MINUTES
TOWN OF QUARTZSITE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2015, 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION: Prayer said by Pastor Bruce Swart.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Council Member Warner.

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

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

CALL TO THE PUBLIC AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS:

Shanana Rain BearCat proposed that a new sign go up on the south end of Kofa displaying 'not a truck route' and the weight limit. She said there are trucks using the south end of Kofa as a truck route. She suggested the signs that are on Tyson be moved as they are difficult to see at times. She congratulated the Town on the dismissal of a lawsuit.

The Mayor asked the Town Manager to check into the matter and the Town Manager said he would.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Mayor spoke of the actions of the Quartzsite Police Department in the last two weeks. He said two serious crimes have been solved, one old and one current with the current one having been solved within two days. He said arrests have been made and there has been good police work all around. He noted good investigation, well documented charges and an excellent job by the Quartzsite Police Department.

Town Manager Miller announced Council Member Orgeron was unable to attend the meeting because he was helping tutor some students to make sure they graduate on time. Council Member Orgeron asked that Town Manager Miller invite everyone in the community to attend the Ed Options Graduation Ceremony to be held at the Community Center at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, May 29, 2015.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **LEDGER OF ACCOUNTS PAID – Consider approval of check series 38873 - 38927, totaling $ 382,332.07.**

The Mayor stated the Council had some questions.

Town Manager Miller said he was made aware that there was a question regarding a portion of the check numbers that were missing from the report specifically numbers 38875 through 38885. He said those checks were related to payroll and a break in the check register is not typical. He said the issue had been addressed to prevent the report from having missing check numbers without an explanation.

Vice Mayor Simpson asked if the GADA infrastructure revenue bond is an annual payment. Town Manager stated it is and the Town has been paying it out of the General Fund since 2006. He said the General Fund is repaid by Water and Wastewater.

Vice Mayor Simpson moved to accept the Ledger of Accounts Paid as presented and **Council Member St. Germain seconded**. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed**.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

2. **MINUTES – Consider approval of the minutes of the Special Meeting of May 7, 2015, and the Regular Meeting of May 12, 2015.**

Vice Mayor Simpson moved approval of the minutes of the May 7, 2015 Special Meeting and the Regular Meeting of May 12, 2015 as presented and **Council Member Warner seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed**.

3. **APPLICATION TO ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES FOR WATER DESIGNATION – Discussion and possible action to adopt resolution authorizing Town Designee to sign application for Modification/Expansion of Water Adequacy Designation and directing Town Manager to submit application and fees.**

Town Manager Miller explained there had been a hydrogeological study performed that estimated an increase in the Town's acre feet per year need. He said this is in furtherance of providing that information for future economic development. It was a planned engineering project approved by a previous Council. The project was processed as a study and is now ready to be submitted with the application to Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR). A resolution authorizing the submission of the application and a $2,000 check, for the initial processing by ADWR, are required.

The Mayor read the resolution into the record. Resolution No. 15-07.

Council Member St. Germain moved to approve Resolution No. 15-07, A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF QUARTZSITE, ARIZONA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO SUBMIT THE APPLICATION OF THE TOWN OF QUARTZSITE, ARIZONA TO THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES FOR A MODIFICATION OF THE TOWN'S WATER ADEQUACY DESIGNATION. **Council Member Warner seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed**.

4. **PURCHASE OF POLICE VEHICLE – Discussion and possible action to purchase one (1) patrol vehicle from Midway Chevrolet Nissan Isuzu for $40,644.41 and authorize installation of emergency equipment package for the Quartzsite Police Department's F-150 by Creative Communications for $6,413.16.**

Vice Mayor Simpson asked if this was a budgeted item.

Town Manager Miller said yes and that it was discussed during the last budget. He explained the initial request was for two new vehicles, however, through the budget discussion it was proposed to purchase an SUV and to outfit an existing pick-up truck for emergency work and as an active duty vehicle. He stated now they are scaling it back even further to proposing a patrol car, instead of an SUV and still outfitting the existing pick-up truck.

The Mayor stated he would particularly like to put the purchase aside until after the Council has had an opportunity to go through this year's budget for that department.

The Mayor said it was hard to approve this much money. He stated he had been told by the Town Manager that this is part of the settlement that was done, but the greater part of the settlement was actually the legal expense. He said the other factor involved is the settlement and nowhere creates or refunds to the Town the costs of the liability insurance that has been caused by the Police Department and all the settlements and other court costs that went up. He said the settlement was only reimbursing the General Fund and until the Council really looks at the budget for the Police Department, he didn't think the Council should be approving the purchases.

Council Member St. Germain said he disagreed because it is in the budget from the current fiscal year and because the Town saved money due to the lack of officers filling positions for so long. He expressed his concern that a vehicle may break down while an officer is out responding to a call.

The Mayor stated his concern over the Town's financial situation and said he does not think the Town should be spending the money right now until the Council has a detailed line by line analysis of the current budget.

