

COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2015

Members may attend in person or by telephone

Ed Foster, Mayor
Norm Simpson, Vice Mayor

Carol Kelley
Loretta Warner
Hal Davidson

Mark Orgeron
Gunny St. Germain

**Quartzsite Town Hall
Council Chambers
465 North Plymouth Avenue
Quartzsite, Arizona**

**Special Meeting
6:30 p.m.**

SPEAKING TO THE COUNCIL

If you are interested in speaking to the Council during Public Hearings, Communications from Citizens, or other designated agenda items, you must fill out a speaker card (located on the table inside the front entrance to the Council Chambers) and deliver it to the Town Clerk prior to the convening of the meeting. Each individual will be limited to three (3) minutes for their remarks.

All persons attending the Council meeting, whether speaking to the Council or not, are expected to observe the Council Rules, as well as the rules of politeness, propriety, decorum and good conduct. Any person interfering with the meeting in any way, or acting rudely or loudly, will be asked to leave.

CELL PHONES AND RECORDING DEVICES

As a courtesy to others please turn off or silence all cell phones or pagers. Reporters or others with recording devices are requested to be staged at the back of the public seating area in order not to interfere with the meeting.

***Items may be discussed earlier or in a different sequence.
Headphones are available upon request for the hearing impaired.***

AGENDA ITEM	COUNCIL ACTION
CALL TO ORDER OF SPECIAL MEETING	
INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE <i>The invocation may be offered by a person of any religion, faith, belief or non-belief. Interested persons should contact the Clerk for further information.</i>	
ROLL CALL	
ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS <i>Administrative items are for Council discussion and action. It is at the discretion of the majority of the Council regarding public input requests on any Administrative Item. Persons wishing to speak on an Administrative Item should complete a Request to Speak Form and indicate the Item they wish to address. Council may or may not accept public comment.</i>	

1.	<p>AMERICAN LANDS COUNCIL – Discussion of the American Lands Act regarding transfer of public lands from the federal government and possible action to adopt Resolution No. 15-02 in support of the orderly transfer of federal lands held in trust within the boundaries of the State of Arizona to the State of Arizona for disposal according to the will of the people of Arizona and to urge the Arizona State Legislature to make a similar demand and pass legislation to accept the transfer of said public lands.</p>	<p>Discussion OPEN TO THE PUBLIC; possible action by MOTION.</p>
	<p>ADJOURN</p>	<p>MOTION to adjourn.</p>

Certification of Posting

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the attached notice was duly posted at the following locations: Quartzsite Town Hall, 465 N. Plymouth Ave, Quartzsite, AZ, U.S. Post Office, 80 W. Main Street, Quartzsite, AZ and The Senior Center, 40 Moon Mountain Ave, Quartzsite, AZ, on the _____ day of _____, 2015, at _____ a.m./p.m. in accordance with the statement filed by the Town of Quartzsite with the Town Clerk, Town of Quartzsite.

By: _____, Town Clerk's Office.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF QUARTZSITE, DEMANDING THE ORDERLY TRANSFER OF FEDERAL LANDS HELD IN TRUST WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA TO THE STATE OF ARIZONA FOR DISPOSAL ACCORDING TO THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE OF ARIZONA AND TO URGE THE ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE TO MAKE A SIMILAR DEMAND AND PASS LEGISLATION TO ACCEPT THE TRANSFER OF SAID PUBLIC LANDS.

WHEREAS, on February 14, 1912, when Arizona became the 48th sovereign state to join the United States, the federal government promised the newly formed state that it would transfer title to the public lands within the boundaries of Arizona, and

WHEREAS, this was a similar promise that was made by the federal government to all future states upon entering the union after our nation's independence, and

WHEREAS, Arizona and 12 other western states are still waiting for the federal government to follow through on the same promise to them that it made and kept with all states east of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, as much as 90 percent of the public lands in states like Illinois, Missouri, Indiana, Florida, Louisiana, Arkansas, Alabama, and Mississippi were once controlled and held by the federal government for decades after statehood; and

WHEREAS, these states, referred to at their time of admission as 'western states,' succeeded in compelling the federal government to transfer their public lands because they understood the history of the public lands and the duty of the federal government to dispose of the same, and they banded together and refused to take 'No' for an answer because federally controlled public lands prevented them from: generating tax revenues to educate their children, growing their economies, and responsibly managing their abundant natural resources; and

WHEREAS, despite sharing the same promise as those states to dispose of the public lands upon being admitted as states, states east of Colorado have less than 5 percent federally controlled lands, while the new 'western states' have more than 50 percent federally controlled lands; and

WHEREAS, in Arizona, the federal government currently controls 42.3 percent of the public lands within the boundaries of the state; and

WHEREAS, state and local government officials have the critical responsibility to manage public lands and resources strategically and prudently for the health, safety and welfare of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, other western states, namely the State of Utah, have adopted legislation-the Transfer of Public Lands Act in order to facilitate the acquisition of public lands held by the federal government in accordance with the provisions of the enabling legislation that allowed them to join the United States and the promises in contained regarding the transfer of public lands to their state; and

WHEREAS, these other legislative acts can serve as examples for the orderly transfer of public lands in Arizona.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Quartzsite, Arizona declares that the 104 years since Congress passed the Arizona Enabling Act of 1910 is more than a 'reasonable' amount of time to finalize the provisions of said act concerning the transfer of public lands, and calls upon the federal government to make good on its promise to the State of Arizona concerning the transfer of public lands as it has in every other state east of Colorado, and by doing so, will put Arizona on equal footing with those states, and demands that an orderly transfer of public lands be initiated herewith; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Quartzsite, Arizona, calls upon the State Legislature to enact legislation to facilitate the orderly transfer of public lands from the federal government, that such legislation delineates the roles and responsibilities of the cities, towns and counties to facilitate said transfer, and that the State Legislature use the 'Transfer of Public Lands Act' passed and adopted by the Utah State Legislature in 2012, as a guide for similar legislation in Arizona.

AND FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to each member of the Arizona State Legislature, each member of Arizona's congressional delegation, the Arizona Counties Association, the Arizona League of Cities and Towns, the American Lands Council, and the La Paz County Board of Supervisors.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Quartzsite, Arizona this 24th day of February 2015.

AFFIRMED:

Ed Foster, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tina Abriani, Town Clerk