

MINUTES OF THE FLORENCE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 18, 2015, AT 6:00 PM, IN THE CHAMBERS OF TOWN HALL, LOCATED AT 775 NORTH MAIN STREET, FLORENCE, ARIZONA.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rankin called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

ROLL CALL

Present: Rankin, Walter, Woolridge, Hawkins, Guilin, Anderson

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Rankin called for a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Rankin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Call to the Public for public comment on issues within the jurisdiction of the Town Council. Council rules limit public comment to three minutes. Individual Councilmembers may respond to criticism made by those commenting, may ask staff to review a matter raised or may ask that a matter be put on a future agenda. However, members of the Council shall not discuss or take action on any matter during an open call to the public unless the matters are properly noticed for discussion and legal action.

Ms. Ruth Harrison, Florence resident, read portions of the Arbor Day Proclamation that was read at the Arbor Day event.

PRESENTATIONS

Presentation by the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce recognizing Hospice of the Valley as the Business of the Month.

Mr. Jim Gilloon, Office Manager, Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce, recognized Hospice of the Valley as the Business of the Month. He stated that the Hospice of the Valley is one of the topnotch, non-profit, organizations serving Maricopa and northern Pinal Counties. He stated that Hospice of the Valley supports the needs of veterans and offers services to the Hispanic community with over 20 grief support groups valley wide. He stated that the mission statement for Hospice of the Valley is comfort and dignity as life nears its end.

Ms. Carolyn Richel, Representative with Hospice of the Valley, accepted the award on behalf of its members and patients.

Presentation of the 2015 Arizona Governor's Heritage Preservation Honor Award, on behalf of the State Historic Preservation Office, to the Mayor and Council of the Town of Florence, on behalf of the Florence Historic District residents and Home Tour volunteers.

Ms. Bonnie Bariola, Florence Preservation Foundation, stated that 475 attendees participated in the 2015 Arizona Heritage Preservation Conference held in Flagstaff, Arizona. She stated that the Town of Florence and one other municipality set up tables at the event. The Town's table included pictures of the various historical buildings throughout Town along with brochures promoting the Town.

Ms. Bariola stated that the Arizona preservation Foundation and the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office partner each year to present the Governor's Heritage Preservation Honor Awards recognizing people, organization and projects that represent outstanding achievements in preserving Arizona's prehistoric and historic resources.

Ms. Barriola stated that the 2015 Home Tour marked the 30th annual celebration and was the first of its kind to be submitted for an award. The submittal application explained that the annual tour opens homes and businesses to the public which would normally not be available. The tour operates with the assistance of 150 residential volunteers who assist to promote historic preservation in the Town of Florence.

Ms. Bariola presented the award to the Town Council and Mayor Rankin accepted on behalf of the Town.

CONSENT: All items on the consent agenda will be handled by a single vote as part of the consent agenda, unless a Councilmember or a member of the public objects at the time the agenda item is called.

- a. **Approval of Change Order No. 3 with Apache Underground and Excavation, for the Bailey Street waterline, for \$37,376, with a total project cost not to exceed \$648,691.20.**
- b. **Approval of Change Order No. 1 with Coolidge Engine & Pump, LLC, for emergency repair of Well #1, for \$8,118.14, with a total project cost not to exceed \$62,618.73.**
- c. **Approval of Change Order No. 1 with Ripple Industries, for additional troubleshooting and start-up services with regards to installation of the supervisory control of Town wells and reservoir sites for \$10,375, with a total project cost not to exceed \$80,375.**

- d. **Approval of the resignation of Chairman Tom Celaya from the Arts and Culture Commission.**
- e. **Adoption of Resolution No. 1520–15:**

Ms. Lisa Garcia, Deputy Town Manager/Town Clerk, read Resolution No. 1520-15 by title only.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN TO ENTER INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE ARIZONA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

- f. **Approval of the April 6, and April 20, 2015 Town Council minutes.**
- g. **Receive and file the following board and commission minutes:**
 - i. **April 1, 2015 Arts and Culture Commission minutes.**
 - ii. **September 18, 2014, October 16, 2014, and April 2, 2015 Planning and Zoning Commission minutes.**

On motion of Vice-Mayor Walter, seconded by Councilmember Hawkins, and carried to approve the Consent Agenda, as written, with the exception of item 7f and 7g.

