

Superior Town Council Town Council Meeting

Thursday, April 5, 2007
Superior Senior Center
Superior, Arizona

M I N U T E S

A. Call to Order

Mayor Hing called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

B. Salute to the Flag

Mayor Hing led the Town Council, staff and the audience in the Pledge to the Flag.

C. Opening Prayer

Mayor Hing led the Town Council, staff and the audience in a brief opening prayer.

D. Roll Call

Members Present: Mayor Hing, Councilmember Valenzuela, Councilmember Cervantes, Councilmember Heglie, Councilmember Marquez

Members Absent: Councilmember Lopez

E. Consent Agenda

Mayor Hing introduced the items on the consent agenda. The items in the consent agenda were:

Approval of the Minutes from March 19 – Special Council Meeting, March 20 Special Council Meeting, Regular Council meeting March 15, 2007, and a Blanket Fundraising Permit for Set Free Ministries.

Mayor Hing asked for comments on the minutes or the approval of the blanket permit. Councilmember Heglie indicated that the spelling of the new attorneys name is Beers not Beard. Mayor Hing also indicated that

Councilmember Lopez will be the chairperson of the annexation committee, explaining that the minutes did not reflect that information.

Mayor Hing called for a motion to approve the consent agenda items. Councilmember Heglie made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Cervantes seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

F. Communications

1. Rick Hettler, Public Works Director Resignation

Mayor Hing announced that Mr. Hettler Public Work Director for the Town has submitted his resignation. Mayor Hing thanked Mr. Hettler for his service to the community.

2. Belmont Building Update

Mayor Hing reported Southwest Risk has not submitted it's final report but has provided its preliminary findings. He also explained that the Central Arizona Association of Governments has decided to terminate their lease with the town for the Belmont Building and their offices will be moving the Apache Junction area.

Mayor Hing explained that much of this situation has been blown out of proportion and that the Town will begin looking for suitable tenants for the building.

3. Anytown Arizona Scholarship

Mr. Hawkins from Resolution Copper gave a presentation to the Town Council on the Anytown Arizona program. He explained that this is a leadership camp where all demographics of youth will attend. He explained some of the highlights of the program and how beneficial the program is to its attendees. He explained that Resolution Copper would like to sponsor a scholarship so a Superior Youth could attend the conference.

4. Department Reports

a. Police Department

Superior Police Department Chief Digirolamo gave a brief update in regards to his written report provided to the council. He explained that Sgt. Rodriguez had been out sick so the Town Code Violation Citations had not been sent out. He also updated the Council and audience on the current problem with counterfeit money being passed in Superior.

b. Financial Report

Mayor Hing asked questions regarding the higher amount of State Shared Revenues and State Sales Tax revenues that had been received. Ms. Aldrete explained that she had no specific answer why

the amount collected to date was higher than the town has budgeted for. Mayor Hing asked for Ms. Aldrete to research why the amounts are higher and report back to the council.

c. Senior Center

Councilmember Heglie asked Ms. Long how the Sr. Center would be purchasing 2 new commercial freezers. She explained that the funding was provided for the freezers through the Pinal Gila Senior Services Agency.

Councilmember Valenzuela asked Ms. Long if she was currently understaffed. Ms. Long explained that the Sr. Center is understaffed and that she currently also is doing much of the housekeeping, and dishwashing in addition to her director duties. She explained that the Senior Center currently needs a Dishwasher, Janitor, Driver and part time cook. Ms. Long explained that she will be able to hire a dishwasher with her current budget but will need to budget for the additional positions in the next fiscal year.

Ms. Long also clarified to the council the daily meal counts and Senior Center participation. She explained that she averages 12-15 people per day with Wednesdays and Fridays having higher attendance because of the bingo games. She also explained that she has started to plan trips for the Seniors to go out of town at least once a month.

d. Public Works

Mr. Hettler updated the council on the Main St. project and explained that he has meetings scheduled with Arizona Water Company and Resolution Copper to discuss the water lines on Main St. He explained that they are trying to address the issues with the water lines so the construction on Main St. would include the repairs/relocation of the water lines.

Councilmember Heglie asked why the town crew travels to Tolleson to pick up Gatorade. Mr. Hettler explained that the Gatorade is donated and is used by the Fire Department.

