



**“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, June 8, 2015 @ 6:00 PM
Safford Library Program Room, 808 S. 7th Avenue, Safford, Arizona**

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

ABSENT: Gene Seale, Councilmember.

STAFF PRESENT: Horatio Skeete, City Manager; Leslie Norton, Executive Secretary; Joe Brugman, Chief of Police; Randy Petty, City Engineer; Dustin Welker, Planning and Community Development Director; Jenny Howard, Public Works Director/Interim Utilities Director; Terry Quest, Finance Director; Leanne McElroy, Library Director; Cliff Davis, Human Resources Officer; Sam Napier, I.T.; and Georgia Luster, City Clerk. Dale Clark assisted with the audio recording of the meeting.

OTHERS PRESENT: Pastor Larry Semore, Steve McGaughey, and members of Boy Scout Troop #5901. Ken Showers representing Eastern Arizona Courier.

1. **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Gibbs called the meeting to order at 6:00:18 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** A quorum of the Council was present (6-1).
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:** Adam Donaldson of Boy Scout Troop #5901, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
4. **OPENING PRAYER:** Pastor Larry Semore offered the Opening Prayer.
5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** NONE
6. **BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**
 1. **Request consideration and action on the renewal of four Library Advisory Board member terms. The members are Janet Berry, Candy Green, Sue Rasmussen and Aimee Staten.** Leanne McElroy, Library Director, said Janet Berry, Candy Green, Sue Rasmussen and Aimee Staten are willing to continue their role on the Library Advisory Board. She

expressed her appreciation to the Board Members for their service to the Library Advisory Board.

A motion was made by Councilman Lopez, seconded by Vice Mayor Bingham, to renew the term of four Library Advisory Board member terms. The members are Janet Berry, Candy Green, Sue Rasmussen and Aimee Staten. **MOTION ADOPTED**

Aye: 6 – Mayor Gibbs, Vice Mayor Bingham, Councilman Lopez, Councilman Malloque, Councilman Ortega, and Councilman Howes.

7. NEW AND OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Review of and Approval of May 11 and May 26, 2015, Council Meeting Minutes.** There were no revisions to the minutes.

A motion was made by Councilman Malloque, seconded by Councilman Ortega, to approve the May 11 and May 26th Council Meeting Minutes as presented. **MOTION ADOPTED**

Aye: 6 – Mayor Gibbs, Vice Mayor Bingham, Councilman Lopez, Councilman Malloque, Councilman Ortega, and Councilman Howes.

8. CONSENT RESOLUTIONS:

1. **Consider approving and adopting Resolution Number 15-020, a proposed revised Fee Schedule for the Safford Regional Airport.** The City Clerk read the Number and Title of Resolution Number 15-020 into the record.

Dustin Welker, Planning and Community Development Director, explained the notice to revise the Fee Schedule has been posted and the item was reviewed previously by the Council.

A motion was made by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Councilman Malloque, to approve and adopt Resolution Number 15-020, a proposed revised Fee Schedule for the Safford Regional Airport. **MOTION ADOPTED**

Aye: 6 – Mayor Gibbs, Vice Mayor Bingham, Councilman Lopez, Councilman Malloque, Councilman Ortega, and Councilman Howes.

2. **Consider approving and adopting Resolution Number 15-021, authorizing a Magistrate Agreement reappointing D. Corey Sanders as City Magistrate for the City of Safford.** The City Clerk read the Number and Title of Resolution Number 15-020 into the record.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Bingham, seconded by Councilman Howes, to approve and adopt Resolution Number 15-021, authorizing a Magistrate Agreement reappointing D. Corey Sanders as City Magistrate for the City of Safford. **MOTION ADOPTED**

Aye: 6 – Mayor Gibbs, Vice Mayor Bingham, Councilman Lopez, Councilman Malloque, Councilman Ortega, and Councilman Howes.

9. CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, BIDS:

1. **This is a request for the City Council to approve a contract with Freidman Recycling Company to partner with the City on providing curb side recycling services to the residents of the City of Safford. The cost to the City would be \$3.00 per household per month and a transportation fee of \$680.00 per pickup of two 40-yard roll-off as needed.**

