MINUTES OF THE FLORENCE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2013, AT 6:00 P.M., 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 6:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Rankin, Smith, Celaya, Hawkins, Walter, Woolridge
Absent: Montaño

INVOCATION PERFORMED BY REVEREND DR. EDWARD KAVIMBA LUNGU, GRACE BIBLE REFORMED CHURCH.

Reverend Dr. Edward Kavimba Lungu, Grace Bible Reformed Church performed the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Celaya 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 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.

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT TO THE MERRILL RANCH FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2 BOARD MEETING

On motion of Councilmember Celaya, seconded by Vice-Mayor Smith, and carried to adjourn to the Merrill Ranch Facilities District No. 2 Board Meeting.

Public Hearing on a Feasibility Report for Projects in Assessment Area Five - Units 22A & 22B)

Ms. Becki Guilin, District Treasurer, stated that the District is proposing assessments on Unit 22A and 22B in Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No. 2. The units do not have prior assessments within the units. The property is levied an ad valorem tax for regional improvements within MRCFD No. 2.

Ms. Guilin stated that Unit 22A and 22B are new sub-districts of Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No. 2, consist of 55 acres, and are located in Assessment Area Five. Unit 22A is located off of Spirit Way, along CFD No. 2 north-eastern border. Unit 22B is located north of Unit 22A along Spirit Way, along CFD No. 2 north-eastern border.

Ms. Guilin stated there are a total of 159 lots, and they will be assessed $3500 per lot for a total cost of improvements at $1,185,054. The time table for completion of the projects is September 2013. Bonds have a twenty five year maturity with the first year being interest only and the principal amount amortized over the remaining twenty four years. Average annual payments will be approximately $330, which is split into two payments: the first payment is interest only for six months; and the second payment is for interest for six months and one full year of principal. This assessment area is being handled under the new provision in the statutes for payment of assessments. Bonding will occur at a later date.

Chairman Rankin opened the Public Hearing. There were no public comments. Chairman Rankin closed the Public Hearing.

Consideration and Possible Adoption of Resolution No. MRCFD2 221-13:

Mr. Charles A. Montoya, District Manager, read Resolution No. MRCFD2 221-13 by title only.

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FIFTH AMENDMENT AND WAIVERS (ASSESSMENT AREA FIVE – UNITS 22A & 22B) FOR DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT, FINANCING PARTICIPATION AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT; AUTHORIZING AND RATIFYING THE GIVING OF NOTICE OF HEARING WITH RESPECT TO APPROVING A FEASIBILITY REPORT; APPROVING SUCH FEASIBILITY REPORT AND RESOLVING THE INTENT THEREFOR; ORDERING THE WORK WITH RESPECT THERETO; APPROVING THE ASSESSMENT DIAGRAM AND METHOD OF ASSESSMENT WITH RESPECT TO ASSESSMENT AREA FIVE AND PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY OF THE RELATED ASSESSMENT.

On motion of Boardmember Woolridge, seconded by Boardmember Hawkins, and carried to adopt Resolution No. MRCFD2 No. 221-13.

ADJOURNMENT FROM THE MERRILL RANCH FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2 BOARD MEETING

On motion of Boardmember Woolridge, seconded by Boardmember Smith, and carried to adjourn from the Merrill Ranch Facilities District No. 2 Board Meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation naming April 2013 as Fair Housing Month in the Town of Florence, Arizona.

Mr. Jess Knudson, Assistant Town Manager, read the proclamation by title only.

Mayor Rankin proclaimed April 2013 as Fair Housing Month in the Town of Florence, Arizona.

Proclamation naming April 14-20, 2013, as Week of the Young Child in the Town of Florence, Arizona.

Mr. Jess Knudson, Assistant Town Manager, read the proclamation by title only..

Mayor Rankin proclaimed April 14 – 20, 2013 as Week of the Young Child in the Town of Florence, Arizona.

Proclamation naming the week of April 14 through April 20, 2013 as National Public Safety Telecommunicator's Week, in the Town of Florence, Arizona.

Mr. Jess Knudson, Assistant Town Manager, read the proclamation into the record.

Mayor Rankin proclaimed the week of April 14 through 20, 2013 as National Public Safety Telecommunicator's Week, in the Town of Florence, Arizona

Mr. Daniel Hughes, Police Chief, recognized the telecommunicators. He said they handled over 10,718 calls for service this year. The telecommunicators do a great job, and handle each call with compassion.

Mayor Rankin stated that communication has improved significantly over the years. Dispatching is a police officer's life line and the dispatchers are very appreciated. He presented the proclamation to Police Chief Hughes.

Proclamation naming April 26, 2013, as Arbor Day in the Town of Florence, Arizona.

Mr. Jess Knudson, Assistant Town Manager, read the proclamation by title only.

Mayor Rankin proclaimed April 26, 2013, as Arbor Day in the Town of Florence, Arizona.

