

MINUTES
TOWN OF QUARTZSITE
WORK SESSION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2013, 1:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: 1:01 PM

Mayor Foster called the Work Session to order.

INVOCATION: Prayer by Pastor Bruce.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Led by Mayor Foster.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Foster, Vice Mayor Jewitt, Council Member Kelley, Council Member Crooks, Council Member Orgeron, Council Member Scott.

ABSENT: none

STAFF PRESENT:

Town Manager Laura Bruno, Town Attorney Patrician Ronan; Tina Abriani, Secretary

Vice Mayor Jewitt moved to approve the agenda as presented and Council Member Crooks seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

WORK SESSION

BOARDS, COMMITTEES & COMMISSION - Discussion and consideration of recommendations regarding the Council Boards, Committees, Commissions and Corporations, including –the Board of Adjustment, Hi Jolly Cemetery Board, Health & Development Services Board, Library Board, Municipal Property Corporation, Municipal Utility Administrative Committee, Park & Recreation Committee, Personnel Board, Planning & Zoning Commission, Public Safety Retirement Board, Vendor/Swap Meet/RV Parks Municipal Board

Town Manager Laura Bruno reviewed the components of the packet for the work session.

Council Member Scott made a suggestion as to how the work session might proceed.

Every board or committee must comply with the open meeting law, stated Attorney Ronan. The cemetery is owned and operated by the Town of Quartzsite, is not private and therefore is subject to the open meeting law.

Town Manager Bruno stated she is recommending that a standing Council Agenda item for reports from the advisory Boards, Committees and Commissions be established.

She proposes the creation of an over-arching ordinance that covers general criteria for all advisory bodies with separate sections for each and every body.

The Mayor requested input from the Boards.

Carolyn Guthrie of the Health & Development Services Board spoke regarding that board.

Dee Sheehan stated she is not happy with the Cemetery Board meetings and explained why. She also stated the need for the Cremation wall to be erected.

Attorney Patrician Ronan reviewed the purpose of the open meeting law.

Attorney Patrician Ronan explained that there are two separate typical ways for the public to speak: to address a specific agenda item when it is happening and are recognized by the board and a board may have a call to the public, at the end of the meeting at which the public can discuss anything within the jurisdiction of the board. The call to the public should be listed as a separate agenda item, either at the beginning or the end of the meeting.

Agendas can be created so as to not restrict the board members and to not exclude the public

Monica Timberlake, a former board member, spoke regarding volunteer interest statements and public comment at the board meetings.

Dolores Klose stated she is the only unexpired member of the Personnel Board and spoke regarding that board's meetings.

Norm Simpson, the Chair of the Planning & Zoning Commission, spoke regarding the need to have to a quorum, which is why he suggested that the Commission be reduced in number to five members. He requested that information regarding what the boards do be publicized to interest prospective members.

Skip Gallup, Chairman of the Vendor, RV Parks & Swap Meet Board, stated that he does not agree with these changes in any sense. He said the Vendor Board was formed to hear problems and complaints from the Vendors and should remain as such.

Randie Farish of the Vendor, RV Parks & Swap Meet Board stated it would be difficult to get eleven members to attend a meeting in Quartzsite.

Dennis Kuehl of the Vendor, RV Parks & Swap Meet Board and the Planning & Zoning Commission spoke regarding the Board's need for a five member board to be able to have a quorum. He said there should be a development board.

Sally Ford, Chairman of the Health & Development Services Board, spoke about citizens' willingness to participate on the boards. She thinks the board does need to expand its abilities and what they can do. She was pleased with the proposed changes.

Carolyn Guthrie of the Health & Development Services Board spoke regarding the polarization of the community and the idea that the proposed community social may start the community back on the right track again.

Christina Benson, expired Park & Recreation Board Member, stated that a five member board would help the board to get a quorum. She also expressed her positive feelings about the recommendation to add the Library Board to the Park & Recreation Board.

Mary Ann Peck of the Library Board spoke regarding the combining of the two boards, the Library Board and the Park & Recreation Board.

Town Manager Laura Bruno explained that the library board serves as an advisory board to the Council for the operation of the library in Quartzsite.

Dee Sheehan asked about having an animal control building and was advised that this issue is not on the agenda.

Marilyn McFate, the only member of the Board of Adjustment. She stated that she learned that Boards of Adjustment supersede the Council by law. She related some experiences of her lengthy service on the Board.

Attorney Ronan spoke regarding legalities of Boards of Adjustment.

Council Member Scott spoke regarding the legalities of Boards of Adjustment.

Council Member Crooks asked Marilyn McFate when the last Board of Adjustment meeting was held. She was not sure, but thought was 2002 or 2004.

Jennifer Jones, former board member, spoke regarding the number of members on the boards and existing volunteer interest statements. She recommended that only statutorily required advisory boards be created and the rest be citizen advisory committees.

Skip Gallup approached the podium for a second time. He stated that in the past, applicants for board positions were interviewed by the board to see if there would be a good fit. Once chosen, a recommendation would be made to the Council. He would like to see that procedure take place again.

Shanana Rain GoldenBear, previous board member, spoke regarding the dysfunction with the boards as relates to the open meeting law. She stated that the dysfunction was with the staff and not the board members. She also discussed existing volunteer interest statements.

Monica Timberlake came back to the podium and said Call for the Public allows the public to express their opinion as long it is under the venue of the Board.

Starr BearCat spoke regarding meeting decorum.

Chairman of the Health & Development Board, Sally Ford, spoke regarding the need for everyone to work together in order to get things done.

Dennis Kuehl returned to the podium and spoke regarding who would attend the meetings to help the board members.

The Mayor said he was going to entertain the motion for adjournment and Vice Mayor Jewitt stated that he would second it.

ADJOURNMENT: 2:53 PM

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Work Session of October 16, 2013, of the Town Council of Quartzsite, Arizona, held on October 16, 2013.

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

DATED this 12th day of November, 2013



Tina Abriani, Secretary

On behalf of the Common Council

Approved:



Ed Foster, Mayor