MINUTES
TOWN OF QUARTZSITE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2015, 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Vice Mayor Simpson.

ROLL CALL:

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

STAFF PRESENT:

Skylor Miller, Town Manager; Susan Goodwin, Town Attorney; and Tina Abriani, Town Clerk.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS:

Lynn Stimson, representing the Quartzsite Historical Society, announced that next Tuesday, July 21st at 6:00 p.m., in the community center, Elmer London will graciously share his pictures and videos of his trip to London.

Shanana Rain BearCat greeted the Mayor and Council and spoke regarding a letter in support of the Chief of Police that was circulated among Council Members for their signatures. She said this constituted a serial meeting according to the Arizona Open Meeting Law and is a violation of that law. She noted that five Council Members signed the letter and, therefore, there was a circumvention of the Open Meeting Law and a splintering of the quorum. She referenced the Arizona Agency Handbook, Chapter 7-5-2.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None

PRESENTATIONS:

1. **PAUL WINER SPEAKS REGARDING THE QUARTZSITE BUSINESS CHAMBER – Mr. Winer, citizen of Quartzsite and Quartzsite Business Chamber Board Member, will give a presentation on the current status of the Chamber.**

Paul Winer, co-owner of the Readers' Oasis Bookstore, and a co-founder and a Board Member of the Quartzsite Business Chamber of Commerce, now in its twelfth year. He provided a brief history of the Chamber and another business chamber that was in Town some time ago. He said the current Business Chamber is a small volunteer service with a single, specialized mission to assist in the survival of Quartzsite's year-round businesses. He spoke of the future and the need for a second Chamber for tourism and the current Chamber's willingness to work with a second Chamber.

2. SUMMER YOUTH RECREATION PROGRAM – Slide presentation of moments captured from the Town of Quartzsite's Summer Youth Recreation Program that ended on July 9, 2015.

The Mayor postponed this agenda item due to technical difficulties. He said the Summer Youth Recreation Program was highly successful.

CONSENT AGENDA:

3. LEDGER OF ACCOUNTS PAID – Consider approval of check series 39043 - 39127, totaling $286,340.63.

Council Member Orgeron moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Council Member Kelley stated she wanted to pull three checks: 39066, 39123, and 39063.

Council Member Orgeron withdrew his motion and moved to approve the Consent Agenda minus check 39066, 39123, 39063. **Council Member St. Germain seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

Council Member Kelley withdrew check number 39063 for an erector set

Check number 39063 was for a steel erector set. Town Manager Miller stated he believes this it is scaffolding rental equipment, but he will verify that.

Council Member Kelley said there were two checks to the same people in two different amounts, for a license plate reader and installation. She asked why it was so much money and why they did not have just one invoice.

Town Manager Miller explained there is software in the office and hardware in the car. He said the billing was for a license plate reader, installation, and software and was entirely funded by grant funds. He noted a license plate reader is a camera that reads license plates and runs them as part of the stop.

Council Member Kelley moved to pay the checks and **Council Member St. Germain seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

4. MINUTES – Consider approval of the minutes of the Special Meeting of June 17, 2015; the Regular Meeting of June 23, 2015, and the Special Meeting of June 30, 2015.

Council Member Orgeron moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of June 17, 2015; the Regular Meeting of June 23, 2015, and the Special Meeting of June 30, 2015. **Council Member Kelley seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

5. INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – Review of IGA with ADOT for paving of Moon Mountain Ave. W Main Street - W Quail Trail Street (IGA/JPA 15-0005166-I) and discussion and possible action to approve payment of estimated project costs as specified and required by ADOT.

The Mayor explained that the Council approved a project for Moon Mountain Road, which was to be paid for in part with federal funding. He said the Council agreed to the project, to pay for any overages and to pay the required amount.

There was a discussion of a raise in the project's costs.

Town Manager Miller spoke of project costs and related what was explained to him by ADOT regarding the increase in the project's costs.

The Mayor stated he wanted to speak to someone from ADOT regarding his discontent.

The Mayor moved to go ahead and pay the amount of $77,916; but direct staff to put together a letter expressing the Council's dissatisfaction with the whole process and the way they did it. He thought the Council should have had a better explanation than what was provided by ADOT. **Council Member Davidson seconded the motion**.

Council Member Orgeron moved to just to pay the check, and that would be adequate. **Vice Mayor Simpson seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

6. REVIEW OF THE CHIEF'S PERFORMANCE – Recognition for the Chief of Police; discussion and possible action to remove interim status, designating H. Ernie Renfro Chief of Police; and to direct the Town Manager and Town Attorney to effect necessary changes in the Chief of Police contract for review by Council.

The Mayor asked that this agenda item be removed from the meeting.

Council Member Kelley said she was only asking to have the word 'Interim' removed from his title and status.

There was a discussion of the positive change Chief Renfro has made in the Town with his positive attitude and hard work.

Council Member Warner asked if the term of the contract changes by the removal of the word 'Interim'.

Town Manager Miller said the 'Interim' contract was for one year, and the Council would have to meet again regarding the substantial change to the contract due to the removal of the 'Interim' status.

Council Member Orgeron moved to remove the term 'Interim' from the contract for the Chief of Police for Ernie Renfro to be 'Chief of Police'. **Council Member St. Germain seconded the motion.**

Chief Renfro approached the podium and thanked the Mayor, and Council, and the Mayor asked if the Council wished to add an official recognition for a job well done to the motion and Council Member Kelley said yes. **The Mayor added it to the motion.**

Chief Renfro thanked the Council and said, "And again, it's not 'me,' it's 'we.'"

