



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

**A.** Arizona Eastern Railway Company – Construction & Maintenance Agreement

Mr. Brown reported that this is the agreement with Arizona Eastern Railway Company to reconstruct the crossing on 8<sup>th</sup> Street for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Project. The Railway will be billing us for labor and materials and not the \$1.4 million estimate. The Agreement has been reviewed by Matt Clifford, Town Attorney.

Councilmember Carlton made a motion to approve the Arizona Eastern Railway Company – Construction & Maintenance Agreements and was seconded by Vice Mayor Howard. Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Resolution 716-2024 – RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER (TOWN) APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF THE INTEGRATED FEDERAL RESOURCE AND POWER TRANSACTIONS AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN AND WAPA, AND CORRESPONDING AMENDED AND RESTATED INTEGRATED SCHEDULING AGREEMENT**

Mr. Brown announced that this is an updated resolution with WAPA (Western Area Power Administration) who is the entity that we receive our hydropower from. The hydropower comes from the Hoover and Glen Canyon dams. The current resolution is 8 years old. Mr. Brown stated that there is a small change that has been made to the resolution. The change is to the schedule of the power distribution, which has been adjusted to meet our demands accordingly. Mr. Brown requested SPAA (Southwest Public Power Agency) review the updated resolution. Staff and SPAA recommend the approval of the updated resolution.

Vice Mayor Howard made a motion to approve Resolution 716-2024 as stated and was seconded by Councilmember Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

**7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

**A.** Town Manager's Report

- PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

- 8<sup>th</sup> Street

- Our crew is working on power and irrigation relocation. The city of Safford is working on relocation of water lines. Southwest Gas is installing new gas lines. Crews will then start on replacing the canal culvert that will continue through October and November. The closings are a concern and there are radio ads being played, information is listed on our website and social media.

- Mr. Palmer, Town Engineer, stated that traffic is a big concern in the construction zones.

- Residents are driving fast which leads to it not being safe. He recommended the posting of a 15 mile an hour sign during construction.

- Police Chief Orr stated that there is police presence during the construction. They have also placed a decoy police car during the construction.

- The council approved the placing of a 15 mile an hour sign during the construction.

- INCINERATOR

- The Parks and Electric crews will be pouring the pad for the project.

- NEW DEVELOPMENT STATUS

- Southwest Gas

- The building is complete, and they have received their Certificate of Occupancy. They will be having a ribbon cutting/grand opening on October 16<sup>th</sup> at noon.

- U-Haul

- The development is under construction and moving quickly.

- Arizona Southwest Credit Union

- They are waiting on their lawyers to get the purchase agreement finalized.

- Culver's

- They have submitted a formal proposal to the corporate office.

- Extended Stay Hotel

- Our Board of Adjustments met 2 weeks ago and approved the variance for four story height buildings. Extended Stay Hotel has been notified of the approval.

- 1<sup>st</sup> & 70

- Geotech has been performed and a traffic study is underway which should warrant a traffic signal.

- COUNTY WIDE MAYOR / MANAGER MEETINGS  
The meetings continue as planned and are proceeding okay.  
We received a letter two weeks ago from the City of Safford's Finance Director regarding the Golf Course IGA. It is stated in the IGA that Thatcher will rebate the taxes collected from the Golf Course sales for the operation and maintenance of the Golf Course. The letter stated that we have not rebated the taxes since the IGA started in 2016 therefore, we owe the City of Safford \$156,000. Staff did research and found that we had received invoices from OB Sports and paid the invoices to OB Sports from 2016 to 2021. In the third quarter of 2021 Troon Golf purchased the golf course from OB Sports. Troon Golf has not sent invoices, and we have not paid the taxes from the third quarter 2021 to current. The City of Safford's attorney contacted our attorney, Matt Clifford, and asked for an update on the status of the letter.

- FINANCIAL SUMMARY

GENERAL FUND		SEWER FUND		ELECTRIC FUND	
TOWN TAXES	\$467,260	SEWER REVENUE	\$37,832	ELECTRIC REVENUE	\$805,447
SHARED REVENUE	\$204,233	SEWER EXPENDITURES	\$30,034	ELECTRIC EXPENDITURE	\$1,053,784
OTHER REVENUES	\$142,742	SEWER NET	\$7,799	ELECTRIC NET	-\$248,337
TOTAL REVENUE	\$814,235	<b>SANITATION FUND</b>			
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,234,541	SANITATION REVENUE	\$37,489		
GENERAL FUND NET	-\$420,306	SANITATION EXPENDITURE	\$34,842		
		SANITATION NET	\$2,647		

- POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Chief Orr and other Officers participated in the 9/11 Stair Climb event at EAC.
- Four Officers will be getting recertified in phlebotomy.
- Recruit Baldwin continues to do well at the Academy.
- Officer Fischbeck has completed her FTO training and is patrolling on her own.
- There will be an Officer out 6-12 weeks for shoulder surgery.
- They will continue to monitor the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Project during construction.

- FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Chief Curtis and other Fire Fighters participated in the 9/11 Stair Climb event at EAC. The crew provided air packs for climbers to demonstrate during the climb.
- Fire Fighters attended Fire School in Mesa, AZ last week. They will be sharing what they learned with the others during upcoming training sessions.
- The walk through for SW Gas will be performed on October 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Chief Curtis and Evvie Turley, Administrative Assistant, attended an interview meeting with FMI for the Community Grant to fund the Wildland Truck. The committee is behind a couple of weeks in reviewing the grant applications. Awardees have not been determined.
- Assisted in an FMI truck that presented a sulfuric acid leak. Using 4 trucks, crews cleaned the roads from Norton Road to U.S. 70. Most of the leaks were on Safford Bryce Road.
- The annual Fire Department Open House will be held October 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. All are invited.

## B. Council Reports

- League of Cities and Towns Annual Conference Feedback
  - All commented on the outstanding presence of the three EAC Cheerleaders that represented our flag during the Parade of Flags. They hope to continue this tradition in the years to come.
  - Vice Mayor Howard stated this conference being impressive compared to the years past due to the rural representation.
  - Attorney Matt Clifford commented on the impressive speaker at the opening ceremony.
  - Mayor Bryce reported on a session that he attended where the presenters were the President of Resolution Copper and the Mayor of Superior. The session focused on Cities and Towns community expansions. How Cities and Towns should identify the issues that may occur with expansions and communicate with neighboring communities and the company initiating the expansion.

Mayor Bryce commented on how well Thatcher was represented at the 9/11 Stair Climb event. He gave a brief talk to the kids that were present reminding them that the walk is in remembrance of 9/11 but also to support and show appreciation for our local first responders.

**8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS & POTENTIAL QUORUM'S**

Mr. Brown mentioned the scheduling of the upcoming Council Work Session meeting. The Mayor and Council came to a consensus of November 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Bryce adjourned the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Heath Brown, Town Manager

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Randy Bryce, Mayor

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Thatcher held on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of September. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Annie Reidhead, Town Clerk