

MINUTES
TOWN OF QUARTZSITE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2016, 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION: Given by Pastor Bruce Swart.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Vice Mayor Davidson.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Foster, Vice Mayor Davidson, Council Member Kelley, Council Member Warner, Council Member Orgeron, Council Member St. Germain attended by phone.

STAFF PRESENT: Jim Ferguson, Interim Town Manager; Susan Goodwin, Town Attorney; and Tina Abriani, Town Clerk

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS:

Norm Simpson, resident and business owner, spoke about getting work done without spending dollars. He said not all Town issues are related to the budget. He provided an example, the errors on the business license renewal form. He said he was embarrassed to read it. He said the form said it was a business license renewal form, but that there was no renewal information on it. He said it was addressed to all Quartzsite business license owners. He said it should have been addressed to Quartzsite business license holders, and that Quartzsite and September were spelled incorrectly. He said he did get a second form a week or ten days later. He said a portion of the second form read, "... please contact me, so that I may change my records." He said it was written as if it was a personal letter, and there was no name indicating who sent the form and no signature line. He said there are many things like what he was speaking of that can be corrected without dollars. He said it may be as simple as a policy or procedure that requires that all municipal correspondence go through spell check, review for content, clarity, format; something that needs to be approved and signed off. He said there were a few other things that are not dollar related, such as putting in a receptacle at the Town Park, so the Town does not have to run a generator for celebrations. He said these were simple things that do not cost money, but someone just needs to pay attention.

Starr BearCat, resident and property owner, reminded the Council that when ordinances say 'shall,' it means you do it and get it done. She also noted that the Mayor has one vote

and does not speak for the Council. She said he had a responsibility to recognize other Council Members when they want to speak. She said the Council Members do not contribute their thoughts.

Shanana Rain BearCat said she would like to announce that the Quartzsite Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism would be hosting a mixer the following evening, August 10, 2016, at the Senior Center at 6:00 p.m. She said it would be a great opportunity to network with each other and to support local businesses. She also said that spaghetti would be served.

Pastor Bruce Swart, resident of Quartzsite, reminded everyone that on the upcoming Friday, August 12, 2016, from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., the local churches would be gathering to have a free picnic for the whole community. He said the event would be held at Isaiah 58 to thank the people of Quartzsite for being in Quartzsite.

Monica Timberlake, a Quartzsite resident and school board member, announced that the next day would be the first day of school for elementary school students and that the kids would be out on the streets in the morning. She said she was hoping to see some of the Council at the school events.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. LEDGER OF ACCOUNTS PAID – Consider approval of check series 40514 - 40540 and 40552 - 40565, totaling \$ 46,555.74.**

Council Member St. Germain pulled check 40518, for Crawford Investments – Town Manager rental, and check 40559, also for Crawford Investments for the Town Manager rental. He said the Town needed to remove Skylor's name from the responsible party (on the agenda item cover sheet).

Council Member Warner explained that it appears to be a double payment because certain portions of the total rental payment are allocated to different departments. She said \$300 is from Administration, \$300 is from HURF, \$75 is from Water, and \$75 if from Wastewater, totaling \$750 per month.

Council Member Warner pulled check 40562, a \$400 charge to the Firefighters and Police (she could not read the next word), for cancer insurance for firefighters and police. Council Member Warner said the Town had never done that before. She asked that it be researched since the Town is already paying for health insurance.

Council Member Orgeron moved to approve check series 40514 through 40540, and 40552 through 40565, less check number 40562 for \$400. Vice Mayor Davidson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion Passed.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

2. **MINUTES – Consider approval of the minutes of the Town Council Regular Meeting of July 26, 2016, and the Special Meeting of July 26, 2016.**

Council Member Orgeron moved to approve the minutes of the Town Council Regular Meeting of July 26, 2016, and the Special Meeting of July 26, 2016. **Council Member Warner seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

Council Member Warner said she would like to know why, all of a sudden, the Council is having so much trouble with the Box program in which the Council packets are stored. There was no reply.

3. **NEXT COUNCIL MEETING – Consider approval to change the scheduling of the next regular Council Meeting to August 22, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., due to scheduling conflicts with Council training at the League of Arizona Cities and Towns.**

Council Member Orgeron moved to change the next regular Council Meeting to be Monday, August 22, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. and **Council Member Warner seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

4. **COUNCIL VACANCY – Discussion and possible action regarding appointment of a new councilmember to fill the vacant Council seat created by the resignation of a Council Member on June 1, 2016.**

The Mayor said he recommended placing the matter on hold until after the election. He explained that the current Council could not reach a consensus on who should be appointed, and there would be a new Council after the election that could make the decision that was right for them.

The Mayor moved to table the item until the first regular meeting after the election and **Vice Mayor Davidson seconded** the motion.

Council Member Orgeron stated, "I am O.K. filling it."

Council Member Warner asked if Mr. Ferguson had any suggestions.

Interim Town Manager Ferguson and the Mayor reviewed the seating of new Council Members at the first regular meeting after the election.

The Mayor suggested placing the item on the agenda of the first regular meeting in December.

The Mayor directed staff to advertise that applications would be accepted until the end of business on Thursday, December 1, 2016.

The Mayor withdrew his motion, and Vice Mayor Davidson withdrew his second.

Mayor Foster moved to hold the selection process until the first regular meeting of December, which will be December 13, 2016. **Vice Mayor Davidson seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

5. **POLICE OFFICER POSITION – Discussion and review of Miguel Castellanos being transferred from the position of Quartzsite Deputy Town Clerk to that of Quartzsite Police Officer. This is one of the two new officer positions included in the FY16-17 Final Budget.**

Interim Town Manager Ferguson explained that Miguel Castellanos wanted a transfer to the Police Department, but has since decided that Town Hall is where he prefers to be. He will continue to work at Town Hall as Deputy Town Clerk.

The Mayor moved to remove Item 5 from the Agenda. **Council Member Kelley seconded** the motion. The vote was unanimous. **Motion Passed.**

6. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Direction to staff regarding future agenda items.**
None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

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

The Mayor spoke of the Meet the Candidates Night that was held the week before as a very successful event. He said there were candidates from the U.S. Senate, the U.S. Congress, all the County offices, and from local elections. He noted the important part was that there was a good community turnout and that the event was very well done. He said business owners in Town had supplied snack trays and cookies.

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

Council Member St. Germain said he wished to extend kudos to the awesome collaborative efforts to clean up Ted's Truck Stop.

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

Interim Town Manager Ferguson announced that the police dog would be getting body armor. He said the police dog is very valuable to the Police Department.

The Interim Town Manager said the Town is looking forward to Mr. Ponce starting in his position as Chief of Police on or before September 12, 2016. Mr. Ferguson said this timeline allows Mr. Ponce to provide appropriate notice to his current employer.

Interim Town Manager Ferguson said that in the case of Jones v. Quartzsite (Case No. PV2013-001770) in which Jennifer Jones sued the Town, the District Court granted the Town's motion and the case has now been dismissed.

Mr. Ferguson stated that Mr. Villafana had filed charges of discrimination with the EEOC, and they have indicated they will not hear that case.

The Mayor announced that Mr. Ferguson is interested in applying for the permanent position of Town Manager.

Council Member Orgeron moved to adjourn, and Vice Mayor Davidson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion Passed.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:24 p.m.

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 9, 2016, of the Town Council of Quartzsite, Arizona, held on August 9, 2016.

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

DATED this 22nd day of August 2016



Tina M. Abriani, Town Clerk

On behalf of the Common Council

Approved:



Ed Foster, Mayor