



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

**CITY OF SAFFORD
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, April 14, 2014 @ 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, Kenneth Malloque, Arnold A. Lopez, James D. Howes, and Richard Ortega.

STAFF PRESENT: Horatio Skeete, City Manager; Sandra Findley, Executive Assistant; Eric Buckley, Utilities Director; Ann Waite, Chief Financial Officer; John Griffin, Police Chief; Leanne McElroy, Library Director; Jenny Howard, Public Works Director; Dustin Welker, Planning & Community Development Director; Don Knight, Director FlexNet Meter Renewal Project; Randy Petty, City Engineer; and Georgia Luster, City Clerk. Dale Clark, IT Assistant, assisted with the audio/video recording of the meeting.

OTHERS PRESENT: David Morse; Deacon, Dr. Carl Vessels; James Bryce; Erik Swanson, Steve Rees (representing Langley); Glen Orr; Joe Goodman, (Planning & Zoning Director, Graham County); Don Carter, (Pima Councilman); Rebecca Coleman. Jon Johnson, Eastern Arizona Courier, and others who did not sign in. Kelly Van Shaar video recorded the meeting.

- 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 (7).
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:** Mayor Gibbs led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- 4. OPENING PRAYER:** Deacon, Dr. Carl Vessels offered the opening prayer.

Mayor Gibbs introduced Horatio Skeete as the new City Manager for the City of the Safford. He began the City Manager position on April 7th.

City Manager Skeete asked Dustin Welker, Planning and Community Director, to make a presentation regarding the proposed annexation.

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:00 p.m. to discuss a proposed annexation . The description of the territory proposed to be annexed, not already within the present limits of the City of Safford and located in Graham County, Arizona, is as follows: That part of Section 7, Township 7 South, Range 26 East of the Gila Salt River Meridian, Graham County, Arizona described as follows: BEG NW COR SEC 7 7 26 TH S 89DEG 29MIN 10SEC E ALG N LINE SEC 491.96FT TO TRUE POB TH S 89DEG 29MIN 10SEC E ALG E LINE SEC 712.76FT TO NE COR LOT 1 TH S ODEG 04MIN 00SEC W ALG E LINE LOTS 1 2 3 3550.59FT TH N 89DEG 56MIN 00SEC W 728.82FT TH N ODEG 19MIN 32SEC E 3556.19FT TO TRUE POB.

Dustin Welker explained the Public Hearing is part of the annexation process. He stated a group is considering annexation of a parcel of property owned by Langley to construct a distribution center. He referred to a Master Street Map indicating future street alignments including a future First Street that will run north (behind) the Mt. Graham Shopping Center and eventually extend to 8th Avenue. The property is currently zoned AR (Agriculture Residential) and is proposed to be rezoned to I-1 (Light Industrial). He reviewed the Annexation and Rezone Timeline which is an aggressive schedule. It is a great project that will open up additional commercial properties that the City fully supports. Steve Ruiz and Erik Swanson both spoke in support of the annexation. He asked for comments/questions from the public.

Erik Swanson expressed appreciation to staff for doing such an exceptional job with the process.

- 5. ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING AND ENTER REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:**
There were no comments from the public.

It was moved by Councilman Malloque, seconded by Vice Mayor Bingham and carried unanimously to adjourn the Public Hearing and to enter Regular Session at 6:11 p.m.

**MOTION
ADOPTED**

- 6. CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** Rebecca Coleman stated she will address the Council regarding Item Number 16 during the discussion of the item.

7. **CONSENT ITEMS: The Mayor and City Council may wish to consider approving Items 1 through 11 as Consent Agenda Items.**

1. March 10, 2014 Council Minutes and March 24, 2014 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 Ortega, seconded by Councilman Lopez, and carried unanimously to approve Items 1 through 11 as Consent Agenda Items as published. **MOTION ADOPTED**

8. **Review and consider approving the Purchasing Card Report ending January 14, 2014.**

It was moved by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Vice Mayor Bingham, and carried unanimously to approve the Purchasing Card Report ending January 14, 2014 as published.

