



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

**CITY OF SAFFORD  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, July 24 , 2013 @ 6:00 PM  
Safford Library Program Room, 808 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Safford, Arizona**

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

**ABSENT:** Richard Ortega

**STAFF PRESENT:** David Kincaid, City Manager; Sandra Findley, Executive Secretary; Don Knight, Administrative Services Director; Eric Buckley, Utilities Director; Leanne McElroy, Library Director; Jenny Howard, Public Works Director; and Georgia Luster, City Clerk. Dale Clark, IT Assistant, assisted with the audio/video recording of the meeting.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** John Howard, Claude Kupchanko, Ed Zappia, Aimee Staten, Bob & Cheryl Chestnut, Safford Ranch Manufactured Home Park and David Bell, Eastern Arizona Courier.

- 1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Gibbs called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- 2. ROLL CALL:** A quorum of the council was present (6-1 absent).
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:** Mayor Gibbs led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- 4. OPENING PRAYER:** Councilman Lopez offered the Opening Prayer.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON NEW WATER UTILITY RATES:** Mayor Gibbs opened the Public Hearing for the purpose of hearing citizen comments on the proposed increase in rates for the provision of water utility services.

**Public comments will be accepted at this time.**

**Claude Kupchanko, Sunnyview Lane, (north of the river) Safford, AZ:** Mr. Kupchanko stated he is aware that the Valley (entire southwest) is in trouble with the water. “We can work with each other through careful water usage”. He asked if the rate proposal is a blanket coverage or a tiered structure. Additionally, he asked if the

proposal affects the wastewater surcharge?

Mayor Gibbs referred to a wall display displaying water rates from several other cities/towns and the City's proposed rate increase. He explained the proposed water rate structure.

**Bob & Cheryl Chestnut, Manager of Safford Ranch Mobile Home Park:** Mr. Chestnut inquired about the proposed water rates for those living in the County. He noted that the mobile home park is master metered. He **doesn't** understand why the City charges the Park a flat rate per meter and the City does not maintain meters.

City Manager Kincaid explained the City does charge a minimal meter fee per meter for **ALL** master metered properties because the City maintains the complete water system. Safford Ranch chose to master meter the Park at the time of construction of the Park.

Mayor Gibbs explained the rate structure.

6. **Adjourn Public Hearing and Convene Special Council Meeting to adopt water utility rates, by emergency.**

Mayor Gibbs adjourned the public hearing and convened a special council meeting at 6:23:08 p.m.

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**

7. **Consider approving and adopting Resolution Number 13-027, a Resolution of the City of Safford modifying and adopting adjusted rates for the provision of water utility services and declaring an emergency.**

It was moved by Councilman Howes, seconded by Vice Mayor Bingham and carried unanimously to approve and adopt Resolution Number 13-027, a Resolution of the City of Safford modifying and adopting adjusted rates for the provision of water utility services and declaring an emergency as indicated in Table 4-4, Proposed Monthly Meter Charge; Table 4-6.1 Proposed Safford Commodity Rates; Table 4-6.2. Proposed Thatcher Commodity Rates; and Table 4-6.3 Proposed County Commodity Rates.

**MOTION**

**ADOPTED**

Chris "Wyn" Gibbs, Mayor	AYES
Mary Bingham, Vice Mayor	AYES
Gene Seale, Councilman	AYES
Kenneth Malloque, Councilman	AYES
Arnold Lopez, Councilman	AYES

