



“The mission of the City of Safford is to make Safford
a great place to live, work, and visit ”

CITY OF SAFFORD
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, April 8, 2013 @ 6:00 PM
Safford Library Program Room, 808 S. 7th Avenue, Safford, Arizona

PRESENT: Wyn “Chris” Gibbs, Mayor; Mary Bingham, Vice Mayor; Council Member’s Gene Seale, Arnold A. Lopez, Kenneth Malloque, James D. Howes, and Richard Ortega.

STAFF PRESENT: David Kincaid, City Manager; Sandra Findley, Executive Secretary; John Griffin, Police Chief; Don Knight, Director Management & Budget; Ann Waite, Finance Director; Randy Petty, City Engineer; Eric Buckley, Utilities Director; Leanne McElroy, Library Director; Jenny Howard, Public Works Director; Dustin Welker, Planner/Downtown Manager; and Georgia Luster, City Clerk. Dale Clark, IT Assistant and Sam Napier, IT Specialist, assisted with the audio/video recording of the meeting.

OTHERS PRESENT: Tisha Clark, Kim Larkey, Steve McGaughey, David Griffith, Jeremy Samuels, Fred Kriess, Jon Johnson, Eastern Arizona Courier, and others who did not sign in. Kelly Van Shaar, Van Shaar Productions, video recorded the meeting.

1. **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Gibbs called the meeting to order at 6:02:22 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** A quorum of the Council was present (7).
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:** Mayor Gibbs led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
4. **OPENING PRAYER:** David Griffith offered the opening prayer.
5. **PUBLIC HEARING:** Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes §38-431.01, the Safford City Council will conduct a public hearing for the purpose of taking public comment relating to a new Liquor License; and recommendation to the state liquor board regarding a **New Series #10 Beer and Wine liquor license** application submitted by Clare Hollie Abel on behalf of **Dollar General Store #6614** located at 1640 W. Thatcher Blvd., Safford, Graham County, Arizona.

Mayor Gibbs opened the Public Hearing at 6:03 p.m. to hear comments from the public.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Comments will be accepted at this time. There were no public comments regarding the new Series #10 Beer and Wine Liquor License application on behalf of the Dollar General Store #6614 located at 1640 W. Thatcher Blvd., Safford, Graham County, Arizona.
7. **ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING AND CONVENE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING.**
The Public Hearing concluded and the regular council meeting convened at 6:04 p.m.
8. **CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** NONE
9. **CONSENT ITEMS:** The Mayor and City Council may wish to consider approving Items 1 through 11 as Consent Agenda Items.
 1. March 11, 2013 Council Minutes and March 25, 2013 Council Work Session/Special Council Meeting Minutes.
 2. Police Report
 3. Building Inspection Report
 4. Public Works Report
 5. Business License Report
 6. Library Report
 7. Utilities Consumption Report
 8. Summary of Projects Planning and Grants Administration
 9. Prosecution Report
 10. Airport Report for March
 11. Expense Report over \$5,000

It was moved by Councilman Malloque, seconded by Vice Mayor Bingham, and carried unanimously to approve Items 1 through 11 as consent agenda items as published.

MOTION ADOPTED

10. **PURCHASING CARD REPORT:** Consider approving the Purchasing Card Report ending January 19, 2013. It was moved by Vice Mayor Bingham, seconded by Councilman Lopez, and carried unanimously to approve the Purchasing Card Report ending January 19, 2013 as published. **MOTION CARRIED**
11. **NEW SERIES #10 BEER AND WINE LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION:** Clare Hollie Abel, applicant, is requesting the City Council make recommendation to the state liquor board regarding an Application for a New Series #10 Beer and Wine Liquor License on behalf of Dollar General Store #6614 located at 1640 W. Thatcher Blvd., Safford. It was moved by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Vice Mayor Bingham, and carried unanimously to make recommendation to the state liquor board approving the Application of Clare Hollie Able for a New Series #10 Beer and Wine Liquor License on

behalf of Dollar General Store #6614 located at 1640 W. Thatcher Blvd., Safford to sell spirituous liquors of the class, and in the manner designated in the Application.