MOTION ADOPTED

9. **Consider approving issuing and waiving fees for dog tags for Veterans at the Graham-Greenlee Serving Veterans Stand Down Event.**

Dustin Welker explained the Event will be held May 16 to be held at the National Guard Armory from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Graham and Greenlee Veterans are currently coordinating the 2014 Homeless Veterans Stand Down Event. This effort is being supported by veteran/active-duty and community based organizations, government agencies and private companies. The group is asking the City to consider issuing and waive fees for dog tags for the Veterans during this event. A licensed veterinarian, Dr. Richard Lucas, will vaccinate the dogs for rabies.

It was moved by Councilman Malloque, seconded by Councilman Ortega, and carried unanimously to approve issuing and waiving fees for dog tags for Veterans at the Graham-Greenlee Serving Veterans Stand Down Event.

MOTION ADOPTED

10. **Consider approving and adopting Ordinance Number 14-003, an ordinance of the Mayor and City Council adding Section 13.24.090 to the City of Safford Municipal Code regarding the continued collection of Development fees and adding necessary definitions in Section 13.24.020, effective July 1, 2014.**

Eric Buckley, Utilities Director, stated the State Legislature (Senate Bill #1525) required all cities and towns with impact fees to conduct studies and revamp fee schedules. He explained the ordinance addresses phasing out the collection of development fees (impact fees) prior to July 1, 2014; and, thereafter, implementing capacity fees.

It was moved by Councilman Howes, seconded by Councilman Ortega, and carried unanimously to approve and adopt Ordinance Number 14-003, an ordinance of the Mayor and City Council adding Section 13.24.090 to the City of Safford Municipal Code regarding the continued collection of Development fees and adding necessary definitions in Section 13.24.020, effective July 1, 2014. Councilman Howes amended the motion to include the reading of Ordinance Number 14-003, by Title only. Councilman Ortega seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. **MOTION ADOPTED**

11. **Consider approving and adopting Ordinance Number 14-004, an ordinance of the Mayor and City Council establishing procedures for the payment of new capacity fees for water utility services and wastewater utility services inside and outside the City of Safford by adoption of a new Chapter 13.25 of the City of Safford Municipal Code, effective July 1, 2014.**

Eric Buckley, Utilities Director, explained Ordinance Number 14-004 is specific to the procedures for the payment of the new capacity fees for water and wastewater utility services inside and outside the City.

It was moved by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Councilman Howes, and carried unanimously to approve and adopt Ordinance Number 14-004, by Title only, an ordinance of the Mayor and City Council establishing procedures for the payment of new capacity fees for water utility services and wastewater utility services inside and outside the City of Safford by adoption of a new Chapter 13.25 of the City of Safford Municipal Code, effective July 1, 2014.

MOTION ADOPTED

12. **Consider approving and adopting Resolution Number 14-017, a Resolution of the Mayor and City Council, setting new capacity fees for water utility services and wastewater utility services inside and outside the City of Safford to be**

effective July 1, 2014. Eric Buckley, Utilities Director, explained the resolution sets new capacity fees for water utility services and wastewater utility services inside and outside the City.

It was moved by Councilman Howes, seconded by Councilman Lopez, approving and adopting Resolution Number 14-017, by Title only, a Resolution of the Mayor and City Council, setting new capacity fees for water utility services and wastewater utility services inside and outside the City of Safford to be effective July 1, 2014.

MOTION ADOPTED

13. **Consider approving and adopting Resolution Number 14-018, a Resolution of the Mayor and City Council, designating Primary Election date, purpose of election, voter registration deadline, and designating date and place to file candidate nomination forms.** City Clerk, Georgia Luster, explained the resolution designates the date of the Primary Election (August 26, 2014); purpose of election is for one mayor and three councilmembers; July 28th - voter registration deadline; May 28th is deadline for candidates to file nomination forms.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Bingham, seconded by Councilman Malloque, and unanimously carried to approve and adopt Resolution Number 14-018, by Title only, a Resolution of the Mayor and City Council, designating Primary Election date, purpose of election, voter registration deadline, and designating date and place to file candidate nomination forms.

