

MINUTES
TOWN OF QUARTZSITE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2016, 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: 7:01 p.m.

INVOCATION: Prayer led by Pastor Bruce Swart.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Pledge led by Mayor Foster.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Foster, Vice Mayor Simpson, Council Member Kelley, Council Member Warner, Council Member Davidson, and Council Member St. Germain appeared telephonically.

Absent: Council Member Orgeron.

STAFF PRESENT: Skylor Miller, Town Manager, and Tina Abriani, Town Clerk

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None

CALL TO THE PUBLIC AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS:

Marilyn McFate, a resident of Quartzsite, asked the Council to consider using Community Development Block Grant funds to provide assisted living and daycare for the young, the elderly, and possibly those on dialysis. She spoke of the extreme need in the community for these type of facilities.

Monica Timberlake, a resident of Quartzsite, spoke of her concern regarding any decisions that were already made about the use of any Block Grant funds the Town may receive. She said she was glad to hear that the required public hearings, regarding the Block Grant funds, would be held.

Dan Heaton, a resident of Quartzsite, spoke of the Rock Fiesta that would be arriving in Quartzsite and the Town's work toward assuring the residents' of safety and enjoyment of life.

Starr BearCat spoke of her concerns regarding the Rock Fiesta. She said the speakers were purported to have 770,000 watts of audio power, which would bounce off Q-Mountain, and the whole Town would be able to enjoy the festival. She asked Council Member Davidson if he was O.K. with that.

Council Member Davidson said it had been explained to him that the speakers would be pointed in a specific direction and that they would do everything they could to minimize it.

Town Manager Miller said they had been told that the sound level would be at approximately 55 decibels at the property lines.

Mayor Foster said professional sound engineers were consulted to the keep sound away from the neighborhood.

Starr said audio energy was powerful and that she hoped everything would go well.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REVIEW (FY16 - Q2) – Council Member Warner will give a Quarterly Financial Review presentation.

Loretta Warner gave a presentation reviewing the 2nd Quarter of the Fiscal Year 2016.

She said General Fund revenue generally comes from sales tax. She explained that the goal for the 2nd Quarter was to have revenue and expenses at or about 50% of what was budgeted. Some major points in the presentation were:

- Revenue for the Highway User Revenue Fund, HURF, was higher than expenses so that fund was on target.
- Based on the 2015 year-end audit, the HURF debt was reduced by \$595,000, taking the debt from \$2,600,000 down to \$2,033,000. Projections indicate a further reduction at the end of 2016.
- Wastewater - Revenue was higher than expenses in 2015 and remained so at the end of the 2nd Quarter.
- Water – Revenue was significantly higher than expenses, attributable to the raise in water rates having begun to show as positive revenue and the restructure of the work schedules impacting expenses.

Mrs. Warner summarized:

- The 2nd Quarter Report showed the Town was on track with the amount of revenue anticipated and below the target of 50% for expenses that were projected.
- Revenue was on target based on the budget.
- Overall expenses were below budget projections.
- HURF debt had been reduced by \$595,000.

- No money had been used from HURF for current expenses, other than for allowable uses.
- The Town was in a stronger financial position at the end of the 2nd Quarter of FY 15-16, than it was at the same time in FY 14-15.
- Revenue was sufficient to cover expenses.
- The Town's debt had been reduced.

Town Manager Miller received accolades from the Mayor.

Town Manager Miller said it was a team effort by Council and staff.

The Mayor spoke of possibly losing HURF money to the State of Arizona.

Town Manager Miller said he called the League of Arizona Cities and Towns about that matter. He said that as soon as he received any information back from the League he would report to the Council.

Town Manager Miller noted preliminary shared revenue figures should be out in March.

CONSENT AGENDA:

2. **A. LEDGER OF ACCOUNTS PAID – Consider approval of check series 39868 – 39884, 39893 - 39894, and 39904 – 39940 totaling \$70,206.64.**
- B. COURT CLERK – Possible approval to hire a new Magistrate Court Clerk to fill the vacant budgeted position.**

Council Member Warner had questions regarding two checks, check number 39894 and check number 39918. She said they were both made out to GovNet.

