

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE  
THATCHER TOWN COUNCIL  
October 19, 2015**

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

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

Visitors: David Sowders

**AGENDA**

Mayor Rivera welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:00pm stating there was a quorum. Mayor Rivera said on behalf of this Council I say God Bless our men and women in the armed forces, our first responder's police and fire, God Bless Town of Thatcher.

Pledge of Allegiance lead by Councilman Wayne Griffin

Roll Call.

**OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES:**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Action Item

- A. Approve minutes of the September 21, 2015 Regular Council Meeting.
- B. Planning and Zoning Monthly Report.
- C. Police Monthly Report.
- D. Approval of Invoices.
- E. Financial Reports.

Councilman Larson made motion to approve consent agenda. Councilman Innes seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Discussion, consideration and possible action

- A. Church Street reconstruction project.

Terry said Heath needs to know tonight if you approve the roundabout on 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave and Church Street. Would like to point out that the Daley Estates roundabout will probably go in next year with our normal road project. Vice Mayor Allen said this past month he has talked to a number of people and they do not seem to be against it as much as we thought after they were given proper information. Councilman Rapier said he talked to one of the land owners on that corner and his only concern was not to lose too much land and wanted to make sure it was safe for the children crossing. Vice Mayor Allen said the homeowner he talked with was concerned about backing out of his home. Both issues have been addressed and will not be a problem. Councilman Innes said he has heard that it would not slow traffic. Terry said it should slow them to 10 miles an hour. Heath said it has been proven that

stop signs create higher speed because they are trying to make up for the lost time when having to stop. Councilman Griffin said I have a concern with the cost of the redesign. Heath said the redesign or a change order for the engineers we will pay for which will be 30 to 40 thousand dollars. Construction of it would come out of the grant money. Councilman Griffin asked about pedestrian access since no one has to stop during the busy times of the day when the kids are crossing for school will it be safe. Terry said when ADOT did their survey it showed little pedestrian traffic on 3<sup>rd</sup> and Church Street and the studies for pedestrians accidents on the roundabouts are down from that of a stop sign.

Vice Mayor Allen made the motion to approve a design change on 3<sup>rd</sup> and Church to include a roundabout. Councilman Innes seconded the motion. The vote was 5 ayes Rivera, Innes, Larson, Allen, Rapier and 2 nays Griffin and Martin. Motion passed

**NEW BUSINESS:** Discussion, consideration and possible action

A. Water Conservation Ordinance Discussion.

Terry said I believe after your joint meeting you were to come back and discuss what you think. There is no drafted ordinance yet. I think they want your feed back. A number of items were talked about. Council wanted the following to be taken back to committee; rate structure, the list has things on it that shouldn't be there, springloaded fixtures should be included in commercial codes Heath said the rate structure is something that this committee can't really tell City of Safford what to do, that is why we suggested an incentive. Terry said once the City of Safford put an ordinance together then the Council can look at it and vote if you want it or not.

B. NLC Service Line Warranty Program.

Terry said this group has asked for the Town of Thatcher to endorse them. It is insurance your plumbing, water lines and other things. There are a number of different plans that can be purchased. The town receives .50 for each contract. Mayor Rivera said I am always looking at the older citizens that can't afford to have a lot of work done where then can pay \$10 a month and get there home fixed. Councilman Rapier said my concern would be you never know what these companies will use your name for. Terry said being that it is with the National League of Cities and Arizona League of Cities I don't think it will be a bad thing. Councilman Griffin commented if you start marketing then others will ask for the same. Councilman Innes said we can always ask for our name to be taken off.

Mayor Rivera made motion to allow NLC Service Line Warranty Program in the Town of Thatcher. Vice Mayor Allen seconded the motion. The vote was 5 ayes, Rivera, Allen, Larson, Innes, Martin and 2 nays Griffin and Rapier. Motion passed

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

A. Town Manager's Report.

Terry said they are back working on 1<sup>st</sup> Ave Park and Cota retention pond. After we finished out front of Town Hall we will work on the concession stand. We have talked to the design people on the skate park and have found a way to have it right there close to the ballpark area keeping it all together. Christmas break we will work on the sidewalk on College Ave. With the CDBG funds we want to put in a new

bathroom at Daley Estates Park but SEAGO has not decided if we will even get the money.

B. Fire Department Report.

Chief Payne said we had our Open House had about 400 people it went real well. Our air packs are here still waiting on the bottles. We are working on an agreement with the District. This Saturday we will attend the Safety Day at Home Depot also on Saturday the Safe House is having something at the Reay Lane Park in the evening. We have started looking at the new truck that will be a long process. We are replacing Engine 4 and Engine 5.

C. Police Department Report.

Chief Woods had a couple of officers help Graham County with the fair. The City of Safford is hosting a Core(Community Organize Resource Event)they have asked us to participate in that will be this Saturday. We have asked Search and Rescue to help on Halloween night it is a Saturday and will be busy. We also have a DUI Task Force out that night. We are hosting a training course with Eastern Arizona College called Alice training where a school, hospital, business can send their own staff to a two day training on what to do with an active shooter before the police arrive. By hosing the training, we will get a free spot in the class. It will be March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

A. Safe House- Councilwomen Martin said they are going to have monthly meeting for a strategic planning.

B. Chamber of Commerce- Councilman Rapier said the Board was encouraged to resign giving way to a new interim Board, which I am one. The reason for this Board is to go to the members, discover if the vision of the Chamber of Commerce is what is wanted or needed. After the information is gathered then they will recruit a new Board and a Director at that time. Councilman Innes suggested that Councilman Rapier be the new reprehensive for the Town since he already goes to the meeting. Mayor Rivera asked Councilman Rapier if he would take that assignment and the answer was yes.

C. SEAGO- None

D. Training Report- None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilman Innes made motion to adjourn meeting and Councilwomen Martin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous meeting adjourned at 8:46pm

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

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Lona Duncan, Town Clerk

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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 this 19th day of October 2015. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

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Lona Duncan, Town Clerk