

Springerville Town Council  
Minutes  
January 5, 2011  
6:00 p.m.

Council: Eric Baca Mayor, Dan Muth Vice Mayor, Connie Hunt, Susan Silva and Ron Thebeau  
Staff: Mike Nuttall Police Chief, Val Cordova Town Clerk, Tim Shaffery Legal Counsel, Larisa Bogardus Community Development Director.  
Public: Chuck Corey, Nelson Garrison, Phil Hanson Jr., Bryon Harrington, Scott Harrington, Kevin Burk, Jacob Port, Kelly W. Port, Mike Gowey, Deanna Davis, Norman Moulton, Frank Padilla, Doug and Cindi Henderson, Joe & Mary Simpson and Jim Muth.

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Public Participation: None
4. Manager, Council and Chamber Reports: None
5. Public Hearing: Take public comments/input regarding proposed CDBG projects.

Dan Muth/Susan Silva motion to adjourn into public hearing regarding the proposed use of CDBG funds.

Vote:	Ayes:	Eric Baca Dan Muth Connie Hunt Susan Silva Ron Thebeau
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Larisa Bogardus said this was the second hearing regarding the use of \$230,000 of Community Block Grant monies coming in 2011. The following four projects submitted during the last hearing were eligible for this year's CDBG:

1. Community Facility Improvements – ADA restroom improvements and ramp for SPD.
2. ADA push button door openers for Springerville Police Department and Town Hall;
3. Community Facility Improvements – Round Valley Senior Center roof and parking lot.
4. Public Service – 15-passenger van for senior transportation

Mayor Baca asked what the 5<sup>th</sup> proposal was. Ms. Bogardus explained that some of the ADA improvements will be here at town hall and the police department. Since it is one complex it's listed as one project.

Mayor Baca called for comments from the public: There were no comments.

Susan Silva/Connie Hunt motion to adjourn the public hearing and return to the regular meeting.

Vote:	Ayes:	Eric Baca Dan Muth Connie Hunt Susan Silva Ron Thebeau
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6. Consent Items:
  - a. Consider approval of the December 15, 2010 town council water rates workshop minutes held at 5:00pm
  - b. Consider approval of the December 15, 2010 regular town council meeting held at 6:00pm

Dan Muth/Ron Thebeau motion to approve the consent items 5a-5b.

Vote:	Ayes:	Eric Baca Dan Muth Connie Hunt Susan Silva Ron Thebeau
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7. Old Business: None
8. P&Z APPOINTMENT: Discussion and action regarding the appointment of Jim Muth to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a three-year term expiring Dec. 31, 2013.

Councilmember Muth declared a conflict of interest.

Ron Thebeau/Susan Silva motion to appoint Jim Muth to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a 3 three year term.

Vote:	Ayes:	Eric Baca Connie Hunt Susan Silva Ron Thebeau
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9. Resolution 2011-001 Discussion and action regarding Resolution 2011-001 authorizing the submission of an application(s) for FY 2011 State Community Development Block Grant funds.

Connie Hunt/Dan Muth motion to approve Resolution 2011-003 authorizing staff to develop applications for Community Development Block Grant funds for the four projects recommended.

Discussion: Councilmember Hunt questioned as the plans were for the small van with the purchase of this one.

Ms. Bogardus explained that we have to run the current van a required minimum of 30 hours per week. Without meeting the minimum requirements for the State we'll have to return the van and purchase a replacement to continue these services.

Councilmember Hunt questioned the possibility of purchasing this van from the State.

Ms. Bogardus said the possibility of purchasing a used van is being explored. As for purchasing the van there are certain requirements that have to be followed. State Surplus may be a good source for a used van or State Procurement for a new van if funding allows.

When asked by or Baca asked if it was worth the cutting 5 hours and losing the van Ms. Bogardus said she couldn't answer that question.

She further explained the only projects that were approved as eligible by the State were the projects listed.

Mayor Baca asked for a breakdown of the projects and the dollar amount.

Ms. Bogardus said the ADA restrooms and door closures are estimated at around \$100,000. We have architect and contractor estimates is around \$70,000 for the ramp in front of the police department due to the slope requirements. We have the option to going out to bid or doing the project in house. She said 18% of the grant goes to administration costs which includes assistance from the State.

Vote:	Ayes:	Eric Baca
		Dan Muth
		Connie Hunt
		Susan Silva
		Ron Thebeau

8 Norman Moulton discussion regarding the grant pertaining to the airport hangar.

Mr. Moulton addressed the council regarding the airport grant to tear down the hangar to build a terminal building and a smaller hangar. He stated this was an utter waste of money noting that the FAA also agreed with him. He said he was told by someone from the FAA that the grant was awarded without going through the proper channels. He was also told by the FAA that he could go to the council to have them request in writing to amend the grant for other uses or to have the grant rescinded. He said the FAA came up with a visibility diamond theory but this airport has some of the vest visibility in the country. Had there been a visibility safety issue it would have been confronted years ago and grants would not have been awarded. He reiterated that are other options available like putting up warning signs, extra taxi ways and relocate the runway threshold.

