 5 ayes from Councilman Innes, Griffin, Larson, Rapier and Mayor Rivera. There were 2 nays from Councilman Allen and Councilwomen Martin. Mayor Rivera asked for nomination for Vice Mayor. Councilwomen Martin nominated Council Allen with a second from Councilman Rapier. Councilman Innes nominated Ken Larson with a second from Mayor Rivera. The vote for Councilman Allen for Vice Mayor was 4 ayes Councilman Griffin, Rapier, Allen and Councilwomen Martin and 3 nays Mayor Rivera, Councilman Innes and Larson. Mayor Rivera state that Councilman Allen will be the Vice Mayor and Mayor Rivera will remain the Mayor.

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

PUBLIC APPEARANCES:

- A. Christmas Lighting Contest Awards.

Mayor Rivera said every year we have this Christmas Lighting and we thank you for the lights of joy and for the work you did preparing your homes. It is very much appreciated. The Grand Prize goes to Luke Hoopes, 1st Prize to Carlos Montano. 2nd Prize to Dawn Griffith, 3rd Prize to David Ramirez, The Honorable Mention goes to Raul Alaniz, Juanita Ornelas, Josh and Janna Cortez, GA Espinoza, Mark and Ashley Smith. Mayor Rivera said again Thank You.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Action Item

- A. Approve minutes of the November 17, 2014 Regular Council Meeting.
- B. Planning and Zoning Monthly Report.
- C. Police Monthly Report.
- D. Approval of Invoices.
- E. Financial Reports.

Councilwomen Martin made motion to approve consent agenda. Councilman Griffin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion, consideration and possible action.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion, consideration and possible action

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. Town Manager's Report:

Terry said we will finish Stadium Ave this week. The scraper is being used we are picking up millings and cutting the shoulder of the road. Brent, Heath and I have been looking at places where we can put a few lights on walking path I will keep you updated on that process. The contractor has starting fusing the pipe for the Splash Park water line. Our guys will pour pads for the two 5 thousand gallon tanks. We will plant grass in early spring. The paint striper came in today we will receive some training on it after the first of year. Councilwomen Martin said she thought it would be a good idea to put on the agenda a place for anyone who had received training to report on what was learned. Terry said he had put that on this agenda.

- B. Fire Department Report.

We had a representative from the ISO office this past week he stayed 1

hour and I gave him a stack of papers. He said he would like to see more fire hydrants around town. I should get the final report in about 3 months. I am working on the air pack bids it will be in the paper and the web site. The District is going to help pay for those. Chief Payne said we will have two live house burns for training. Santa in the Park had a good turn out and everything went well. Councilman Griffin said thanks for helping with that. Chief Payne reminded them of the employee luncheon this Thursday at 12:00.

C. Police Department Report.

Chief Woods said that Officer Rodger attended a Taser Instructor school and Officer Hopson went to Forensic Interview training. Our new patrol car has arrived. The grant from Stone Garden is 50 thousand for overtime and 10 thousand for handheld radios and 4 stop sticks. One case we had this month was a person who made five residential burglaries he was caught and we were able to return all the items to the residents. The DUI Task Force will be out during this season. I sent you a Power Point from ACJC that is a survey from the youth. One thing I found interesting is that four years ago Graham County was the 3rd highest for prescription drug with the youth. We are now 15th that is such a reduction in a short period of time. Our community has accomplished that.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Safe House- Councilwomen Martin said she would have a meeting this week. If you happen to drive by they have ornaments on their fence that you take that will have a Christmas wish like a Christmas Angel.

B. Chamber of Commerce- Councilman Rapier reported that the Mayor and the Manager of City of Safford came and talked about the new recycling system. The chamber is getting ready to elect three new officers.

C. SEAGO – Mayor Rivera said they had a business meeting in Nogales. We talked about the hiring of the Economic Development person. The Executive Director made a presentation not to hire but the Board agreed that the position was needed.

D. Training Reports- Councilman Rapier said he attended the Newly Elected Officials training. It had a lot of good information and I feel I am more ready to serve on the Council. Councilman Innes asked if they needed to report on IGA meeting with the school. Terry said we discussed wants and needs of the different parties and what direction to go. Heath and I have to come up with a general idea of the building and a cost per square ft. Then get back with committee to see if that is the direction they want. We talked about a long term agreement they were willing to give us the road so we would not be cut off the road. They will have a say in what the building will look like. Vice Mayor Allen

said they would give us the land and access to it. Terry said there is still a lot to talk and agree on.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Mayor Allen made the motion to adjourn meeting. Councilman Innes seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:45

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 15th day of December, 2014. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Lona Duncan, Town Clerk