- g. **Approval of the April 6, and April 20, 2015 Town Council minutes.**
- h. **Receive and file the following board and commission minutes:**
 - i. **April 1, 2015 Arts and Culture Commission minutes.**
 - ii. **September 18, 2014, October 16, 2014, and April 2, 2015 Planning and Zoning Commission minutes.**

Councilmember Anderson stated that there was an error in the year noted in the footer of the April 6, 2015 minutes. He stated that he also believes Ms. Adams' name is Cathy not Tracy.

Councilmember Anderson stated that he is concerned that the minutes are late in being submitted to Council and would like to see the minutes prior to making decisions on their behalf. He stated that he was also concerned with the parking space count that was approved for the Mosaic Church as it seems to be too low for the volume of usage of the facility.

Ms. Lisa Garcia, Deputy Town Manager/Town Clerk, stated that the Clerk's office will contact all department heads and assist with any board and commission minutes that may be behind and ensure minutes are brought to Council in a timely fashion. She stated that the Clerk's office would need to seek legal counsel regarding a previously

approved item by the Planning and Zoning Commission and what the correct protocol would be if a member of Council has a concern with the decision.

On motion of Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Vice-Mayor Walter, and carried to approve items 7f. and 7g. with corrections made to the April 6, 2015 meeting minutes footer and Ms. Adams' name.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ms. Lisa Garcia, Deputy Town Manager/Town Clerk read Ordinance No. 629-15 by title only.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, APPROVING A ZONE CHANGE ON .55 ACRES, FROM NEIGHBORHOOD MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICT TO HIGHWAY BUSINESS COMMERCIAL ZONING DISTRICT (APN 200-47-0250). (First reading May 4, 2015)

Mr. Mark Eckhoff, Community Development Director, stated one letter was added to this submittal which was received regarding the home that previously housed the Happy Adobe. He stated that the property owner does not want to preserve the home nor have it added to the historical registry. The home in question is not actually on the lot that the requested zone change is for. He stated there is no mechanism in place that would change the desires of the lot which previously housed the Happy Adobe.

On motion of Councilmember Hawkins, seconded by Vice-Mayor Walter, and carried to adopt Ordinance No. 629-15.

NEW BUSINESS

Interviews for vacant Council Seat: Interviews are being conducted in the order of applicant submittal. Candidates will be asked to wait in the lobby until they are called to interview. Once their interview is complete, applicants may remain in the Council Chambers for the remainder of the meeting.

Mayor Rankin read a statement for the candidates regarding conflict of interest and how to obtain legal counsel, if appointed. He explained that the candidates would be asked six questions. After answering the questions, members of Council may additionally ask questions of each candidate.

Mayor Rankin introduced Mr. Jeffrey D. Wooley.

Mayor Rankin inquired what Mr. Wooley's motivation and reasons were for seeking the appointment.

Mr. Wooley stated that he recently completed 14 years of participation on the Planning and Zoning Commission. He stated that he left the Commission in preparation of

moving on to the Town Council. He stated that he has lived in the Town for 17 years and has a great passion for the Town and its heritage.

Mayor Rankin inquired as to what Mr. Wooley would bring to Council, if appointed, to better the Council during his tenure.

Mr. Wooley stated that he has 14 plus years of experience as a volunteer on the Planning and Zoning Committee and is a 2013 graduate of Project Central, which is a rural area leadership academy.

Mayor Rankin inquired if there were one or two things Mr. Wooley thought the Florence government was doing well.

Mr. Wooley stated that he believes the Town is heading in the right direction and that Council and staff work together to make the correct decisions for the Town.

Mayor Rankin inquired if there was one specific thing Mr. Wooley would hope to accomplish, if he were appointed.

Mr. Wooley stated that he hopes that Florence would keep moving forward, remembering that the Town is small and not to lose sight of its history.

Mayor Rankin inquired if Mr. Wooley would seek election to Council, if appointed, to fill this vacancy.

Mr. Wooley stated that he would be running for election once the appointment was complete.

Mayor Rankin inquired what Mr. Wooley thought were the three greatest challenges facing the community today and if he had any suggestion to resolve those challenges.

Mr. Wooley stated that the first challenge is Home Rule and though staff has done everything they can to educate member of Town, continued education on this topic needs to occur to continue the educational process well after the special election.

Councilmember Woolridge inquired if Mr. Wooley would be running for Council if not appointed.

Mr. Wooley stated that he does plan to run for Council if not appointed at the next Council election.

Mayor Rankin introduced Mr. Tom Smith.

Mayor Rankin inquired what Mr. Smith's motivation and reasons were for seeking this appointment.

