



TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 6:00 pm

**Springerville Town Council Chambers - 418 E. Main St. Springerville, AZ
85938**

Pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Springerville Town Council and to the general public that the Council will hold a meeting open to the public at the Springerville Town Hall, 418 East Main Street, Springerville, Arizona. The Town Council reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session in accordance with Arizona Revised Statutes Section 38-431.03 (A)(1)(3)(4) and (7) for legal consultation on any of the following agenda items.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING: 6:00 P.M.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Minutes:

Mayor Reidhead called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Robert Pena led the pledge of allegiance.

2. INVOCATION:

3. ROLL CALL:

Minutes:

The Town Clerk completed the Roll Call.

Present: Shelly Reidhead, Mayor; Richard Davis, Vice-Mayor; Douglas Henderson, Councilor; Donald Scott, Councilor; Florencio Lozoya, Councilor

A quorum is present.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Minutes:

Brandee Snyder with the Springerville Eagar Chamber of Commerce updated that she is now serving as the vice-president of the Chamber. She updated on the recent activity of the Chamber including new board members. SRP has joined the chamber as visionary members with a donation of \$4,000 for community impact. They currently have 239 members and are working on changes that need to be done. She updated them on the chamber mixer on April 18th at 5:00 pm and invited everyone. Lastly, she updated the next White Mountain Giveaway raffle will begin on April 25th and she informed them of the raffle prizes.

Slade Morgan with the Round Valley School District addressed the Mayor and Council. He

informed them of an upcoming presentation with ASU regarding pathways and virtual programs to become teachers. This is a community event and anyone possibly interested in becoming a teacher should attend. The presentation will be held on Thursday April 25th at 6:00 pm at the District Board Room.

5. COUNCIL, MANAGER AND STAFF REPORTS:

a. Mayor & Council Reports: Summary Updates on committee meetings.

Minutes:

Councilor Lozoya informed he recently attended a meeting with the Town of Eagar. He asked what the process is for requesting to use the bounce house for Eagar Days. Manager Rasmussen informed him he could put in the request at Town Hall.

Mayor Reidhead updated on recent meetings she attended. She met with Sheriff Mark Lamb two weeks ago, US representative Eli Crane, and today she met with Apache and Navajo County Mayors. She updated that the March for Meals event raised almost \$10,000 for our community services center. Lastly, she reminded the community to keep food prepping and every time we go to the store to stock up on a few extra canned food items.

b. Staff Reports: Summary Updates

Minutes:

Public Works Director Robert Pena updated the Council that the department will be losing the admin assistant Sam. He updated that we are moving forward with the AMR project and it will soon go out to bid.

Chief of Police Dayson Merrill went over the Police Department stats including a total of 288 incidents. He reviewed how many were misdemeanors, felonies, and officer-initiated. He explained they will be applying for a few grants, including the Gila River one for a few new vehicles. They attended an evidence training that certified them for state and federal grants. He updated that they have made a decision on an animal control officer and he is scheduled to start on May 7, 2024. Lastly, he updated on current staffing and the potential for 2 more cadets.

Town Clerk Kelsi Miller updated that we have done a ton of title work with the vehicles from the police and fire merger, we were also able to get the title on the fuel truck at the airport. Next, she updated that we are keeping a close eye on the legislation that has made it through the process and signed by the Governor. We hope to be able to give the updates soon.

c. Manager Tim Rasmussen: Summary Updates & presentation(s)

Minutes:

Manager Rasmussen first updated that Maverick emailed us and has officially pulled out of the Springerville project. Next, he went over the current loans, the 5 current grants, other funding sources, and explained the total amounts for what we are working on. He explained there have been recent Facebook posts and he finds it important for the community to understand we are working on a total of \$6 million worth of grants and projects. He updated us that we will have an item on a future agenda to discuss chip sealing, Springerville and Eagar have received a quote of \$500,000 per 5 miles of road. He informed them of some

