

**TOWN OF SUPERIOR  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
April 3, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Valenzuela called meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Valenzuela led the audience and staff in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**INVOCATION:** Pastor Dennis Van Gorp, Family Life Christian Center

**TOWN STAFF PRESENT**

Town Manager	Margaret Gaston
Town Attorney	Steve Cooper
Police Dept.	Chief McNeill
Public Works	Anthony Huerta
Fire Department	Todd Pryor
Town Staff	Nora Miramon

**VISITOR PRESENT**

John Dorsey	Gary Briegel	Merrilee Kinney
Brett Haupt	Dixie Briegel	Dan Levendowski
Sandra Doyle	Ruben Lopez	Nina Crowder
Sonnie Sansom	Eva Lopez	Hank Gutierrez
Bharatlie Tameron	Robert Saldano	Tina Gutierrez
Louie Duarte	Virginia Duarte	

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

- A. Andrew Taplin, Project Director gave a presentation with handouts to Council Board. He wanted to provide the Council and the public with an over view of the great progress Resolution Copper has made over a year in a half. He stated, the Plan of Operation is now on line and there is a copy for public viewing in their onsite office. The Forest Department is reviewing the plans and may ask them to modify it and this might take many months they expect it to take about a year. Sinking the shafts is a critical part of the mining process. They expect to spend another million dollars on the necessary studies. In October they had to suspend the work because it was too hot for any of the workers and it was an unsafe environment, the water was extremely hot. This had to be addressed in order to be able to work at that level.

He stated that we would continue to see work on the reclamation. They have already spent 2/3 of the budget for the reclamation project and most of that work has gone to local contractors. The Town will continue to see Resolution Coppers involvement in your community this is important to the Copper Triangle for a sustainable future. Mr. Taplin went on to inform everyone how much Resolution Copper has spent in supporting our local school and local charities though out the year.

Direct Employment wages in the amount of \$1,100,000. Indirect Employment Contracting wages spent in the amount of \$23,286,000. Finally Resolution Copper has committed to Superior Education in the amount of \$122,000. Mr. Taplin proceeded to show a video to everyone on how they have contributed to Superior Education.

Mr. Taplin went on to say that he is looking forward to working with the Council towards a Mutual Benefits Agreement that will benefit both sides. Resolution Copper intends to show that they are trust worthy. They expect the Town to hold them accountable for their actions. Mr. Taplin thanked the Council for the invitation to speak.

- B.** Proclamation Week of the Young child in Pinal County April 6-12, 2014. Presented by Brett Haupt, Parent Awareness and Community Outreach Coordinator. Mr. Haupt read the Proclamation and hereby proclaim April 6-12, 2014 and encourage all citizens to work together to make good investments in early childhood in Pinal County.
- C.** Proclamation of National Library Week, April 13-19, 2014. Presented by Josie Campos, Library Supervisor. Be it resolved that Jayme Valenzuela, Mayor, proclaimed National Library Week, April 3-19, 2014. He also encouraged all residents to visit the library this week to take advantage of the wonderful library resources available at our library.
- D.** Proclamation April is Fair Housing Month. Presented by Town Manager, Margaret Gaston. April has traditionally been designated as Fair Housing Month in the United States. The 1963 and 1988 Federal Fair Housing Acts declare that it is a national Policy to ensure equal opportunities in housing. Mayor, Jayme Valenzuela proclaimed April as Fair Housing Month in the Town of Superior and do hereby urge all citizens of this community to comply with the letter and spirit of the Fair Housing Law.
- E.** Presentation of a Check in the Amount of \$3,744.32 to the Town of Superior for Pool Equipment by John Dorsey, General Manager Ray Mine, ASARCO,LLC. Margaret Gaston contacted ASARCO to get some help or a donation to help in the repair of the local swimming pool. Mr. Dorsey proceeded to give a little history of ASARCO Mining and the role in the Copper Basin Area. When people think of mining in the Town of Superior they think of Magma Mining Company and other mines in the area. ASARCO has been a part of the Copper Basin Corridor for just as long as those mines. In the 1950's we became an open pit and those who travel the area can see the process in one of the largest pit mines in the country.

## **Town of Superior**

**Page 3**

**April 3, 2014**

ASARCO employs about 1400 people and contributes about 140,000,000 dollars a year in benefits and they pay almost 20,000,000 in taxes. They spend around a million dollars a day on supplies and daily expenses. He said they have about 50 employees that live in Superior and former, retired employees that live in Superior. He also was a resident of Superior and knows the hardships that small towns face.

Mayor Valenzuela thanks Mr. Dorsey for the generous donation and reported that the pool had been fixed already and the money will go to pay for the material and parts that went into fixing the Superior Pool.

