

MINUTES

TOWN OF MIAMI

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MONDAY, DECEMBER 08, 2014 AT 6:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Dalley calls the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION:

Mayor Dalley led the pledge of allegiance, followed by Vice Mayor Reiman leading the invocation.

3. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

PRESENT: Mayor Dalley, Vice Mayor Reiman, Councilmember Black, Councilmember Castaneda, Councilmember Gonzales (arriving at 8:55 p.m.), Councilmember Hanson and Councilmember Medina.

STAFF PRESENT: Town Manager Heatherly, Town Attorney Smiley, Town Clerk Norris, Librarian Delvan Hayward, Engineering Department Paul Curzon, Senior Center Director Rashele Highbaugh and Police Chief Gillen.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Consideration and possible action to approve Minutes of the November 24, 2014 Special Council Meeting.
- B. Consideration and possible action to approve the Town Payroll for November 10, 2014 to November 23, 2014.

Councilmember Castaneda motioned to approve the consent agenda. Motion seconded by Councilmember Hanson. Mayor Dalley calls for the vote. Vote – 6 in favor and 1 member absent (Councilmember Gonzales). MOTION PASSED.

5. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS AND PRESENTATION OF BUDGET REPORTS:

- A. Consideration and possible action to approve the General Demands for November 19, 2014 to December 3, 2014.

Brief questions and answers regarding various demands. Councilmember Hanson motioned to approve the general demands for November 19, 2014 to December 3, 2014. Motion seconded by Councilmember Medina. Mayor Dalley calls for the vote. Vote – 6 in favor and 1 member absent (Councilmember Gonzales). MOTION PASSED.

6. REPORTS / RECOGNITIONS:

A. Department Reports.

Senior Center, Rashele Highbaugh reports on statistics and activities. Reports they had a great turn out for the Thanksgiving luncheon; they are collecting coats and blankets and they had to have the hot water heater replaced. Rashele reports that this Friday she will be at the Globe Senior Center to receive a donation check from Capstone.

Engineering Department, Paul Curzon reports that the Town will be starting a lock and key evaluation of all the Town facilities; possibly in January. Gives a brief update on the ADOT Sign project and mapping identification and organization project.

Police Department, Police Chief Gillen reports on statistics and activities.

Library, Delvan Hayward reports on library statistics and activities. Gives a brief report on donations to the library. Reports that the coolers have been winterized and have received a check from Gila County for the library budget. Gives a brief update on the Friends of the Library book sale and Open House. Announces that the library is having a fine amnesty; patrons can bring in a can of food which will equal one dollar towards fines. Comments regarding the video fireplaces in the library.

Town Manager Heatherly gives the Public Works report. Reports that the Public Works Department has finished up repair work on various roads in town. Reports on the power failure at the lift station and completion of two building inspections. Reports lift station number 3 pump rebuild is complete and will be delivered this week.

B. Town Manager Report.

Town Manager Heatherly reports that the audits are progressing but has slowed down because they are looking for some files from when the Town converted to the Caselle program. Will be checking with the Town auditors to see if they have any of the needed records. Reports on a meeting sponsored by USDA; in which they acted as arbitrators between the Town of Miami and the Tri City Regional Sanitary District. Reports he will be meeting with WIFA on Monday regarding project status and controls. Reports that he is continuing to work on the financial reporting issues. Reports that bill payments are going smoother and we are getting people caught up. Cash and monthly operating revenue issues update.

C. Mayor/Council Reports.

Councilmember Medina comments that he brings cupcakes to the Council meetings and invites the public to take one. Announces that on the Sunday before Christmas the Royal Order of Moose in Claypool will be having a Christmas party; there will be flyers and a posting in the newspaper.

Councilmember Hanson announces that Miami Genesis will be judging the home and business Christmas lights on December 19th; applications are in the lobby at Townhall.

Mayor Dalley reports that last week there was a first ever meeting to draft a drilling ordinance for the Town of Miami; the group will be meeting on Thursdays. Reports that Thursday he went to AMEC

and they briefed him on the project and where the Town stands on that; he now has a better understanding of the project.

7. CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Mr. Chis Jones with the University of Arizona, Gila County Cooperative Extension, asks the Council for support in encouraging the citizens of Miami and neighbors in the Bullion Plaza Landscape Restoration Project. They will be offering a Master Gardeners Course at Bullion Plaza. Through this effort they have project funding through the Arizona State Forestry Division, Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Grant to do the landscape restoration at Bullion Plaza, based on historic photos and installation of rainwater harvesting tanks for the restoration. Mr. Jones explains that it is an \$18,000.00 matching grant, so they have \$9,000.00 for the materials. They are counting on people participating in the class and project to create that match.

Mr. Tom Foster of the Bullion Plaza Museum comments that Mr. Jones has pretty much covered it all. It is a really exciting opportunity to partner with the other agencies and move forward with this project. It will improve the overall landscape and appearance of Bullion Plaza.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Information and discussion only: Update regarding the Town of Miami Citizens on Patrol Program.

Police Chief Gillen presents this item to Council. Chief Gillen gives a brief history of how the Citizens on Patrol Program got started and what they do. Chief Gillen states that he has a lot of information that he will be presenting Council with and he is developing a policy and procedures manual for Councils review in the near future. Chief Gillen comments on some of the advantages and disadvantages of the program that he has seen and experienced. Chief Gillen explains some of the duties that citizens may perform as a volunteer in the program. Chief Gillen reviews the eligibility requirements. Chief Gillen comments that one of the biggest hurdles that he sees will be the resources needed and support and training. Chief Gillen also comments regarding the need to obtain a 501 C3 status. Chief Gillen reviews some of the information that will be in the proposed policy. Chief Gillen states that he will be presenting this as a Citizens on Patrol Auxiliary; explaining that the auxiliary will consist of a little bit more trained individuals. Councilmember Castaneda questions the 501 C3 status. Open discussion and comments regarding obtaining a 501 C3 and would we necessarily need one for this program. Open discussion and comments regarding Neighborhood Watch Programs. Councilmember Hanson comments regarding the COP reference material, she previously presented, which was from Wickenburg.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Information, discussion and possible action: To approve Special Event Liquor License application from Miami Genesis for the New Year's Eve Dance on Wednesday, December 31, 2014; 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.; located at 150 N. Plaza Circle., Miami, AZ.

Susan Hanson of Miami Genesis presents this item to Council. Ms. Hanson states that the proceeds from this event will go to the Town of Miami Volunteer Fire Department. Councilmember Medina motioned to approve Special Event Liquor License application from Miami Genesis for the New

Year's Eve Dance on Wednesday, December 31, 2014; 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.; located at 150 N. Plaza Circle., Miami, AZ. Motion seconded by Councilmember Hanson. Mayor Dalley calls for the vote. Vote – 6 in favor and 1 member absent (Councilmember Gonzales). MOTION PASSED.

B. Information, discussion and possible action: To select a specific improvement project to proceed with CDBG Grant 133-14:

- a) Merrit Ramp
- b) Depot Hill Road
- c) Other - Phase 5 Sewer Project replacement and road disturbance.

Town Manager Heatherly presents this item to Council. Town Manager Heatherly explains that Council will need to make a decision on which proposed CDBG project to spend the funds on. Town Manager Heatherly comments on the three proposed projects. Pictures of each project area are shown so that Council has an idea of the needs for each project. Mr. Paul Curzon reviews the Merrit Ramp proposed project. Mr. Curzon explains that ramp is frequently used by children and adults as a thoroughfare down the hill to local businesses. The area is very poorly lit and is very hazardous. Open discussion and comments regarding the lighting issues of Merrit Ramp. Mr. Curzon reviews the Depot Hill Road proposed project. Discussion regarding the fact that there is a sewer line that on the left of that road. Open discussion and comments regarding the traffic flow on that road. Mr. Alan Urban of CAG is present and comments regarding a question of installation of handrails on Merrit Ramp. Brief discussion regarding installing handrails on Merrit Ramp; would they fall into the perimeter of the funding of this project. Discussion regarding costs and what would be advantageous for the Town. Mr. Curzon reviews the Fredrick Road proposed project. Brief discussion regarding a lateral sewer line that crosses that road; there is one, but it is way up. Mayor Dalley and Councilmember Black both comment regarding Fredrick Road being in good shape and don't feel it would be a great benefit to the citizens if that project was chosen. Open discussion and comments regarding the proposed projects. Discussion regarding proposing several projects for consideration so it can be parsed out as money allows. Town Manager Heatherly states that he would make the recommendation to Council to pursue the Merrit Ramp Project. Brief discussion regarding if Merrit ramp would be handicapped accessible. Councilmember Black motioned to consider Merrit Ramp as the primary project for the CDBG funding and Depot Hill as the secondary project if there is left over funding. Motion seconded by Councilmember Medina. Mayor Dalley calls for the vote. Vote – 6 in favor and 1 member absent (Councilmember Gonzales). MOTION PASSED.

