

MINUTES

TOWN OF MIAMI

PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2015 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 Councilmember Medina leading the invocation.

3. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

PRESENT: Mayor Dalley, Vice Mayor Reiman, Councilmember Black, Councilmember Castaneda, Councilmember Hanson and Councilmember Medina.

ABSENT: Councilmember Gonzales.

STAFF PRESENT: Town Attorney Goodwin, Town Clerk Norris, Finance Director Rachelle Sanchez, Librarian Delvan Hayward, Engineering Department Paul Curzon and Police Chief Gillen.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Consideration and possible action to approve Minutes of the December 22, 2014 Special Council Meeting.
- B. Consideration and possible action to approve the Town Payroll for December 08, 2014 to December 21, 2014.

Councilmember Castaneda motioned to approve the consent agenda. Motion seconded by Vice Mayor Reiman. 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 December 18, 2014 to January 7, 2015.

Councilmember Black questions a charge on the Attorney bill regarding a 1.5 hour meeting with Jerry Barnes referring to lobbyist issues. Town Attorney Goodwin explain that was for the process of transferring the lobbyist designation from previous Town Manager Jerry Barnes to the current Town Manager Joseph Heatherly. Brief questions and answers regarding various demands. Councilmember Hanson motioned to approve the general demands for December 18, 2014 to

January 7, 2015. 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.

Library, Delvan Hayward reports on library statistics and activities. Reports on the Friends of the Library Open House and Book Sale. Gives a brief report on donations to the library.

Engineering Department, Paul Curzon reports that he is still exploring various renewable energy programs. Gives a brief update on the ADOT Sign project. Mr. Curzon shows a brief slide show of before and after pictures of blight areas that have been cleaned up. Two areas on Franz Ave. and one on Keegan Street.

Police Department, Police Chief Gillen reports on statistics and activities. Chief Gillen reports briefly on a joint effort with Gila County and Globe Police Department on several recent thefts and burglaries. Reports briefly regarding the Police Department assisting over 60 Miami families with Christmas. Chief Gillen reports that he attended a hearing regarding the pool incident and will give a full update to the Town Manager.

B. Town Manager Report.

C. Mayor/Council Reports.

Mayor Dalley reports that he had a meeting with the Mayor of the City of Tempe regarding issues of graffiti. The City of Tempe is going to be donating paint and equipment to the Town of Miami to assist with our efforts in cleaning up the graffiti around town.

7. CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Mr. Jon Cornell, member of the Wayfinding Committee, informs Council that they have placed Geo Caches, 10 within the Town of Miami. He will inform the Town Manager of the coordinates so the Town will know where each of them are located. Mr. Cornell also reports Mr. Taylor's memorial will be held Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at Bullion Plaza.

Mr. Richard Canizales, Miami resident, states that some time ago he had donated some paint to the Town to use for graffiti removal. He has checked with Wes Sukosky and the Town still has the paint and can use that to assist with graffiti removal also.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. PUBLIC HEARING, DISCUSSION AND ACTION:** To hold a public hearing and adopt Ordinance No. 343, amending the Miami Town Code, Title 13 Public Services, chapter 13.04 Sewer System Use Regulations, Section 13.04.124 Rates

for Sewage Collection within the Town Limits increasing rates and charges for wastewater services:

- 1) Open Public Hearing ~ Mayor Dalley.

Mayor Dalley opened the public hearing at 6:57 p.m.

- 2) Open Discussion and Public Comments regarding the adoption of Ordinance No. 343; to increase rates and charges for wastewater services.

Mr. Dan Jackson, Managing Director with Economists.com makes presentation to Council. Mr. Jackson explains that it is their job to assist the Town to achieve the terms of the Wastewater Project. Mr. Jackson gives a presentation of the proposed wastewater rates and financial plan. Mr. Jackson discusses water and wastewater rates around the country; comments that rates are increasing everywhere. Mr. Jackson explains and reviews why the Town needs a wastewater rate adjustment. It is explained that if the Town does not increase the rates it will fail to meet the current debt coverage and loan requirements and fail to qualify for and fund the \$3,953,000 in debt for the wastewater project. Mr. Jackson discusses issues regarding non-paying accounts. Review of the 5 year forecast for costs of services. Discusses revenues vs. costs of services without implementing the rate adjustment. Discussion regarding the addition of new customers and what happens if the Town does not get the 80 new customers as predicted. Brief discussion regarding residential wastewater rates vs. commercial wastewater rates.