concerns with the EDA grants for the industrial park, Apache County had also applied for that money and we do not want to compete with our county. After working with CBA and the EDA we have confirmed Apache County is looking more into the carbon capture money and we are not competing. The Town is also working on updating the Emergency Management Plan. The Town of Eagar is in the process of putting together a bid packet to sell the former NPC property that we jointly own. He updated that we will start advertising for bids for the AMR meters on April 30th and those will be due on May 28th. He explained they have started holding budget meetings with department heads and those will continue next week. He is hoping they will have a work session on the tentative budget in May. He reminded them of Arbor Day, we plan to plant 5 trees on South Mountain to replace the dead ones we had to cut this year and 1 new tree in Liberty Park. Lastly, we have been in contact with Toys for Tots, they will be donating 35 boxes, totaling about 4,000 toys to give away for Christmas. It is our year to host Santa and we will do so the first Saturday of December. Along with the toys, the Town will also be giving away 600 brand new kids coats and shoes of all sizes.

6. CONSENT ITEMS:

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Donald Scott, seconded by Vice-Mayor Richard Davis to approve consent items 6a and 6b as presented.

DISCUSSION: None

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

- a. Consider approval of the March 20, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Minutes.**
- b. Consider ratification and approval of the accounts payable register from March 13, 2024 through April 9, 2024.**

7. PUBLIC HEARING: Pickleball court

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Donald Scott, seconded by Vice Mayor Richard Davis to enter into a public hearing to take Council and public comment on a grant for a pickleball court.

DISCUSSION:

Manager Rasmussen started by explaining this project will only occur if it is fully funded. He has been in contact with Kim Holaway regarding apply for some grants through AZ State Parks and Trails using the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The two grants combined and some in-kind contributions would fully fund the pickleball project. He discussed the two grants they could apply for and how the funds would not only build pickleball courts but also put \$100,000 toward park infrastructure improvements such as another bathroom. He explained the poor conditions of the old tennis courts and that they would have to be removed and a new slab poured. He next explained the Master Plan include the improvements to recreation opportunities funded by grants. Kim Haloway with the pickleball club explained they have great partners and support in writing a grant to try to get additional pickleball courts. She explained pickleball is one of the fastest-growing sports for people of all ages. She feels this type of grant will benefit the community as a whole and will also fund infrastructure to connect the pickleball court to the rest of the park. She

understands not everyone will play pickleball and that we should continue to improve all areas of the park. The idea is not for Springerville to dedicate money to this project. This is about improving the parks and using grant money to do so. She explained the parameters of the grant and explained this can not be used for roads as the comments online suggested. She reviewed the economic advantages and timeline of two years to expend the grant money. They discussed demo and the possible need for in-kind service to demo the current slab. She said Show Low recently built some and she would be happy to reach out to them to discuss contractors and costs. She informed the Council and public that she was here to answer questions if they had them.

Tobi Puzzi addressed the Mayor and Council. She explained she is a member of the pickleball club and wanted to explain what their goal is. They would like to have nicely surfaced courts with permanent nets that are open to the public. She further explained in the winter they use a church to play and they donate back to that church to help with utilities. The courts they use in Eagar are dedicated tennis courts, the pickleball club brings their own nets, if the public wants to play and they are not there they would also need to supply their own nets. She discussed all of the great improvements to the Eagar Park and how they felt this would be a good project to help improve a Springerville Park. She discussed the size of their club, the club that comes from Alpine to play, and the interest of the youth. She mentioned that they held a pickleball tournament last year and donated all funds to the swimming pool committee.

Pinky Myers addressed the Mayor and Council. She gave a history of pickleball and the origin of it from 1965. It is one of the fastest growing sports and an estimated 37 million people play it across the world. She explained it is played like a combination of tennis, ping pong, and badminton.

Lastly she expressed the health benefits of being active.

Kay Dyson addressed the Mayor and Council. She expressed State Parks owes us. She feels this grant is not only sustainable but also affordable. She suggests the grant writers also get some support from the Chamber of Commerce. Grants like these will work.

Manager Rasmussen explained he spoke with Norma Messick regarding this grant and he would be relaying her support. She shared that she works and by the time she gets off work the other pickleball courts are closed. She doesn't have anywhere to play and fully supports Springerville receiving the grant to build pickleball courts.

