



TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

Minutes

Tuesday, May 16, 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.

AGENDA AMENDED 5/15/23 9:00 A.M. TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL 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. Kim Merrill led the pledge of allegiance.

2. INVOCATION:

Minutes:

Pastor David Carter with the Assembly of God and Momentum Life Church offered the invocation.

3. ROLL CALL:

Minutes:

Present: Shelly Reidhead, Mayor; Richard Davis, Vice-Mayor; Douglas Henderson, Councilor;

Donald Scott, Councilor; Florencio Lozoya, Councilor

Staff: Town Manager Tim Rasmussen, Town Clerk Kelsi Miller, Finance Director Heidi Wink, and Chief of Police Dayson Merrill

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Minutes:

None

5. COUNCIL, MANAGER AND STAFF REPORTS:

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

Minutes:

Vice Mayor Richard Davis reported he attended Chrome in the Dome. He expressed what a great event it is and how much effort goes into it. He next reported that he has been working closely with Public Works for the past 3 months on a sewer issue. They have been able to find the problem and fix it.

Councilor Donald Scott reported that he attended the grand opening of the Rise program in St. Johns. This is a program for you or your staff to get IT and IT Security training. Some of the training is free and the testing for the certificate is also free. He next reported he attended the Real Arizona meeting. He explained it is business leaders and SRP working on economic development. Lastly, he updated he walked the old fire station with Manager Rasmussen and Chief Merrill. He noticed Fire Trucks still going in and out. He wanted to see if Council had an interest in putting a future agenda item on to lease that building to the fire department until we need it.

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

Minutes:

Manager Rasmussen reported on a Planning and Zoning meeting last Tuesday. They reviewed Title 17 and will be making some recommended changes. This discussion then led to a great discussion on enforcing town code and the direction the town is headed in. He thanked the 3 Councilors that were able to attend and show support. He next explained the interview panel for the Planning and Zoning Director position feels that we have not received enough qualified applications to hold interviews yet. The interview panel is Councilor Doug Henderson, Kelsi Miller, and Manager Rasmussen. We will re-advertise the position. He reported Heidi is still working on the budget. We are tentatively placing \$100,000 in the budget to make a police department. A draftsman is working on the drawing. We received the dismissal of the Smith/Williams case. Bradley Meerfeld at the Airport is doing a great job, Sean feels he has the potential and ambition to be his successor. Next he reported Dennis Gilliams last day with Springerville was yesterday. We posted a picture of him holding a BBQ knife set that the Town got him on Facebook and thanked him for his 23 years of service. Stormy Palmers last Planning and Zoning meeting was on Tuesday, she was recognized by the Mayor at the meeting. Next Tuesday, he will conduct a final inspection / certificate of occupancy for the new dispensary. We did not hear from Mason Cave this week or notice activity at his building. We have a staff meeting planned for Thursday the 18th. Ryan Jones with NPC made contact with Tim regarding the former NPC building regarding interest in leasing the building. We have reached out to Eagar to see if they would be interested. We are still waiting for a few items from Eagar including the Animal Control joint services agreement and the asset list for the Eagar Police Department. Next he reported we have postponed the Runway 321 project. We received one bid for the project and that came in \$600,000 over the engineering estimate. The FAA is unable to fund the project this year and we will submit an application in December for construction next summer. The grant award will likely occur in July of 2024. Lastly, he

reported the town has applied for a \$25,000 grant through the utilities grant funding program with TEP, SRP, and APS.

c. Staff Reports: Summary Updates

Minutes:

Finance Director Heidi Wink reported that we have paid off the public safety building.

Chief of Police Dayson Merrill reported he included a report in the packet with his stats, he informed Council of his current staffing.

6. PRESENTATION BY WHITE MOUNTAIN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER:

Minutes:

Travis Udall, CEO of White Mountain Regional Medical Center, and Wesley Babers, COO of White Mountain Regional Medical Center presented the expansion of the hospital to Council. They briefed Council on how many patients they are currently serving a year and the need for a bigger space. They will be adding 7,000 more square feet to the facility for the new Emergency Room. During renovations, they will have a temporary Emergency Room set up to continue serving the community. They have paid off all debt at the hospital. They explained they have secured the \$8.9 million for the expansion and have procured Loven Construction from Flagstaff for the project. They specialize in hospital renovations of our size. They feel the expansion will increase the number of patients they can serve and aid in keeping those patients local and not going out of town. It was explained WMRMC is seeing patients from St. Johns, all of Apache County, New Mexico, Show Low, and even Snowflake. They further explained the project will help with future financial investments and appeal to those looking at moving into this area. Mr. Babers played a video that showed the planned expansion and improvements. Mayor Reidhead asked if they plan to offer OBGYN and Pediatrics here. They explained they currently have pediatricians but at this time do not have plans for OBGYN. Mr. Udall further explained he is working hard on gaining the trust of the community and taking great care of people. Lastly, Mr. Babers updated on the grant they applied for with Senator Kelly's office for \$3 million to help with the expansion. He thanked the Town of Springerville for writing a letter of support for this grant.

