

MINUTES
TOWN OF QUARTZSITE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2016, 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION: Led by Pastor Bruce Swart.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Council Member St. Germain.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Foster, Vice Mayor Simpson, Council Member Kelley, Council Member Warner, Council Member Orgeron, Council Member St. Germain.

Absent: Council Member Davidson.

STAFF PRESENT: Skylor Miller, Town Manager; Susan Goodwin, Town Attorney; and Tina Abriani, Town Clerk

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CALL TO THE PUBLIC AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS:

Chief Ernie Renfro announced that the second meeting of the Quartzsite Neighborhood Watch would be held on February 4, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

Jennifer Jones spoke about the State Republican Party mandatory meeting that she, the Mayor and Mr. Sias attended, and she commented that it was riveting political theater. She spoke of what struck her as ironic about the dump truck payment arrangements and the associated sales tax savings in relation to the Town's need for vendors to pay their sales tax.

Shanana Rain BearCat thanked the Town staff and everyone that made the season great. She also spoke of the AZ Peace Trail and how it would benefit the Town.

Starr BearCat spoke regarding her understanding that the executive session agenda item was not in the Town's jurisdiction; rather, it was that of the courts. She also spoke of the difficulty Town staff have doing their jobs well while serving in different positions simultaneously. She said sometimes there is only one person at the front of the office to take care of the three departments.

PRESENTATIONS:

- 1. PRESENTATION – JC Sanders, Chairman of the Arizona Peace Trail, to provide an update on the progress of the trail.**

Mr. J. C. Sanders, Chairman of the Arizona Peace Trail Committee, introduced himself, and provided an update regarding the Arizona Peace Trail. The riding trail is a 750-mile loop between Yuma and Bullhead City which connects three counties: Mohave, La Paz and Yuma. He said that since the last update that he had presented to the Council, the organization had become an official federal tax-exempt nonprofit corporation and could now accept donations.

Mr. Sanders announced that on January 6, 2016, just north of Bouse, the first Arizona Peace Trail sign was placed to mark the open trail. He said La Paz County had applied for and received a grant from the Yamaha Corporation to purchase and place signs marking the trail along County roads. He said La Paz County also applied for and received a \$74,000 grant from Arizona State Parks to develop a staging area for the trail in Cibola.

J. C. Sanders reviewed some of the Trail Committee's long-term goals, such as the establishment of more staging areas in strategic locations; to monitor and modify the route as necessary; to work with the Bureau of Land Management, BLM, regarding access to some areas; and the development of a more detailed map of the trail.

Mr. Sanders shared the objective of the trail which is to develop recreational opportunities to bring people to western Arizona. He said it could stretch out the busy season, for the Town of Quartzsite, from early October to late April. He said he hoped to get support from local governments, such as Quartzsite, for the trail. He said it meant a lot to the public to know the local government is involved.

The update was concluded with the website address www.arizonapeacetrail.com and the Facebook page Arizona Peace Trail.

The Mayor spoke about the public's desire for maps of the Arizona Peace Trail.

J.C. Sanders said the maps were available on-line on the website.

The Mayor suggested that the Town provide a link on the Town's website and the Town's Facebook page. The Mayor asked that a Council resolution to support the Arizona Peace Trail be part of the next Council meeting's agenda.

Town Manager Miller talked about the trip he took with the Police Chief, the Public Works Director, and Doug Ross the Town's local Peace Trail representative, to identify possible spots through the Town to post Arizona Peace Trail signs. Town Manager Miller said they would all be working together on the placement of signs in the future.

The Mayor expressed his thoughts of the business opportunities the trail could bring to the Town.

Council Member St. Germain asked J.C. Sanders if there would be a staging area in Quartzsite. Mr. Sanders replied that he did not know at that time and asked Doug Ross, local Arizona Peace Trail representative, if he knew the answer.

Doug Ross said he had pointed out a location to the Town Manager and the Chief while they were reviewing possible locations around Town. Mr. Ross said he was referring to the area on the long-term BLM land just across from the LDS Church. He said he would try to get Town backing and that of the State Parks for the project.

There was a discussion regarding grant money from State Parks through the application process, the land right along the Arizona Peace Trail, business opportunities, an ATV center, and dealerships.