Motioned by Councilor Donald Scott, seconded by Vice Mayor Richard Davis to leave the public hearing and enter back into regular session at 6:50 p.m.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

8. PRESENTATION: Round Valley Pool Committee

Minutes:

The Round Valley Pool Committee asked this item to be tabled. Council tabled this item.

OLD BUSINESS

9. NEW TOWN LOGO:

Minutes:

Council reviewed the proposed logos both in the packet and those supplied on paper at the

meeting. Council discussed fonts and placement of the writing and mountain. Council agreed and directed staff to bring back the Escudilla logo with the font similar to that of Snowflakes for final approval.

10. 760 AIRPORT ROAD:

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: Public Works Director Robert Pena explained we have talked about these properties but we need to relocate water lines to do so. They reviewed the parcel map and the possibility of having the line come up with parcel 105-18-015Q. Council and staff discussed the cost being around \$10,000. Council also discussed the need for 300 feet and if they should run 2, 4, or 6-inch waterline. They discussed a 4-inch line would be most appropriate considering what is existing on Williams. Council discussed the budget and if this could fall under contingency. Manager Rasmussen expressed the need to clean up some parcel numbers with the county prior to selling the property.

NEW BUSINESS

11. ROUND VALLEY RODEO JR. TOURISM TAX FUND REQUEST:

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: Weston Brown with the Round Valley Rodeo explained he is available for any questions or concerns.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Donald Scott, seconded by Vice Mayor Richard Davis to approve the Tourism Tax Fund donation request in the amount of \$750 to the Round Valley Rodeo Jr.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

12. ROUND VALLEY RODEO TOURISM TAX FUND REQUEST:

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: Weston Brown again let Council know he is the Co-Chair of the rodeo committee and available for questions or concerns.

ACTION: Motioned by Vice Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Doug Henderson to approve the Tourism Tax fund request in the amount of \$750 to the Round Valley Rodeo.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

13. WHITE MOUNTAIN UTV EXPERIENCE TOURISM TAX FUND REQUEST:

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: It was explained this is the same group that used to be the UTV Jamboree. There was no representative of this item at the meeting. A member of the public, Barry Williams explained this event does bring tourism to town. They do not care for our trails like we would like, but they do increase tourism.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Doug Henderson, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to approve the Tourism Tax Fund donation request in the amount of \$750 for the White Mountain UTV Experience.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

14. AZ ALPINE TRAIL TOURISM TAX FUND REQUEST:

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: Jerry Smith the representative of the AZ Alpine Trail group addressed the Mayor and Council. He explained they are operating off of a grant but have to pay for the engineer fees upfront and then get reimbursed. They also have a grant match. The grant for the planning of the trail is \$365,000. He expressed all of the towns along the trail are excited about the economic benefits. Springerville could have a trailhead in town. Councilor Henderson asked if they have approval for the section near Springerville from the Forest Service. Mr. Smith said not yet, they are working with the Forest on that.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Donald Scott to approve the Tourism Tax Fund donation in the amount of \$2,000 for the AZ Alpine Trail.

The motion does not move forward due to the lack of a second.

15. AZ DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AGREEMENT:

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: The Planning and Zoning Director, Stormy Palmer presented this item. She explained we did pass an agreement with the AZ Department of Housing already but in doing some research found we never received our signed copy back. She reached back out to them and discovered they wanted to change the terms from five years to three. The purpose of the agreement is to assist ADOH in maintaining the standards of quality and safety for manufactured homes, factory-built buildings, mobile homes, and their installation, A.R.S. §41-4002. ADOH enters into agreements with local agencies to enforce installation standards in their respective jurisdictions and keep them consistent with ADOH installation standards, A.R.S. §41-4004(A)(5). She further explained the fee schedule and how they set the schedule so that all municipalities are charging the same for the same service.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Doug Henderson, seconded by Vice Mayor Richard Davis to approve the agreement with the State of AZ Department of Housing and the Town of Springerville to enforce installation standards for manufactured and factory-built buildings.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

