



TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

Minutes

Tuesday, February 20, 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 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.
AnnMarie Pena led the pledge of allegiance.

2. INVOCATION:

Minutes:

Dayson Merrill offered the 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 (joined at 6:12 p.m.), Councilor
A quorum is present.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Minutes:

Brian Carpenter addressed the Mayor and Council. He reported on recent travel with the seniors from the community services center to Quemado for Bingo and Valentines. Next, he updated on

upcoming transportation and events he will be doing for the seniors. They plan to provide transportation to the Renaissance Festival in March and a trip to the Cat-Walk and Silver City this summer. He updated on the much needed transportation services he and Tony are helping to provide to the community and how it is improving seniors quality of life.

5. COUNCIL, MANAGER AND STAFF REPORTS:

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

Minutes:

Mayor Reidhead explained she has attended multiple meetings for coal transition. She also updated that Maverick should be closing escrow in the next 3 - 4 weeks.

b. Staff Reports: Summary Updates

Minutes:

Robin Aguero, the Community Services Director gave an update on current staffing, services being provided, grants, and who is receiving these services. She currently has 2 full-time employees, 5 part-time employees, numerous volunteers, and two inmates. She showed the data with increases to meals being provided including Meals on Wheels, Head Start, and Congregate. She next showed the increase in transportation services being provided. They hosted a volunteer appreciation, collectively the volunteers provided 1261 volunteer hours. She explained the low-income assistance including rental deposits & assistance, utility assistance & deposits, food & fuel cards, bus passes, and appliance assistance. The majority of the financial assistance for most categories are Eagar residents. Lastly, she updated on the March for Meals fundraiser on March 30, 2024.

Robert Pena, the Public Works Director reported they have had a very eventful month. The vacant position has been filled, the new employee has hit the ground running. AMR meters are moving forward, the request for bids is being created and will hopefully go out in a few weeks. Next, he updated that they are working on GIS, road & pothole patching, the water model, and fueling at the airport. He pointed out how appreciative he is for Kevin working through multiple issues with the fuel truck and going above and beyond to get that going, all while keeping up with the equipment and vehicles. Next, he reported Kevin and Fred went and talked to the kids at the elementary school and enjoyed talking to the kids.

Kelsi Miller, the Town clerk updated on the upcoming election. House Bill 2785 changed the Primary Election date to July 30, 2024. This changed the filing period deadline to April 1, 2024. She reported the new website is coming along and we hope to go live with it in early March.

Levi Penrod, the Round Valley Fire Department Chief reported on recent activity for the fire department. It has been a little over a year since the departments merged. They responded to about 500 calls within that year including medical, wildland fires, and structure fires. The total personnel is 28 with 4 full-time employees. He updated on getting staff certified as both EMTs and Paramedics. Last year they were able to deploy a crew on some wildland fire assignments bringing in a profit of \$47,000. They focused on training this past year getting employees trained as FF1, FF2, and certified to shoot fireworks. They reported on a grant for an ambulance has been awarded in the amount of \$250,000. The build and purchase of that will be a year out. Chief Penrod also updated on grants from TEP and the 100 Club.

Lastly, he reported on waiting on engineered plans for a new fire station.

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

Minutes:

Manager Rasmussen updated the Council on recent projects and activities at Town Hall. He updated that the Town has received 600 new coats and shoes in various sizes for kids in the community. We will be handing them out around the holidays next year along with toys donated from Toys for Tots. He thanked Kevin Plympton the mechanic for all of his help with the fuel truck issues. The fuel truck is no longer being leased from World Fuel, the town has been given the title. They chose this option over repairing the truck. Kevin was able to fix the issues and get it running. We now have a truck worth \$20,000 free and clear. We will consider investing in an updated one in the future, Manny has great connections and has helped increase fuel sales. Next Manager Rasmussen informed them that the new logo is coming along, Maverick has received the ADOT approvals, and both managers of Springerville and Eagar have worked on the IGA for animal control. The IGA has now been forwarded to the two town attorneys to work together on the legal language.

6. CONSENT ITEMS:

Minutes:

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

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

- a. Consider approval of the January 17, 2024 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes.**
- b. Consider approval of the January 17, 2024 Town Council Work Session Meeting Minutes.**
- c. Consider ratification and approval of the accounts payable register from January 9, 2024 through February 13, 2024.**

7. PRESENTATION : Lava Run Wind and Solar Projects

Minutes:

Trinidad Kechkian and Henry Woltag with ConnectGEN presented the Lava Run Wind and Solar Project to the Council and the public. They explained they are a renewable energy source company with projects throughout the U.S.. ConnectGen is going through the process of proposing a wind project northwest of Springerville and a solar project northeast of Springerville. They reviewed both projects with the Council and proposed operations date of 2027. They explained why they chose Apache County, and explained it's compatibility to the project. The local benefits of the project were discussed including short-term employment for construction and long-term employment. It was discussed the importance of community engagement and keeping those conversations open. Lastly, they reviewed the proposed timeline they are going to try to follow. The council and the public asked them questions regarding the project. It was asked where the power would be stored. They informed them onsite. They asked if the power would stay local or shipped to the cities. They explained they partner with TEP and where the TEP system sends it is up to them. They discussed the life of the project is only 35 years and it was discussed what

happens when they are done with the wind farm and solar systems. It was asked how many wind turbines would go up. It is estimated around 100. They discussed how the project runs off of a SCADA system. Council asked about the habitat study and how they will mitigate bird endangerment. They said they have been working with Fish and Wildlife to ensure meeting all setbacks from nests.