Vice Mayor Simpson spoke of Mr. Sanders' efforts, what had come to fruition from them and the future. Vice Mayor Simpson told Mr. Sanders that he and many others greatly appreciated what Mr. Sanders had accomplished.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 2. LEDGER OF ACCOUNTS PAID – Consider approval of check series 39769-39791, 39795-39804, and 39806-39810, 39817-39821 totaling \$31,225.10.**

Council Member Orgeron moved to approve the check series 39769-39791, 39795-39804, and 39806-39810, 39817-39821 totaling \$31,225.10. **Vice Mayor Simpson seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

- 3. MINUTES – Consider approval of the minutes of the Town Council Work Session of January 6, 2016 and the Regular Council Meeting of January 12, 2016.**

Council Member Orgeron moved to approve the minutes of the Town Council Work Session of January 6, 2016 and the Regular Council Meeting of January 12, 2016. **Council Member Warner seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

- 4. CHOLLA ROAD – Discussion and direction to staff regarding an amendment to the Town Code to change the speed limit on Cholla Road which currently has a 25 mph speed limit on the Town's portion of the road. The portion of the road that is maintained by La Paz County has a speed limit of 35 mph.**

The Mayor said the item was placed on the agenda as the result of a complaint he had received from a resident of Rainbow Acres. The resident expressed concern that the change in speed on that road might cause it to be a speed trap.

Town Manager Miller said the area of the speed change was west of Town but was still within the Town's jurisdiction. There was further discussion regarding the 25 mph Town portion of the road and what would be a reasonable increase. Town Manager Miller said there was no staff objection to the increase, including no objection from the Chief.

The Mayor said to Town Manager Miller that Mr. Miller could have an ordinance prepared for discussion at the next Council meeting.

Town Manager Miller said he would have an ordinance regarding the speed limit on Cholla Road prepared, and he said he would speak to Emmett Brinkerhoff, Public Works Director, regarding adding more reflectors to that road.

5. VENDOR PERMITS AND THE WINTER SEASON Discussion of vendor permit sales last year and this year, and promotion of the Town throughout the winter season.

Town Manager Miller spoke about Shaneen Bergette, the Town's one and only Vendor Clerk out in the field, as a Town ambassador to the vendors. He said he was happy to report that there was nearly 100% compliance with vendors purchasing vendor permits this year. He said the interaction the Town had with the vendors was generally positive.

Town Manager Miller provided a vendor permit sales comparison stating that in the twelve months of Fiscal Year 2014-2015, 1,125 permits were issued, and in the seven months of Fiscal Year 2015-2016, 1,305 permits were issued.

There was a general discussion of the past shows, upcoming shows, and streamlining the permit process.

The Mayor said he received one complaint which was that the Vendor Clerk got to the QIA very late to sell permits one day. He said he was at Town Hall that morning and saw the office was busy that morning.

Town Manager gave kudos to Shaneen Bergette noting that in order to get to all the shows and to revisit vendors, she worked long days, weekends and holidays. He said she went back to the shows when needed because some folks didn't have all the necessary documents the first time.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION - An executive session pursuant to ARS Section 38-431.03(A)(4) for discussion or consultation with the Town Attorney in order to consider its position and instruct the Town Attorney regarding the Town's position regarding Douglas Gilford's petition to clear arrest and charges record pursuant to ARS Section 13-4051 in State of Arizona v. Douglas Clive Gilford.

Council Member Orgeron moved to adjourn to executive session, and **Council Member Warner seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion Passed.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION: 7:40 p.m.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: 7:54 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Foster, Vice Mayor Simpson, Council Member Kelley, Council Member Warner, Council Member Orgeron, Council Member St. Germain.

Absent: Council Member Davidson.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Reports from the MAYOR on current events.

The Mayor reported that he attended the mandatory meeting of the Republican Party the past Saturday.

Reports from the COUNCIL on current events.

Council Member Warner announced the end of the second quarter was December 31, 2015, and that she had asked Town Manager Miller to prepare a Quarterly Financial Report for the second meeting of February.

Vice Mayor Simpson said he had traveled Plomosa Road earlier that day and that he could tell the hard part of the season was over and things were slowing down.

Council Member St. Germain spoke about the first case of the La Paz County Veteran's Court sharing that everything went well. He said the Court would have a judge every two weeks.

Reports from the TOWN MANAGER to the Council.

Town Manager Miller said that Scott Graff with Colby and Powell, the Town's auditors, would give a presentation to the Council of the Town's Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Financial Statement at the Council meeting of February 9, 2016.

Council Member Orgeron moved to adjourn, **Council Member Warner seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

ADJOURNMENT: 7:57 p.m.

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 26, 2016, of the Town Council of Quartzsite, Arizona, held on January 26, 2016.

I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

DATED this 9th day of February 2016

Tina M. Abriani, Town Clerk

On behalf of the Common Council

Approved:

Ed Foster, Mayor

DRAFT