City Manager Skeete stated the City initiated the recycling process by requesting proposals (RFP) from several recycling providers in the state a few months ago soliciting recycling services for the City of Safford. Freidman Recycling Company was the only response. The proposed agreement with Freidman Recycling results in a cost of \$3.00 per household container per month and a transportation fee of \$680.00 per pickup of the recycling materials collected by two 40-yard roll-off as needed. Recycling materials will be hauled to and sorted in Phoenix. The Program will provide three-thousand, three-hundred and thirty (3,330) blue recycling containers (leased containers) to residential customers within the City of Safford by Freidman Recycling. It is anticipated that between 12% & 15% of the average household waste will be recycled initially, and expects an increase of up to 20% of household waste will be recycled in the future. Staff's goal is to continue an aggressive educational program to help achieve a 40% diversion of recyclable materials in five years. Recycling materials will be comingled and collected at the curb. The sanitation department will haul the material to a designated area at the Landfill and consolidate into containers for Freidman Recycling to pick up and to transport to Phoenix. Sorting will be done at the Phoenix facility. As an example, he noted last year Freidman Recycling collected comingled recycling material garnered about \$18/per ton on average (plastic, paper, cardboard, aluminum, and tin). The total cost associated with this Program is about \$15,500 per month, paid for through the diversion of the current sanitation fees (\$3/container). \$1,400 per month is expected to be collected from recycling materials, and the diversion of the cost for landfill fees of \$42,000 per month will help cover the cost of the Program. There will be no direct increase to the residents of the City. The primary intent of introducing this recycling program is the diversion of materials from the Landfill. Under the best of circumstances, the landfill has a life expectancy of four (4) years. Without taking any different measures, the overburdened landfill will continue to be stressed to a critical level and the financial strain will continue to grow at an exorbitant rate. The extremely short life expectancy of the landfill and large debt obligation associated with its closure is evidence that the status quo approach is not in the City's best interest. Coupled with the permit extension application to ADEQ, the implementation of a recycling program will proactively reduce

the amount of waste dumped into the City's landfill. Approximately, 100 tons per month will be diverted from the Landfill because of the recycling program.

Mr. Skeete stated that the City applied for an extension of the ADEQ permit for the Landfill. He noted current Landfill fees are at \$42/ton and the cost to collect and haul recycled materials to Phoenix for sorting is \$38/ton. Anyone outside the city limits delivering recycled materials to the Landfill will be charged \$38/ton. After a year of a recycling program and the extension and renewal of the Landfill permit, concrete data and targets for post-closure of the Landfill should be available. At this time, he recommends engaging a consultant to conduct a complete Landfill Study.

Vice Mayor Bingham asked the Council to consider tabling the item to allow more time to study the recycling program agreement and to educate the public about the Program.

Mr. Skeete stated delaying the program will delay the implementation date. He assured Vice Mayor Bingham and the Council that there will be ample and adequate publicity and notice to the residents. Staff are already in the process of promoting the recycling program through publication, pamphlets and presentation to schools, clubs, mailers to residents, website, recycling poster contest - it will be an on-going education program.

A motion was made by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Councilman Malloque, to approve a contract with Freidman Recycling Company to partner with the City on providing curb side recycling services to the residents of the City of Safford. **MOTION ADOPTED**

Aye: 5 – Mayor Gibbs, Councilman Lopez, Councilman Malloque, Councilman Ortega, and Councilman Howes.

Nay: 1 - Vice Mayor Bingham opposed.

2. **Review of, and consider approving AquaHawk Alerting “Software-As-A-Service” Managed Services Agreement.** Terry Quest, Finance Director, introduced the AquaHawk Alerting software agreement for a term of one year. An evaluation of customer portals was done on systems that would integrate with the current (AMI) meter system for water, electric and gas utilities. The customer portal provides customers of the City of Safford, a web portal for their use in monitoring their water, gas and electric usage as well as to set up and maintain alerts that could tell them if they have reached a usage threshold, view current usage and an “estimated billing” if they continue the usage at the same rate.

A motion was made by Councilman Howes, seconded by Vice Mayor Bingham, to approve AquaHawk Alerting “Software-As-A-Service” Managed Services Agreement. **MOTION ADOPTED**

Aye: 6 – Mayor Gibbs, Vice Mayor Bingham, Councilman Lopez, Councilman Malloque, Councilman Ortega, and Councilman Howes.

3. **Consider approving and adopting Resolution Number 15-022, approving intergovernmental agreements with Graham County for Animal Shelter, Dispatching, and Information Technologies Services.** Mr. Skeete, City Manager, introduced the item for approving intergovernmental agreements with Graham County for providing Animal Shelter, Dispatching and Information Technologies Services.

The City Clerk read the title and number of Resolution Number 15-022 into the record.

A motion was made by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Councilman Malloque, to approve and adopt Resolution Number 15-022, approving and authorizing the Mayor to execute Intergovernmental Agreements with Graham County for Animal Shelter, Dispatching, and Information Technologies Services. **MOTION ADOPTED**

Aye: 6 – Mayor Gibbs, Vice Mayor Bingham, Councilman Lopez, Councilman Malloque, Councilman Ortega, and Councilman Howes.