Councilmember Valenzuela asked Mr. Hettler about the staffing needs of the Public Works Department. Mr. Hettler replied that the Public Works Department would need staffing for the Sewer Plant as well as the street crew. He explained that with the new work crews being employed by the mines their regular seasonal workers are not available and explained that the departments needs 2 full time employees and 1 part time.

Mr. Hettler thanked the Mayor, Council and the community for the opportunity to work for the town and thanked the crews that worked for him for being a good staff.

Mayor Hing acknowledged Mr. Hettler and thanked him for his service.

e. Library

Ms. Campos gave a brief report in addition to her written report provided to the Council. She explained that she would be hosting a magic show at the Superior Schools to help advertise the summer reading program. She explained that she would be using High School student volunteers to help run the program this year.

In addition to her Library report she also reported on the Recreation Committee and thanked everyone for their participation and support of the Easter Event they hosted. She also reported that the Recreation Committee would be hosting a retreat for their members to work on the plans for the future.

G. Call to the Public

Manuel Ortega – Explained his opinions of the Resolution Copper project. He invited everyone to attend a meeting at the VFW on Thursday April 12, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. to share with the public how the mining process with hurt the mountains and how Resolution Copper is not keeping up with its original agreements.

Mr. Hawkins – External Affairs with Resolution Copper explained that he is available to answer any questions anyone may have about the Resolution Copper project and explained that he would like to be present at their meeting to clear up any misconceptions.

H. Business

1. Discuss/Approve/Reject Approval of Lawyer Contract

Mayor Hing explained that the attorney was present to explain his contract. Mr. Beers – Town Attorney gave a brief presentation on his proposed contract. He explained his billing methods and that he would rather charge a flat monthly fee rather than a per hour fee so it would allow him to be present for all meetings the town needed him without worrying about the hourly fee involved. He explained that the monthly fee may be adjusted to reflect any major changes or usage but would not be changed at this point until both parties can adjust to their current schedule. He also

explained the process should either the Town or Mr. Bears need to sever the contract.

Councilmember Heglie made a motion to table approval of the contract until all Councilmember's have an opportunity to review the written contract. Councilmember Cervantes seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

2. Discuss/Approve/Reject Posting of Town Clerk Position

Mayor Hing explained that staff would need to post for the Town Clerk position. The Mayor referenced the Work Session meeting that was held prior to the regular meeting and explained that the posting for the Town Clerk position posting/job description would need to include the coordination of the Economic Development Committees and have a residency requirement after 60 days of employment. The Mayor and Council also clarified that the position would have a starting pay of \$27,000 to the mid \$30,000.

Councilmember Heglie made a motion to post the position for Town Clerk. Councilmember Cervantes seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Discuss/Approve/Reject Posting for a Public Works Director

Mayor Hing explained that the position for Public Works Director needs to be posted. He explained that a residency requirement should be added and that the starting salary requirement would not be higher than \$51,000.

Councilmember Heglie made a motion to post for the Public Works Director Position to include the aforementioned requirements. Councilmember Cervantes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Discuss/Approve/Reject Scheduling of Town Council Retreat

Mayor Hing explained that the Town needed to schedule a date for the Town Council Retreat. After reviewing available dates the council found that Saturday, April 23, 2007 would be a suitable date. Mayor Hing asked the Councilmember's to please mark that date in their calendars

Councilmember Heglie made a motion to schedule the Town Council Retreat for Saturday April 23, 2007. Councilmember Marquez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Discuss/Approve/Reject Dave Smith's Proposal for the old Swimming Pool Property

Mayor Hing introduced Mr. Jeff Swan and Mr. Kalil who would be making a presentation regarding the development of the old Swimming Pool Property.

Mr. Swan with Swan Architects gave a presentation to the council on what their company would like to develop in the old Swimming Pool property. He explained that they would like to build a condominium complex with approximately 16 units. He presented the Council with a land use design which included the use of the old swimming pool for the residents in the complex. He explained that each condo would range from 1,400 sq. feet to 1,800 sq. feet.

Questions and discussion followed regarding price, amenities, and whether or not this community would be a gated community. The developers explained that those details would be more available once they were in a formal planning/building phase.

