

**MINUTES**  
**TOWN OF QUARTZSITE**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2016, 7:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:00 p.m.

**INVOCATION:** None

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Council Member Kelley.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**STAFF PRESENT:** Skylor Miller, Town Manager; Trish Stuhan, Town Attorney; and Tina Abriani, Town Clerk

The Mayor announced that someone had asked what the Town Code stated regarding Council Members' repeated absences from Council meetings. The Mayor said there was a portion of the Town Code that addressed that issue. He explained that the Town Code might be in violation because the State of Arizona assigns no penalty that the Council can impose upon a Council Member. The Mayor concluded that Council Member St. Germain would appear at the meeting telephonically which was perfectly within his rights under state law.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS:**

Shanana Rain BearCat spoke about the start of the windy season and the need to secure metal and wood pieces that might fly off due to the wind and cause damage.

Monica Timberlake, a Quartzsite resident, and a member of the Park and Recreation Committee, said the Committee had an issue with one of the members that was frequently absent making it difficult to have a quorum for the meetings. Ms. Timberlake said it did not appear as though Town staff were able to reach the absent member. She asked the Council to consider appointing, please, a new member to the Park and Recreation Committee.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The Mayor gave thanks and accolades to the youth of the community noting the lack of trouble they have involving law enforcement and noted that the Town can do little to recognize the wonderful youth of the community. He expressed his joy over having the opportunity to recognize them at the meeting.

Council Member Kelley reminded everyone that Thursday, April 28, 2016, was going to be Pay it Forward Day. She said that coupons would be available for pick up. She suggested that people take advantage of the special day by taking someone out to eat, buying someone a cup of coffee, calling someone on the phone to see if they need to go to the grocery store and to remember the shut-ins. She requested that anyone wishing to help someone in this regard, visit Marilyn McFate for more information regarding people that would love to have five minutes of someone's time.

**PRESENTATIONS; PROCLAMATIONS:**

**1. PROCLAMATION – National Arbor Day April 29, 2016.**

The Mayor read the National Arbor Day proclamation aloud.

**2. PRESENTATION – Duce Minor of PAACE to give presentation of Youth Challenge Award from the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family to JONATHAN DAVID McELWAIN of Quartzsite.**

Duce Minor, Executive Director of the Parker Area Alliance for Community Empowerment (PAACE) Coalition, thanked the Mayor for his invitation to make a presentation to the Quartzsite Town Council of the Youth Challenge Award from the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family to Jonathan David McElwain of Quartzsite. This was after the Mayor had seen the presentation at the Law Paz County Board of Supervisor.

Mr. Minor explained that there were two members representing La Paz County in the Arizona Governor's Youth Commission, one being Kyle Valez from Parker High School, and the other was Quartzsite's own Jonathan David McElwain. The Commission had developed a number of initiatives that they wanted to work on during the year, including an idea for a contest to challenge the youth of Arizona, on a county basis, to see who could have the greatest impact on their community through volunteering. La Paz County youth earned first place by a landslide and were invited to the Governor's Office for an ice cream social, at which the Governor spent time answering questions and talking with the youth about their accomplishments. Mr. Minor said that the La Paz County Sheriff's Department provided the transportation for the youth throughout the County. The Governor presented a beautiful vase to the La Paz County youth.

Kudos were given to Jonathan and all the Youth in La Paz County.

Jonathan said the experience with the Governor was very different from anything else he had done. He said the Governor was probably the biggest person in society that he had actually met because the Governor has a huge impact on multiple communities. Jonathan said it was a great experience.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Minor and said that his involvement with the youth of the County was admirable.

**3. PROCLAMATION AND PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT – Proclamation recognizing Quartzsite’s Denim-N-Dust 4-H Community Club and presentation of Certificates of Achievement to 4-H Members in recognition of their accomplishments and promotion of Quartzsite.**

The 4-H Club Denim-N-Dust Proclamation was read aloud by the Mayor.

Every 4-H Member received a certificate and remained to one side of the audience for a group picture. Mayor Foster announced each 4-H Member’s name and his or her achievement. Council Member Warner handed out the framed certificates and congratulated each 4-H Member.

