

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

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Council Member Davidson.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: Council Member Orgeron.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None

CALL TO THE PUBLIC AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS:

Monica Timberlake, a community member, spoke of the recent Neighborhood Watch Meeting and the Quartzsite Elementary School's attempted coordination with the Quartzsite Police Department to schedule a practice emergency lockdown drill for an active shooter on campus. She asked the Council to take action to cause the emergency drill to be planned. She also spoke of the Governor's Youth Council county contest for the most youth-led service projects and hours logged. She said the award went to the La Paz County Youth for being so active and inspiring other youth.

Chief Ernie Renfro approached the lectern and stated that he had checked the Police Department's phone records and messages. He said he did not receive a phone call or email from the school's administration. The Chief also said the Police Department would participate in an active shooter training. He said training regarding bullying had already taken place with the Quartzsite Elementary School's children. He said he would make sure the active shooter training would happen.

Shanana Rain BearCat spoke about the inadequacies of the Quartzsite Police Department's voicemail system, largely because the automated system does not say the caller had reached the Quartzsite Police Department. She advised everyone that the links to several 2015 Ordinances, as found on the Town's website, were not working. She also expressed her concern that some Town officials may be spending or using the Town's resources for the purposes of influencing a vote which would be a violation of the law.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. **FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 AUDIT PRESENTATION –Scott Graff, CPA, of Colby & Powell, PLC will give a presentation of the Town’s Annual Financial Statements and Independent Auditors’ Report for Fiscal Year 2014-2015.**

Mr. Scott Graph of Colby and Powell CPAs spoke of the Independent Auditor’s Report for Fiscal Year 2014-2015. He said the report was the June 30, 2015 Year-End Audit. He said the discussion of the audit would be regarding the twelve months that ended on June 30, 2015.

He reviewed the Audit Report then the Financial Statement. He spoke of responsibilities of Town management and that of the auditors; fair and accurate presentation of the information; and the one and only finding. He said there were no instances of material misstatements whether caused by errors or fraud. He congratulated the Town.

He said the Town was one of the few towns with a pension asset. He explained the three findings from the past year and said only one finding remains and is listed in the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Audit. He said the finding was the borrowing from Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF). He said that issue would always be a finding until all those borrowed funds were paid back. He explained that these funds were restricted funds for purposes related to expenditures for street and road use.

Mr. Graph said the Town needed to pay back the borrowed HURF funds at which time they will be available to use on streets and roads. He said a lot was paid back in the fiscal year being discussed. He said the good news was that the balance owed to HURF is down to \$2,033,363. He said the Town paid back \$595,265 to HURF in that one single year. Mr. Graph explained that the Town was able to pay back that money into the fund because the Town is receiving more revenue now through increased sewer and water rates. He said the Town does not need to dip into other funds to pay for the sewer and water expenses.

Town Manager Miller announced that the Independent Auditors’ Report and the Annual Financial Statement were on the Town’s website for everyone to review.

CONSENT AGENDA:

2. **LEDGER OF ACCOUNTS PAID – Consider approval of check series 39822 – 39826 and 39836 – 39855, totaling \$86,173.38.**

Council Member St. Germain moved to approve check series 39822 – 39826 and 39836 – 39855, totaling \$86,173.38, and Vice Mayor Simpson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion Passed.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

- 3. MINUTES – Consider approval of the minutes of the Town Council Regular Council Meeting of January 26, 2016.**

Council Member St. Germain moved to approve the minutes of the Town Council Regular Council Meeting of January 26, 2016, and Council Member Warner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion Passed.

- 4. AZ PEACE TRAIL RESOLUTION – Consider approval of a resolution supporting the Arizona Peace Trail and the opportunity it brings to the Town of Quartzsite.**

Town Manager Miller introduced the item and noted that Council said it wanted to support the Trail at the last meeting. He said the Town was promoting the Trail on the Town's website which has a map and a link to the AZ Peace Trail website. He said that hopefully the Town would get regular updates on the Peace Trail in the future.

Vice Mayor Simpson moved to approve Resolution No. 16-01, a resolution of the Mayor and the Town Council of the Town of Quartzsite, Arizona, supporting the AZ Peace Trail, and Council Member Kelley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion Passed.

5. BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

- Consider the appointment of one regular board member to the Health and Development Services Board to replace the vacancy created by Sally Ford's resignation. The position's term will expire August 2017.**
- Consider the appointment of one regular committee member to the Park and Recreation Committee to replace the vacancy created by Sally Ford's resignation. The position's term will expire September 2017.**

Council Member St. Germain moved to approve Mr. Ayers for the Health and Development Services Board, and Council Member Kelley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion Passed.

Vice Mayor Simpson moved approval of Elliot Ness as a replacement on the Park and Recreation Committee, and Council Member Warner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion Passed.