Mr. Jon Cornell questions raising the rates to pay back the loan; is there going to be a direct pipeline of the monies to USDA for repayment, or will the money go into the General Fund and be used for something other than repayment of the loan. Brief discussion of the Enterprise Fund; it is strictly for the operation and maintenance of the system. It is stated that this fund will not be used for any other purpose.

Miami resident – unknown – comments regarding the delinquent accounts and accounts that are not being paid. Comments that it is not fair to those residents who are paying their wastewater bills. The rates are going up and is a hardship to those who are paying but does not affect those who are not. Brief discussion regarding the Town setting internal controls and a strict collection policy to remedy this issue.

Mr. Chuy Canizales, Miami resident – comments regarding Mr. Jacksons presentation. Mr. Canizales comments that the Enterprise Fund is nothing new; the Town needs to ensure that the monies go into the Enterprise Fund. Mr. Canizales also comments regarding the need to enforce payment of the accounts that are delinquent.

Brief discussion regarding the rate structure for the costs of services. It is explained that the rate plan is based on the rate plan that the Town currently has in place. The Town does not have a lot of data that they could draw from to restructure it. Brief discussion again regarding businesses paying the same rates as residential users. It is discussed that people pay according to volume and to strength of what is going into the system.

Mr. Richard Canizales, Miami resident - comments regarding the delinquent accounts. Mr. Canizales discusses the Casselle Program for the wastewater billing; what is designed to do and should be used to its potential. Mr. Canizales questions Mr. Jackson about being here in 2010 and the "cushion" account and the fact that it was never implemented. Mr. Canizales asks if the public is going to be seeing reports of where the money is and how it is being spent; also will it show money building up in the "cushion" account? Mr. Canizales states that he realizes that the rate increase has to happen but Council needs to make the difference by making it accountable.

Mr. Chuy Canizales comments regarding a lease agreement with the mine in regards to the wastewater treatment plant and water; it could be challenged and become an opportunity for revenue for the Town of Miami.

3) Close Public Hearing ~ Mayor Dalley.

Mayor Dalley closes the public hearing at 7:49 p.m.

4) Council Discussion, Motion and Action.

Councilmember Hanson comments briefly regarding where the Town is now, it has been held together and Council is taking action and trying hard to improve issues such as this. It is happening a little bit at a time. Councilmember Medina motioned to adopt Ordinance No. 343, amending the Miami Town Code, Title 13 Public Services, chapter 13.04 Sewer System Use Regulations, Section 13.04.124 Rates for Sewage Collection within the Town Limits increasing rates and charges for wastewater services. Motion seconded by Councilmember Castaneda. Mayor Dalley calls for the vote. Vote – 5 in favor, 1 member opposed (Councilmember Black) and 1 member absent (Councilmember Gonzales). MOTION PASSED.

10. CALL TO THE COUNCIL:

Councilmember Hanson reports on the New Year's Eve dance put on by Miami Genesis to benefit the Miami Volunteer Fire Department.

Mayor Dalley thanks all the entities that helped out on New Year's Eve when a power line came down in a residential area.

Councilmember Medina reports on the Christmas party that was put on by the Royal Order of the Moose; it was a great success and thanks everyone for their support of this event.

Councilmember Castaneda reports that it was her house on Fredrick Avenue where the power lines came down, APS is now moving and fixing the poles in that area.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Black motioned to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilmember Medina. Mayor Dalley calls for the vote. Vote - 6 in favor and 1 member absent (Councilmember Gonzales). MOTION PASSED.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Public Hearing and Regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Miami, AZ held on the 12th day of January, 2015.

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

DATED this 26th day of January 2015.



Karen Norris, Town Clerk

APPROVED:



Darryl Dalley, Mayor

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