Town Manager Miller spoke of figures from the settlement of the task force issue.

Chief Renfro explained that seven of the nine patrol cars the Town of Quartzsite owns have over 100,000 miles on them and there will be expenses to repair them eventually if the process of replacing the fleet is not begun soon.

The Mayor said the Council should review the Department's budget on a line by line basis and look at how many vehicles the Department has, what the condition and location is of those vehicles. He suggested other alternatives to purchasing a new vehicle such as looking at surplus vehicles somewhere. He said the Town should be looking at ways to save money and not spend it to buy a new vehicle right now.

Chief Renfro gave the Mayor a list of all of the Police Department cars, the mileage and who to whom they are assigned.

Vice Mayor Simpson asked the Chief what the proper number of vehicles would be to cover all shifts.

Chief Renfro replied that there are nine officers and filling the lieutenant spot will make it ten. He went on to explain the condition of the vehicles and noted the fact that one of the vehicles has broken down and is in the shop for repairs. He said the longer the Town waits the more costly it will be for the Town.

Town Manager Miller spoke about vehicles having over 100,000 miles should be replaced for any front line vehicle and the Town's need for a long term plan to get the fleet back to proper standards.

The Mayor asked how many vehicles are on the street right now.

Chief Renfro said there were two officers on the streets.

The Mayor asked if the officers take over the car that was on the road when they come in at the beginning of their shift.

Chief Renfro stated the officers generally have their own assigned patrol cars. He said they are putting a lot of miles on the vehicles.

The Mayor asked if any of the officers are driving the vehicles to their home out of Town. Chief Renfro responded the only one is the K-9 Officer. The Chief said the reason for that is the K-9 Unit is on-call 24-7.

The Mayor said the Town is broke and the police force represents a major portion of the fiscal budget and he is trying to cut the expenses of the Town.

Town Manager Miller spoke regarding emergency vehicles.

The Mayor said the Council must respond to the tax-payers when they ask how the Council is spending their money.

Council Member St. Germain said when it comes to public safety that should not be a hindrance and emergencies should be of high importance.

Council Member Kelley said the prior Council put the money aside for this.

Council Member Warner asked if the Chief looked for an older car with low mileage instead of a brand new car.

The Chief said he is not aware of any kind of market that sells low mileage cars to police departments.

Town Manager Miller said these vehicles that the Town purchases are on a state contract that have been through a bidding process.

Vice Mayor Simpson asked the Chief if he had one vehicle per year and limited the vehicles to 100,000 miles would that suffice.

The Chief said yes sir; it would get the department back on track.

Council Member St. Germain moved to vote on the purchase of a police vehicle for approval and authorize the installation of emergency equipment package for the Quartzsite Police Department's F-150 by Creative Communications for $6.413.16. **Council Member Kelley seconded** the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion Passed. (**Summary:** Yes = 4, No = 1, Abstain = 0).
Yes: Vice Mayor Simpson, Council Member Kelley, Council Member Warner, and Council Member St. Germain.
No: Mayor Foster.

5. **EXECUTIVE SESSION – An executive session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(7) for discussions or consultations with designated representatives of the Town in order to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations for the sale or lease of real property located at 560 Coyote Street, Quartzsite, AZ (APN 306-18-001A).**

Vice Mayor Simpson moved to adjourn to executive session and **Council Member St. Germain seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed** at 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION: 7:30 p.m.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: 8:00 p.m.

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

6. **TOWN LAND LEASE AGREEMENT - Discussion and Possible Approval of a Ground Lease with Ed Options for Property located at 560 Coyote Street, Quartzsite, AZ.**

The Mayor moved to adjourn Item 6, the Town Land Lease Agreement, and **Vice Mayor Simpson seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed**.

COMMUNICATIONS:

7. **Reports from the MAYOR on current events.**

None

8. **Reports from the COUNCIL on current events.**

None

9. **Reports from the TOWN MANAGER to the Council.**

The Town Manager announced that at the first regular Council meeting in June, the Council will have representatives of the potential future Youth Council making a presentation regarding the merits of establishing a Youth Council.

Town Manager Miller stated Mark Reader, a Town financing consultant, will speak to the Council in June.

Council Member St. Germain asked for an update on the dog park.

Town Manager Miller said he met with the BLM and they are reducing the requirements and will allow a modification request. Town Manager Miller said he would write a letter to the BLM providing plans for the park and he believes it is something the Town can have done in June.

Council Member St. Germain moved to adjourn and **Council Member Warner seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

ADJOURNMENT: 8:04 p.m.

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 26, 2015, of the Town Council of Quartzsite, Arizona, held on May 26, 2015.

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

DATED this 9th day of June 2015

Tina M. Abriani

Tina M. Abriani, Town Clerk

On behalf of the Common Council

Approved:

Ed Foster

Ed Foster, Mayor