OLD BUSINESS

8. 760 AIRPORT ROAD:

Minutes:

Manager Rasmussen reminded Council that we had the discussion about this parcel and what they would like to do with it. Council directed staff to review the utilities and come up with a plan. Robert Pena the Public Works Director helped present the item. They showed where the existing water line is and a proposed location to tie in. They discussed the size of the water line that would need to be up there and what size they think is up there. Mr. Pena explained that until they dig, they won't know the exact size. They discussed the current structure is the reason for the low pressure at this property. It was discussed some options of adding easements. The big picture issue is if we want to sell this property as commercial or industrial we will need to have bigger water lines up there. Council discussed they would like to have staff look into costs of running bigger lines up there and bring that back.

NEW BUSINESS

9. TOURISM TAX FUND REQUEST:

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Vice-Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Doug Henderson to approve the Tourism Tax Donation request from Chrome in the Dome in the amount of \$750.00

DISCUSSION: None

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

10. ROUND VALLEY FUTBOL CLUB SOCCER SPONSORSHIP:

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: It was discussed and explained that the Round Valley Futbol Club is a new soccer club for the Round Valley and surrounding areas. Club soccer offers advanced training for youth year-round and outside of the AYSO season. The team has has partnered with RSL-AZ Club soccer to allow players the ability to travel and play in tournaments. RSL-AZ provides the insurance but it is up to the local group to raise funds for training equipment and start-up costs.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Doug Henderson, seconded by Councilor Florencio Lozoya to approve a donation for \$250.00 to sponsor the Round Valley Futbol Club.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

11. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT: COMMUNITY BROADBAND ADVOCATES

Minutes:

DISCUSSION: Manager Rasmussen explained that the Town of Springerville General Plan is about to expire. The last general plan was done in-house. We aren't exactly professionals in writing general plans so we started exploring options. We are asking to utilize a company that can help us get grants to have one written. He expressed the 2015 plan was missing some information, no where in it does it mention broadband or internet. This agreement is for the amount of \$16,000 and we do have money in the consulting services line item in the budget.

ACTION: Motioned by Vice-Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to approve the professional services contract with Community Broadband Advocates LLC.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

12. INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR CO-LOCATION AND SHARED COURT SERVICES:**Minutes:**

DISCUSSION: Manager Rasmussen explained that our intergovernmental agreement for shared court services with the Town of Eagar expired a year ago. We have been working with the attorney and Eagar to present a new one. This is similar to the last one but the judge has requested the court clerk go from part-time to full-time due to an increase in workload.

ACTION: Motioned by Vice-Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to approve the intergovernmental agreement for co-location and shared court services with the Town of Eagar.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

13. FINANCE POLICY UPDATE:**Minutes:**

DISCUSSION: Manager Rasmussen explained to Council that the proposed changes to the purchasing policy is due to inflation. He went over current amount thresholds for quotes, verbal and written, as well as going out to formal bid. Next they reviewed the proposed changes to the meal reimbursement, also due to inflation.

ACTION: Motioned by Vice-Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to approve the increase to the purchasing and travel finance policy.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

14. RESOLUTION 2024-R002: AMENDED CALL OF ELECTION**Minutes:**

DISCUSSION: It was explained that this is due to HB 2785 which changed the election dates and dates associated.

MOTION: Motioned by Vice-Mayor Richard Davis, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to approve Resolution 2024-R004, A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SPRINGERVILLE, ARIZONA, RE-DESIGNATING THE ELECTION DATE AND THE PURPOSE OF ELECTION AS A RESULT OF HB 2785; RE-DESIGNATING THE DEADLINE FOR VOTER REGISTRATION; AND RE-DESIGNATING THE PLACE AND THE LAST DATE FOR

CANDIDATES TO FILE NOMINATION PAPERS.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

15. NOTICE OF CLAIM: ROAF MANAGEMENT

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Council Doug Henderson, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to enter into executive session at 7:39 p.m. for item 15.

Council entered back into regular session at 7:57 p.m.

Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

16. POLICE DEPARTMENT REVIEW:

Minutes:

ACTION: Motioned by Council Doug Henderson, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to enter into executive session at 7:57 p.m. for item 16.

Vote results: Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

Council entered back into regular session at 8:18 p.m.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilor Doug Henderson, seconded by Councilor Donald Scott to direct staff and legal to move forward with a friendly peer review.

Vote results: Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

17. ADJOURNMENT:

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 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 Special 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 03/04/2024, adopted on 03/20/2024