

**TOWN OF SUPERIOR
MINUTES REGULAR MEETING**

**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SUPERIOR,
ARIZONA, AT THE SUPERIOR SENIOR CENTER LOCATED AT 360 W. MAIN
STREET ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2013 AT 7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ROLL CALL:

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

Vice Mayor Olga Lopez notified staff she would be arriving a little late-Arrived at 7:55 pm

TOWN STAFF PRESENT:

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|-------------------|-----------------|
| 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 |
| Town Staff | Nora Miramon |

VISITORS PRESENT:

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Sonnie Sansom | Bruce Armitage |
| Elijah & Marjorie Cardon | Alan Urban |
| Joy Eveland | Gary & Dixie Briegel |
| Hank & Tina Gutierrez | Melissa Rabago |
| Sandie Doyle | Nina Crowder |

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

INVOCATION:

Branch President – Elijah Cardon – Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: None

REPORTS:

Senior Center: Ms. Casillas unable to attend tonight's meeting, The Mayor wanted to know how their trip to Hayden went. Town Manager/Margaret Gaston stated that she had spoken to Ms. Casillas and everything went very well, all of at the seniors had a great time. They took 2 Vans and all of the seniors were very excited to go and they all had a great time.

Fire-Todd Pryor: Answered questions from board. Update on vehicle that is out of service. Said their request was forwarded to that departments Chief, waiting for response. Apache Junction is still backing the Town up with the calls. Todd was asked, by Councilmember Tameron what was wrong with the vehicle. Mr. Pryor said it possibly could be a simple head gasket. Was also asked how can you get a quote if you don't know what is wrong. Mayor stated that the Town has just hired a mechanic and we should have him look at it. No further questions for any of the departments and moved on to next item.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approve/Discuss/Reject: Minutes of Special Meeting of December 5, 2013
- B. Approve/Discuss/Reject: Minutes of Regular Meeting of December 5, 2013
Motion to approve the consent agenda made by Councilmember Besich-Lira, Second by Councilmember Aguilar, Motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Mayor Valenzuela, Councilmember Lira and the Town Manager met with Jesse Gutierrez, he is the Globe District Engineer for ADOT, and several members of the ADOT team to discuss the expansion of US Highway 60, a \$45 million dollar project, on December 6. At that meeting we were told there were some items that could be discussed like the color or type of street lights, the color of the medians, the sidewalks, that type of aesthetic features. Mayor Valenzuela, Councilmember Aguilar and Town Manager attended the ADOT Transportation Board Meeting in Globe on December 13. The Transportation Board was told 95% of the engineering design is set for the expansion project. The proposed design with the median and turn lanes are final, because it is a safety issue.
Councilmember Lira wanted to know what the time line for this project was. Mr. Gutierrez said possibly 18 months. He was asked by Councilmember Tameron what was the possibility that this project would be completed ahead of schedule like the project on Hwy 60 just west of Superior. Mr. Gutierrez said he didn't think that would happen since this project was going to deal with residents and businesses which will make this a little more difficult to work around.
Councilmember Estatico asked about a Pedestrian Crossing, reply by Mr. Gutierrez, none at this time but that is under discussion. Residents were allowed to ask questions of Mr. Gutierrez:
Mr. Cardon wanted to know if this project would include the road up to Globe. The plans to make a new route to Globe have been put on hold. There was too much opposition and if that was a consideration nothing would happen for another 15 to 25 years from now. After several minutes of discussion, Councilmember Alonzo wanted to know if this project would provide some jobs for our local residents. Mr. Gutierrez said yes that it is more cost effective to have some local people, and to have many of the workers already employed to find temporary housing instead of commuting from the city. Mr. Gutierrez is also looking for a home in Superior. He likes the Town of Superior and wants to be in a central location as District Engineer for our area.

- B. This public hearing was published in the Superior Sun for December 19, 2013. This is a public hearing to receive comments regarding future projects for the CDBG funding. Alan Urban, Community Development Coordinator CAAG, will be here to lead the discussion in possible projects. Attached is a copy of the public hearing notice that gives examples of possible project, and also attached is the FY 2013 Action Plan of priorities for possible projects. The Town is expected to receive approximately \$336,000 in FY2014 federal CDBG funds from the Arizona Department of Housing Regional Account (RA). The Town may also apply for \$300,000 in FY2014 CDBG funds from the State Special Projects (SSP) account. Projects that will benefit the public are always good projects that they want to help. Eliminate some slum areas if there are any in the community.

The board had questions as to where the money can be used like, WWTP other areas that need repairs. The discussion was opened to the public for their ideas since that is the purpose for this money. It is for the community and the needs of this community.

Hank Gutierrez stated that we should think of finishing the Magma Club, it still needs a lot of repairs. It is a asset to the community and a money maker. Councilmember Alonzo just wants to make sure whatever the project that we go all the way with it and finish it. It seems that there are a lot of unfinished projects and we need to get them done and when we start something lets finish it. The discussion on this subject went on for several minutes with lots of ideas and will be discussed in the next meeting.

