



**“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, August 10, 2015 @ 6:00 PM
Safford Library Program Room, 808 S. 7th Avenue, Safford, Arizona**

PRESENT: Wyn “Chris” Gibbs, Mayor; Mary Bingham, Vice Mayor; Councilmembers, Gene Seale, Kenneth Malloque, James D. Howes and Richard Ortega.

ABSENT: Councilman, Arnold Lopez.

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Danny Smith, Chairman Graham County Board of Supervisors; Steve McGaughey; Rev. Gail Carlsen; and Erik Swanson. Ralph Score, Valley TeleCom Group, video recorded the meeting.

1. **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Gibbs called the meeting to order at 6:02:11 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** A quorum of the Council was present (6-1).
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:** Mayor Gibbs led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
4. **OPENING PRAYER:** Reverend Gail Carlsen offered the Opening Prayer.
5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: NONE**
6. **BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**
 1. **PowerPoint Presentation: “Scenario Planning for the Future of the Upper Gila Watershed” presented by Mark Apel, UA “Cooperative Extension Agent.** (Attachment)
City Manager Skeete introduced Mark Apel from the U of A Cooperative Extension Agent.

Mr. Apel presented a PowerPoint presentation on the “Scenario Planning for the Future of the Upper Gila Watershed”. He explained Scenarios are a tool that can be used to help explore what might happen in the future as a way to make more informed decisions today. The four scenarios span the next 30 years, and demonstrate how the key drivers of change in the watershed are influenced and changed by the major uncertainties.

Scenarios for the Upper Gila Watershed:

1. The Fate of New Mexico’s CAP Allotment. A) NM Diverts B) NM Conserves
2. Impacts from the Tamarisk Leaf Beetle
3. Local to Federal Control. A) Increasing Local Control B) Increasing Federal Control
4. Fluctuation in Cotton Prices. A) Average Low Cotton Prices B) Average High Cotton Prices.

2. **Recognize Terry Quest, Finance Director, for obtaining the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended, June 30, 2014.** Finance Director, Terry Quest, provided the award, a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association. He acknowledged the Finance Department and everyone involved in the financial operations.

7. NEW AND OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Preview of completed promotional videos for the City of Safford.** Leslie Norton, Executive Secretary, acknowledged those who assisted in putting the Project together (Hilary Cuenin, Amber Hogle, Tammy Webster, Samantha Macias, and Dale Clark). She presented Showcase Videos promoting the City of Safford: Welcome, Historical Downtown, Economic Development and Local Attractions.
2. **Review of and approval of July 13 and July 27, 2015 Council Meeting Minutes.** A motion was made by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Councilman Malloque, to approve July 13 and July 27, 2015 Council Meeting Minutes as published. **MOTION ADOPTED**

6 – Mayor Gibbs, Vice Mayor Bingham, Councilman Malloque, Councilman Seale, Councilman Howes, and Councilman Ortega.

8. CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, BIDS:

1. **Request for the City Council to discuss and consider renewing the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Graham County and the City of Safford to provide irrigation water to the Graham County Regional Park (Fairgrounds) for another year beginning July 1, 2015.** Jenny Howard, Utilities Director, reviewed prior discussions

regarding the renewal of the MOU with Graham County. She stated that Chairman Danny Smith will provide a summary of what Graham County has done to manage water use at the Fairgrounds. Danny Smith stated they are actively pursuing options for water for the sport fields. The reverse osmosis system has been plagued with problems, but still hopeful that the system will reduce their use of potable water. They are in the process of testing the quality and quantity of another well in the area.

The Council agreed to renew the MOU for an additional year.

A motion was made by Councilman Howes, seconded by Councilman Malloque to renew the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Graham County and the City of Safford to provide irrigation water to the Graham County Regional Park (Fairgrounds) for another year beginning July 1, 2015 through June 1, 2016. **MOTION ADOPTED**

6 – Mayor Gibbs, Vice Mayor Bingham, Councilman Malloque, Councilman Seale, Councilman Howes, and Councilman Ortega.

2. **Request for the City Council to authorize the City Manager to execute the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Grant Agreement for the Taxiway A2 Removal and Runway 12/30 Sealing Project at the Safford Regional Airport.** Randy Petty, Public Works Director/City Engineer presented the grant agreement is for the Taxiway A2 removal and the sealing of Runway 12/30 which was identified in 2012 as a part of the Airport improvement Plan. The budget for this project is \$600,000. He is requesting the Council authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.

A motion was made by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Councilman Malloque to authorize the City Manager to execute the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Grant Agreement for the Taxiway A2 Removal and Runway 12/30 Sealing Project at the Safford Regional Airport. **MOTION ADOPTED**

6 – Mayor Gibbs, Vice Mayor Bingham, Councilman Malloque, Councilman Seale, Councilman Howes, and Councilman Ortega.

3. **Request for the City Council to authorize the City Manager to execute Purchase Order Number 6 for Construction Administration and Observation for the Taxiway A2 Removal and Runway 12/30 Sealing Project.**

A motion was made by Councilman Howes, seconded by Councilman Malloque to authorize the City Manager to execute Purchase Order Number 6 for Construction Administration and Observation for the Taxiway A2 Removal and Runway 12/30 Sealing Project. **MOTION ADOPTED**

6 – Mayor Gibbs, Vice Mayor Bingham, Councilman Malloque, Councilman Seale, Councilman Howes, and Councilman Ortega.

4. **Request for the City Council to award a construction contract to J. Banicki Construction of Tempe, Arizona for the bid amount of \$391,360 and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract.** Randy Petty, Public Works Director/City Engineer requested the Council consider award a construction contract to J. Banicki Construction of Tempe, AZ in the amount of \$391,360 and to authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement. The FAA will fund 91.06% of the cost.

A motion was made by Councilman Ortega, seconded by Councilman Howes to award a construction contract to J. Banicki Construction of Tempe, Arizona for the bid amount of \$391,360 and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract. **MOTION ADOPTED**

6 – Mayor Gibbs, Vice Mayor Bingham, Councilman Malloque, Councilman Seale, Councilman Howes, and Councilman Ortega.

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

- August 17th – 20th – Annual League Conference at Star Pass
- August 24th – Council meeting cancelled
- September 7th – Labor Day Holiday
- September 14th – Council Meeting
- September 28th – Council Work Session

August 24 – Senator Flake greeting at 1:15 p.m. at Eastern Arizona College

August 24 – Mayor Gibbs attending Homeland Security meeting in Globe in the morning

September 22 – Community Foundation Grant awards at 4:00 p.m. at the General Services Building.

September - Attempting to schedule joint meeting with Graham County, Town of Thatcher and Town of Pima to discuss a water efficiency study.

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

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

12. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

1. **Enter executive session pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes §38-431.03(A) (4) to update the Council about a small claim received. The Council may adjourn executive session and may take action in open session.**

The Council adjourned to enter executive session at 6:59:42 p.m. At 7:12 p.m. the Council adjourned executive session and reconvened regular session at 7:13:06 p.m. There was no action taken in regular session.

13. **ADJOURN:** It was moved by Councilman Malloque, seconded by Vice Mayor Bingham, and carried unanimously to adjourn at 7:14:19 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, August 10, 2015, and approved at a Regular Council Meeting on Monday, September 14, 2015. I further certify the meeting was duly called, held and that a quorum was present.

September 14, 2015

Date:

Georgia Luster, MMC, City Clerk