



**“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
Monday, January 26, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.
Safford Library Program Meeting Room, 808 7th Avenue, Safford, Arizona**

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

STAFF PRESENT: Horatio Skeete, City Manager; Joe Brugman, Chief of Police; Randy Petty, City Engineer; Dustin Welker, Planning and Community Development Director; Eric Buckley, Utilities Director; Terry Quest, Finance Director; Cliff Davis, Human Resources Officer; LeAnne McElroy, Library Director; Cliff Davis, Human Resources Officer, Georgia Luster, City Clerk, Sam Napier and Dale Clark, Information Technology.

OTHERS PRESENT: Marie Freestone, Julie Morris, Laura Whelton, Devin Gillespie, Tina Vaudrin, Glen Orr, James Bryce and others who did not sign in.

1. **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Gibbs called the meeting to order at 6:01:24 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:** Eric Buckley offered the Opening Prayer.

5. **PUBLIC HEARING:** Pursuant to *Arizona Revised Statutes* §38-431.01, Mayor Gibbs opened a Public Hearing at 6:02:33 p.m. for the purpose of taking public comment relating to a request for three (3) Interim Permit/New License, Series 10 Beer and Wine applications submitted by Roger Kenneth Burton on behalf of: 1) Giant Store #644, located at 1780 W. Hwy 70; 2) Giant Store #670 located at 105 East Hwy 70; and, 3) Giant Store #674 located at 750 8th Avenue, Safford, Arizona. When the hearing concludes the Mayor and Council shall take action to make recommendation to the Arizona State Liquor Board to approve or deny the applications.

There were no comments regarding the liquor applications.

6. **CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING:** Mayor Gibbs closed the Public Hearing at 6:03:21 p.m.

7. NEW/OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Recommendation to the State Liquor board approving or denying applications for three (3) Interim Permit/New License, Series 10 Beer and Wine applications submitted by Roger Kenneth Burton on behalf of: 1) Giant Store #644, located at 1780 W. Hwy 70; 2) Giant Store #670 located at 105 East Hwy 70; and, 3) Giant Store #674 located at 750 8th Avenue, Safford, Arizona. (Staff, Georgia Luster)**

It was moved by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Vice Mayor Bingham, and carried unanimously to recommend the State Liquor Board approve applications for three (3) Interim Permit/New License, Series 10 Beer and Wine applications submitted by Roger Kenneth Burton on behalf of: 1) Giant Store #644, located at 1780 W. Hwy 70; 2) Giant Store #670 located at 105 East Hwy 70; and, 3) Giant Store #674 located at 750 8th Avenue, Safford, Arizona. **MOTION ADOPTED**

2. **Request for the Mayor and Council to approve the placement of a monument on the newly constructed bump-out area on the north side of the corner of Main Street and 8th Avenue. (Staff, Dustin Welker)**

Dustin Welker, Community Development Director, explained the Gila Valley Leadership Group as a part of their yearly project has raised funding to purchase a bronze monument as a memorial to children who have been victims of child abuse (picture of monument attached). He stated monuments such as this are common in pedestrian downtown areas. Staff feel the monument would be pleasing aesthetically, and would be appropriate to install the monument at the northeast corner of Main Street and 8th Avenue. With the newly constructed bump-outs on Main Street, there is plenty of space for the monument. The dimensions of the monument are thirty-six (36) inches in height, thirty-two (32) inches in width and forty-four (44) inches in length.

Devin Gillespie, the Chairman of the Project Committee for the Gila Valley Leadership Group, Class Ten, explained the proposed language on the plaque. The size of the plaque is approximately (8X10) and will be installed on a large boulder placed next to the monument. The Federal Prison Inmates are donating the plaque.

The Council thanked the Gila Valley Leadership Group for donating such a great project to the community.