- 6. PUBLIC ENTITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (ADOSH) Discussion to determine interest in partnering with Arizona Division of Occupational Safety and Health via the Public Entity Partnership Program (PEP). The program offers three years of assistance for achieving best management practices in health and safety in industrial environments and offers free certified training**

opportunities. Participation in the program also exempts the public entity from ADOSH initiated enforcement inspections and penalties.

The Mayor asked for more information on the item.

Town Manager Miller explained the Town had been working with ADOSH since last fall when they performed their first inspection of the Town in fifteen years. Until that time, Mr. Miller said, the Town had been self-regulating in partnership with the insurance companies. Mr. Miller explained there are some health and safety issues ADOSH looks for that the insurance companies do not. During their inspection, ADOSH pointed out issues that needed to be corrected. Town Manager Miller said the issues were corrected expeditiously, and training was completed.

Town Manager Miller said ADOSH had nothing to do with the enforcement wing of OSHA. He said ADOSH is a consultancy service offering free training with the Public Entity Partnership Program (PEP). He said the program would exempt the Town from any penalties or violations within the program, and there would be no cost to enter the program. He said it was ADOSH's goal to provide a safe working environment for the Town's employees. Town Manager Miller said other municipalities only had positive remarks regarding the program.

Town Manager Miller asked that the Council express interest in joining the program and direct him to get more information.

Council Member St. Germain asked if it was something that might decrease the liability of the Town.

Town Manager Miller said it was a possibility there would be a decrease in liability insurance and Workman's Compensation Insurance. He said a better safety record may help to reduce costs further.

The Mayor asked for a proposal and an investigative report regarding other communities' experiences with the program.

Town Manager Miller said he would go to ADOSH and ask for more information regarding the PEP program.

Council Member Warner asked if being part of the program would place the Town under greater scrutiny.

Town Manager Miller said the program would help the Town for the next three years on a non-penalty basis.

- 7. ORDINANCE CHANGING CHOLLA ROAD SPEED LIMIT - Consider approval of an ordinance amending the Town Code Chapter 12 Traffic; Motor Vehicles, Article 12-2 Traffic Control, by amending Section 12-2-13 Speed Limits, to increase the speed limit on Cholla Road to 35 miles per hour.**

Town Manager Miller said the road was within Town Limits, and a resident initiated the suggestion to staff and Council that the Town change the road's speed limit to 35 mph. Town Manager Miller said that the Public Works Director, Emmett Brinkerhoff and the Chief of Police, Ernie Renfro, reviewed the issue and the portion of the road that was in the Town limits. Town Manager Miller said the Town's part of the road was 25 mph and the rest of the road, which was maintained by the County, was 35 mph. Town Manager Miller said the road was very rural in nature, and that he had directed that additional reflective devices be installed in the turns.

Vice Mayor Simpson moved approval of an ordinance amending the Town Code Chapter 12 Traffic; Motor Vehicles, Article 12-2 Traffic Control, by amending Section 12-2-13 Speed Limits, to increase the speed limit on Cholla Road to 35 miles per hour. Council Member St. Germain seconded. The vote was unanimous. Motion Passed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Reports from the MAYOR on current events.

The Mayor announced that he had just heard a report that the Governor was already moving to make some changes to the HURF money, as in sweeping the HURF money off to DPS. The Mayor said the changes are only a proposal, as the State budget has not yet been approved for next year by the State Legislature.

Reports from the COUNCIL on current events.

Vice Mayor Simpson reported that he had recently begun meeting with the Economic Development Corporation of La Paz County. He said one question that had come up about Quartzsite was whether or not there was a moratorium regarding building, and if there were available water and wastewater treatment capacities for building. He asked if the Town did have additional capacity was it reserved for residential expansion, and or for business. Vice Mayor Simpson asked the Town Manager to have some fact-finding done to get those answers to see what is available so that an action plan could be created.

The Mayor said a former Town Attorney, Glenn Gambit, informed him that a firm out of Yuma might provide a proposal to do a study on capacities.

Reports from the TOWN MANAGER to the Council.

Town Manager Miller said he would look into the problem of the broken links in the Ordinances tab on the website.

Town Manager Miller announced that the next day he would have a partnering meeting with ADOT in Yuma regarding the North Moon Mountain Avenue project. He said it would be a kick-off meeting with an updated timetable. He said ADOT also wanted to meet with him at another time regarding the development of the TA / Petro site.

The Mayor asked Town Manager Miller if the Town already paid its portion, from HURF, of the Moon Mountain project. Town Manager Miller said that it had been paid already.

Town Manager Miller said there was not a moratorium on development within Quartzsite. He said that there were concerns regarding past issues. He added that new connections would require ADEQ approval.

Town Manager Miller announced that new software would be acquired to improve agendas, minutes, attachments, and the Council's interface with them.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:45 p.m.

Council Member Warner moved to adjourn, and Council Member Kelley 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 9, 2016, of the Town Council of Quartzsite, Arizona, held on February 9, 2016.

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

DATED this 23rd day of February 2016



Tina M. Abriani, Town Clerk

On behalf of the Common Council

Approved:



Ed Foster, Mayor