

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

Council Present: Dan Muth Mayor, Steve Christensen, Connie Hunt, Susan Silva and Ron Thebeau

Staff Present: Steve West Town Manager, Val Cordova Town Clerk, Tim Shaffery Legal Counsel,
Mike Nuttall Police Chief, Karen Asquith Finance Dir., Chris Chiesl Comm. Dev. Dir., Brent Slade Public Works Dir. Sharon Pinckard Comm. Services Dir. and Greg Cross Casa Malpais.

Public Present: Kevin Burk, Hank Rogers, Paul and Nora Mohr, Nona Bashshone, Buster Madariaga, and Becky Christensen Chamber Director.

Mayor Muth called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with a full council present. Councilmember Silva led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 3: Public Participation: None

Item 4: Manager, Council and Chamber Reports:

Mayor Dan Muth presented Certificates of Appreciation to Buster Madariaga and Becky Christensen for their service on the Tourism Tax Committee. Certificates of Appreciation were also presented to Brent Slade and Paul Cubbage for their work during the Wallow Fire.

Town Manager Steve West reminded the council of the confusion with the polling place at the last election and said that the county would be holding elections in the Udall-Johnson Room. He reported that Chris submitted for a Heritage Fund grant in the amount of \$50,000 for enhancement of the River Walk from one bridge to the other. She assisted the fire department on Assistance to Firefighters' grant in the amount of \$468,000 to possibly purchase a pumper or fire truck. Manager West said there would be a Redistricting meeting at the Eagar Council Chambers on October 13th at 6:00 p.m. This meeting is to reset the boundaries for Representatives.

Councilmember Hunt said the Coalition met today and October 10th is "Ready, Set, Relax" Day. They would like everyone to try to do a Block Party and it's also "Good Deed" week. She reminded everyone about Veterans' Day, the parade and said there were several things going on that day including an assembly and in December they are going to have a "Buy a Christmas Tree" with donations going to the Boys and Girls Club.

Mayor Dan Muth said the Forest Service has invited the elected officials on a tour of the remediation efforts of the Wallow Fire and will get the council the information to them.

Councilmember Steve Christensen reported they received a check for \$1.2 million dollars from the First Things First and held over for the North Country Clinic and noted that Manager West did a good job of welcoming the new center. Travis Udall will be reporting on the Override Election at the Rotary meeting on Wednesday morning at 7:00 a.m.

Councilmember Susan Silva commented it was nice to see all the departments heads present at tonight's meeting.

Chamber Director Becky Christensen said the next Chamber Mixer would be on October 13th for "Lunch with the Law" at the Safire. The businesses will be getting advice from the law regarding keeping their businesses safe during the holidays and the Eagar fire department will be there to tell them how to keep their homes safe with the decorations. The annual Chamber Banquet will be October 22nd at the VFW at a cost of \$22 per ticket. They will be recognizing businesses and municipalities. Jessie's Buns is closing the restaurant portion of her business will be opening up a catering business. The 2012 Centennial Chamber membership directory is almost complete and will go to print and out in January. They will be partnering with Jay Whitmore and do a newspaper tablet of 4 to 6 pages for the Centennial Year that will include all of the centennial events and historic stories and pictures of our area. Ms. Christensen then described the RV Winter Jamboree, and the Christmas festival will be lighted up and the lights will be left and relit during the Jamboree.

Councilmember Hunt offered a Polar Express built by Dale Goodman for the Christmas walk.

Manager West reported that Greg Cross who was hired to take care of Casa and doing tours is doing an excellent job. Mr. Cross has presented a 6 month plan that includes being open March through November, close the tours December through February and keep the museum open. He noted this wasn't on the agenda for discussion tonight but asked the council to give him feedback and would move forward with this plan if there were no comments or objections from the council. He then proceeded with updates on projects.

Road right of way from Apache County: Mr. Shaffery reported he'd delivered all of the dedications to the County Attorney's office about 7 or 8 months ago. Joe Young advised him he located the files and was going to start working on them.