10. TENTATIVE BUDGET:

1. **Consider approving and adopting Resolution Number 15-023, setting forth the Tentative Budget and establishing the maximum budget amount for the City of Safford for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.** Terry Quest recapped the process of establishing the tentative budget. He reviewed the following adjustments to the Tentative Budget:

- 1) Materials Management Department was not included in the Internal Service Charges which resulted in the understatement of the individual department’s budget totals.
- 2) Include temporary Field Service Technician position.
- 3) Electric Department budgeted expenditures increased by \$700,000 (purchasing capacity due to Territorial Agreement exchange).
- 4) Health Insurance Subsidy (Resolution No. 15-019), cost of \$100,800.
- 5) Increase to Long-Term Debt Outstanding Schedule by \$537,000 to account for a portion of the GADA Series 2006A Bonds not refinanced earlier.
- 6) Landfill rental fee of \$60,000 shown in General Fund as revenue was removed along with the corresponding expense in the Landfill Fund.

The City Clerk read the title and number of Resolution Number 15-023 into the record.

City Manager Skeete thanked the staff for their participation in the budgeting process. He also acknowledged the fact of the additional six items that were overlooked. It was a learning process. However, he assured the Council that the budget numbers well within the City's scope and ability to deliver. The Tentative Budget the Council is approving tonight is \$49,803,307.00 which includes \$7 million in contingency, \$4 million in the General Fund, \$3 in the Enterprise Fund, and the Operating/Capital Budget is around \$42 million. He acknowledged the Council for having the confidence in him and the staff for putting the Budget together. He noted that the Budget includes a 3% merit increase for employees based on performance over the last year. The department head and the city manager will meet to determine how to distribute between 3%-5% for performance merit increases.

A motion was made by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Councilman Howes, to approve and adopt Resolution Number 15-023, setting forth the Tentative Budget and establishing the maximum budget amount for the City of Safford for Fiscal Year 2015-2016. **MOTION ADOPTED**

Aye: 6 – Mayor Gibbs, Vice Mayor Bingham, Councilman Lopez, Councilman Malloque, Councilman Ortega, and Councilman Howes.

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

- June 22nd Council Meeting – Adopt Final Budget
- July 2nd – City Offices closed for Fourth of July Holiday
- July 4th – Fourth of July Holiday
- July 13th Council Meeting – Adopt Tax Levy
- July 27th Council Meeting

Mayor Gibbs stated that tomorrow he will attend a SRP meeting about water in the State in Phoenix and Red Cross meeting in Tucson that evening.

Mayor Gibbs referred to the benefit for the 6-year old boy who needed a prosthetic eye and insurance wouldn't pay for it because it is considered cosmetic. He praised the entire Gila Valley for their support.

Councilman Lopez: On June 26th at 7 p.m. Mr. Dewitt, State Treasurer, Senator Griffin and Representative Barton will be in town to discuss Legislative Sessions at the Victory Fellowship.

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

13. **CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** NONE

14. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

A motion was made by Councilman Malloque, seconded by Vice Mayor Bingham to adjourn to executive session at 7:12 p.m. to address Items 14-1, 14-2 and 14-3. **MOTION ADOPTED**

Aye: 6 – Mayor Gibbs, Vice Mayor Bingham, Councilman Lopez, Councilman Malloque, Councilman Ortega, and Councilman Howes.

1. Discussions or consultations with designated representatives of the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations for the purchase, sale or lease of real property. The City Council will enter executive session to review and discuss a proposed Development Agreement for Annexation of properties owned by Jay and Tami Curtis east of Highway 191 pursuant to *Arizona Revised Statutes* 38-431.03(A)(7). (Staff, Dustin Welker)
2. Employee position changes and classification pursuant to *Arizona Revised Statutes* 38-431.03(A) (5). (Horatio Skeete)
3. Negotiate compensation for the City Manager *Arizona Revised Statutes* 38-431.03(A)(5). (Horatio Skeete)

The City Council may adjourn executive session and return to regular session to take action on any executive session item.

15. **ADJOURN:** It was moved by Councilman Howes, seconded by Vice Mayor Bingham, and carried unanimously (6) to adjourn regular session at 8:18:13 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, June 8, 2015, and approved at a Regular Council Meeting on Monday, July 13, 2015. I further certify the meeting was duly called, held and that a quorum was present.

July 13, 2015
Date: _____

Georgia Luster, MMC, City Clerk