

**TOWN OF SUPERIOR  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 16, 2014**

**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SUPERIOR, ARIZONA, AT THE SUPERIOR TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM LOCATED AT 199 N. LOBB AVENUE ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Valenzuela called meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mayor Valenzuela led staff and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**INVOCATION:**

Adriane Almejio from Life Restoration Church gave the invocation.

**TOWN STAFF PRESENT:**

Town Manager	Margaret Gaston
Town Attorney	Lisa Rueter
Administration	Ruby Cervantes
Police Department	Chief McNeill
Fire Department	Todd Pryor
Public Works	Anthony Huerta
Library	Josie Campos
Senior Center	Debbie Casillas
Town Staff	Nora Miramon

**VISITORS PRESENT:**

Sandra Doyle	Doc Darr
Freddie Miramon	Nancy Vogler
Elizabeth Magallanez	Bill Volger
Gloria Martinez	Tom Spridgen
Carlos Martinez	Adrian Armijo
Sonnie Sansom	Calo Arnold
Joy Eveland	Kathryn Arnold

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**

- A. "State of the Town" speech from Mayor Valenzuela-Mayor began with a quote from former President Bill Clinton, "There is nothing wrong with America that cannot be cured by what is right with America." He said this quote fits Superior very well. The Town has become more efficient in regards to our Town Hall by meeting in the auditorium for council meetings, quarterly reports 2013 for payroll have been completed and fines for previous quarters paid. Sewer billing being sent in a timely manner. Deposits are done daily and billing for Omya, Resolution Copper and School District have resumed since not being billed in a couple of years. Town Hall is more efficient working together in all facets that it takes to run Town Hall. Nora & Ruby are both notaries to accommodate the public more efficiently. Hopefully the Council will have financial statement in a couple of months.

Public Works is also working more efficiently, we have a supervisor that lives here and is here to stay he is very skilled in a lot of areas that is saving the Town money. He has a good crew 2 laborers and one mechanic. Daily tasks are organized, streets are being cleaned, selling scrap metal to buy tools. The mechanic evaluates the vehicles then does the minor repairs to get that vehicle back in operation. We are also working on some vehicles to be auctioned off in the near future.

Sanitation Department employee Andy Arriola was named employee of the year by Rural Arizona Water Association. Repairs are also being completed at the WWTP.

The Library has been a constant and valuable resource made available to our public use thanks to Josie Campos and staff.

The Police Department is a work in progress. The Chief is working on getting some vests and gear for our officers. Also we have bought batteries for the radios and officers have noticed the difference on the reception they get. DPS evidence team has cataloged all of the evidence at the Police Department and organized system of storing evidence and maintaining evidence and returning to the owner at the appropriate time.

Concerning the hiring of a Police Chief, we have 8 candidates and the process is very detailed. The Oral Boards will be on January 24<sup>th</sup> and the board is made up of law enforcement officers. Backgrounds will be extensive and will be done on the top 3-4 candidates, and then the council will interview those candidates. We hope to appoint a Chief at our March 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, maybe.

Fire Department has hired a new firefighter/paramedic to replace James Gray who retired. The trucks are being checked out, and we will determine whether to get the main fire truck fixed or replaced as soon as we get a truck to fill in with.

In regards to the future of our Town here is a quote from Proverbs 28:18 "Where there is no vision, the people perish." The vision I have for our town and it is a simple one, to promote economic development, building, preserving and strengthening our resources in many different ways. Resolution Copper Company has one of the biggest deposits in the world. What we do and how we manage the value it has to be a shared vision, and that vision is simple. We need to take an accurate view of the part mining played in our history and take that information into the future where we can continue to a mining town but with a common vision of protecting our environment and investing in the long lasting sustainability of our town.

## Town of Superior

Page 3

January 16, 2014

Superior looks promising with the expansion of the US 60 to 4 lanes, a new 10-pump Circle K, Magma Hotel, new Medical Clinic, De Marco's Pizza on US 60 and more stores opening on Main Street and of course the the copper mine. Annexation will provide more revenue for Superior and look into new plans for housing and development. We can develop and promote a plan that utilizes our distinctive resources and creates more opportunities for economic growth and quality employment opportunities along with increasing our tourism draw to the rest of the state in our copper corridor.

Our Town of Superior is just that, our town. I look out onto this audience and see so many familiar faces and some new ones too. I am proud of this town and the inhabitants because we are a community that, when we choose, can band together and create great change and improvement working towards a common vision. Something brought us here, whether generations ago or recently, the beauty and possibilities of this town brought us here. My thanks include all of the town employees whether full or part time along with my fellow council members. Special thanks to Margaret Gaston who helped pull it all together. Thank you and good evening.