Mayor Baca asked Mr. Moulton what his major concern was.

He said it's stupid to tear down a perfectly good building in order to build an unnecessary terminal building that will hardly ever be used and would like to see the money used for something smart, positive and constructive. Some of the FAA officials he spoke with said there are more beneficial ways to use this money than to build an unnecessary terminal building in a small uncontrolled airport in basically "Hicksville" compared to big airports.

Councilmember Silva stated that Springerville's fortunate to get this grant. We've put money into the airport for 30 plus years and said she doesn't consider Springerville "Hicksville".

Vice Mayor Muth addressed Mr. Moulton asking him if he had read the April 24, 2007 Master Plan that addresses the deficiencies i.e. FBO, T Hanger, and apron are all located in the RVZ. These deficiencies are all listed in the final draft of the Master Plan prepared by Armstrong and amended by C & S Consultants along with documented maps showing the hangar inside the RVZ. He said It also includes a report on the Runway Safety Action Plan that consisted of four FAA Officials and two local officials detailing concerns with our airport. In the report they it states they "observed that portions of the runway visibility zone in both existing and future locations appear to be blocked by hangars, fences, aircraft parking, structures, equipment and new construction. Action item: Recommend the airport, identify, evaluate obstructions currently within the RVZ, remove and relocate those items that can be feasibly eliminated including aircraft parking, small structures, fences and unnecessary obstacles. Additionally, future planning should ensure that no additional structures/objects may be built within the RVZ".

Vice Mayor Muth stated that both documents, one from the FAA and the Consulting Engineers are both state the hangar is well within the RVZ and he hasn't seen any of the FAA documentation Mr. Moulton spoke of..

Councilmember Hunt stated she spoke with FAA and was told the people who came out were regulatory people and wondered if they based this on the people who came out here. She also spoke with people about the visibility and was told that because Springerville is a low density airport it's just a recommendation. Due to conflicts with FAA reports she feels they need to pull back and gather more information on the terminal.

Discussion continued with comments from the public;

Brian and Scott Harrington of Harrington Homes said their feelings are since the town already has the money it should be spent locally putting unemployed people to work and purchasing the materials locally.

Scott Harrington commented on the liability of not having a clear visibility zone, noting that the Town has been advised and since they already have the money and don't do something the town will be on the hook.

Nelson Garrison explained the FAA grant money is generated from commercial ticket sales that has existed in the FAA coffers for years and is not deficit spending. They decided Springerville has a safety issue dating back to the 2005 Armstrong report. He commented on the 183 million dollar lawsuit against the City of St. Johns because they decided not to address a safety issue at their airport. Even though St. Johns didn't do anything wrong, when the airplane crashed into a wood pile their attorney tied it to the lawsuit.

Councilmember Thebeau stated this is a blatant example of misspent money when we have a perfectly good facility and both the manager and former employee Sheila Dulhanty openly admit it isn't mandatory to move the building. He said as council members they are bound by strictures of the FAA they don't understand to move a building 100 feet away and stated they are doing a grave disservice by spending this money.

The discussion continued with comments from other people.

Mr. Shaffery explained the Town has a safety issue with the hangar, it's been documented by the FAA. If there was a safety issue with no grant funds to address the issue the council would have to decide they don't have the money to move the hangar and we have a 1% risk. However that changes when there are government funds available and don't address the issue with funds earmarked for that and use the money for other matters the Town's liability goes through the ceiling.

Mayor Baca explained there are no decisions tonight and are here to listen to comments from the community and appreciates them as the airport is always a concern to them.

Mr. Moulton stated he's heard comments tonight about the hangar was to be moved. He was told by FAA that if it's torn down it won't be rebuilt and wanted to know what the story was.

Vice Mayor Muth said recently they were advised there may be funds available to relocate zone and reconstruct the existing hangar building outside of the zone, when and if those funds become available they don't know. The conversations have been very preliminary and general.

Mayor Baca noted this will be discussed again and they will be going out to look at the RVZ.

The Town Clerk asked the council if they would consider reopening public participation so that the gentlemen that come in late could address the council.

Mr. Joe Simpson addressed the council regarding the possibility of opening a youth center specifically in the Lockhart building. There is no place for the youth in our community to go to. He asked if he could come back to the next meeting and bring any information he finds out.

Mayor Baca said this is something the council is definitely interested in doing but it a matter of funding but our youth are very important

10. Adjournment:

Susan Silva/Dan Muth motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

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Eric Baca, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Town Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Springerville Town Council in regular session on Wednesday, January 5, 2011. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2011.

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Town Clerk