It was moved by Councilman Malloque, and seconded by Councilman Lopez, and carried unanimously to approve the placement of a bronze monument on the newly constructed

bump-out area on the north side of the corner of Main Street and 8th Avenue. **MOTION ADOPTED**

3. **Request for the Mayor and Council to approve a request for sponsorship from the 2015 Gila Valley Health, Safety and Science Festival. (Staff, Dustin Welker)**

Dustin Welker, Community Development Director, explained the request is submitted by the 2015 Gila Valley Health, Safety and Science Festival which will be held on the EAC campus on February 26-28. The Festival is an expansion of the traditional health fair offered by Mt. Graham Regional Medical Center who is joining with the SciTech Group. The Festival features hands-on science activities for families and the general public to showcase innovation and technology in the Gila Valley. They are asking the City to consider a donation of approximately \$500. He stated staff feel the Festival is an important opportunity providing successful in many science-related careers and the Library Director suggested utilizing Science City Program excess funds (\$300-\$400) to sponsor this event. Several activities will take place during this time.

Councilman Lopez recommended including this event as one of the Council's annual approved events.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Bingham, seconded by Councilman Malloque, and carried unanimously to approve a sponsorship of \$500.00 from the City Council Budget to the 2015 Gila Valley Health, Safety and Science Festival. **MOTION ADOPTED**

4. **Request for the Mayor and Council to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Birdno Family Trust to purchase two parcels of land. These parcels are Graham County Assessor's Parcels 102-17-026 (5.95 acres) and 102-17-012A (0.9 acres). (Staff, Randy Petty)**

Randy Petty, City Engineer, asked the Council to consider authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement to purchase the entire 6.86 acres for \$665,000 with the Birdno Family Trust. (Parcels 102-17-026 (5.95 acres) and 102-17-012A ((0.91 acres)).

It was moved by Councilman Ortega seconded by Councilman Seale to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Birdno Family Trust to purchase two parcels of land for \$665,000. These parcels are Graham County Assessor's Parcels 102-17-026 (5.95 acres) and 102-17-012A (0.9 acres). **MOTION ADOPTED**

5. **Request for the Mayor and Council to approve and adopt Resolution Number 15-005, (A) Revoking Resolutions Number's 14-038 and 14-039 adopted on December 22, 2014, and (B) (1) Providing for the sale and execution and delivery pursuant to a first excise tax trust agreement (Tax-Exempt Series A) of an excise tax revenue refunding obligation (Tax-Exempt), Series 2015 A, evidencing all of the interests of the holder thereof in installment payments of the purchase price to be paid by the City of Safford, Arizona, pursuant to a first**

excise tax purchase agreement (Tax-Exempt Series A); (2) Authorizing the completion, execution and delivery with respect thereto of agreements necessary or appropriate as part of the refinancing and paying related financing costs; (3) Delegating to the Mayor, the City Manager and the Finance Director certain authority with respect to the purposes hereof; (4) Adopting post-issuance tax compliance procedures in connection with issuance of obligations of the city; (5) Authorizing the Finance Director to expend all necessary funds therefor and (6) Declaring an emergency. (Staff, Terry Quest)

City Manager Skeete explained Items #7-5, #7-6, #7-7 and #7-8 are resolutions providing for finalizing the refinancing the long-term loans and debts of the City. He asked Terry Quest, Finance Director, to explain each resolution.

Mr. Quest explained Resolution Number 15-005 revokes resolution numbers 14-038 and 14-039 previously adopted by the Council. It provides for the refinancing of the GADA Loan (Street Improvement Loan) for a fifteen year term. It is a (Tax-Exempt Series A) to refinance approximately \$5.7 million at a 2.28% interest rate which is about a savings of \$511,000 (5% old interest rate).

6. **Request for the Mayor and Council to approve and adopt Resolution Number 15-006, (1) Providing for the sale and execution and delivery pursuant to a second excise tax trust agreement (Tax-Exempt Series B) an excise tax revenue refunding obligation (Tax-Exempt), Series 2015B, evidencing all of the interests of the holder thereof in installment payments of the purchase price to be paid by the city of Safford, Arizona, pursuant to a second excise tax purchase agreement (tax-exempt series b); (2) Authorizing the completion, execution and delivery with respect thereto of agreements necessary or appropriate as part of the refinancing and paying related financing costs; (3) Delegating to the mayor, the city manager and the finance director certain authority with respect to the purposes hereof; (4) Authorizing the finance director to expend all necessary funds therefor and (5) Declaring an emergency. (Staff, Terry Quest)**

Mr. Quest explained Resolution Number 15-006 provides for the sale and execution and delivery pursuant to a first excise tax trust agreement (Tax-Exempt Series B) refinancing of approximately \$265,000 for existing Airport Hangar loans and leases for a five-year period. The finance rate originally was 6.225%. The new interest rate is 1.98% resulting in a \$20,000 savings to the City.

