

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Town Council Minutes April 18, 2016

AGENDA

Councilmembers: Mayor Rivera, Vice Mayor Allen, Councilman Innes, Councilman Larson, Councilman Griffin, Councilwoman Martin, Councilman Rapier

Staff: Town Manager Terry Hinton, Town Attorney Matt Clifford, Town Engineer Heath Brown, Fire Chief Mike Payne, Police Chief Shaffen Woods, Deputy Town Clerk Michelle Mortensen

Visitors: Covin Woods, Carson Turley, John Howard

1. Welcome and Call Meeting to Order by Mayor Rivera at 7:01. Mayor Rivera stated that there was a quorum. On Behalf of the council, God bless our men and women in our armed forces, our first responders, police and fire. Amen.
2. Pledge of Allegiance by Heath Brown.
3. **CONSENT AGENDA:** Motion was made to approve the consent agenda by Councilman Griffin and was seconded by Councilman Innes.
4. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. 2016/2017 Preliminary Budget Discussion.
There are some things going on that I don't have information on yet such as dispatching and animal control which I have made allowances for. I am trying to get the county to base these off of usage. There is money in there for a new police vehicle and I believe Austin's truck is the next one to be replaced. There are no major equipment purchases in the budget. No new major projects park wise. Big road projects would be a roundabout and the reconstruction at Hoopes Ave. The only revenue that went down from the state was HURF. We will still have enough money to seal coat some roads. Street maintenance is pretty much as is. Councilwoman Martin asked about the skate park, it will come out of this budget year. We've ordered the rebar and the dirt work we'll do ourselves. We'll do the fencing and there's the expense for concrete. Councilman Griffin asked about the cost for a new fire truck and if that comes out of the district. Terry said that it depends on the cost. Councilman Allen asked if this was the last year to collect pole rental, we will probably get that this year and one more. I'm expecting the budget override to happen and the earliest we will get the turnover taken care of is January 2017. We received a letter from City of Safford stating that they offer help for senior citizens, and have put in \$10,000 and wondered if we would be willing to put some money into that? We don't have any other information at this time, but Terry will get more information. Councilman Innes asked about the library. We allotted \$5,000 for the library but last summer the school didn't have any turnout as far as adults showing up. Councilman Innes said it's because there was no advertising. Councilman Rapier asked what do we want this library to be, do we want it to be for adults because it is a junior library. Councilwoman Martin said she didn't feel like it was an appropriate place for an adult library. It is something we need to make a decision on and move on.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Proclamation “Fair Housing Month”

Mayor Rivera proclaimed April Fair Housing Month.

- B. AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS AND IMPLEMENT CDBG PROJECTS. **RESOLUTION NO. 636-2016:** A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION(S) FOR FY 2016 STATE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS, CERTIFYING THAT SAID APPLICATION(S) MEETS THE COMMUNITY'S PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS AND THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE STATE CDBG PROGRAM, AND AUTHORIZING ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT AND COMPLETE THE ACTIVITIES OUTLINED IN SAID APPLICATION.

We passed this last month.

- C. **RESOLUTION NO. 637-2016:** A RESOLUTION PROPOSING A PERMANENT ADJUSTMENT TO THE 1979-80 BASE EXPENDITURE LIMITATION OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER.

This is in conjunction with the agreement with Graham County Coop. In order to make this happen, we have to raise the expenditure limitation. The customer base we are picking up will add about \$2.3 million for the cost of power. We are going to be losing some of the expenses when we take this over such as poles, transformers, and wire. \$1,950,000 is the amount I decided on, I wanted to come up with an amount that would cover all the costs without being too exuberant. I have come up with publicity pamphlet and detail analysis and I have a guy in Phoenix that will convert it to Spanish it and send it to county for publication. I will send the publicity pamphlet, detail analysis, summary analysis, and the resolution to the attorney general to review if this is passed tonight so they can make sure that everything is done correctly. I am confident that we would give new customers a five percent discount. The advantage for our current customers is that it spreads our cost over a larger base which helps the unit cost. Councilman Griffin made motion to pass Resolution 637-2016 and was seconded by Councilman Innes. Vote was unanimous.

- D. **RESOLUTION NO. 638-2016:** A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER, GRAHAM COUNTY, ARIZONA, PERTAINING TO THE SUBMISSION OF PROJECTS FOR CONSIDERATION IN ARIZONA'S 2017 HIGHWAY SAFETY PLAN.

This is a yearly exercise. It's mainly for Chief Woods to be able to apply for grants. Councilman Rapier made motion to approve Resolution 628-2016 and was seconded by Councilwoman Martin. Vote passed unanimously.

9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. Town Manager's Report.

The part came in for the splash park, so it should be open in the morning. Heath and I are on a committee to look at a contract with OB Sports for the golf course. I'm going to look at the floors tomorrow to see what we need to do on that. OB Sports wants to run the bar and restaurant as well. City of Safford is trying to

rush the liquor license. I put \$20,000 in the budget for the golf course. Mayor Rivera asked about taxes, do we get them? We have talked about that going back into the course. Councilman Rapier said it's very positive that City of Safford is putting someone in that knows something about running a course and has the approach of making money. The concession stand has been painted and Wednesday we will get the flooring done and the fixtures put in. It should be completed in two to three weeks. The irrigation district is worried about the canal breaking. The City of Safford, County, and irrigation district bought the pipe and we are going to do the work to install pipe from the canal to the drain by John Deere so that we'll be able to drain the canal and prevent flooding. When all that is done, we will start on the skate park. Since we've talked we think maybe a better use of the CDBG grant would be to put the rubber in at the park on 1st Ave. It may cost a little more, but we'd just pay the difference.

- B. Fire Department Report.
We are going to start pump tests on the pumpers. On April 30th we have dump the drug day at Home Depot. We are still working on fire truck quotes and are trying to get a grant from the mine to get radios.
- C. Police Department Report.
There will be a car seat event at the CORE event at Home Depot and we will be giving away car seats. The grant for that resolution that was passed is about \$98,000 but we'll be lucky if we get all that. We asked for a Stonegarden vehicle through the Stonegarden grant.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Safe House
Councilwoman Martin, there was a golf tournament fundraiser a few weeks ago that raised \$6800. The last report I have for February was that there were 45 people that were housed at the safe house.
- B. Chamber of Commerce
John Howard stated that we are in the first stages of getting started but Tom Claridge was given a year contract to be the director and we have a training coming up to help us out. We are getting our committees together for membership and events.
- C. SEAGO
Mayor Rivera, I don't have anything to report.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made to adjourn by Councilman Innes at 8:08 and was seconded by Councilman Rapier. Vote was unanimous.