CONSENT: All items indicated by an (*) 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.

***Authorization to purchase Personnel Protective Equipment from United Fire Equipment Company, in an amount not to exceed $72,355.**

***Authorization to dispose of equipment listed on the April 15, 2013, Request for Council Action Form, per Town Policy.**

***Appointment of Talma Beal Harmon to the Library Advisory Board with a term to expire December 31, 2014.**

***Approval of accepting the register of demands ending March 31, 2013, in the amount of $1,412,324.66.**

***Approval of the February 12, February 25, March 4, March 18, and April 1, 2013, Town Council minutes.**

***Receive and file the following board and commission minutes:**

October 24, 2012 Historic District Advisory Commission Minutes.
December 19, 2012 Joint-Use Library Advisory Board Minutes.
December 6, 2012 Planning and Zoning Commission Minutes.

On motion of Councilmember Woolridge, seconded by Councilmember Walter, and carried to approve the Consent Agenda, as written, with the removal of Item 9c.

9c. *Appointment of Talma Beal Harmon to the Library Advisory Board with a term to expire December 31, 2014.

Mayor Rankin stated that Ms. Harmon's aunt, Viney Jones worked diligently to keep the library going years ago. If it wasn't for Ms. Jones, the Town would not have had a library. He said it is very nice to see her family member on the Board to keep the library going.

On motion of Mayor Rankin, seconded by Councilmember Walter, and carried to appoint Talma Beal Harmon to the Library Advisory Board with a term to expire December 31, 2014.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 595-13:

Mr. Charles A. Montoya, Town Manager, read Ordinance No. 595-13 by title only.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, TO PROVIDE INCREASES IN NEW RATES AND FEES FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT. (First Reading)

Ms. Becki Guilin, Finance Director, stated that the annual increase takes effect July 1st of each year. Economists.com prepared a rate study in 2008 and 2009 that provided incremental rate increases for water and sewer rates through 2017. The incremental annual rate and fee increases associated with the 2008-2009 Utility Rate Study are programmed to lessen the impact on the utility users for the next several years, while providing the utilities funding to continue to provide the operational and capital needs of the associated enterprise funds, and to not place an undue burden on the citizens. This

year's increase will be 5% for water and water meter charges. The sewer increase will be 10% for the sewer charges and base fee. She provided examples of what the increases may be for various usages. She said the projected revenue generated from the increase for water will be $145,000, and revenue for sewer will be $303,000.

Resolution No. 1390-13:

Mr. Charles A. Montoya, Town Manager, read Resolution No. 1390-13 by title only.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, REVISING THE PERSONNEL POLICIES AND DATED THE 15TH DAY OF APRIL 2013, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013.

Mr. Scott Barber, Human Resources Director, stated that revisions to the Personnel Policy have been ongoing for several years. The primary goals were to bring a policy that is easy to understand and administer, foster responsibility and accountability on the part of the supervisors, provide clarity relating to employees' due process rights, and taking out a number of revisions that were in the policy that were more appropriately administrative directives, and not policy directives. The draft was provided to Council in February 2013. The implementation date is July 1, 2013, which will allow time for the final touches on the administrative policy to be completed, as well as for information and training sessions to be held.

Councilmember Walter asked for clarification of the severability clause.

Mr. Barber stated that the clause used standardized severability language that acknowledges that things happen from time to time regarding court decisions, etc. If there is a specific provision that would be invalidated by that action, it doesn't impact the balance of the policy.

Mr. James E. Mannato, Town Attorney, stated that the severability clause preserves the overall integrity of this policy.

Councilmember Walter stated that the policy is very manageable and a lot of work has been put into this document.

On motion of Councilmember Walter, seconded by Councilmember Hawkins, and carried to adopt Resolution No. 1390-13.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public comments.

CALL TO THE COUNCIL

Councilmember Walter stated there was a lot of traffic in Florence this weekend. Many businesses were visited.

Mayor Rankin stated that Florence was honored at Country Thunder. Ms. Maria Montaño sang the National Anthem at Country Thunder. He said some of the bands who performed complimented her singing. He said this is the first year that Country Thunder was sold out. He said there were over 90,000 people who attend during the four day event. He said there were over 25,000 on Saturday night. Country Thunder is beneficial for Florence. He asked everyone to remember those who were affected by the tragedy in Boston Massachusetts. He said he attended the Arizona State Transportation Board Meeting in Tucson, Arizona. He said he is working on getting the intersection re-opened. Mr. Wayne Costa, Public Works Director presented at the meeting regarding the re-opening of the intersection and many good comments were received. He said the opening ceremony for Little League will be this Saturday, April 20, 2013, at Heritage Park.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Vice-Mayor Smith, seconded by Councilmember Hawkins, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

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 April 15, 2013, and that the meeting was duly called to order and that a quorum was present.

Lisa Garcia, Town Clerk