16. FIRST ADDENDUM TO THE EAGAR/SPRINGERVILLE IGA POLICE AND FIRE:

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: Manager Rasmussen explained this is an addendum to the January 24, 2023 agreement between the Towns of Eagar and Springerville. The agreement adopted did not discuss animal control, although it does fall within the Police Department. We would like to have a written agreement that pertains to Animal Control. Manager Rasmussen pointed out the differences in budget and billing. We are currently operating off of a interim agreement that was passed on February 26, 2024. We are proposing a permanent agreement. The Town of Eagar adopted this addendum at their last meeting and the attorneys have agreed to it.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Doug Henderson, seconded by Vice Mayor Richard Davis to

approve the first addendum to January 24, 2023 intergovernmental agreement for police and fire services between the Towns of Eagar and Springerville, Arizona.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

17. ORDINANCE 2024-001: FIRST READING

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: Manager Rasmussen explained the Round Valley Police Department is currently enforcing animal control town code for both Eagar and Springerville. It has been discussed to merge the codes and try to get them as close as possible for purposes of enforcement. He went over Judge Gunnell's recommendation and the Police Department's recommendation for multiple violations. We hope stiffer penalties will reduce the call volumes.

FIRST READING: Mayor Reidhead completed the first reading of Ordinance 2024-001

An ordinance of the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Springerville, AZ Amending Title 6, "Animals" of the Town of Springerville Town Code; providing for severability, providing penalties for violations, and establishing an effective date.

18. EMPLOYEE MANUAL UPDATE:

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: Manager Rasmussen explained that when he returned to the town, staff had pointed out some things in the Employee Manual that weren't working. Upon his review, he came across some practices that had been changed by the town and not amended in the manual. Staff worked with the attorneys to present the redlined version presented tonight.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Donald Scott, seconded by Councilor Florencio Lozoya to adopt the Town of Springerville Employee Manual dated 4/17/2024.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

19. PROCLAMATION FAIR HOUSING MONTH:

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Vice Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to proclaim April 2024 fair housing month in the Town of Springerville.

DISCUSSION: None

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

20. UTILITY EASEMENTS:

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: Manager Rasmussen reminded Council this was on the March agenda, however staff requested it to be tabled so we could do additional research. We have completed our additional research and have found that waterlines, meters, and sewer lines are in utility easements in peoples back yards. With the AMR grant and new meters needing to be installed, we do not have access to the areas we need. We are fenced out. Currently, staff has to jump fences to read those meters. The biggest problem area is El Cajon and Hacienda within the El

Cajon Estates. Additionally, if there is a water break in this area we would have to dismantle fences to get equipment in. By way of the recorded easements, there should be alleys. With the help of the attorney we will be writing letters to the residents asking them to move their fence lines back 10 feet. Manager Rasmussen reviewed the map of the easements with the Council. Mayor Reidhead asked Mr. Pena if this is the only area we will have to do this. Mr. Pena said no, the alphabet streets on the eastern side of town will have the same issues when we get there. We will have to work on easements for that area. They discussed this may not just be fences that need to be moved. People have placed sheds and garages in this easement also.

21. LETTER OF REPRESENTATION A. WRYE:

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Vice Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to enter into executive session at 7:52 pm.

The Mayor and Council convened back into Regular Session at 8:03 pm.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

22. ADJOURNMENT:

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Shelly Reidhead, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kelsi Miller, Town Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and copy of the minutes of the Springerville Town Council in a Regular Council Meeting on _____. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2024

_____. Kelsi Miller, Town Clerk

Members of the public who only want to provide written comments can express their comments by emailing the Town Clerk at kmiller@springervilleaz.gov to be read or summarized during the call to the public. All comments must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

Americans with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.): The Town of Springerville intends to comply with A.D.A. If you are physically challenged or disabled and need special accommodations to participate in this

town meeting, please contact the Town Clerk at (928) 333-2656 ext. 224 forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting to arrange necessary accommodations.

Contact: Kelsi Miller, Town Clerk (kmiller@springervilleaz.gov (928) 333-2656 x 224) | Minutes published on 04/24/2024, adopted on 05/15/2024