C. Information, discussion and possible action: To review and accept the Utility Rate Study prepared by Economists.com to support proposed increased wastewater rates; and to approve a "Notice of Intent" to increase wastewater rates pursuant to A.R.S. §9-511.01 and set a public hearing on the proposed increase.

Town Manager Heatherly presents this item to Council. Town Manager Heatherly comments that the Town has done its best to keep the increases to a minimum over the years. Town Manager Heatherly comments briefly regarding the current rates and that the Town has some of the lowest rates anywhere. This increase is due to the proposed sewer project; the lines have deteriorated significantly and need to be replaced. The proposed rates were presented and have been reviewed by Council at Thursday's work session. Town Manager Heatherly briefly reviews the proposed rate increases. Explanation of the procedure that the Town will follow in order for this rate increase to take place. Brief discussion regarding the consequences if the Town does not follow through with rate increase. Councilmember Black comments regarding some of residential rates being higher than

the commercial rates. Brief discussion regarding the possibility of adjusting the rates at a later date. Town Attorney Smiley explains that in order to adjust the rates the Town would have to have another rate study; basically go through the whole process again. The rate increases are based on the Town's current structure. Brief discussion and comments regarding adjusting the rates. Councilmember Hanson motioned to go forward with this and accept the utility rate study prepared by Economists.com and approve "Notice of Intent" and set a date of January 12, 2015 for the Public Hearing. Motion seconded by Councilmember Medina. Regarding commercial rates, Town Manager Heatherly suggests putting the rate structure in place as it is and after the first year make the adjustment. Discussion and comments regarding the commercial rates. Councilmember Black states that when businesses are paying lower rates than residential users, there is something wrong. Explanation and discussion regarding the categories for rate charges. Brief discussion regarding the Town addressing the issues of collections of accounts that are past due. Discussion regarding the restaurant classifications. Discussion regarding the various commercial classifications. Councilmember Black asks that if Council approves this tonight, at any time between now and a year from now, can the Town review this, go over it, set the new rates and ordinances to our books so that when it comes time to do this again it will be in place, where residents aren't picking up the majority of the cost of this, as far as base rates and things like that? Mayor Dalley calls for the vote. Vote – 6 in favor and 1 member absent (Councilmember Gonzales). MOTION PASSED.

- D. Information, discussion and possible action:** To recess the regular meeting and hold an executive session pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A) (1) for discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, discipline or resignation of Town Manager Joseph Heatherly.

Councilmember Castaneda motioned to recess into executive session pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A) (1) for discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, discipline or resignation of Town Manager Joseph Heatherly. Motion seconded by Councilmember Hanson. Mayor Dalley calls for the vote. Vote – 6 in favor and 1 member absent (Councilmember Gonzales). MOTION PASSED. ~8:10 p.m.

Councilmember Gonzales arrives at 8:55 p.m.

Council returns to session at 9:30 p.m. All Councilmembers present. Town Manager Heatherly, Town Attorney Smiley and Town Clerk Norris are also present.

10. CALL TO THE COUNCIL: No response.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Black motioned to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilmember Castaneda. Mayor Dalley calls for the vote. Vote - 7 in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

CERTIFICATION:

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 Miami, AZ held on the 8th day of December 2014.

I further certify that the meeting was duly called and that a quorum was present.

DATED this 22nd day of December 2014.



Karen Norris, Town Clerk

APPROVED:



Mayor