- B. Introduction of New Employee Manuel Ramirez, Mechanic, Public Works-Mr. Ramirez was unable to attend tonight's meeting, we will introduce him at our next meeting.
- C. Adelante Juntos Coalition Presentation, Elizabeth Magallanez-  
El Centro for the Study of Primary & Secondary Education, Superior Substance Abuse Coalition and Adelante Juntos Coalition are happy to bring STOP! Project an underage drinking prevention program for its second year to Superior Unified School District. Sembrando Salud helps the staff to present weekly lessons in selected classrooms to teach them about negative effects of substance use. Which was designated as a effective program in 1992. It is our desire to partner with The Superior Town Council or other organizations to secure space in the Town of Superior to open a youth/community center sponsored by Adelante Juntos Coalition in partnership with the Superior Substance Abuse Coalition.  
Council comments; All are in favor of helping and partnering with Adlanted Juntos. Suggestions regarding the Band Room, the old Library at the Roosevelt School and the Munoz Building (old Rose's Roses) were mentioned. Council directed staff to look into the cost of the Band Room, and the Munoz Building and see what the Town will have to do to get either one of these locations ready for Adelante Juntos to establish a youth center here in Superior.
- D. Presentation by Councilmember John Tameron-This is a video I found on You Tube. It made an impact on me and how I see things for the future in our Town. This video gave me a lot of inspiration and if it does that for some of you then I know that we as residents of this Town we can make it happen. I will give it everything I have for the year 2014, to work with everybody and try to make it happen. Thank You Very Much.

### REPORTS

Fire-Councilmember Alonzo had a comment; he really liked Todd's report on Mutual Aid. He knows there is a lot about resources and what you do right what you did wrong, but just wanted to say that you guys do a great job.

Library- Councilmember Lira, wanted to congratulate Mrs. Campos for her nomination for Arizona's Latina Trailblazer for 2014.

Police-Chief McNeill, he had lunch with the County Attorney on Tuesday and he pledged new body armor for the officers. I received a call about 3:30 this afternoon and went to pickup 3 sets of body amour.  
Councilmember Estatico wanted to know what the response was for the advertisement for police officers.  
Town Manager, Margaret Gaston stated the Town only got 1 applicant for police officer but he withdrew his application and got hired somewhere else. I will be running the ad again and this time will do more on the web.

Senior Center- No question or comments.

Public Works- Councilmember Alonzo had a question regarding the ADOT Fueling Station and public works taking it over, what does that mean or entail? PW Supervisor stated that ADOT will no longer be manning this Substation and has handed it over to us, public works. We use it to fuel all of the Town vehicles so we are going to make sure that there is always fuel and that other entities have access to the station also. Public Safety uses the station to fuel up when they are in our area. There is no cost to us, The Town of Superior. Public Works is looking for donations to be able to get the project (2 restrooms) at the cemetery for public use only during funerals. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.

Sanitation- Rodriquez Construction Company was completed by the 15<sup>th</sup> of January with the work at the WWTP.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Item B, alcohol permit fundraiser was withdrawn. A motion to approve items A & C in consent agenda. Motion to approve consent agenda less item B withdrawn, made by Councilmember Alonzo, second by Councilmember Estatico. Motion carries.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Discussion and Vote Regarding an Annexation Committee-Town Manager-The Town of Superior has had Annexation Committees in the past, starting in 2007 and as recently as 2010 the last committee members were Karen Afdahl, Adam Hawkins, Olga Lopez, Elizabeth Magallanez, Freddie Miramon, Melanie Oliver and Curtis Williams. It was suggested this be put on the agenda for discussion of whether it would work to form a new Annexation Committee to explore possibilities at this time. This agenda item is for discussion and possible vote for forming an annexation committee and calling for applicants to apply to be on the committee. Councilmember Alonzo stated that he felt that the Town should focus on other development, explore growth. He feels that this would leave a bad taste in people's mouths to start a annexation committee. Council member Tameron just wants to see where everything is at and then we could make a decision to do a committee. Councilmember Lira stated she thought we needed to start looking into annexation going west. There is talk out there that Towns and corporations are looking into all that land west of Florence Junction and if we do not jump on this we are going to be left out in the cold and lose that possible revenue. We need to set priorities especially with Florence Junction moving in on us. Suggestion's that we set up a meeting with the Arboretum with a couple of councilmember's and see where we are at, also that this needs to be included with the Economic Development Committee. Mayor stated he would like to see an Annexation Committee so we can get moving on this, we cannot just sit back and see what happens with the mine but we need to look towards the west of Superior and get ahead of the game so when interested parties approach us we are ready to move. We are not saying we are going to develop the property but we will be in a good position to negotiate with who ever are interested in developing the property. Maybe we can call it the Economic Annexation Exploration Committee. Direction was given to the Town Manager to get together with Vice

Mayor Lopez and get as much information about the last Annexation Committee, which Ms. Lopez said she would be happy to take all that she has and give it to Margaret. Also, Council would like to have that information available for our next Council meeting, February 6, 2014. After several minutes of good discussion a motion to advertise for applicants that want to be on the Exploration Economic Annexation Committee and start up the board again was made by Councilmember Tameron, second by Councilmember Lira, motion passed.

### **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Nancy Vogler- She has been out in the desert and has seen and brought pictures of some of the dumping has taken place within the last couple of weeks. Mrs. Vogler and her husband take a ride out there every so often and the stuff in the pictures is pretty recent. She ask the Council once again to please try to get the dump open. The town has really got to do something, this is horrible problem.