Michaela Briggs, William Pearson, Abby Pearson, Madeline Ries, Winter Aris-Van Atti, Grace Miller, Riona Thomas, Annabell Ries, Ethan Wilson, Zander Collier, William Miller, Josiah Wister, Phoenix Turcotte, Kevin Henshaw, Joe Henshaw, Torin Shipley, Cheyanne Sturgis, and Eliza Scharn were the 4-H Members that received a certificate and congratulations.

The Council took pictures with the achievers, and the Mayor said the Town was proud of all the kids in the community and their achievements. He said the Town was happy to recognize them all.

The Mayor said, “Again, congratulations to all the kids, their parents, and the community.”

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**4. LEDGER OF ACCOUNTS PAID – Consider approval of check series 40115 - 40171, totaling \$78,818.01.**

Council Member St. Germain removed check number 40166, \$2,388.27 to TDS, from the Consent Agenda.

Vice Mayor Simpson removed check number 40117, \$3,185.11 to Genuine Auto Parts, for questions related to transmissions and a police vehicle.

**Council Member Orgeron moved** to approve check series 40115 - 40171, less check number 40117 and check number 40166. **Council Member Warner seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

Town Manager Miller reviewed check number 40117 stating the check was for various supplies for annual maintenance to vehicles. He further explained that certain vehicles are shared expenses because multiple departments use them, so the cost of the maintenance was allocated out to the various departments. He said there was a transmission for one police vehicle.

The Chief stated that the transmission failed in one of the police vehicles and had to be replaced. He noted that the vehicle was salvaged by replacing the transmission.

Town Manager Miller reviewed check number 40166, a TDS bill. The Mayor asked why the Town was still paying TDS when the Town had new service providers. Town Manager Miller said the transition in IT was not as smooth as he had wished. He explained that the Town received its new broadband service ahead of the phones. He said the old phone system was dependent on TDS and could not be just transferred over to GovNet. He said the Town offices had to hold onto to the TDS accounts longer than anticipated. He said the Town staff had taken that into account and pulled back expenditures accordingly.

The Mayor said that he and Council Member St. Germain wanted to know if this would be the final TDS bill.

Town Manager Miller replied that it would not be the final bill, and the Town would still have some TDS accounts. He explained that the broadband service that the Town has now, GovNet does not extend out to the Town's remote sites, such as the wastewater plant, which will continue to require TDS services.

**Council Member Orgeron moved** to approve checks 40117 and 40166, and **Vice Mayor Simpson seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

5. **MINUTES – Consider approval of the minutes of the Regular Town Council Meeting of April 12, 2016 and the Special Town Council Meeting of April 19, 2016.**

**Council Member Orgeron moved** to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Council Meeting of April 12, 2016, and the Special Town Council Meeting of April 19, 2016. **Council Member Warner seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

6. **QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REVIEW (FY16 – Q3) – Council Member Warner will give a Quarterly Financial Review presentation.**

Council Member Warner presented the FY16 Third Quarter Financial Review. The highlights of the review are as follows:

The Town is now in the Fourth Quarter of FY16. The Third Quarter target was 75%. In the past, revenue was lower than expenses. Now, revenue is significantly higher than expenses. The Town has done an excellent job over the last fiscal year.

The HURF debt was reduced by over \$595,000 in the last fiscal year. Expenses for HURF were at 45% of the budget. No HURF money was used to subsidize any other department in FY16. Wastewater revenue was 7% higher than anticipated. Wastewater expenses were at 40% of the budget. Reductions are attributable to such significant factors as the restructuring of the Public Works Department, goal setting, and raised rates. NOTE: The Town is seeking to create and maintain a culture of fiscal responsibility and transparency.

The Mayor applauded a good job.

Town Manager Miller announced that this is the first time since before 2011 that all four major funds, General Fund, Water, Wastewater, and HURF, are 'in the black.'

Vice Mayor Simpson said it really helped that a Council Member could provide reports to keep track of the budget quarter by quarter.

**7. PARK & RECREATION CHANGES – Discussion regarding possible changes to Town Park and Recreation Rules.**

Town Manager Miller said he would be discussing some recommended changes to the Park Rules from the Park and Recreation Committee with the Town Attorneys.

