



**“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, November 24, 2014 @ 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, Richard Ortega, and James D. Howes.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Horatio Skeete, City Manager; Sandy Findley, Executive Assistant; Joe Brugman, Chief of Police; Randy Petty, City Engineer; Dustin Welker, Planning and Community Development Director; Jenny Howard, Public Works Director; Terry Quest, Finance Director; Eric Buckley, Utilities Director; LeAnne McElroy, Library Director; and Georgia Luster, City Clerk. Dale Clark assisted with the audio/video recording of the meeting.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Edwin Ragland, Ned, Kim & Layton Rhodes; Sandy Lopez, Jenifer Seale, Steve McGaughey, James Bryce, Rita Alder and others who did not sign in. Ken Showers represented Eastern Arizona Courier.

- 1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Gibbs called the meeting to order at 6:00:01 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:** Gene Seale offered the Opening Prayer.
- 5. Swearing in of Elected Mayor and Council Members:** Georgia Luster, City Clerk performed the duty of swearing in of the newly elected Mayor and Council Members. Those sworn in were: Wyn “Chris” Gibbs as Mayor, Mary Bingham, Council Member, Gene Seale, Council Member, and Arnold Lopez, Council Member. An Election Certificate was also presented to each of the newly

elected Mayor and Council Members. Cookies and punch were provided for all of those in attendance.

6. **Selection of Vice Mayor:** Councilman Malloque nominated Mary Bingham and Councilman Howes nominated Councilman Ortega for the Vice Mayor position.

The Council unanimously reappointed Mary Bingham as the Vice Mayor.

7. **BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: The Mayor and Council Members may appoint council members to various community committees and boards:**

The following members of the Council were appointed to the following committees and boards.

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|-----|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1)  | Airport:   | Ken Malloque                         |
| 2)  | PAC Committee for the development of Safford Regional Airport<br>Master Plan Update: | Ken Malloque                         |
| 3)  | Boys and Girls Club:   | Arnold Lopez                         |
| 4)  | Chamber of Commerce:   | Mayor Gibbs & City Manager           |
| 5)  | Development Review Committee:  | Jim Howes                            |
| 6)  | Graham County Community Foundation (Foundation has own selection process)            |                                      |
| 7)  | League of Arizona Cities and Towns –<br>Executive Committee:                         | Mayor Gibbs                          |
|     | Resolutions Committee:   | Gene Seale                           |
| 8)  | Library Board:   | Gene Seale                           |
| 9)  | Loss Control and Safety:   | Jim Howes & Arnold Lopez             |
| 10) | Mt. Graham Safe House:   | Mary Bingham                         |
| 11) | Pride of Safford:  | Mary Bingham                         |
| 12) | SEAGO:   | Richard Ortega; Jim Howes, Alternate |
| 13) | Transportation Issues Group  | Mayor Gibbs                          |

8. **NEW/OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **The Mayor and City Council will discuss the process of appointing a “Lay Member” for the Safford Fire Department.** Mayor Gibbs stated the appointment of a Lay Member is to the Pension Board of the Safford Fire Department. He explained the Statutes shall appoint lay members. The Pension Board meets twice a year and makes decisions regarding the Pension Board. He asked the Council to make their suggestion to him.

9. **CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS/BIDS:**

1. **Approve a land lease agreement with Logan West Mine Supply and Service LLC at the Safford Industrial Park on 3.25 acres. The Agreement is a ten year lease with two renewable terms of five years each.** Dustin Welker, Planning and Community Development Director explained the proposed agreement is a land lease agreement at the Safford Industrial Park to lease 3.25 acres for ten years with two renewable five-year terms. He asked the Council to comment. Mayor Gibbs inquired about the salary of employees. Councilman Lopez asked for a description of the type of work that Logan West Mine will be doing. Mr. Dow Waite, Executive Vice President, approached the Council at this time to explain the main business of Logan West. He stated that their core business is mining and a little bit of larger construction. Logan West will service every mining community in Arizona and New Mexico from this facility.

It was moved by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Councilman Malloque and carried unanimously to approve a land lease agreement with Logan West Mine Supply and Service, LLC.

**MOTION ADOPTED**

2. **Review with the Mayor and City Council the draft agreement with the Highline Canal Company in regards to the Joint Use Areas on which the Shared-Use Pathway is placed within the Canal Company's easements. Staff recommendation is to approve the agreement authorizing the Mayor to sign on behalf of the City.** City Manager Skeete explained staff is recommending approval of the agreement with the Highline Canal Company for continuing the pathway. He asked Randy Petty, City Engineer, to review the agreement with the Council. He explained that he has been working on this project for some time. The Agreement outlines each party's rights along the canal, the placement of utilities across the canal, maintenance responsibilities, each party's liability due to the sharing of the space because the Pathway crosses the Highline Canal. It also provides contact names and means of contact.

It was moved by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Councilman Howes and carried unanimously to approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement with the Highline Canal Company in regards to the Joint Use Areas on which the Shared-Use Pathway is constructed within the Canal Companies easement. **MOTION ADOPTED**

**10. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The Mayor and City Council entered executive session at 6:42:22 p.m. It was moved by Councilman Malloque, seconded by Councilman Ortega and carried unanimously to adjourn to executive session to discuss and seek direction from the Council regarding the sale of City owned property and 2) Review November 10, 2014 executive session minutes. **MOTION ADOPTED**

**11. ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION:** The Council reconvened regular session at 7:02:24 p.m.

**12. MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES HELD OR TO BE HELD BY COUNCIL OR CITY STAFF:**  
Councilman Ortega attended a SEAGO meeting last Friday. At this meeting a resolution was passed in support of accelerating State Route 189. It was originally included in their 2021 Plan.

Mayor Gibbs has been invited to attend the Border Mayors' Conference in Aqua Prieta on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. At this time he plans to attend.

**13. COUNCIL OR STAFF REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS: NONE**

**14. FUTURE MEETINGS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Thursday, November 27, 2014 Thanksgiving Holiday
- Friday, November 28, 2014 Merry Main Street Event
- Saturday, December 6, 2014 Christmas Light Parade
- Monday, December 8, 2014 Council Meeting (only December meeting)
- Wednesday, December 24, 2014 Close at noon for Christmas Holiday
- Thursday, December 25, 2014 Christmas Day Holiday

**15. ADJOURN:** It was moved by Councilman Malloque, seconded by Vice Mayor Mary Bingham, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:24:30 p.m. **MOTION ADOPTED**

APPROVED:

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Wyn "Chris" Gibbs, Mayor  
City of Safford

ATTEST:

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Georgia Luster, MMC, City Clerk

STATE OF ARIZONA     )  
                                  )   ss  
County of Graham     )

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Special Council Meeting Minutes of the Safford City Council, Graham County, Arizona held Monday, November 24, 2014, and approved at a Regular Council Meeting on Monday, December 8, 2014. I further certify the meeting was duly called, held and that a quorum was present.

December 8, 2014  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Georgia Luster, MMC, City Clerk