### **REPORTS**

Mayor- none

Manager- Margaret Gaston, she wanted Council and public to know the Town did receive another tax audit payment; this one was for \$7,290.39. Mr. Holler continues to work on the rental tax audits. There was a light pole that was hit by the Republic Service Garbage Truck and caused a chain reaction which destroyed a second pole. APS was contacted to replace the poles; Republic Services said they would pay for everything. No houses were affected, just two street lights. The Economic, Annexation and Planning and Zoning Commissions that are advertized close on April 11<sup>th</sup>. Public Works Supervisor Anthony Huerta, Police Chief Nipp, Town Manager, Margaret met with Pinal County Animal Control today to discuss the issue of animals at large in town and being pro active in the community. Town Manager stated that she will be bringing the Council more information at a later date regarding that. On Saturday April 12, we will be having another group of kids from the LDS Church come and do some more volunteer work at the cemetery. They heard about Superior and how well they were received and enjoyed the people and the Town they decided to have another group of kids come to another retreat and volunteer their time. This group will be a smaller group and they will also be bringing their tools. Mayor directed Town Manager to send a Thank You card or email to the LDS group that was here, if we hadn't already done so.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor stated that he had received a phone call on item B regarding the alcohol beverage permit. He will like to remove item B from the agenda to look into this further. At this time Councilmember Tameron and Councilmember Besich-Lira, Councilmember Alonzo also stated they had received phone calls regarding this permit. Motion to remove item B from the consent agenda they all agreed to table this item for next meeting so they can get more information regarding the concerns of citizens and underage drinking and possibly security, etc. Councilmember Besich-Lira made the motion, second by Councilmember Estatico, motion carries.

Motion to approve item A in the consent agenda made by Councilmember Besich-Lira, second by Vice Mayor Lopez, motion carries.

Discussion on item B, Mayor received a call regarding the alcohol and the underage drinking. Councilmember Tameron also received phone calls about security and monitoring the underage drinking.

Councilmember Besich-Lira asked if we could make some kind of requirement to protect the Town and the host of the party. Margaret told council she would get some answers for Council and have a report at the next regular Council meeting. Motion to table item B from the consent agenda made by Councilmember Besich-Lira, second by Councilmember Tameron, motion carries.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Discussion and Acceptance of a Donation of Fire Apparatus Agreement from City of Mesa to the Town of Superior. Ms. Gaston, Town Manager, This agreement is a little different than an IGA between the two government entities, but the contract has already been looked at and approved by our Town Attorney Steve Cooper. The City of Mesa is donating a 1997 Pierce Quantum, 1500 gpm fire pumper, with an ID number of 2587. This will greatly help the Town of Superior's Fire Department, and also help keep the Town's ISO rating, although it is 17 years old. The City of Mesa approved this agreement at their work session last week. The truck has had all of its maintenance completed on time and should be quite the asset to the Town of Superior. Ms. Gaston recommended the Council approve the agreement and authorize Mayor Valenzuela to sign the agreement and then we will send it back to the City of Mesa for their signatures. Thank You to Mr. Richins, City of Mesa Councilmember for facilitating this agreement. Motion to approve the Fire Apparatus Agreement with the City of Mesa and authorize Mayor Valenzuela to sign the agreement made by Councilmember Tameron, second by Councilmember Aguilar, motion carries.

### **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Sonnie Sansom- He wants everyone to know that he resigned from the Planning and Zoning Commission of his own free will. Basically he did not agree with the interpretation of Planning and Zoning so he resigned. He is more determined than ever to push forward with Planning and Zoning. Town Attorney told him he serves at the will of the Mayor and Council which he believes to be not the case according to the Planning and Zoning Code. Why was the person who is in violation of the Planning and Zoning Code appointed to the Planning and Zoning Commission? Why is it okay for Councilmember to violate the code with immunity? Stated Ms. Rabago has been passing and taking pictures of his project and maybe she would like to share those photos with the public.

Marilee Kenney-She just wanted to thank the Councilmember's, Margaret Gaston and public works for the work that was done at the caboose, the park and the bathrooms and for the Police presence. The volunteers have put in 288 hrs in the last 3 winter months. The Caboose has had 835 visitors; they are giving information out regarding the sites and restaurants both on Main Street and Hwy 60. We also provide coloring books for the kids.

Nancy Vogel-She just got her tax statement from Pinal County. She has two pieces of properties and one property went up in value and one went down. She would like to know if the Town could let the public know what they were told by Pinal County.

Rev. Albert Rodriquez- He is a retired teacher here and he grew up here. His parents are both buried here, he own property here and he pastors a church here in Superior so he has a interest in Superior.

He has heard a lot of discussion about the reasons people want the mine here and why they do not want the mine. His question is this, is all of the gifting that the monies that are given to the community and the schools are getting is this a onetime thing? Or will this be for the longevity of the mine which has been said to be about 60 yrs.? Are all of things that the mine is proposing like the camp grounds, the cemetery, etc.. Are these a onetime gift or will these continue once the operation of the mine is in full force. I am concerned about Superior, I grew up in Superior. He is concerned that Superior gets their fair share from this company Resolution. He is concerned that something be written that guarantees that Superior will share in some of the profits for the next 60 years. He would like to appeal to your conscious to take care of the people of Superior. He would like to Superior receive the benefits that are due which they never received from past years. Magma did not give back much to the Town of Superior. He is concerned that Superior gets its fair share when the profits start going to Resolution and other companies that have invested their time here. He wants to appeal to the conscience of the Council that any decisions that you vote be for the well being of the Town of Superior.

