

**TOWN OF SUPERIOR  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 18, 2014**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE SUPERIOR TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY,  
DECEMBER 18, 2014 AT 7:00 PM IN THE SUPERIOR AUDITORIUM 199 N. LOBB  
AVENUE, SUPERIOR ARIZONA, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Valenzuela called meeting to order at 7:06 pm

**ROLL CALL**

Mayor	Jayne Valenzuela
Vice Mayor	Olga Lopez
Councilmember	Gilbert Aguilar
Councilmember	Michael Alonzo
Councilmember	Mila Besich-Lira
Councilmember	Stephen Estatico
Councilmember	John Tameron

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Valenzuela led Council, Staff and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance

**INVOCATION**

Pastor Albert Rodriquez, Superior Harvest Church led everyone in the Invocation.

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

Town Manager	Margaret Gaston
Town Attorney	Lisa Reuter
Police Chief	Mark Nipp
Sergeant	David Nuess
Fire Chief	Todd Pryor
Public Works	Anthony Huerta
Library	Josie Campos
Administrative	Ruby Cervantes
Town Staff	Nora Miramon
Administrator	Lawrence Tomasello

**PUBLIC ATTENDANCE**

Nancy Vogler	Pam Rabago-Dalton
Bill Vogler	Sandra Doyle
Dave Richins	Nina Crowder
Sue Anderson	Joann Besich
Bill Anderson	Chris Ketron
Roy Chavez	Gina Lopez
Barbara Armitage	Sherry Figdore

Bruce Armitage  
Gloria Palacios  
Tom Palacios

Dixie Briegel  
Gary Briegel  
Matt Mashaw

### **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

No special presentation

### **REPORTS**

**Fire Department,** Todd Pryor-The Fire Department is hosting the Angel Tree this year. They had over 50 tags on the tree. Twenty five of the tags were picked up by residents. Resolution Copper Mining Company picked up the last 25 remaining tags. Any child whose name was on the tree will receive a Christmas gift. We are still receiving donations for all of the children. Some of those will be delivered on Christmas Eve from "Santa". There are plenty of toys to go around.

Councilmember Alonzo-He wanted to thank Mr. Pryor for the report. He did a very good job.

**Library-** Josie Campos-No question or comments from Council. Ms Campos wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked everyone for their support.

**Police-** Sgt. David Nuess-First he wanted to introduce the new officers the Town has hired. He gave a brief biography as he introduced the officers; Officer Anthony Doran, Officer Christian Ensley and Detective Bryan Lawrence. There are two more officers that were not available to be here. He will introduce them at the next meeting. Sgt. Nuess announced that they are going thru & getting a lot of the evidence back to the owners. He reported that there was \$400 in evidence and they returned that to the owner, she was extremely happy. Also he has a press release from the National Center of Missing and Exploited Children which he read to the public. The Superior Police Department has successfully completed the necessary requirements to become a law enforcement member of the "Missing Kids Readiness Project".

The Superior Police Department is one of fourteen police agencies in the United States to have achieved this status. They are also the first Police Department in the State of Arizona to do so. They want to thank the Superior Police Department for achieving this milestone and congratulations.

**Senior Center-** Paula could not be here tonight. The Seniors went to the Christmas Party at the Senior Center in Hayden. There were so many people that signed up they needed two vans to take everyone. Seniors seem to be excited with what is going on at the center and with all of the ideas for this coming year.

**Public Works-** Anthony Huerta- Argel Quiroz was promoted to full time. We did hire a part time employee Andrew Martinez.

Councilmember Besich-Lira, the parks are looking really nice and she wanted to thank Anthony and his crew for all of the help and hard work at Besich Park.

**Sanitation-** Ms. Gaston, Mr. Hanus was unable to be here, he had a conflict. He did say an oxy mixer is working. He had mentioned that it was down and it is working now.

**Manager-** Margaret Gaston-She cannot believe that this is the last meeting for 2014 and that this year has already gone by. The Pinal County Board of Supervisors met yesterday to approve the IGA for the Town of Superior and Sheriff's Department to do the dispatching for us. They did approve the IGA with some changes which only concerns Pinal County not us. The IGA will be brought back to Council for approval with the changes. Also Margaret talked with the Town of Florence, they have a new attorney which made some changes in the verbiage. They expect to get the IGA between the Town of Florence and the Town of Superior to dispatch for Fire and Ambulance back by the end of the month and expect to have it at our January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting for discussion/approval.