7. CONSENT ITEMS:

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Vice Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to approve consent items 7a and 7b.

DISCUSSION: None

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

a. Consider approval of April 19, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Minutes.

b. Consider ratification and approval of the accounts payable register from April 11, 2023 through May 9, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS

8. TOURISM TAX FUND REQUESTS:

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Donald Scott, seconded by Councilor Douglas Henderson to approve the tourism tax fund requests 8a, 8b, 8c, 8d, and 8e in the amount of \$750.

DISCUSSION: The requests were reviewed and discussed that some have gone through the Tourism Tax Committee and some they were unable to form a quorum so they are bringing them to Council.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

- a. **BALLOONS OVER ROUND VALLEY:**
- b. **ROUND VALLEY QUILT SHOW:**
- c. **SPRINGERVILLE RIB THROWDOWN:**
- d. **ARTIST AND AUTHOR EXPO:**
- e. **ROUND VALLEY JUNIOR RODEO:**

9. TOURISM TAX COMMITTEE:

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Donald Scott, seconded by Vice-Mayor Richard David to approve the Tourism Tax Committee Procedure Manual as presented.

DISCUSSION: Finance Director Mrs. Wink explained this will help her especially while short staffed and expand who can sit on the board.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

10. SPRINGERVILLE-EAGAR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Vice-Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to direct the Town Manager and a Town of Springerville Council Member to serve on the Springerville-Eagar Chamber of Commerce Board.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Henderson expressed concerns that Tim has so much on his plate already with low staffing levels, he thinks we need to visit this at a later time. Tony, the President of the Chamber of Commerce addressed the Mayor and Council. He explained they are doing virtual and email meetings and occasional in-person meetings. They are considering changing that to every other meeting in person. They plan to have 7 persons on the board but are able to have almost double that per their bylaws. They are going to try to utilize Zoom more for those they serve in the outskirts of our area.

AMENDED ACTION: Motioned by Vice-Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to postpone this item for two months.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

11. AGENDA AMENDED 5/15/23 9:00 A.M. - APPEAL OFFICER:

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Douglas Henderson, seconded by Vice-Mayor Richard Davis to appoint the Springerville Magistrate Judge to serve as the appeal officer for the Town of

Springerville for up to five years.

DISCUSSION: None

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

12. NAMING OF THE TOWN HALL PARK:

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: Councilor Douglas Henderson expressed he likes the name Liberty Park because of the liberty bell out front. Council agreed. They reviewed suggested names.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Donald Scott, Seconded by Councilor Douglas Henderson to formally name the park behind Town Hall Liberty Park.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

13. AZ DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AGREEMENT:

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: Town Manager Rasmussen gave the Council some history of how this item came about and how we let it expire. He has been working with Ryan at the AZ Department of Housing, he feels he was upset with the Town for letting this lapse. He then explained we need to issue a permit for a mobile/manufactured home and if we do not get an agreement in place we will be unable to do so. The presented agreement allows Springerville to issue the permit and do our own inspection as an agent. Mayor Reidhead asked about training. Tim said Ryan comes up and will provide training to the building inspector at no cost.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Douglas Henderson, seconded by Vice-Mayor Richard Davis to approve the agreement with the State of Arizona Department of Housing Manufactured Housing and Building Division and the Town of Springerville as presented.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

14. LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF EAGAR:

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Vice-Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to approve the Motor Vehicle Lease Agreement between the Town of Springerville and the Town of Eagar.

DISCUSSION: It was discussed that this agreement is for the Fire Truck that the MPC has a USDA loan on. This will allow Eagar to carry the insurance on it while we keep the loan.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

15. FEE REMOVAL FROM THE FEE SCHEDULE:

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Vice-Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to remove the Zoning Code Book from the Town of Springerville fee schedule.

DISCUSSION: Town Manager Rasmussen explained he didn't feel comfortable making copies of the code books as we are certain the most recent and accurate code available is online.

Recreating the code book it would exceed \$50 in copies, supplies, and time. It was pointed out the

Council can remove fees from the fee schedule without a notice of intent, but can not add or increase fees.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Minutes:

FIRST ACTION: Motioned by Vice-Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Florencio Lozoya to enter into executive session at 6:58 p.m.

SECOND ACTION: Motioned by Vice-Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Douglas Henderson to leave executive session and enter back into regular session at 7:23 p.m.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

a. TOWN ATTORNEY RFQ REVIEW:

17. TOWN ATTORNEY APPOINTMENT:

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Douglas Henderson, seconded by Councilor to appoint Mangum, Wall, Stoops, and Warden as the Town Attorneys on a month-to-month basis, and to republish the RFQ to look for a more local attorney.

DISCUSSION: None

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

18. ADJOURNMENT:

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Vice-Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Douglas Henderson to adjourn.

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 _____. 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 if their is a call to the public. All comments must be submitted by 5:00 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 05/25/2023, adopted on 06/21/2023