WWTP, Paving of Stone Avenue, FEMA Fire Equipment, General Plan, that does not to be updated till 2019 but maybe we start with some details and we will be that much ahead of the game when the time comes. Public Safety, maybe we could use some of that to bring our Police Department up to standards or at least start getting it where it should be. Abatement fund for WWTP & Small Business development. Pam Rabago commented where are we with other funding? It seems we do not know where the money went to, what was the money used for? Ms. Gaston stated that some money went to sanitation which was used for the Lift Station, Housing and those reports can be requested from CAAG. Sonnie Sansom recommended that all of the Town offices should be moved to the Roosevelt School (Town Hall). There are so many open unused rooms and we could be saving money. There is room for the Police Department, Library, and Senior Thrift Store etc. There will be another Public Hearing in January and we will notify the public. Councilmember Alonzo recommends we all share status of projects.

- C. Discussion/ Appointment: The Town of Superior's Planning and Zoning Commissioners has three Commission positions open. Karen Afdahl, Judah Nelson and Pamela Dalton-Rabago. The following people have submitted letters or applications requesting to be considered and appointed as a P & Z Commissioner: Bruce Armitage, Hank Gutierrez, Curtis Williams, Sherry Figdore, Kim Orgin, Karen Afdahl, Judith Nelson, Pam Dalton-Rabago, and Sandra Irwin-Doyle. The Commissioners requesting to be re-appointed are Karen Afdahl, Judah Nelson, and Pamela Dalton-Rabago. At this time Councilmember Tameron requested that the board go into Executive Session he had some questions for the attorney. None of the candidates can be mentioned or discussed while in executive session. Also to discuss item E. in Executive Session.

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Motion to move into Executive Session made by Councilmember Tameron for legal advice only, Second by Councilmember Aguilar for no longer than 30 minutes, Mayor called for a hand vote. Councilmember Alonzo, Councilmember Estatico, Councilmember Tameron, Mayor Valenzuela all were yes votes, Vice Mayor Lopez and Councilmember Besich-Lira voted no, not to go into Executive Session. 4 yes votes/ 2 no votes, Vice Mayor Lopez, Councilmember Lira motion carries. Council Moved into Executive Session with the Town Attorney and Town Manager.

Mayor called for a motion to come back to regular session, Motion by Councilmember Aguilar, Second by Vice Mayor Lopez, motion carries.

Mayor stated, we are here to discuss item C, the appointment of three Planning & Zoning Commissioners. Each motion has to be for one individual and one at a time. Councilmember Aguilar made a motion to appoint Bruce Armitage for a 3 year term, second by Councilmember Besich-Lira, motion carries. Councilmember Tameron made a motion to appoint Ms. Sandra Irwin-Doyle for a 3 year term as Commissioner, second by Councilmember Aguilar. Mayor called for a hand vote, 3 yes votes and 3 no votes, Mayor broke the tie vote with a yes vote. Motion passed 4 yes and 3 no. Motion by Councilmember Tameron to appoint Ms. Sherry Figdore for a 2 year term, second by Councilmember Besich-Lira, Motion passes 5-1 vote. Mayor thanked every one that applied and looks forward to working with them on the board. Ms. Gaston will give you all of the information about the next meeting and also there is some paperwork that needs to be filled out. So please go to Town Hall and see Ms. Gaston. Councilmember Lira comment; She just wanted to thank all those from the Planning and Zoning Commission that were not re-appointed she knows they have put in a lot of hours and hard work. Thank You Ms. Rabago, I know you worked tirelessly and appreciate all that you did. Mayor thanked all who applied and hopes that next time there are open seats available on the Planning and Zoning Board we will have the same turn out.

- D. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Superior Chamber of Commerce Fees Already Paid Or Future Fees for Building and Park Rentals for Events. Ms Gaston: Fees for the renting of Town facilities has been a topic of conversation at the last few Council meetings and it is on the agenda again. This is a really hard issue for the non-profit organizations and the Town of Superior. Pat Walker, who presented a budget to the Town Council also made recommendations to the Council of things to be accomplished in the 2013-2014 Fiscal Year. The recommendations were to adopt the same Tax Levy in order to receive the same amount of property tax, to raise the sales tax to 4% from 2%; have a sales tax audit performed, which is currently underway, and lastly, to raise the fees the Town of Superior charges for the renting of all town facilities. From what she read, Pat Walker felt the Town was losing money on the renting of all Town facilities. The deposits for any group, club, organization or private individual are all the same, Rental fees are different for a non-profit group versus a for profit group. The \$100 deposit probably does not cover the overtime wages for the two Public Works people that had to go clean the building thoroughly and dump trash and get ready for the second group. The Magma Club in February 2013 the electricity ran \$543.47, and for water was \$109.68, just an example. She attached APS bills and the water bills so the Council could look at those and decide the best way to proceed with the fees for the renting of facilities. Ms. Gaston also attached the letter from the Chamber requesting a refund of the fees paid for events in 2014, and also for waiving all fees for 2014 Chamber. The Town has waived the business license fee or permit as long as the vendor has paid the event fee to the Chamber, and also a the Chamber has agreed to

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make sure all vendors at any event has an Arizona Department of Revenue tax ID number and collects sales tax for all items that are sold. We should work together, but it is also true, these events should not cost the Town money. In working together we should support each other.