Also there has been mention of the State of Arizona pulling the excise tax and she wanted to let the Council know that we did receive a check. This was for payment thru November in the amount of \$4,921.38 so when they pull those funds it will be around 8,000 to \$10,000 a month. We are having a lot of trouble with one of the ambulances. Since August we have spent over \$41,000 on vehicles at the Fire Department. Hopefully we have all of the ambulances up and running soon. Also Margaret approved an ad for Senior Awareness. She normally doesn't do things like this but this just touched her heart and thought this was a good idea for our Senior Citizens.

Councilmember Alonzo- Question for Ms. Gaston, you stated that we are up to \$41,000 that we have spent on the ambulance and fire truck. We recently made some agreement where we would have maintenance on a regular basis the past few months. So do we have them on a regular maintenance schedule and will that help us next year? Margaret stated it should help but when you haven't done any kind of maintenance in a while it tends to take a toll and she feels that is what is happening.

**Mayor-** Jayme Valenzuela- He would like to thank all of the crews for doing their job. He realizes that you haven't had a raise in a while and hopefully things will change this coming year. He really appreciates everything you do. It is hard to do your job when you don't have the right tools to do it. Thank you for making things happen. To the residents, thank you for helping us get the word out to your neighbors about free bulk pickup. Spreading the word seems to be doing some good. Thank you to everybody.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**Prior to consideration of the Consent Agenda, the Mayor will ask whether any members of the Council request any item be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion.**

**A. Minutes of Regular Meeting on December 4, 2014**

Motion to approve minutes of Regular Meeting for December 4, 2014 made by Councilmember Tameron, second by Councilmember Estatico, motion carries.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. PUBLIC HEARING – Discussion of Home Occupation Permit 2014-05; A request by Gloria Palacios to operate a flower shop for the assembly and sale of silk flowers and accessory products and materials in her home in an R1-6 (Urban Residential) Zone District located at 1231 S. Belmont Avenue, Superior Arizona 85173**

This Public Hearing was advertized it was also discussed at the Planning and Zoning Meeting on December 11, 2014. Planning and Zoning Committee voted to approve the Home Occupation Permit No. 2014-5. This is the second request from Ms. Palacios. The first one was denied because she did not live in the place where the business was going to be conducted. Ms. Palacios has signed a notarized affidavit stating she now lives at the location of her business, 1231 Belmont Avenue. Ms. Palacios understands she cannot put up signs at the location but she can hand out flyers.

**Mayor Valenzuela stated this is a Public Hearing, he asked the public if there was anyone who wanted to speak at this time .**

Ms. Palacios- She wanted to thank everyone for allowing her to speak and she was very happy to be here. She loves her Town and wants to thank everyone for this opportunity to open her silk flower shop. She hopes to one day be able to move her business to Main St.

Mr. Tomasello- There was thirteen conditions for approval that are in the staff report.

**Mayor Valenzuela, this was approved by the Planning and Zoning Committee so at this time he closed the Public Hearing. There were no other comments or questions about the Home Occupation Permit 2014-05.**

**B. Discussion and Possible Approval of Home Occupation Permit 2014-05; A request by Gloria Palacios to operate a flower shop for the assembly and sale of silk flowers and accessory products and materials in her home in an R1-6 (Urban Residential) Zone District located at 1231 S. Belmont Avenue, Superior, Arizona 85173. Motion to approve Home Occupation Permit 2014-05 made by Councilmember Aguilar, second by Councilmember Tameron, motion carries.**

**C. Discussion and Possible Approval of an Easement for Southwest Gas Corporation on Mary Drive. Ms. Gaston- Southwest Gas has to relocate their rectifier before the construction can take place on US 60. Southwest Gas Called and asked if they could have an easement in the area where Triplet Mountain Communications, Inc. has theirs on Mary Drive. It made sense to Ms. Gaston to have them in the same area. Ms. Gaston sent the original easement agreement suggested by Southwest Gas. Later she sent the**

easement agreement suggested by Southwest Gas Corporation. Steve Cooper, Town Attorney, has approved the easement suggested by Southwest Gas. Carrie Heglund, District Manager, was present to answer any questions. Ms. Gaston recommends Council approve the easement as requested by Southwest Gas Corporation.

Councilmember Estatico- Mr. Estatico asked if Ms. Heglund could tell us what a rectifier is. Ms. Heglund- A rectifier basically is something that puts a current on the sealed pipes to prevent corrosion on the gas pipes.

Motion to approve Easement for Southwest Gas Corporation on Mary Drive made by Councilmember Besich-Lira, second by Councilmember Aguilar, motion carries.

- D. Discussion and Possible Approval of Letter of Support on Proposed Changes to Tonto National Forest Recreation Fees.** Mayor received a call from the Director of the Tonto National Forest and he requested to be put on the January 8<sup>th</sup> agenda. Neil Bosworth, Director, will be the one to have the discussion. Item was tabled until January 2015.