The Mayor directed staff to work with the Town Attorneys to make Town Code changes for the Council's review and possible adoption.

**8. INDEPENDENCE DAY FIRE WORKS DISPLAY – Discussion of coordination of the event with the Fire Department and vendor.**

Town Manager Miller said the Town's Fire Department informed him that they could not staff this year's fireworks event. He said he would contact Lantis Fireworks for pricing for July's fireworks display.

Town Manager Miller said the Town pays \$5,000 a year just for the purchase of the fireworks themselves.

The Mayor asked if there was any possibility to get someone from Public Works to become licensed to do the fireworks show.

Council Member Orgeron asked if Town Manager Miller checked into the pricing and availability of other fireworks vendors.

Town Manager Miller said he would do some research, talk to the Fire Department, and look into the cost to train someone. He said he would report back to the Council at the next meeting.

9. **EXECUTIVE SESSION - Executive session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1) for discussion and consultation with the Town Attorney in order to consider the Town's position and instruct the Town Attorney regarding an amendment to the Employment Agreement with Chief of Police Hiram Ernest Renfro that is the subject of negotiations and regarding a contract with the Central Arizona Water Conservation District related to the Town's Central Arizona Project Colorado River entitlement; and pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1) for discussion or consideration of assignments and evaluation of Town Manager Skylor Miller.**

**Council Member Orgeron moved to adjourn to Executive Session, and Council Member Warner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion Passed.**

**ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION: 7:54 p.m.**

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: 8:50 p.m.**

Mayor Foster called the meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Mayor Foster, Vice Mayor Simpson, Council Member Kelley, Council Member Warner, Council Member Orgeron, Council Member Davidson, and Council Member St. Germain appeared by phone.

10. **EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH CHIEF OF POLICE HIRAM ERNEST RENFRO – Consider approval of an Amendment to the Employment Agreement with Chief of Police Hiram Ernest Renfro.**

**Council Member Orgeron moved to rescind the acceptance of the resignation from Chief Renfro, and Vice Mayor Simpson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion Passed.**

**Council Member Orgeron moved to approve the amendment to the employment agreement with the Chief of Police Ernest Renfro, and Council Member Warner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion Passed.**

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

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

The Mayor reported that the Town did make progress in making McDonald's restaurant a clean and safe place to visit.

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

Council Member Kelley said, "Just, Pay it Forward." She said the coupons would be available at both chambers as well as the Senior Center.

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

Town Manager Miller said there would be an open house on May 9, 2016, at the Community Center to discuss planning areas for General Plan amendments with the Planning & Zoning Commission. He said the notice for the open house would be legally posted in the three local posting locations, on the Town website, and on Facebook. He explained that the Town is looking for public participation to provide input regarding where the Town should begin to grow and to effect positive change to the General Plan.

Town Manager Miller announced an invitation to public participation as part of the pursuit of Community Development Block Grant funding. He said that notice would be published in the paper along with community postings, a listing on the Town website and Facebook.

The Mayor asked Town Manager Miller to inform every one of the state of negotiations with the hotel.

Town Manager Miller replied that he was not sure how the developer would look upon releasing information yet. Town Manager Miller stated, for the time being, that he was working with a developer on building a full service hotel of a recognizable brand in Town. Town Manager Miller said the planning of the project had been ongoing. He said the zoning is in place, and the site is ready. Town Manager Miller also said that the developer claimed that the project has ADEQ approval. He noted there had not been an application for building permits yet, but that he would update the Council and the community as soon as he was able to do so.

Vice Mayor Simpson asked for an update on the Moon Mountain construction.

Town Manager Miller responded that as of Friday the work was on schedule. He said paving would begin soon. He said that the Director of Public Works, Emmett Brinkerhoff, would publish a schedule for the work soon.

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

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:57 p.m.

**CERTIFICATION:**

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 26, 2016, of the Town Council of Quartzsite, Arizona, held on April 26, 2016.

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

DATED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 2016



Tina M. Abriani, Town Clerk

On behalf of the Common Council

Approved:



Ed Foster, Mayor