MOTION ADOPTED

12. **PROCLAMATION** : Proclamation proclaiming May 11, 2013 to be National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) Food Drive Day. Mayor Gibbs read the Proclamation. It was moved by Councilman Malloque, seconded by Councilman Lopez and carried unanimously proclaiming May 11, 2013 to be National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) Food Drive Day.

MOTION ADOPTED

13. **PROCLAMATION** : Proclamation proclaiming May 18, 2013 to be Mental Health Awareness 5K Walk/Run and Picnic Day. Mayor Gibbs read the Proclamation. It was moved by Vice Mayor Bingham, seconded by Councilman Malloque and carried unanimously proclaiming May 18, 2013 to be Mental Health Awareness 5K Walk/Run and Picnic Day.

MOTION ADOPTED

14. **PROCLAMATION** : Proclamation proclaiming the month of April as Fair Housing Month. Mayor Gibbs read the Proclamation. It was moved by Councilman Lopez seconded by Councilman Malloque and carried unanimously proclaiming the month of April as Fair Housing Month.

MOTION ADOPTED

15. **SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 13-001**: Consider approving and adopting Ordinance Number 13-001, adopting by reference (Resolution Number 13-001) amending Title 16, Subdivisions , of the City of Safford Municipal Code. Mayor Gibbs read the Title of Ordinance Number 13-001. It was moved by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Councilman Howes, and carried unanimously to approve and adopt Ordinance Number 13-001, adopting by reference (Resolution Number 13-001) amending **Title 16, Subdivisions** , of the City of Safford Municipal Code.

MOTION ADOPTED

16. **RESOLUTION NUMBER 13-001**: Consider approving and adopting Resolution Number 13-001, a resolution of the City of Safford adopting Ordinance Number 13-001, an Ordinance of the City of Safford amending Title 16, Subdivisions, of the City of Safford Municipal Code. It was moved by Councilman Howes, seconded by Councilman Malloque and carried unanimously to approve and adopt Resolution Number 13-001, a resolution of the City of Safford adopting Ordinance Number 13-001,

an Ordinance of the City of Safford amending **Title 16, Subdivisions**, of the City of Safford Municipal Code. **MOTION ADOPTED**

17. **SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NUMBER 13-004:** Consider approving and adopting Ordinance Number 13-004, adopting by reference (Resolution Number 13-007), effectuating a map amendment to the zoning map of the City of Safford, Graham County, Arizona, amending, **Title 17, Zoning**, of the City of Safford Municipal Code. Mayor Gibbs read the Title of Ordinance Number 13-004. It was moved by Vice Mayor Bingham, seconded by Councilman Malloque and carried unanimously to approve and adopt Ordinance Number 13-004, adopting by reference (Resolution Number 13-007), effectuating a map amendment to the zoning map of the City of Safford, Graham County, Arizona, amending, **Title 17, Zoning**, of the City of Safford Municipal Code. **MOTION ADOPTED**

18. **RESOLUTION NUMBER 13-007:** Consider approving and adopting Resolution Number 13-007, a resolution of the City of Safford adopting Ordinance Number 13-004, an Ordinance of the City of Safford amending **Title 17, Zoning**, of the City of Safford Municipal Code. It was moved by Councilman Howes, seconded by Vice Mayor Bingham, and carried unanimously to approve and adopt Resolution Number 13-007, a resolution of the City of Safford adopting Ordinance Number 13-004, an Ordinance of the City of Safford amending **Title 17, Zoning**, of the City of Safford Municipal Code. **MOTION ADOPTED**

19. **AWARD RECOMMENDATION FOR SOLOMON WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS:** The Solomon Water System Improvements Project was bid per A.R.S. Formal Bidding Procedures. Bids were opened on March 20, 2013. Consider awarding the Solomon Water System Improvements Project contract to Surface Contracting for the amount of \$1,110,960.70. It was moved by Councilman Howes, seconded by Councilman Malloque, and carried unanimously to award the Solomon Water System Improvements Project contract to Surface Contracting for the amount of \$1,110,960.70. **MOTION ADOPTED**

20. **AWARD RECOMMENDATION FOR MANHOLE REHABILITATION FY 2012-2013:** The Manhole Rehabilitation FY 2012-2013 Project was bid per A.R.S. Formal Bidding Procedures. Bids were opened on Monday, March 25, 2013. Consider awarding the Manhole Rehabilitation FY 2012-2013 contract to Corrosion Resistant Coatings for the amount of \$78,581.00. It was moved by Vice Mayor Bingham, seconded by Councilman Malloque, and carried unanimously to award the Manhole Rehabilitation FY

2012-2013 contract to Corrosion Resistant Coatings for the amount of \$78,581.00.