Mr. Smith stated that he has been on Council for 12 ½ years and knows the issues that Council is dealing with and can step in and support the Council.

Mayor Rankin inquired as to what Mr. Smith would bring to Council, if appointed, to better the Council during his tenure.

Mr. Smith stated it is his love for the Town of Florence and wants to see it move forward and cared for.

Mayor Rankin inquired what Mr. Smith thought were the three greatest challenges facing our Community today and if he had any suggestion to resolve those challenges.

Mr. Smith stated that Town has fiscal challenges coming up and needs to be attentive and responsible to the financial dealing of the Town. He stated water preservation needs to be done now, continuing the work that has been done already. He stated that he would like the library project completed and see the members of Florence enjoy the facility. The Parks and Recreation Department is and has done a great job with the new facility construction project. The Community Development Department has done a great job keeping up with the growth of the Town and the increase in business for their department. He stated these are the main items he looks at along with working the Council and Town staff to ensure the Town's business is completed.

Mayor Rankin inquired if there were one or two things Mr. Smith thought the Florence government was doing well.

Mr. Smith stated that he believes Council is taking care of the Town well, listening to anyone that comes to them and tries to resolve their needs. He stated that Council works well with staff ensuring all questions are answered and all items are completed in a timely manner.

Mayor Rankin inquired if there was one specific thing Mr. Smith would hope to accomplish if he was appointed.

Mr. Smith stated he would like to be a help to Council and staff.

Mayor Rankin inquired if Mr. Smith would seek election to Council, if appointed, to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Smith stated that he would most likely not be running for election after completing the 18 month appointment.

Mayor Rankin introduced Ms. Karen J. Wall.

Mayor Rankin inquired what Ms. Walls' motivation and reasons were for seeking this appointment.

Ms. Wall stated that she likes Florence and would like to become involved in many activities and concerns of the Town. She finds herself obligated to keep supporting the Town and the General Plan that has been in place.

Mayor Rankin inquired as to what Ms. Wall would bring to Council, if appointed, to better the Council during her tenure.

Ms. Wall stated that she is very detail-oriented, preparing for all items she is involved in. She is a strong communicator and provides information to those around her on topics she is involved in. She stated that she would like to continue her work with the Town and if there is a conflict of interest, she has a plan to resolve it. She stated that she is a customer service oriented person and sees being a part of Council as an opportunity to serve the citizens of Florence. She has worked within a school system, owned her own business and negotiated large contracts that have provided her a skill set that will benefit the business of the Town and Town Council.

Mayor Rankin inquired what Ms. Wall thought were the three greatest challenges facing our community today and if she had any suggestion to resolve those challenges.

Ms. Wall stated that Proposition 407 is the most urgent issue in front of Council and staff and whichever way the vote goes; Council and staff will make the budget work and hopes she can be a part of the least painful way to ensure a successful fiscal year. She stated the Library/Aquatic Center opening that is currently under construction needs to be completed and then believes the Town needs to resolve the issue with the Florence Copper project.

Mayor Rankin inquired if there were one or two things Ms. Wall thought the Florence government was doing well.

Ms. Wall stated that she supports the Council and believes Council has a lot of respect in the community and is doing what is best for the Town.

Mayor Rankin inquired if there was one specific thing Ms. Wall would hope to accomplish if she was appointed.

Ms. Wall stated she would like to increase communication through the communities in Town using social media and print.

Mayor Rankin inquired if Ms. Wall would seek election to Council, if appointed, to fill this vacancy.

Ms. Wall stated at this time she was not sure if she would be running for election upon completion of the appointed term.

Mayor Rankin introduced Mr. Art Buckley.

Mayor Rankin inquired what Mr. Buckley's motivation and reasons were for seeking this appointment.

Mr. Buckley stated that he has two major concerns; one being the downtown areas and the second being the impact fees being assessed to the Florence Garden area and downtown.

Mayor Rankin inquired as to what Mr. Buckley would bring to Council, if appointed, to better the Council during his tenure.

Mr. Buckley stated that he has development experience which a majority of the Council does not. He stated that he would be inquisitive regarding statements made by staff and others to ensure information is accurate.

Mayor Rankin inquired what Mr. Buckley thought were the three greatest challenges facing our community today and if he had any suggestion to resolve those challenges.

Mr. Buckley stated that one major challenge that Council has consistently addressed is the Copper Mine project and encouraged the Council stay firm in their efforts to protect the Town's water. He stated other issues are confidence in money management, improving the citizens of Florence confidence in the Council and how money is being spent and lastly, there are things that can be done to encourage growth in the downtown area.