#### **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Nancy Vogler-After she read the article in the paper about the HURF monies she was so dismayed that not even the monthly payment of \$100.00 was being paid back. She does not understand, you told us you had to raise our sales tax last year to pay some of our bills. Now we are finding out that you could not find \$100 a month to pay the state back. I don't think the Council or the Mayor knew that this was not being paid back. This is not a way to run a Town and I would call for your resignation to the manager.

Dave Richins-Council I just want to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He wanted to give a compliment to Public Work staff. We had planned an event last Tuesday but had to be cancelled due to conflicting schedules. Your staff and some of the local contractors worked really hard to spruce up the Magma Club and he just wanted to express his sincerest appreciation and the time it took to do that. As you all may know the land exchange bill has passed and it is on the President's desk. He has not signed it yet, but they anticipate he will do that tomorrow before he leaves for vacation. There is still a lot to do; foremost the NEPA process has to be complete. We want to be transparent and want the public to express what they want to see for this Town. We will come back to the Town sometime in January and February.

Sue Anderson- She would like to congratulate Resolution and the Town and the State and the United States for passing the Land Exchange Bill. She believes this is going to be a tremendous positive impact for the future of our young people and create new jobs. She would also like to thank Resolution Copper for their support of the Chamber with a donation of \$20,000. There are a few things that we have to do but most of this is on Resolution.

Roy Chavez-He has a documentary regarding a disaster that took place in British Columbia with toxic sludge from a mining company and their tailings. Video lasted 3 minutes.

- A. At the conclusion of the call to the public, individual town Council members may (1) respond to criticism made by those who have spoken; (2) ask staff to review a matter; or (3) ask that a matter be put on a future agenda.**

Councilmember Aguilar-He knows we are supposed to believe everything the news papers print, it was wrong. We have been paying the \$100 and for them to write we have not paid that was wrong. The facts are not there. So before you come here and ask for someone's resignation know your facts. You are pointing fingers and you do not have your facts together.

### **SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS**

Councilmember Besich-Lira: She wanted to wish a Happy New Year and she wanted to congratulate Resolution for their mile stone. She also wanted to point out full page coverage on the Arizona Trails Autumn News Letter. It features a lot of the businesses and the trails in our area.

Councilmember Aguilar- Merry Christmas to everyone

Councilmember Alonzo- He wanted to take a minute to thank all of our department heads and all the work that was done. Budget was tight this year and we stayed afloat. All of the committees in Town you have all done a fantastic job and kept us on our toes. Also he wants to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and look forward to next year.

Councilmember Estatico – Happy Holidays

Councilmember Tameron- Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone.

Vice Mayor Lopez- This has been an interesting year with its ups and downs. Thank you to all the staff they have done a terrific job. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mayor- Regardless of what some people think the staff has done a great job. We have bills that have been piled up for years and we are doing a lot better than we were a year ago. All of the surrounding Towns want to know what we are doing right. We don't mind the criticism it keeps us on our toes. We need to become as one. Some of us can let things go some cannot so Merry Christmas to everyone and thank you to all of the staff and the community.

**Mayor-** He had one more thing he wanted to mention. He belongs to a group called CAAHRA which is out of Eloy. This group works with people that are having a hard time, they can't pay their utilities. They help a lot of people in different circumstances. John Thompson and the

Mayor have moved into elected seats of that body. They are looking for public sector to sit in this agency. If anyone is interested, please contact Mary Lou Gonzales.

Town Manager- Margaret just wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. She thanked the Council for all of their support she enjoyed working with each and every one of you. Also she wanted to thank the Police Department, Fire Department which includes the Ambulance, Public Works, Library, and Senior Center. They have all made great strides and it has been a pleasure working with each one of these departments. Also chocolates were donated by Councilmember Tameron so please help yourself as you go out the door.

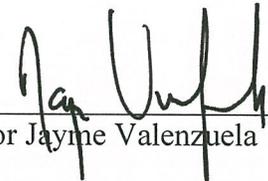
**SCHEDULING OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

Next Council Meeting is January 8, 2015, 7:00 pm

Reminder: Starting in January only one scheduled Council Meeting per month: the second Thursday of each month.

**ADJOURNMENT**

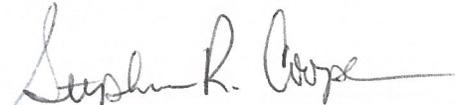
Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Councilmember Tameron, second by Councilmember Besich-Lira, motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Jayme Valenzuela

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk-Margaret Gaston

Approved As To Form:

  
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Steve R. Cooper, Town Attorney