



TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

Wednesday, April 19, 2023 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 p.m. Mike Nuttall led the pledge of allegiance.

2. INVOCATION:

3. ROLL CALL:

Minutes:

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

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Minutes:

Terry Shove addressed the Mayor and Council. She explained there has been some chatter around the school board. They held a meeting last night and are taking public input very seriously. They plan to review and update policies regarding student/staff discipline and proper procedure. A recent issue that has come up a lot lately is regarding students not currently enrolled in our Schools wanting to participate in extracurricular activities. This is an issue with liability insurance and not being able to cover the kids not enrolled in school. She next updated that Little League basketball has come to an end. They had a great season and a total of 38 teams.

5. COUNCIL, MANAGER AND STAFF REPORTS:

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

Minutes:

None

b. Staff Reports: Summary Updates

Minutes:

Chief of Police Dayson Merrill was thanked by Council for the great job the department is doing. He reported that Officer Maly started full-time on Monday. They currently have 6 sworn officers, 1 animal control, and 2 administrative assistants. They are also talking with a potential cadet and lateral.

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

Minutes:

Manager Rasmussen updated on a meeting he, Kelsi, and Heidi had with the Public Safety Retirement Personnel System regarding the merger of the police departments. Staff will be bringing some options to the council on how we can best handle our unfunded liability. Additionally, we are still working on getting our ORI name changed from Springerville Police Department to Round Valley Police Department. This process could take up to 6 months. Next, he reported he and Mayor Reidhead attended a great Easter lunch at the Community Center. He reminded not only Council but the public of all the services provided through the center including in-house meals, meals on wheels, and transportation. With the funding we are currently receiving Robin is able to serve all people and no one is ever turned away if they do not have the funds for the meals. He reported that the heritage center lost one of our part-time Casa Malpais tour guides this past week. Until this position is filled we will not be offering tours on Saturdays. He let Council know of a report at the Villa Escudilla apartments regarding upstairs tenants not being able to use the flat lift (elevator) during certain hours and days. This could potentially trap tenants upstairs. He and the fire inspector Mr. Vickers conducted an inspection and are working together to get this resolved. He next explained to Council that we are advertising for a Town Attorney. The RFQ opening is May 1st. We have reached out to former interested parties and are hoping to get some responses. Planning and Zoning held their election of officers at the last meeting. Terry Shove will serve as Chairperson and Teresa Becker will serve as the Vice-Chairperson. The Planning and Zoning Administrator / Building Inspector position is still vacant. Manager Rasmussen met with TEP and has requested \$20,000 for park upgrades, specifically lighting and electricity expansion. The park behind Town Hall will also hopefully be named. We will get public and Council input on picking a name. Some name ideas are Liberty park, Freedom park, Coronado park, and Escudilla park. He then let Council know that Commnet has executed their portion of the agreement. He gave an airport update. Sean has been advertising for a part-time employee and for the reconstruction of a runway. The engineer's estimate is over \$1 million. Lastly, he updated that we are working on a contract to lease the fire engine to the Town of Eagar so they will be able to carry the insurance on it.

6. CONSENT ITEMS:

Minutes:

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

DISCUSSION: None

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

- a. Consider approval of the March 27, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes.
- b. Consider approval of the March 15, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes.
- c. Consider ratification and approval of the accounts payable register March 9, 2023 through April 10, 2023.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

7. TOURISM TAX FUND REQUEST:

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: Manager Rasmussen explained to Council this item is from Marcie the Museum Director in order to purchase patriotic and fall banners. A sample banner was presented to Council.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Douglas Henderson, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to approve the request of tourism tax funds to purchase street decorations for the Town in an amount not to exceed \$3,500.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

8. REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP: Balloons over Round Valley

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: John Wilfong gave a brief history that the balloons used to come to Springerville each year. He now has the chance to bring them back. The event will be held from August 24th through the 26th. They will have a media day and have invited both Councils from Springerville and Eagar to come to ride the balloons that day and speak with the media. Although very excited about the event, they have faced some challenges. One of these challenges is with getting donated hotel rooms for the pilots and helpers. They have reached out to all of the hotel owners and the only one willing to donate rooms is the Rogers that own Reeds Lodge. They have graciously donated two rooms but the event will require more than 2 and they do not want the pilots to have to pay for their rooms. Because Reeds Lodge donated rooms they will book the rest of the rooms there to support their business. Some of the sponsorship money will be used for booking this room. He reviewed the tiers of sponsorship with the Council if they wished to be a sponsor. He explained Sierra Propane is donating all of the gas and will not be using the sponsorship money to recoup that money. Any additional funds at the end of the event will go back into the event or to the Fire Department. Council asked if this will be an annual event. Mr.