7. **Request for the Mayor and Council to approve and adopt Resolution Number 15-007 (1) Providing for the sale and execution and delivery pursuant to a third excise tax trust agreement (Taxable Series C) of an excise tax revenue refunding obligation (Taxable), Series 2015C, evidencing all of the interests of the holder thereof in installment payments of the purchase price to be paid by the city of Safford, Arizona, pursuant to a third excise tax purchase agreement (Taxable Series C); (2) Authorizing the completion, execution and delivery with respect thereto of agreements necessary or appropriate as part of the refinancing and paying related financing costs; (3) Delegating to the mayor, the city manager and the finance director certain authority with respect to the purposes hereof;**

(4) Authorizing the finance director to expend all necessary funds therefor and (5) Declaring an emergency. (Staff, Terry Quest)

Mr. Quest explained Resolution Number 15-007 provides for Taxable Series C refinancing of approximately \$845,000 for Airport Hangars and Lablemasters Lease loans for a five-year term. The original finance rate was 7.15%. The new interest rate is 2.78% resulting in \$181,000 savings to the City. The refinance also cuts four years off the life of the loan. Additionally, he noted that refinancing existing loans, that Series A, Series B, and Series C saves the City approximately \$711,780.

8. **Request for the Mayor and Council to approve and adopt Resolution Number 15-008 (1) Providing for the sale and execution and delivery pursuant to a fourth excise tax trust agreement (Tax-Exempt Series D) of an excise tax revenue new money obligation (Tax-Exempt), Series 2015 D, evidencing all of the interests of the holder thereof in installment payments of the purchase price to be paid by the city of Safford, Arizona, pursuant to a fourth excise tax purchase agreement (Tax-Exempt Series D); (2) Authorizing the completion, execution and delivery with respect thereto of agreements necessary or appropriate as part of the refinancing and paying related financing costs; (3) Delegating to the mayor, the city manager and the finance director certain authority with respect to the purposes hereof; (4) Authorizing the finance director to expend all necessary funds therefor and (5) Declaring an emergency. (Staff, Terry Quest)**

Mr. Quest explained Resolution Number 15-008 provides for the sale and execution and delivery pursuant to a fourth excise tax trust agreement (Tax-Exempt Series D), a new funding device for the purchase of the 14th Avenue property (Birdno Property) for right-of-way purposes for a ten-year term. (Up to \$700,000 at 2.13% interest rate).

It was moved by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Councilman Malloque, and carried unanimously to approve and adopt **Resolution Number 15-005**, (A) Revoking Resolutions Number's 14-038 and 14-039 adopted on December 22, 2014, and (B) (1) Providing for the sale and execution and delivery pursuant to a first excise tax trust agreement (Tax-Exempt Series A) of an excise tax revenue refunding obligation (Tax-Exempt), Series 2015 A, evidencing all of the interests of the holder thereof in installment payments of the purchase price to be paid by the City of Safford, Arizona, pursuant to a first excise tax purchase agreement (Tax-Exempt Series A); (2) Authorizing the completion, execution and delivery with respect thereto of agreements necessary or appropriate as part of the refinancing and paying related financing costs; (3) Delegating to the Mayor, the City Manager and the Finance Director certain authority with respect to the purposes hereof; (4) Adopting post-issuance tax compliance procedures in connection with issuance of obligations of the city; (5) Authorizing the Finance Director to expend all necessary funds therefor and (6) Declaring an emergency; to approve and adopt **Resolution Number 15-006**, (1) Providing for the sale and execution and delivery pursuant to a second excise tax trust agreement (Tax-Exempt Series B) an excise

