

**NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE
THATCHER TOWN COUNCIL
September 19, 2016**

Council members present: Mayor Rivera, Vice Mayor Allen, Councilman Griffin, Councilman Innes, Councilman Rapier, Councilman Larson, Councilwoman Martin,

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

Visitors: Mike Andazola, Randy Bryce, Dennis Griffin, Mason Lee, Elijah Despain, Ryan Scorse, Brooke Curley, David Sowders

1. Welcome and Call Meeting to Order by Mayor Rivera at 6:00 p.m. He stated there was a quorum and God bless our armed forces, especially those in harm's way. God bless our police and fire department and our first responders. Mayor Rivera welcomed Councilman elect Randy Bryce and Councilman elect Mike Andazola. Troop 5738 of the boy scouts introduced themselves as Mason Lee, Ryan Scorse, and Elijah Despain.
2. Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Allen.
3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
 - A. Approve minutes of the August 15, 2016 Regular Council Meeting.
 - B. Planning and Zoning Monthly Report.
 - C. Police Monthly Report.
 - D. Approval of Invoices.
 - E. Financial Reports.

Motion was made to approve consent agenda by Councilman Innes and seconded by Councilman Larson. Motion carries unanimously.

4. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Canvas of Vote

Mr. Hinton stated you have the official canvas of the vote in front of you. These are the official votes. Wayne Griffin received 840, Bob Rivera 806, Randy Bryce 775 and Aaron Allen 772 with 16 write in votes. Proposition 400 Permanent base adjustment passed with 731 yes votes and 297 no votes. Councilwoman Martin made motion to approve canvas of the vote and seconded by Vice Mayor Allen. Motion carries unanimously.

- B. **RESOLUTION NO. 648-2016:** A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER, GRAHAM COUNTY, ARIZONA APPOINTING NED RHODES AS TOWN MAGISTRATE.

Manager Hinton stated that Town Staff recommends that we approve Ned Rhodes as the Town Magistrate for the next two years. Motion made to approve

Resolution 648-2016 by Councilman Griffin and seconded by Councilman Rapier. Motion carries unanimously.

- C. Unbundled cost of service study and rate analysis for electrical system.

Mr. Hinton said the Town currently has one rate for all customers. Most utility companies have different rates for different services and this study would determine what those would be. With us taking over the additional electric, I recommend that we commission this rate study. Councilman Griffin asked if these funds would come out of the enterprise fund and the answer was yes. Motion was made by Councilman Griffin to perform the rate analysis and it was seconded by Councilman Innes. Motion carries unanimously.

- D. **RESOLUTION NO. 649-2016:** A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER, ARIZONA, ADOPTING A CUSTOMER GENERATING FACILITIES POLICY PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Hinton stated this is solely dealing with solar energy. This is almost identical to Safford's and is similar to the COOP's. It limits the amount of rooftop solar so no customer will sell us extra power. The way the policy is now if you generate more than you use then it carries over to the next month and at the end of December it zeroes out. Councilman Griffin stated that he liked that you could carry a credit for a while but it ended up zeroing out at the end. Mayor Rivera asked if the solar has to be inspected before they start using it and Mr. Hinton answered yes. Motion was made to approve Resolution 649-2016 by Councilman Griffin and seconded by Councilman Larson. Motion carries unanimously.

- E. State of Arizona Office of Manufactured Housing IGA for Enforcement of Installation Standards.

Mr. Hinton stated that we do this every year. We contract with the state of Arizona to be able to do mobile home inspections when they are installed because it is different than a normal building inspection. Motion was made by Councilman Innes to approve the IGA with the State of Arizona office of Manufactured Housing for Enforcement of Installation Standards and seconded by Councilwoman Martin. Motion carries unanimously.

- F. Disposal of surplus land.

Mr. Hinton stated that in your packet there is a picture of a piece of property off of Reay Lane which is located in the flood plain and right next to the wash. This is a piece of property that I have had some inquiries about. My question to the council is would we be willing to get rid of this? Heath and I believe it isn't of any use to us, but it is up to you as a council to decide if you want to explore selling this. Councilman Innes asked who owned the land next to it and the answer was Bart Carter. Motion was made by Councilwoman Martin and seconded by Councilman Griffin to authorize Mr. Hinton to look at the feasibility of selling this piece of property. Motion carries unanimously.

9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. Town Manager's Report.

Mr. Hinton stated that the skate park for all intents and purposes is almost done. There is a little more sight prep work, but the pad itself is all but done. The only other thing we are going to do is change out the backstop on the boys' field before we leave there. Councilwoman Martin asked if someone is going to paint the bleachers and answer was yes, we have someone who is going to do that as an Eagle scout project. In about three weeks we'll start the shade structure in Daley Estates and after we finish that we will start on the roundabout and Hoopes Ave. rebuild. Mayor Rivera asked how long this project would take and Mr. Hinton answered 6-8 months. We've been meeting with the COOP to discuss what we need to do to make the switch. I am looking at January 1 and they believe it will be longer than that. We will be doubling our customers and there are a lot of details we will need to work out. I have made some inquiries into the Townhouse land up on the hill after hearing that the price of that land has dropped. What we are doing right now is having Matt look at the legalities of and procedure to purchase that land and resale it at a later date. My idea is to put the roads in and sell the land in blocks for single family homes. Councilman Innes stated that if we did this then we would have control of what's going in there. It was mentioned by both Councilman Innes and Rapier that we could possibly use part of that land for further development of our park area. Councilman Larson asked if there have been any more thoughts about recycling. Mr. Hinton stated it has not been cost effective for Safford. Vice Mayor Allen asked if there is something we can set up; such as bins for those who want to recycle. Councilman Rapier stated that maybe at least if we come up with some ideas or options for these items then we can decide from there. Councilman Innes asked Mr. Hinton to talk to Horatio again.

B. Fire Department Report.

We had 13 people go to fire school and we got a lot out of the classes which we are going to implement in our training in the next few months. The college is giving us a house to burn so all of our training the next few months will be centered around that. On October 11 we will have an open house at the fire department in conjunction with fire prevention week.

C. Police Department Report.

Last month we had the opportunity to go with Judge Petersen to present a youth alcohol presentation to the EAC students. We will be sending an officer over to the primary school for red ribbon week. We participated with the US Marshalls earlier this month to help them clear warrants in southern Arizona.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Safe House

Councilwoman Martin stated we have our quarterly meeting tomorrow.

B. Chamber of Commerce

Mayor Rivera stated that he asked Councilman Rapier to represent the Town at the Chamber meetings.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Councilman Innes at 7:01 to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Vice

Mayor Allen. Motion carries unanimously.

APPROVED:

Michelle Mortensen, Deputy 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 this 18th day of January 2016. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Michelle Mortensen, Deputy Clerk