Manager recommendation is that the fees stay the same. That we stay with the same fee schedule we have right now, we don't refund any fees and the Council look at the fees for the coming 2014-2015 fiscal year in the new budget. If we reduce fees or eliminate fees for the non-profit organizations the fees for anyone else will have to go up to cover the difference. After communicating with Sue Anderson regarding the request for a refund, she explained the situation and what her Recommendation was going to be to the Council, Mrs. Anderson was fine about that and that she really didn't want refund but her point was that everyone should be treated equally. Mayor stated that they should leave it at the discretion of the manager and leave the fees in place. Councilmember Tameron would like put this in a form of a motion to leave it to the discretion of the Town Manager. Motion by Councilmember Tameron , Second by Vice Mayor Lopez, motion carries.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Sonnie Sansom- One word "weeds"

Hank Gutierrez- he's good, just put on there just in case.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS:

Councilmember Besich-Lira: Just wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Also the Optimist Club is hosting the New Year's Dance at Los Hermanos, "Breaking Point" will be providing the music.

Councilmember Aguilar: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all are safe.

Councilmember Alonzo: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, just want to thank all of those that came out and helped we had a lot of roll offs. The Town provided 3 workers instead of 2 and two backhoes instead of one. Clean up was a great success, we cleaned up a lot of streets. He hopes the next one will be as successful.

Councilmember Estatico- Thank everyone that helped out on cleanup, it was a great success. He also wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Councilmember Tameron- Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, be safe.

Vice Mayor Lopez- Also just wants to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. Enjoy your time with your family.

Mayor- A article that was put in the Superior Sun was done in bad taste. He has no problem with people have different views than him, however I believe there is a time and a place to make a political view points known. The picture that was selected for the article regarding the clean up was in very poor taste and shameless, lack of respect for myself and for the people that voted him in. If at any time anyone wished to address me about anything he always available and will sit and talk with anyone. He wished

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everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Also wanted to remind the Council about CDBG money.

Town Manager- Town of Superior was notified this week that we have been awarded a grant from ADOT for regulatory signs. The grant total is \$51,164.83 which was applied for in 2011 by Jed Lant and Melanie Oliver. Town Manager and Anthony Huerta have a meeting set up for January to find out exactly what is expected and what Superior has to do.

Al Holler is continuing to work on the sales tax audits. This is time consuming work but he has just recently completed an audit. For this first audit \$7,260.00 is owed to the Town of Superior, and he is close to finishing up three more around the same amount, but this is just the beginning of over 100 businesses in town.

Chief McNeill started to work for Superior the day after he was appointed Interim Chief. He is very proactive in setting up the Police Department, and getting things under control and organized. Chief McNeill is addressing safety issues for our officers, and will have our vehicles checked. She feels he is really honest and hard worker. She is confident with his work doing a good job.

Christmas decorations, half the decorations didn't light up. PW supervisor Anthony Huerta worked with APS and all but one work now, for the first time in 10 years we have all decoration working on Main Street. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mayor-One more note is that the Town did hire a part time mechanic. This needed to be done because the vehicles have been neglected. His name is Manuel Ramirez and he will be at the next meeting and he will be introduced to the Council and to the public, he does have experience. At this time the Mayor gave time for Councilmember Besich-Lira to address any issues she wanted to address. Councilmember Besich-Lira addressed the Mayor, shameless is a rather harsh word especially when we all have thing in our own personnal behavior that might be just as shameless. Ms. Lira went on to defend herself, saying she does not have the power to make decisions as to what pictures go into the paper. Yes she wrote the story but she was not at the event because she was preparing for Miracle on Main Street Event. She felt his attack on her was out of line. She stated that the Mayor and herself had met with each other and she agreed to try to work with him and trust him, she has been trying to do that, so this does not help that situation at all. So you are quite wrong when you are making accusations that this was all my fault.

Councilmember Estatico- Mayor if I offended you I publicly apologize to you that was not my intent whatsoever. We were all just having a little fun. We were all tired and we happened to pickup that signage and decided to take a picture. In no way was I trying to make a point at all. So I do apologize if that is how you took it.

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SCHEDULING OF CURRENT EVENTS

January 2, 2013 Council meeting for that date was cancelled
January 16, 2014 regular Council meeting on schedule

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor called for a motion to adjourn meeting, Motion to adjourn meeting made by Councilmember Tameron, second by Councilmember Aguilar, motion carries meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm

/S/ Mayor Jayme Valenzuela
Mayor Jayme Valenzuela

Attest:

/S/ Margaret Gaston
Town Manager/Margaret Gaston