Town Manager Miller explained the start-up billing that required two checks to GovNet.

Vice Mayor Simpson moved approval of check series 39868 – 39884, 39893 - 39894, and 39904 – 39940 totaling \$70,206.64. **Council Member Kelley seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

Town Manager Miller said the employee that filled the Court Clerk position in the Magistrate Court left the Town's employ because she had decided to be a stay at home mom. He said this left a full-time vacancy

Town Manager Miller said the Judge requested that Sherry Miller be hired. He said Ms. Miller was of no relation to himself. He listed the qualifications and experience that made her the outstanding choice.

Mayor Foster asked where Ms. Miller's residence was located, and Town Manager Miller said she lived in Quartzsite.

Vice Mayor Simpson moved to hire Sherry Miller as Magistrate Court Clerk to fill the vacant budgeted position. **Council Member Kelley seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

- 3. MINUTES – Consider approval of the minutes of the Town Council Regular Meeting of February 9, 2016.**

Council Member St. Germain moved to approve the Regular Council Meeting of February 9, 2016, and **Council Member Warner seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

- 4. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION – Preliminary discussion of the Town's application for a Community Development Block Grant due in March 2016.**

The required Public Participation component of the application process for the Community Development Block Grant was discussed.

Town Manager Miller explained that a letter of intent was due in March.

There was a discussion of the need to expand the sewer infrastructure and the deterioration of the main sewer line's manholes. Town Manager Miller said the manholes were the priority concern.

Council Member Kelley asked how much the grant might be.

Town Manager Miller replied that in previous years, the Town had received \$185,000 and that was what was estimated for 2016.

Town Manager Miller said the manhole project alone is anticipated to be \$191,000.

The Mayor asked for a tour of the manholes and asked if other Council Members wished to take a tour.

Town Manager Miller said he would set up a tour with Emmett Brinkerhoff, Public Works Director, and Oscar Cruz, Assistant Public Works Director.

The Mayor said the community would like to see the grant be used for other projects. He said a legal opinion was necessary regarding a residential center as a government project.

Mayor Foster directed that Town Manager Miller schedule a review of the maintenance infrastructure, gather the data and schedule public hearings.

COMMUNICATIONS:

5. Reports from the MAYOR on current events.

The Mayor said that in the past few weeks the BLM somewhat went to war with the chipper. He said the Town had been chipping out there behind public works for the last twelve years. He said the BLM recently claimed the Town was trespassing on BLM land.

The Mayor spoke of his lobbying efforts at the State Capitol regarding the Lands Act. He said he and the attorneys had been working on a resolution proposing the Town take administrative control of the BLM land, providing for local control over the BLM's changes.

Mayor Foster talked of the requirement that the BLM perform an economic impact study to determine what economic detriment the changes to the land use might cause the Town.

6. Reports from the COUNCIL on current events.

Vice Mayor Simpson announced the 6th Annual Southwestern Round-up to be held in the Mountain Quail Clubhouse on the upcoming Friday and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. He said they keep getting bigger and better every year. He said it would be the last one to be held at the Clubhouse, and in the future, it would be held at the Senior Center because it is bigger.

7. Reports from the TOWN MANAGER to the Council.

Town Manager Miller announced that the Quartzsite Youth Council would be sponsoring a Movie Night in the Park featuring *Minions* on March 5th. The movie would start at dusk, approximately 6:30 p.m.

Town Manager Miller next announced the La Paz County Fair would be open March 10th – 13th. He invited everyone to visit the Fair to support their Town and County.

Town Manager Miller asked that anyone willing to volunteer at the Quartzsite booth at the Fair, call the Town Clerk to make arrangements.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:42 p.m.

Vice Mayor Simpson moved to adjourn, and **Council Member Davidson 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 February 23, 2016, of the Town Council of Quartzsite, Arizona, held on February 23, 2016.

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

DATED this 8th day of March 2016

Tina M. Abriani, Town Clerk

On behalf of the Common Council

Approved:

Ed Foster, Mayor