tax revenue refunding obligation (Tax-Exempt), Series 2015B, evidencing all of the interests of the holder thereof in installment payments of the purchase price to be paid by the city of Safford, Arizona, pursuant to a second excise tax purchase agreement (tax-exempt series b); (2) Authorizing the completion, execution and delivery with respect thereto of agreements necessary or appropriate as part of the refinancing and paying related financing costs; (3) Delegating to the mayor, the city manager and the finance director certain authority with respect to the purposes hereof; (4) Authorizing the finance director to expend all necessary funds therefor and (5) Declaring an emergency; approve and adopt **Resolution Number 15-007**, (1) Providing for the sale and execution and delivery pursuant to a third excise tax trust agreement (Taxable Series C) of an excise tax revenue refunding obligation (Taxable), Series 2015C, evidencing all of the interests of the holder thereof in installment payments of the purchase price to be paid by the city of Safford, Arizona, pursuant to a third excise tax purchase agreement (Taxable Series C); (2) Authorizing the completion, execution and delivery with respect thereto of agreements necessary or appropriate as part of the refinancing and paying related financing costs; (3) Delegating to the mayor, the city manager and the finance director certain authority with respect to the purposes hereof; (4) Authorizing the finance director to expend all necessary funds therefor and (5) Declaring an emergency. and to approve and adopt **Resolution Number 15-008**, (1) Providing for the sale and execution and delivery pursuant to a fourth excise tax trust agreement (Tax-Exempt Series D) of an excise tax revenue new money obligation (Tax-Exempt), Series 2015 D, evidencing all of the interests of the holder thereof in installment payments of the purchase price to be paid by the city of Safford, Arizona, pursuant to a fourth excise tax purchase agreement (Tax-Exempt Series D); (2) Authorizing the completion, execution and delivery with respect thereto of agreements necessary or appropriate as part of the refinancing and paying related financing costs; (3) Delegating to the mayor, the city manager and the finance director certain authority with respect to the purposes hereof; (4) Authorizing the finance director to expend all necessary funds therefor and (5) Declaring an emergency. **MOTION UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED**

9. **Update on the Territorial Settlement Agreement between the City of Safford and Graham County Electric Cooperative. (Staff, Eric Buckley)**

Eric Buckley, Utilities Director, provided a PowerPoint Presentation to the Council regarding the History of the Territorial Settlement Agreement between the City of Safford and the Graham County Electric Cooperative. (PowerPoint attached)

10. **Presentation by Joe Brugman, Chief of Police regarding the Safford Police Department is requesting funding assistance to purchase body-worn cameras for every Safford Police Officer and Sergeant for the health, public safety and welfare of our community.**

Joe Brugman, Chief of Police, provided a PowerPoint Presentation on a grant provided by United Way for the body-worn cameras for every Safford Police Officer and Sergeant. He expressed appreciation to United Way of Graham County for providing the funding that will be used for developing and implementing the use of body-worn cameras, data storage services, program support, and associated equipment for all Safford patrol officers, sergeants and detectives.

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

- Councilman Ortega and City Manager Skeete attended a two-day SEAGO Retreat in Benson (January 21st & 22nd).
- Mayor Gibbs thanked staff and the Council for attending the Work Shop on Friday, January 23rd.
- Cliff Davis, Human Resources Officer distributed the city manager's evaluation forms to the Council.
- Tuesday, February 3 – Chamber of Commerce Breakfast – Freeport-McMoRan will be sharing news about the development of Lone Star mining activities.
- Monday, February 9th Regular Council Meeting
- February 20th Public Scoping Meeting on Lone Star Or Body Development Project. City Manager Skeete stated the comment period is between now and the 20th. He asked the Council to provide any comments or concerns to him or to Randy Petty.
- Monday, February 23rd Council Work Session

9. COUNCIL OR STAFF REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

- 10. ADJOURN:** It was moved by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Vice Mayor Bingham, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:48:09 p.m. **MOTION ADOPTED**

APPROVED:

Wyn "Chris" Gibbs, Mayor
City of Safford

ATTEST:

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, January 26, 2015, and approved at a Regular Council Meeting on Monday, February 9, 2015. I further certify the meeting was duly called, held and that a quorum was present.

February 9, 2015
Date: _____

Georgia Luster, MMC, City Clerk