

**DRAFT MINUTES
TOWN OF QUARTZSITE
465 N. PLYMOUTH AVENUE
SPECIAL MEETING
MUNICIPAL UTILITY ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2015 AT 2:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER:

 Chairman Dennis Dole called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

ROLL CALL OF THE BOARD:

Chairman: Dennis Dole - Present Member: Starr Bearcat - Present
Member: John (Jack) Brown - Present Member: Darrell Crooks - Absent
Member: Richard Thompson – Present

Staff Present: Miguel Castellanos, Deputy Town Clerk; Rondus Bennett, Utilities Accounts Manager; Oscar Cruz, Water Department; Skylor Miller, Town Manger.

READING & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

 The Minutes for the meetings on March 12, 2015 and April 9, 2015 were approved as amended.

BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of Implementation of private well metering for the purpose of providing volumetric sewer reads.

 Town Manager Skylor Miller reviewed the Well Water Meter Presentation. He spoke of the option the Town would like to add to for the people who are on well water and how the well meter could benefit them.

 Chairman Dennis Dole asked about the base rate and Skylor Miller answered they would depend on the type of meter.

 Town Manager Skylor Miller explained the private wells would get their own private meter that would have to be compatible with the Town's software. These meters are not mandatory and would be an option for the residents or companies that are interested.

 Board Member John "Jack" Brown asked who would be responsible for the meter.

 Town Manager Skylor Miller answered the meter would be owned by the property owner and would be in agreement with the Town to allow meter readings.

 Starr Bearcat asked if the owner would be able to install a separate unmetered pipe for irrigation. Skylor Miller answered the attempt of the metered well is for an accurate usage. He recommended the irrigation topic be added to a future agenda so that the MUAC could discuss issues with unmetered irrigation

 Chairman Dennis Dole asked the Committee for a motion to open the discussion to the public. Board Member Starr Bearcat motioned to open the discussion to the public and Vice Chairman Richard Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

 Dan Madden explained why he would prefer having a metered well due to his utilities bill being the same year round. He agrees with the presentation showing the benefit of well metering.

 Mayor Ed Foster mentioned one of the problems that many residents have continued using their wells was due to the Town's water pressure.

 Dan Madden explained the water pressure is an issue during the busy season and being on their well helps with the water pressure problem.

 Johnson Fraiss said he was in favor for having his well metered.

 Jennifer Jones agreed with Board Member Starr Bearcat about the Committee looking into a solution for the people who irrigate their property and also stated that the well metering would relieve the Town from having to produce the water for all the residents and businesses.

 Chairman Dennis Dole summarized that metering the wells for the people who choose to buy their own meter would make the billing more equal.

 Chairman Dennis Dole closed the topic to the public at 3:05 p.m.

 Vice Chairman Richard Thompson asked who would get the meter readings every month.

 Town Manager Skylor Miller answered the Town would gather the readings.

 Town Manager Skylor Miller asked what the Committee's input was for splitting the water line for irrigation.

 Rondus Bennett said there are adjustments for exceptions as when someone is filling their pool.

 Board Member Starr Bearcat listed other towns that use volunteer metering so that the staff can look for examples.  She also informed staff on mandatory water pressure.

 Town Manager Skylor Miller noted the water pressure is balanced throughout Quartzsite. The pressure could be different on one side of the Town from the other.

 Vice Chairman Richard Thompson was impressed and said it a good proposed solution for the people who are on their own well.

 Board Member John "Jack" Brown said it is a very viable method.

 Board Member Starr Bearcat stated the proposed method should go to the next step as long as everybody can have the option.

 Chairman Dennis Dole liked the concept and would like to go forward as well.

REPORTS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Vice Chairman Richard Thompson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 p.m. and Board Member Starr Bearcat seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.