Wilfong said yes, that is the intent. Dani Hommel added to this point they are projecting to have 70 - 80 vendors. Between the mister, bands, and stage rental they have spent approximately \$11,000. Mr. Wilfong further explained this event will be held at the same time as the Apache County Fair but they believe they can resolve this conflict in the future. He further explained to Council they will stage 5 balloons at the park behind Town Hall, one at Safeway, one at Bashas, and one at the Eagar Sierra Propane. They will also be taking a balloon to the elementary school on Thursday for the kids to see. Staff and Council discussed that the Mayor and Council budget does have some wiggle room for sponsorships this year.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Donald Scott, seconded by Councilor Florencio Lozoya to sponsor the Balloons over Round Valley event in the amount of \$1,750.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

9. REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP: 2023 Rib Throw Down

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: Mike Nuttall with Better World BBQ addressed the Mayor and Council. He informed them shortly after last year's event they finally got their 501C3. To date, they have been able to give \$12,000 to local charities. This year they will be moving the event from the park behind Town Hall to the other Springerville park. Mike explained he is working closely with Tim to see how they can accommodate 50 teams up there. They will have to plan where to put the vendors, beer garden, seating, and kids Q. They will be utilizing the large gazebo in the front. They will not have fireball this year either. Hensley beverage company from Show Low will be their main sponsor. They have also added Subaru 77 and Pepsi as sponsors from Show Low this year. This year for sponsorship they are not asking for money. They are asking for help with the infrastructure at the new location. This year the teams will now be buying their own ribs. They will have ribs from Prairie Fresh and they will be at a very affordable price. Last year they sold 600 racks of ribs in 1.5 hours. They are making some changes to try to slow that and make them last a little longer. AZ BBQ will also be making extra ribs and teams can finish them for people's choice. They have also spoken with the health department and will be requesting a blanket certification for the event instead of individually. They will still send out two inspectors and each team will have an inspection. Tim added that Tucson Electric Power will be supplying a generator. Tim, Tony, and Mike will be walking the park and figuring out where water and electricity need to be run. They also intend to rent the event trailer from Springerville. He thanked the Council and again reiterated they do not want to ask for a cash donation this year.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Donald Scott, seconded by Councilor Douglas Henderson to not approve a cash sponsorship donation.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

10. FAIR HOUSING MONTH PROCLAMATION:

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Vice-Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Florencio Lozoya to proclaim April 2023 fair housing month in the Town of Springerville.

DISCUSSION: None

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

11. PROCLAMATION ARBOR DAY 2023:**Minutes:**

ACTION: Motioned by Vice-Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to proclaim April 28, 2023, Arbor Day in the Town of Springerville.

DISCUSSION: Manager Rasmussen explained to Council that Mayor Reidhead has donated some trees to replace a few that died in the park. All of Council is welcome to join staff on April 27th at the park for the planting of these trees.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

12. RESOLUTION 2023-R005: EMPLOYEE MANUAL UPDATE**Minutes:**

FIRST ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Donald Scott, seconded by Councilor Florencio Lozoya to approve Resolution 2023-R005 updating the employee manual regarding the trial period, removing fire personnel classifications, and authorizing the Town Manager to make future updates to the manual.

DISCUSSION: Manager Rasmussen explained that after a review of the employee manual, it's been determined that some of the changes made to it a couple of years ago have caused some problems. He would like to bring a couple of those changes to the Council each month. He wanted to clarify he is not asking for permission to just change the manual. He is asking for permission to update the manual after approved by Council. Tim further explained his rationale for wanting to change the trial period from 3 months to 6 months.

AMENDED ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Donald Scott, seconded by Councilor Florencio Lozoya to approve Resolution 2023-R005 updating the employee manual regarding the trial period, removing fire personnel classifications, and authorizing the Town Manager to make future updates to the manual after Councils approval.

The Town Clerk read the title of Resolution 2023-R005 out loud for the record.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

13. APPEAL OFFICER:**Minutes:**

DISCUSSION: Manager Rasmussen let Council know that in October of 2020, Council appointed the Eagar Town Manager to serve as the appeal officer for the Town of Springerville. It was explained that other cities and towns have talked about solutions for the need for an appeal officer. There are now companies that offer this service at a cost. If Council is interested staff can make contact with these companies and see if they are interested. Mayor Reidhead also brought forth the idea of using our magistrate (Judge Gunnels). Manager Rasmussen expressed that if we do use Judge Gunnels he would suggest we make it position appointed, not naming them specifically. Staff was directed to reach out to Judge Gunnels and see if he would be interested and if he is not interested see if the Justice of Peace would be interested. If neither, staff is directed to get quotes

from a vendor.

14. MAY MEETING DISCUSSION:

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Douglas Henderson, seconded by Donald Scott to move the May Council meeting up to Tuesday, May 16th.

DISCUSSION: None

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

15. TOWN MANAGER CONTRACT:

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: Manager Rasmussen explained he had assumed when he came back to work for the Town he would be able to retain his years of service for determining his vacation accrual. He is asking Council to consider allowing him to retain his 9.25 years back to him so he will accrue at the rate he did when he left the town.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Douglas Henderson, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to amend the contract for Town Manager Tim Rasmussen as requested.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Minutes:

FIRST ACTION: Motioned by Vice - Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Donald Scott to enter into Executive Session at 6:52 p.m.

Vote results: Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

SECOND ACTION: Motioned by Vice - Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Donald Scott to leave Executive Session and enter back into regular session at 7:01 p.m.

Vote results: Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

17. ADJOURNMENT:

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Vice Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to adjourn at 7:02 p.m.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

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 Special Meeting on Monday, _____ 2023. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2023

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 04/25/2023, adopted on 05/16/2023