Mayor Rankin inquired if there were one or two things Mr. Buckley thought the Florence government was doing well.

Mr. Buckley stated that the Town is doing many things well; one is being frugal and saving funds, and secondly, being consistent in the actions opposing the Copper Mine.

Mayor Rankin inquired if there was one specific thing Mr. Buckley would hope to accomplish if he was appointed.

Mr. Buckley stated that he would like to be a part of the process to restore the confidence regarding Home Rule and the spending decision of the Town.

Mayor Rankin inquired if Mr. Buckley would seek election to Council if appointed to fill this vacancy.

Mr. Buckley stated that he would not be running for election.

Mayor Rankin introduced Ms. S. Dulaine Coleman.

Mayor Rankin inquired what Ms. Coleman's motivation and reasons were for seeking this appointment.

Ms. Coleman stated that she has training in political science and has a great interest in politics. She stated that she has concerns regarding different activities in the community.

Mayor Rankin inquired as to what Ms. Coleman would bring to Council, if appointed, to better the Council during her tenure.

Ms. Coleman stated that her experience in public policy, she has many ideas that would be useful and she has the time to dedicate to the Town.

Mayor Rankin inquired what Ms. Coleman thought were the three greatest challenges facing our community today and if she had any suggestion to resolve those challenges.

Ms. Coleman stated that she feels transportation, infrastructure and business are the challenges facing the community.

Mayor Rankin inquired if there were one or two things Ms. Coleman thought the Florence government was doing well.

Ms. Coleman stated that she believes Council is trying to address the concern to preserve the Town's history and historical buildings along with moving the Town forward.

Mayor Rankin inquired if there was one specific thing Ms. Coleman would hope to accomplish if she was appointed.

Ms. Coleman stated that she would hope to have public utilities be public.

Mayor Rankin inquired if Ms. Coleman would seek election to Council if appointed to fill this vacancy.

Ms. Coleman stated that at this time, it would be premature for her to say.

Mayor Rankin inquired what Mr. Coleman meant regarding public utilities being public.

Ms. Coleman stated that the water department is owned by a single person and as such, the users have no say regarding rate increases or what happens with the water.

Mayor Rankin stated that Council will make the appointment at the June 1, 2015 Council meeting.

MANAGER'S REPORT

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Rankin opened the call to the public. There were no comments; Mayor Rankin closed the call to the public.

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CALL TO THE COUNCIL

Councilmember Anderson stated that he was appreciative of the work that has been done at the intersection of Attaway and Hunt Highway by the Public Works Department.

Councilmember Guilin stated that she had the opportunity to visit the Mary C. Obrien School and participate in an exercise with the 4th graders. She stated that Ms. Garcia had been working with the children on their presentation skills and was amazed of the work that has been done with those children by Ms. Garcia.

Councilmember Woolridge stated that she had an opportunity to attend one of Ms. Garcia's sessions with the kids at Mary C. Obrien School and it was a pleasure watching Ms. Garcia work with the kids. She stated that Ms. Garcia represents the Town of Florence very well and makes us all proud.

Vice-Mayor Walter stated that she would like to remind everyone that if they have not mailed their ballot, that they need to hand deliver it to the Pinal County office on Florence Avenue until 7:00 pm on May 19, 2015. She thanked the Council applicants for applying.

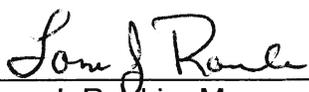
Councilmember Anderson inquired when election results will be available.

Ms. Garcia stated that the election results will be available between 8:05 pm and 8:15 pm, on the Town's website.

Mayor Rankin stated that the program at the Mary C. O'Brien School was very well done and the plans that the kids developed for the library were well thought out. He encouraged everyone to vote. He stated that if they have not mailed in their ballot, they will need to deliver it to the Pinal County office. He thanked the candidates for applying and interviewing for the vacant Council seat and that the decision will be made at the June 1, 2015 Council meeting.

Council may go into Executive Session at any time during the meeting for the purpose of obtaining legal advice from the Town's Attorney(s) on any of the agenda items pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).

On motion of Councilmember Woolridge, seconded by Councilmember Anderson, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 pm.



Tom J. Rankin, Mayor

ATTEST:



Lisa Garcia, Town Clerk

I certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Florence Town Council meeting held on May 18, 2015, and that the meeting was duly called to order and that a quorum was present.



Lisa Garcia, Town Clerk