Sandra Doyle- Ms. Doyle just wanted to take this time to say she thinks every one is doing a great job. Staff is always willing to help. She wanted to thank Anthony for all of the hard work they did to get the auditorium ready to hold our meetings in.

Sonnie Sansom- Just wanted to say "Look around here, this is great we are finally moving forward with the Roosevelt".

Sue Anderson-Wanted to remind everyone of the Home Tour this weekend. They are expecting close to 1000 people attending. The Fred Smith property has been renovated and will be included in the tour this year along with Pete Casillas's grandmothers house. On another note wanted to clarify that the Chamber is out of compliance with permits. She wants to set the record straight, The Chamber of Commerce has always been in compliance and has always obtained the appropriate permits.

Freddie Miramon- Mr. Miramon just wanted to make a statement. I asked for our Council to continue to improve the dynamics of working together. All of you represent a successful team, but at times have acted independently of each other and you were not effective as a team in 2013. This year must bring a greater understanding of each others strengths as our Town representatives to be effective as a successful team. I am looking forward to 2014 for our Town Government, our neighbor Resolution Copper and our Stakeholders to incorporate the needs of our Town into the plans for 2014.

### **SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS**

- A. Councilmember Besich-Lira: She reminded everyone of the Legend of The Lost Trail event is coming up on February 8. There will lectures & hiking outdoor information booths. The Paranormal Society will be here this Friday and Saturday. They will be looking into the Magma Club and the Belmont Building. This could mean possible revenue in the future for the Town. Towns like Jerome and Bisbee have tours of locations that are supposed to have paranormal activity so who knows what doors can be opened due to this research and what kind of tourism it might bring to the town. During the Lost Trail there will be an evening walk and they are going to talk about some of their findings.

Councilmember Aguilar: Just excited to go forward in 2014 and to see all of the new things we are going to do. Looking forward for the Home Tour and have seen a lot of people coming thru Town. Also hoping and he knows it will happen that the Chamber and Council work as one.

Councilmember Alonzo: He wanted to echo what everyone else has said. That we all work together and he knows that 2014 will be a great year. Maybe something good will come out of this paranormal investigation. There are Towns that this is big businesses from these tours, so who knows what this will bring to our Town.

Councilmember Estatico: He is glad to be back where he started teaching at this school in Superior. Asked that we put our department reports on the web site for the public to see. Looking forward to the Home Tour, he will be here and will be helping out. Is looking forward to this year and working with this Council, and Mayor if you need us I will back you.

Councilmember Tameron: I was just up in Jerome and visited the Douglas Mansion. There I found a picture hanging on the wall and his mother was in this picture. So he took a picture of it and brought it home to his mom and she was ecstatic. He told her that she is one of the ghosts that will stay there. He feels it is a good idea for the paranormal to be here and we will see what comes out of it. Also he will be there at the Home Tour to help out. Looking forward to working with everyone and looking forward to 2014. One more thing, I got a phone call from a constituent on selective code enforcement. Would like to meet with Todd who is Code Enforcement Officer and discuss this. He also made it clear that he is in compliance with all of his permits and is not breaking any kind of law.

Vice Mayor Lopez: She believes we have a good Council and look forward to working with everyone. Also she is looking for input from the residents. There is a lot to get done and believes this Council can do it.

Mayor: Like he stated before he is looking forward to working with Council, staff. Residents can call him or email him he is always willing to listen, all of us on the board are willing to listen. He asked the public if any one has any old historical pictures than we can hang up here in the Auditorium that would be great just stopped by, also, to lend their support. If we all had not worked together, we would not be here tonight.

The Magma Hotel update-Some of the storms we had earlier in the year caused some damage to the Structure to the point the design team had to reevaluate and make some changes to the design. Willdan Has received plans for the redesign of the building on the west side of the project. Willdan had a few comments during the review of the plans and the design team is addressing them now. The design and construction team are fully engaged in the project and are looking forward to getting things back on track following the storm damage. Willdan expects to see a lot activity in the coming weeks. Keith Roed, Project Superintendent for the Renaissance Company stated once they've resolved all the issues, they will generate an accurate schedule to move forward with and send it to the Town.

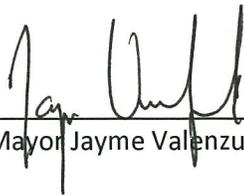
Town Manager wanted to thank publicly Chief McNeill for all of his hard work at the Police Department and also for arranging for the armory team and the evidence team to come to Superior. This is such a help to the Police Department and will make it easier for a new Police Chief to take over. Chief McNeill is excellent to work with and I appreciate him. I also want to thank the Council for their support. Mr. Holler has sent out 6 letters for business's regarding the tax audit. He has also found \$7000.00 in revenue in unpaid taxes.

Don't forget the Superior Home Tour on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of January.

**Town of Superior**  
**Page 7**  
**January 16, 2014**

Mayor had one last comment, there are restrooms to the right as you go out this main door. We hope to have the other restroom working for our next meeting in February 6, 2014.

Motion to adjourn meeting from Councilmember Tameron, second by Councilmember Besich-Lira, motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.



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Mayor Jayme Valenzuela

Attest:



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Town Manager Margaret Gaston