MOTION ADOPTED

21. **AWARD RECOMMENDATION FOR FIRTH PARK PARKING LOT:** The Firth Park Parking Lot Project was bid per A.R.S. Formal Bidding Procedures. Bids were opened on Thursday, April 4, 2013. Consider awarding the Firth Park Parking Lot Project contract.

City Manager Kincaid stated staff is recommending awarding the contract to the second lowest bidder because the apparent low bidder does not have a Class A - General Engineering or Class KA - Dual Engineering license from the Registrar of Contractors which was required in the Bidding Packet Instructions.

It was moved by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Vice Mayor Bingham, and carried unanimously to award the Firth Park Parking Lot Project contract to Waterfall Construction in the amount of \$72,610.00.

MOTION ADOPTED

22. **SEVERN TRENT AGREEMENT:** Consider approving the amended and restated Wastewater Operations and Maintenance Agreement between Severn Trent Environmental Services, Inc. and the City of Safford.

City Manager Kincaid reminded the Council that the belt press was replaced at the treatment facility about 3 months ago. At that time staff anticipated some water recovery, but since the replacement of the belt press it appears that approximately one million gallons of water a month is being recovered, which is a significant amount of water. Three (3) Severn Trent representatives are present to answer any questions the Council may have. He stated staff recommends approving the agreement between the City of Safford and Severn Trent.

It was moved by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Councilman Howes, and carried unanimously to approve the amended and restated Wastewater Operations and Maintenance Agreement between Severn Trent Environmental Services, Inc. and the City of Safford. **MOTION ADOPTED**

23. **WATER RATE STUDY:** Preliminary discussion on water rate study. City Manager Kincaid stated staff is currently reviewing the preliminary report from the consultants regarding the water rate study. Staff has not completed their review of the data and material. In addition, staff is reviewing the base line data used and have updated the

chart provided to the Council a while back that indexed customers by usage. In an attempt to develop a rate structure, staff looked at what percentage of customers are using what percentage of water and what percent of revenues are the customers providing back to the City. He noted the data used was from all the water consumed in Calendar Year 2012. For example, 18.2% almost 20% of our customers used less than 2,500 gallons of water per month. He pointed out the inequities between the high and low water users. Eighteen percent of our **customers'**, who used 1.25% of our water, paid over 7% of our entire revenue stream. Conversely, customers who used over 50,000 gallons of water (1.5% percent of our customer base) consumed 26% of our water and only paid 17.2% of our revenues. Our closest breakeven point is currently customers that use 10,000-15,000 gallons of water (16.5% of our **customers'** consume 17.2% of water and pay 16.4% of the bill. He distributed an article from the Arizona Republic relating to the mountain snowpack which is at 40 percent of normal, which is a great concern in relation to water. The City was informed today that the irrigation from the river has been cut-off causing farmers to begin pumping to pre-irrigate. He distributed a listing of water rates from other water departments in the area (Bisbee (private owner), Tucson (sell water per cubic ft), and Payson). He pointed out all of these communities charge over \$6.00 per 1,000 gallons on their high end water users where Safford current rate is \$2.21 per 20,000 gallons. The Town of Payson is a water model for water conservation throughout Arizona because about 10 years they did not have any water. In addition to the rate study in the process of identifying a penalty phase concerning drought conditions that may be attached to the customer's bill.

24. MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES HELD OR TO BE HELD BY COUNCIL OR CITY STAFF:

Invitation to participate in Cinco de Mayo Parade, Saturday, May 4, 2013. Council will participate and ride in the parade in the old fire truck.

Councilman Ortega will attend ADOT/SEAGO Meeting on Thursday.

City Manager: April 23rd - meeting with BLM and ADWR regarding water wells and water transportation across BLM property. Also will meet with Bureau of Reclamation to discuss reimbursement of funds (approximately \$4.3 million) the City expended for the wastewater treatment facility.

Mayor: April 15th - Federal Prison mock job fair
258th Battalion returning sometime in May - Coordinate event
Dump the Drugs Day - April 28th