Mr. Swan asked the Council when they could expect a decision to be made on their proposal. Mayor Hing suggested that the council should wait until after their council retreat in April to make a decision.

There were no motions made in regards to this agenda item.

6. Discuss/Approve/Reject Traffic Control Radar System Information

Chief Digirolamo reported to the council on the Traffic Control Radar System. He explained that the state of Arizona is currently setting up a test system that would allow for traffic cameras to be placed on state highways that would help to catch vehicles that are speeding or are committing other traffic violations. He explained that the State will be working with the Town of Maricopa and a few other municipalities on the trial program.

Chief Digirolamo explained that over 9000 cars travel though Superior on the Highway on a daily basis. He also explained some of the advantages and challenges to having a program like this in place in a community.

Questions and discussion followed regarding cost and how to manage a traffic control radar system.

Mayor Hing and the Town Council directed Chief Digirolamo to get more information on this program and see if the Town could participate.

7. Discuss/Approve/Reject Purchase two (2) new Marked Police Vehicles.

Chief Digirolamo reported that the town needs to purchase two new police vehicles. He explained that these vehicles would be replacement vehicles because one car has been wrecked and the other is no longer serviceable. He discussed the pricing and reported that for a fully equipped Ford Crown Victoria the cost per vehicle would be approximately \$32,000 - \$35,000 per vehicle. He explained that the cost includes fully police equipped vehicle with black/white color scheme with town markings, passenger cage, radio system, lights and sirens and would also include a fire suppression system which is recommended for the Crown Victoria. He also explained that the vehicles could be purchased without the Fire Suppression system but he did not recommend that.

Questions and discussion followed regarding the types of vehicles that are needed for the Superior Police Department, and the usage and maintenance of the police vehicles.

Councilmember Heglie made a motion to purchase 2 new police vehicles with Fire Suppression systems. Councilmember Cervantes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Discuss/Approve/Reject Authorization to create a second Sergeant Position

Chief Digirolamo explained the role of the second Sergeant Position and explained why the town needs to add this position. He explained that currently as chief he is handling both the administration and training and by adding a second Sergeant position this would allow for some of those duties to be split up and each position would be able to focus on those tasks in a more dedicated fashion. He also recommended that there be other positions created with the addition of this position and the resignation of other staff members to allow for more dedication to detective work, code enforcement and dispatching.

Questions and discussion followed regarding the budget of the police department, other staffing requirements and employment qualifications.

Councilmember Valenzuela made a motion to create a second Sergeant position. In addition to his motion Councilmember Valenzuela commended Chief Digirolamo for his professionalism. Councilmember Marquez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously,

9. Discuss/Approve/Reject Canvass the Votes of the Primary Election held on March 13, 2007 by Resolution #453

Mayor Hing reviewed the votes tallied and explained that there was no need for a general elections since each of the three candidates met the state election requirements. The three candidates are Councilmember Heglie, Councilmember Lopez and Ms. Soyla Peralta who will be seated at the first meeting in July.

Mayor Hing congratulated the candidates on behalf of himself and the Council.

Councilmember Valenzuela asked if it would be possible to allow Ms. Peralta to be seated in her council position earlier than July since there are many important decisions that need to be made prior to her being seated. Councilmember Valenzuela explained that he read a newspaper article where another Arizona city allowed one of their incoming councilmember's to take their position earlier since there was vacant seat on their council. Town Attorney Mr. Beers explained that filling the seat would be dependant on what the current town code says in regards to filling a vacant council seat.

Mayor Hing asked Ms. Aldrete to read the heading for the resolution. Councilmember Cervantes made a motion to accept the resolution. Councilmember Marquez seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

I. Council Comments

Councilmember Marquez

No comments

Councilmember Cervantes

No Comments

Councilmember Heglie

No Comments

Councilmember Valenzuela

No Comments

Mayor Hing

Encouraged everyone to have a safe and Happy Easter.

Councilmember Heglie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Cervantes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

J. Executive Session

K. In Public Session

L. Adjournment

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Superior held on the 5th Day of April 2007. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

/s/
Anna Marie
Aldrete _____
Anna Marie Aldrete
Interim
Deputy Town Clerk

These minutes have been transcribed and compiled by
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