Quiet Title Airport Property: Mr. Shaffery is currently still fighting with the title company. In order to Quiet Title he has to go to court but if the title company won't insure it. The title company is giving resistance to insuring the property. The Quiet Title is in their hands at the moment and is continuing to work with them.

Airport Construction: Mr. Shaffery explained there's a dispute between the contractor and our engineers and the Town regarding the asphalt mix dictated by the FAA. C & S and the FAA are backing the Town 100%. Mr. Shaffery didn't want to discuss this in detail as he may have to go to executive session at a later date. He said he and Manager West had a meeting in Phoenix a couple of weeks ago and the meeting went nowhere.

Community Services- Sharon Pinckard updated the council on things going on at the senior center that included activities the seniors are taking part in and the fund raising events, report distributed and attached.

Ms. Pinckard they completed the Transportation Program Monitoring with the State and should release the handicap accessible van lien. Due to funding resources the Local Transit Authority Funds (LTAF) is no longer going to be coming in from the State but will be receiving funds from Apache County which can be spent through April of 2013 and will use these funds for the FY 2012.

Police Department Report-Chief Mike Nuttall- The police department is closing out the 2011 Governor's Office of Highway Safety grant and waiting for the contracts for the 2012 grant in the amount of \$20,000 for DUI and traffic enforcement. New explorer from a Governor's grant is now in service. He will doing a presentation on Lunch with the Law at the next Chamber Mixer, and have been participating with Walk to School program and with the Halloween Trick or Treat on Main Street. He is working on getting the

Narrow Banding on all the hand held and car radios and just returned from the ACOP conference in Nevada. The Interview room is now completed for booking and interviews. Scott Burrell is working on updating their webpage and the police department will be wearing their Commemorative Badges for the next year.

Karen Asquith- Finance Director: They have begun the process of putting online payment availability for utility billing on the website and hope to have that done in the next couple of months. A summary of the first quarter of the fiscal year was given to the council. She explained some of the discrepancies that appear are due to the Wallow Fire. At 25% of the year the Town is in good shape.

Infrastructure- Ms. Asquith reminded the council that infrastructure improvements and the financing was budgeted for water and sewer. She gave the council handouts regarding the drinking water and wastewater projects that will be accomplished with the WIFA financing. One was a list of the projects and the other was the process for the application for getting the Waste Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA) financing. At the next council meeting Mark Reader with Stone & Youngberg and Dan Jackson with economists.com will be present to continue with the financing packaging and related rates. They are doing a related rate study and will be asking the council to adopt a non-binding resolution giving the Town authorization to move forward with financing. If the council chooses to approve any changes in the rates to fund the money required to do the infrastructure improvements it will go to WIFA for their consideration in December.

Public Works Director-Brent Slade gave updates on the following projects:

West Street project- Extended 4" water main to end of cul-de-sac, lowered a man-hole to make room for the road.

Worked drainage issue, shot grade and are in the process of generating road fill material prior to putting AB on top for minimum specs.

Pima Street grant: Waiting for engineering which is being shared with the Town of Eagar to share costs and save money for possible other projects.

Old School: Need to put in some ceiling tiles, wiring most of the receptacles and lights, painting and finish floors, need to put some windows, and re-hang custom doors that were taken out and air conditioning and heating vents.

Held a raffle for former Public Works Director Tom Malone and were able to give him \$3360.00 after paying for the rifle.

West lift project; Updated the west lift station and brought it up above ground.

Currently working on radios and in the middle of winterizing and getting snow removal equipment ready for winter.

Ordered new Christmas lights, hung up the fall street banners and is in the middle of putting together a safety program.

Community Development Director Chris Chiesl gave an over view of all the grants in progress and submitted in the council packet. (Attached).