MOTION ADOPTED

14. **Discuss and consider the Joint Project Agreement (JPA) between the State of Arizona, Department of Transportation and the City as well as adopting and approving Resolution Number 14-019, a Resolution giving the Mayor authorization to execute the JPA. This JPA is for Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds for the purchase of traffic signs, which meet the most current standards of the Manual of Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), throughout the City. These upgraded signs will comply with the MUTCD's new standards on regulatory and warning traffic signs, which will increase nighttime visibility and safety for the traveling public.** Randy Petty, City Engineer, explained the amount of the JPA \$60,400.00 and is an Agreement with the State of Arizona, Department of Transportation, to replace regulatory and warning traffic signs that will comply with MUTCD standards. He noted that ADOT will purchase and deliver the signs and that City staff will install them within one year. JPA has been reviewed by and approved by the attorney and no City match.

It was moved by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Councilman Malloque and carried unanimously to adopt and approve Resolution Number 14-019, by Title

only, a Resolution approving a joint project agreement with the State of Arizona, Department of Transportation, for Highway Safety Improvement Program Funds for the purchase of new highway signs that will meet the revised minimum standards of the manual of uniform traffic control devices and giving the Mayor authorization to execute the JPA. **MOTION**

ADOPTED

15. **Discuss and consider the Joint Project Agreement (JPA) between the State of Arizona, Department of Transportation and the City as well as adopting and approving Resolution Number 14-020, a Resolution giving the Mayor authorization to execute the JPA. This JPA is for Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds for the design and installation of new traffic signals along Main Street at 6th, 5th, & Central Avenues. There is no City match for these funds.**

Randy Petty, City Engineer, explained the JPA is an Amendment to a JPA originally approved in 2011 for Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds for the design and installation of new traffic signals along Main Street at 6th, 5th and Central Avenues, and giving the Mayor authorization to execute the JPA. JPA has been reviewed by and approved by the attorney; increasing design to pay ADOT's review fees of \$25,000. ADOT will administer the construction. Mr. Petty provided an outline of the schedule for the project: Project will be advertised May 23, 2014; Bids open in June; Bid go before ADOT's Board sometime in July; and Construction to start sometime in August or September.

It was moved by Councilman Howes, seconded by Councilman Lopez, and carried unanimously to adopt and approve Resolution Number 14-020, by Title only, a Resolution giving the Mayor authorization to execute the JPA. This JPA is for Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds for the design and installation of new traffic signals along Main Street at 6th, 5th and Central Avenues. **MOTION ADOPTED**

16. **Consider approving and adopting Resolution Number 14-021, a Resolution of the Mayor and City Council prohibiting parking within the parking lot located on Main Street on the west side of the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) from 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM.**

Dustin Welker, Planning and Community Development Director, explained the parking lot was constructed to alleviate parking on Main Street and to enhance downtown shopping. The City leases the parking lot from ADOT. He noted that he previously brought the item before the Council for discussion in a work session because of the influx of the Morenci Mine contract employees utilizing the parking lot to park all day and/or all night as a car pooling location for commuting to the mine. The proposed resolution prohibits parking within the parking lot between 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM.

Rebecca Coleman, 2203 S 10th Avenue, Safford, AZ: Ms. Coleman addressed the Council at this time. She questioned why the contract workers could not utilize the parking lot when the downtown merchants are closed. She stated that it is not just contractors utilizing the parking lot. She said her husband parks in the parking lot and carpools to the Mine. She believes residents of the City are entitled to utilize the parking lot.

After a brief discussion about restricting the hours of the parking lot, the Council agreed to amend the resolution to extend parking restrictions from midnight to 7:00 a.m.

It was moved by Councilman Seale, Vice Mayor Bingham, and carried unanimously to amend and adopt Resolution Number 14-021, by Title only, a Resolution of the Mayor and City Council prohibiting parking within the parking lot located on Main Street on the west side of the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) from Midnight to 7:00 AM.

MOTION ADOPTED

17. **Consider approving and adopting Resolution Number 14-022, a Resolution of the Mayor and City Council amending Section 13.20.076 - Delivery Capacity of Title 13, Public Services, of the City of Safford Municipal Code and declaring such amendment to be a public document.** Eric Buckley, Utilities Director, explained this item was discussed last month in a work session. The resolution amends Stage 3 allows for washing of vehicles (during watering times and days) and serving of water in restaurants. Stage 4 prohibits washing of vehicles, except for commercial.