Robert Saldano- He house has been broken into many, many times. He would like to know what is the Council going to do about this. We in Superior must have one on the highest rate of break-ins per capata. Something needs to be done. He does not understand why they like his house, but every time he has to go out of Town his house gets broken into. He has addressed this problem before and nothing has been done about it.

#### **COUNCIL RESPONSE TO CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor- just that he would like for Chief of Police Mark Nipp to please talk with Mr. Saldano and find out some of his issues and what can be done. No other comments were made by Councilmember's.

#### **SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS**

Councilmember Besich-Lira: She has some good news, The school just found out they received a grant for \$100,000. Only 10 schools are chosen out of 100 schools. Also on the 15<sup>th</sup> Ms. Dufault from the Arizona Trail Association will be at Porters at 5:00, so come meet her and hear about some of her adventures. Also the next morning at 7:00 we will be meeting at the airport and we will be hiking Arnett Canyon, so if anyone has not hiked that canyon, we encourage you to join us.

Councilmember Aguilar: no comment

Councilmember Alonzo: no comment

Councilmember Estatico: no comment

Councilmember Tameron: no comment; afterwards congratulated Mr. Taplin on the birth of his child.

Mayor: just want to thank ASARCO for their donation we really appreciate it, also thanks to Resolution Copper for their presentation. He also hopes we all take the time to appreciate the Proclamations that were made tonight.

Manager: no comment

**Town of Superior**

**Page 6**

**April 3, 2014**

Mayor: At this time we can go back and address some of the comments made during call to the public Councilmember Alonzo: Just wanted to address Mr. Solano and let him know that we do have a new Chief of Police, he explained the position and difficulties there has been with regards to the Police Department. We just hired another officer and Council received a report from the new Chief. Informing Council about some of the very issues that are of concern to you and to all of us and how he intends to address those issues and many others.

### **SCHEDULING OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

April 17, 2014 Regular Council Meeting

Board of Adjustment Meeting April 17, 2014

Before going into executive session Town Attorney Steven Cooper advised and educated Council, staff and audience on Conflict of Interest. Mr. Cooper read ARS 38-502 and ARS 38-508B and went on to explain and answered questions from Council before going into executive session. Each of the Councilmembers had to declare if they felt they had a conflict. Councilmembers had to state the reason for the conflict and make sure it goes on record. Mr. Cooper reinforced, each Councilmember needs to write a letter and sign it so that can be put in their file at Town Hall.

The following are their statements of conflict of interest.

Councilmember Besich-Lira : She believes she does not have a Conflict

Councilmember Aguilar: He has declared a conflict of interest; because he is an employee of Tameron Janitorial who has a contract with Resolution Copper Company.

Councilmember Alonzo: He believes he does not have a Conflict

Councilmember Estatico: He believes he does not have a Conflict

Councilmember Tameron: He declares he has a conflict of interest; his company Tameron Janitorial has a contract with Resolution Copper Company.

Vice Mayor Lopez: She has declared a conflict of interest; her son works for Resolution Copper Company. There is a letter in her file stating the conflict.

Mayor Jayme Valenzuela: He has declared a conflict of interest; his son-in-law is an employee of Resolution Copper Company. There is a letter in his file stating conflict.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion for Council to move into Executive Session for one hour with Town Attorney, Steven Cooper; Town Manager, Margaret Gaston made by Councilmember Estatico, second by Councilmember Besich-Lira, motion carries at 8:30 p.m

**Town of Superior**  
**Page 7**  
**April 3, 2014**

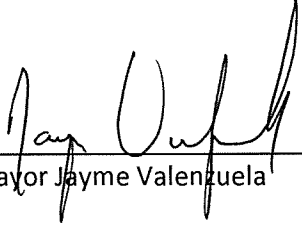
Motion to adjourn and come back to regular session from Executive Session made by Councilmember Estatico, second by Vice Mayor Lopez, motion carries at 9:28 pm.

Motion for Council to go back to Executive Session with Attorney, Town Manager for one hour was made by Councilmember Estatico, second by Councilmember Aguilar; motion carries at 9:30 pm.

Motion for Council to adjourn Executive Session made by Vice Mayor Lopez, second by Councilmember Aguilar, motion carries at 10:30 pm.

Motion to return back to regular session made by Councilmember Besich-Lira, second by Vice Mayor Lopez, motion carries at 10:32 pm.

Motion to adjourn Council meeting made by Councilmember Estatico, second by Councilmember Besich-Lira, motion carries meeting adjourned at 10:35 pm.



---

Mayor Jayme Valenzuela

Attest:

---

Town Manager-Margaret Gaston