Council Member St. Germain seconded the amended motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

7. RECOMMENDATION FOR AN ANNUAL VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARD – Discussion and possible action regarding the Health and Development Services Board's recommendation regarding an annual volunteer recognition award.

Sally Ford, Chairperson of the Health and Development Services Board, announced that the Health and Development Services Board decided that they would like to honor the people that live in our Town all year and volunteer without any compensation, putting their time in and doing everything they can to make this a better Town. The Board would like this to be an annual award. This year they would like celebrate the award winner on Labor Day at the Town Park. They would also like to have some recognition for the person in the Town Hall. She said there would be two groups, one eighteen and under, and one nineteen and older. The Town would process nominations, there is a form in the Desert Messenger – until the end of July 2015. The Health and Development Services Board will review the nominations for qualifications. Then in August, the public will vote for an award winner out of each group. She said the Town needs to recognize the volunteers in Town, the backbone of Quartzsite. There will be boxes for votes in Town Hall, the Senior Center, and the Transit drivers may accept nomination forms.

Council Member Orgeron moved to have the Town formally recognize, and annual volunteer with a recognition award, organized by the Health and Development Services Board and **Council Member Kelley seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

8. SOCIAL MEDIA – Review and consideration regarding the establishment and management of Town of Quartzsite social media outlets for promotion of the Town of Quartzsite and its community.

The Mayor stated he did not want to see this happen in Quartzsite. He said some social media sites for Quartzsite already exist. He said he did not think the Town needs an official Town site where people can express themselves. He would rather let it be private amongst the citizens.

Council Member Kelley moved to open the agenda item to the public and **Vice Mayor Simpson seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed**.

The Mayor opened it to public discussion

Sally Ford said the Town needs to be part of social media. She said she would like to see it used to get the truth to the citizens and stop the rumors. She said there were many uses, such as the volunteer nominations.

Elmer London, resident, stated this Town was trashed by social media worldwide and could maybe get back on its feet by social media.

Dave Anderson, a Town resident, said the Town's Facebook page would allow the Town to set up a site that is only administered by the Town with no permitted comments or dialog. He said it is an opportunity for the Town to promote and project the image that it wants and quell the rumors with facts.

Council Member Orgeron said the Facebook page could also be administered by a moderator, with all posts being approved by the moderator before posting. He said there were a lot of positive things that can come from the Town's use of social media.

Town Manager Miller said the Town needs an official public government portal to reach out to the Town's community members and the Town's visitors. He explained there would not be any negative stories or arrest reports; rather, information such as road closures, hazardous weather, and to promote the Town.

Shanana Rain BearCat spoke regarding participating in the dialog regarding Quartzsite. She said younger tourists on social media look for places to go, advertise, and they may come here. She explained social media is the key to a growing community nowadays, either you are going to talk about yourselves, or they are.

Council Member Warner asked who would work on the Town's social media and monitor it for content.

Town Manager Miller said his office would be responsible, and he would have office staff do it. He said he was proposing to use Facebook and Twitter with no additional staff.

Pam Caskey, resident of Quartzsite, said many people that come to Town look for what they can do in the Town. They use social media to learn about events and groups to join. She said we need to change the recognition for the Town.

Vice Mayor Simpson said it would be a good way to get volunteers for Town events or committees.

The Mayor moved to close the public discussion on the issue, and **Council Member Orgeron** seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed**.

The Mayor said he would like to hear a presentation explaining what the Town Manager is planning to do exactly with social media before the Council gives its final approval.

Council Member Orgeron said the Council should move and vote.

Council Member Orgeron moved to direct staff to establish and manage the Town of Quartzsite social media outlets for promotion of the Town of Quartzsite and its community. **Council Member Kelley seconded** the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion passed (summary: **Yes = 6**, **No = 1**, Abstain = 0).
Yes: Vice Mayor Simpson, Council Member Kelley, Council Member Warner, Council Member Orgeron, Council Member Davidson, and Council Member St. Germain.
No: Mayor Foster.

COMMUNICATIONS:

9. Reports from the MAYOR on current events.

The Mayor stated Dr. Kelli Ward has officially announced she will run for the U.S. Senate against John McCain. She does not need to resign as a State Senator to run for a federal office. She will continue in her present capacity until the election next year.

10. Reports from the COUNCIL on current events.

Council Member St. Germain said another community member took his own life. He asked everyone to please keep an eye on each other. He wanted everyone to know there is help available in the community.

11. Reports from the TOWN MANAGER to the Council.

There was a discussion of a date for a public hearing and special meeting for approval of the final budget.

The meeting was set for Friday, August 14· 2015, at 10:00 am

ADJOURNMENT: 8:05 p.m.

Vice Mayor Simpson moved to adjourn, and **Council Member Orgeron seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed**.

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 14, 2015, of the Town Council of Quartzsite, Arizona, held on July 14, 2015.

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

DATED this 28th day of July 2015

Tina M. Abriani 08-03-15
Miguel A. Castellanos

Tina M. Abriani, Town Clerk

Miguel A. Castellanos, Deputy town Clerk

On behalf of the Common Council

Approved:

Ed Foster, Mayor