She reported that the USDA/Rural Enterprise grant committee met last night consisting of a couple of business owners and 8 or 9 other people involved and a consultant hired that comes the first week of each month. Councilmember's Silva and Christensen are also on the Steering Committee. The Economic Development Feasibility study will be reviewing the 1995 Master Plan. Nona Bashshone will be speaking with business owners and staff and will be doing a SWAT analysis. These meetings will be held monthly. Quarterly reports will be generated for the council.

The West Lift grant was closed out by the Arizona Dept. of Commerce last month.

Safe Routes Grant Cycle 5 – The paper work is in the process and will commence next spring

Transportation Enhancement Grant (TE) ADOT will be managing and administrating this grant. This won't come in for two more years in 2013.

Manager West explained that the city will only have input on what this highway will look like. We are lining up the engineers on this project.

She said the town was approached by Dustin Sanders about a company that would like to come out this way to harvest timbers from the Wallow Fire. They are looking for approximately 20 acres for storage and another 20 for the site and creating 11 new jobs.

Manager West said this was a 3 to 5 year business and they are trying to negotiate with him on getting 11 new jobs and will have more information for the next meeting.

Chris reported Invenergy a new wind generating company has interest coming to the area. They have been monitoring the wind at Sierra Montosa and will be attending the Apache County Planning & Zoning meeting on Thursday. This is one of several companies that are interested in wind generating.

The Planning & Zoning Commission issued 3 business license, 3 building permits, in the process of reviewing 3 conditional use permits.

Item 5: Consent Items.

- a. Consider approval of the September 21, 2011 town council meeting held at 6.00pm
- b. Consider approval of the Sept. 20, 2011 Joint Council meeting minutes held at 6 pm

Connie Hunt/Ron Thebeau motion to approve consent items 5a through 5b.

Vote:	Ayes:	Dan Muth Connie Hunt Steve Christensen Susan Silva Ron Thebeau
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Item 6: HUD-North Eastern AZ Sustainability Grant Approval.

Susan Silva/Connie Hunt motion to participate in the HUD-North Eastern AZ Building Sustainable Communities Consortium Planning grant for the next three years.

No discussion:

Vote:	Ayes:	Dan Muth Connie Hunt Steve Christensen Susan Silva
	Nays:	Ron Thebeau

Item 7: Prioritize Parks Projects.

Discussion:

Manager West noted the items listed were the top five picked by the council.

Susan Silva/Steve Christensen motion to put in priority order 1) Landscaping the front of the building, 2) a restroom in the park, 3) chip seal and curb the parking area 4) landscape park in back and southern part of the building and 5) move and reconstruct the ramada and barbeque pit and landscape.

Christmas item purchased locally here in our communities of Springerville, Eagar, St. Johns, Greer, and Alpine for large item purchases. This is to help out with the loss of business during the fire. She said she didn't have all the details yet.

Item 11. Extend contract for Promoter Tony Kyle:

Steve Christensen/Dan Muth motion to extend the contract for Tony Kyle.

Ms. Christensen said the chamber is considering extending the contract at least through the next event. She explained their budget is pretty tight but they are not backing out. His contacts are invaluable and felt that this is going to work.

Councilmember Christensen felt that Mr. Kyle should help with the contacts and give us the names.

Ms. Christensen said he is constant contact with the chamber

Vote:	Ayes:	Dan Muth Steve Christensen Susan Silva
	Nays:	Ron Thebeau
	Abstain:	Connie Hunt

Item 12. Executive Session:

Town Manager West advised the council that more information was found to put into the draft document for executive session and asked if they would table this item.

The council was all in agreement.

Item 13: Adjournment:

Ron Thebeau/Susan Silva motion at adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Vote:	Ayes:	Dan Muth Connie Hunt Steve Christensen Susan Silva Ron Thebeau
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Dan Muth, Mayor

ATTEST:

Town Clerk

Town Council Mtg

October 5, 2011

Page 7 of 7

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, October 5, 2011. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Dated this 13th day of October, 2011.

Town Clerk