It was moved by Councilman Malloque, seconded by Vice Mayor Bingham, and carried unanimously approving and adopting Resolution Number 14-022, by Title only a Resolution of the Mayor and City Council amending Section 13.20.076 - Delivery Capacity of Title 13, Public Services, of the City of Safford Municipal Code and declaring such amendment to be a public document.

MOTION ADOPTED

There was discussion about the City allowing city resident(s) to water on their off-day (emergency cases) (the spirit of the resolution) and asked staff to prepare additional notice for newspaper to inform the public.

18. **Consider approving and adopting Ordinance Number 14-005, an Ordinance of the Mayor and the City of Safford Municipal Code, as a public record by reference, amending**

restrictions on the delivery and consumption of water use, and declaring an emergency. Eric Buckley, Utilities Director, explained the ordinance amends Stage 3 and Stage 4 restrictions of Section 13.20.076 and become effective immediately because of the critical water situation

It was moved by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Councilman Malloque and carried unanimously to approve and adopt Ordinance Number 14-005, by Title only, an Ordinance of the Mayor and City Council amending Section 13.20.076 - Delivery Capacity of Title 13, Public Services of the City of Safford Municipal Code, as a public record by reference, amending restrictions on the delivery and consumption of water use, and declaring an emergency.

MOTION ADOPTED

19. **Consider awarding the Bid for the Construction of the Phase III Distribution Project to Four States Electric in the amount of \$406,767.00 as recommended by T & D Services.** Eric Buckley, Utilities Director, stated the bid is for electrical distribution upgrade in conjunction with agreements and territorial exchanges with Graham County Electric Cooperative. He reminded the Council that the project was rebid after receiving initial offers that were much too high. Mr. Buckley stated there is a difference of about \$390,000.

It was moved by Councilman Lopez, seconded by Councilman Howes, and carried unanimously to award the Bid for the Construction of the Phase III Distribution Project to Four States Electric in the amount of \$406,767.00 as recommended by staff and T & D Services.

MOTION ADOPTED

20. **Consider supporting and agreeing to a Partnering Charter, Formation of an Arizona-Sonora Binational Megaregion to build mutual understanding, share knowledge, and develop social capital in the process of setting policy direction within what will hereinafter be known as the Arizona-Sonora Binational Megaregion.**

Mayor Gibbs stated that he and Councilman Ortega attended the Arizona-Sonora Binational in Nogales last Thursday and Friday. The group is attempting to form an agreement for collaborative governance and cross-border initiatives which will mutually enhance economic development encompassing local and regional agencies in Arizona and Sonora. A lot of good things are happening, but the project is still a little premature.

Councilman Ortega stated that he saw a lot of vision of where the State of Sonora is making proposals with Arizona. He believes the local governments and businesses should be looking at what is happening and start planning ahead.

21. MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES HELD OR TO BE HELD BY COUNCIL OR CITY STAFF: NONE

4:00 p.m. Thursday, April 17th - Dr. Mike Crimmins will be speaking on weather, climate and drought at Discovery Park.

22. COUNCIL OR STAFF REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

23. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Participate in Cinco de Mayo Parade, Saturday, May 3, 2014.
- April 28, 2014 Work Session - Consider beginning Work Session at 7:00 p.m. instead of 6:00 p.m. Council agreed to begin Work Session at 7:00 p.m.
- Regular Council Meeting - May 12, 2014
- Work Session - Tuesday, May 27, 2014 (Monday, May 26th Memorial Day Holiday)
- April is amnesty month at the Library - return books to the Library at no cost.

24. CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

25. ADJOURN: It was moved by Councilman Malloque, seconded by Councilman Howes, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:02.14 p.m.

MOTION ADOPTED

APPROVED:

Wyn "Chris" Gibbs, Mayor
City of Safford

ATTEST:

Georgia Luster, MMC, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF ARIZONA)
) ss

County of Graham)

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Regular Council Meeting of the Safford City Council, Graham County, Arizona held Monday, April 14, 2014, and approved at a Regular Council Meeting on Monday, May 12, 2014. I further certify the meeting was duly called, held and that a quorum was present.

May 12, 2014 _____
Date:

Georgia Luster, MMC, City Clerk