

**NOTICE OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
THATCHER TOWN COUNCIL
April 16, 2018**

Councilmembers present: Mayor Rivera, Vice Mayor Allen, Councilman Larson, Councilman Rapier, Councilman Bryce, Councilman Welker

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

Visitors: Eddy Carlton, Rhiannon Carlton, Dr. Scott Sellers, Ashley Smith, Matt Petersen

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Call Meeting to Order by Mayor Rivera at 6:01. He stated welcome to our meeting. We do have a quorum. God bless our men and women in the armed forces, our first responders, our police and fire, border patrol and ICE.

2. Pledge of Allegiance led by Matt Clifford

3. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431.02 (A)(1)(7) the Council may go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and to consult with the Town Attorney for legal advice.

A. Selection of Councilmember replacement and administration of the oath of office.

Motion was made by Councilman Rapier and seconded by Vice Mayor Allen at 6:03 to go into executive session. We recessed from executive session and back into regular meeting at 7:10. Motion was made by Councilman Rapier to appoint Ashley Smith to fill the term of Councilman Wayne Griffin and was seconded by Councilman Larson. Motion carries unanimously.

B. Town Manager evaluation.

The council went back into executive session at 8:08 p.m. to do Mr. Hinton's evaluation. They came back into regular session at 10:11. Mayor Rivera stated that they would not renew his contract and gave him some options. Councilman Rapier made a motion to accept Mr. Hinton's resignation effective June 30th and was seconded by Councilman Larson. Motion carries unanimously.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. Approve minutes of the March 19, 2018 Regular Council Meeting.

B. Planning and Zoning Monthly Report.

- C. Police Monthly Report.
- D. Approval of Invoices.
- E. Financial Reports.

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Allen and seconded by Councilman Bryce to approve the consent agenda. Motion carries unanimously.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Preliminary 2018/19 Budget.

Mr. Hinton stated that I am asking you to pass the tentative budget. The biggest thing on the budget is the fact that we are lowering the electric rate, specifically the PPCA. I have spoke with K.R. Saline and they have recommended going to the rate of .0075 after discussing our budget needs. The sanitation and sewer rates will stay the same. Sanitation is still losing money but not as much as it was. This next year we will have to subsidize that more with the purchase of the new garbage truck. I increased the parks budget to \$200,000 if our schedule goes smoothly then we may be able to put in sprinklers at the new park in the fall. Our plan is to work on the soccer field and the bathroom concurrently. That is the biggest change from our last budget discussion. There is still money in there for City of Safford and the Golf Course. We got our signs in to put in at both ends of Church Street to make people aware of the Church Street project. Safford won't be going out to bid until June on this project, but Graham County Electric has already started working on the lights.

We are going to overlay 8th Street from Reay Lane to the channel that comes out of our dam, Ball Park Road, and from Church Street to the highway on 1st Avenue. Those are the worst three roads. There is \$75,000 budgeted for the general plan update which includes the future of Red Lamp. The magistrate budget increased because of changing the part time clerk to full time. I am very pleased in how the court is working. The sales tax is up so I adjusted that up a little. HURF is actually down by about \$50,000 and I think some of that will get made up by the payment we get from the state legislature. I lowered the raises from 3 ½% to 2 ½%. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Allen to approve the preliminary budget and seconded by Councilman Rapier for 2018-2019. Motion carries unanimously.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **RESOLUTION NO. 671-2018:** 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 2019 HIGHWAY

The agenda may be inspected at the Thatcher Town Hall, 3700 W. Main Street, Thatcher, Arizona. All individuals addressing the Council shall limit their presentations or comments to 5 minutes or less and no more than twice on any one subject.

Handicapped individuals with special accessibility needs may contact Heath Brown, ADA Coordinator the Town of Thatcher, at (928) 428-2290 or (800) 367-8938 (TDD Relay). If possible, such requests should be made 72 hours in advance.

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Date: _____ Time: _____

SAFETY PLAN.

This is a resolution we do yearly so that the police department can apply for the grants they get. Councilman Rapier made the motion and was seconded by Councilman Welker to approve Resolution 671-2018.

- B. ORDINANCE NO. 183-2018:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER, ARIZONA, AMENDING TITLE XII, CHAPTER 70, TRAFFIC CODE, OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER TOWN CODE BY ADDING CHAPTER 72.10

Mr. Hinton stated that this came up in trying to enforce the parking in the fire lane at the high school. Chief Woods stated that the main issue is public property vs. private property. We can write citations on private property under state code, but unless it is specified in town code then we can't do much. Motion was made by Councilman Rapier and seconded by Councilwoman Smith to approve Ordinance 183-2018.

- C. FAIR HOUSING PROCLAMATION.**

Mr. Hinton stated that we do this yearly for CDBG. Mayor Rivera read the Fair Housing Proclamation.

7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. Town Manager's Report:**

Mr. Hinton stated that we finished up the first culvert and the walking path is back in as well. They should be cutting the pavement for the next one which should take 6-8 weeks. Mr. Brown designed both the same so we could order all the materials. We are working with Graham County Electric on the lighting on 8th Street. We have started working on cleaning up the lay down yard and are going to take some of the materials there to the county auction that is coming up. We have a truck over at Red Lamp so the maintenance guy can start cleaning that up. We are going to try to leave as many of the good trees as we can but will get rid of the dead ones. We are going to knock down the house and get the pool cleaned out of there. We have had a few inquiries as to the property there.

We have the signs ready to go on Church Street, so as soon as they are ready to start on the Church Street project we will get those posted. Mr. Brown is in the process of working on information for the 2020 census so that is keeping him busy. We are done striping all the streets. We have one area on 20th Street that didn't turn out very good so we will re-evaluate that. We are building brackets for the flags on the poles. Our blade just showed up this morning from our rebuild which looks like a brand new blade.

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B. Fire Department Report.

Chief Payne said I gave you the run down last month, so we have the VFW dinner coming up which is once a year and we also have Dump the Drugs coming up this month. Other than that we're just doing our regular training. Mayor Rivera stated please thank our fire fighters.

C. Police Department Report.

Chief Woods stated that last week we had about 30 students from around the state participate in some munitions during EAC Skills Day. We also had two officers attend an active shooter instruction school last week. It was free, so they received the most up to date training and had really good things to say. There were officers from all over the country. Mr. Clifford asked about the situation at the school and if something happened. Chief Woods stated that there is room for improvement but we work and train together, and I think the biggest thing is communication which we are fortunate to have. Mayor Rivera asked about the school resource officer. Chief Woods stated that we applied for one of those last year and the grants for those occur in three year cycles. As Chief Payne stated we have the VFW dinner coming up and we have nominated Sergeant Cauthen as officer of the year. Mayor Rivera stated please thank our officers.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made to adjourn by Councilman Larson at 10:30 and was seconded by Councilman Rapier. Motion carries unanimously.

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