

MINUTES OF THE FLORENCE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 2016, AT 6:00 P.M., IN THE FLORENCE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LOCATED AT 775 N. MAIN STREET, FLORENCE, ARIZONA.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rankin called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Rankin, Walter, Woolridge, Hawkins, Guilin, Anderson, Wall.

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.

Reverend Donald Woolridge, Pastor of the Union Baptist Church, Florence, Arizona, stated that the church is filing a complaint regarding the Southwest Gas construction project taking place on the east side of the church that is being done in conjunction with Public Works. He stated that the church has strong feelings regarding the manner in which the project was initiated. They are not opposed to the project itself; however, the church was not informed of the project. He stated that his hope in filing the complaint is that the Town will ensure that the public, and especially those being affected, are properly informed in an appropriate time frame.

Reverend Woolridge reiterated that they are offended and hope that Council will take note, and continue to be about the business of realizing that the citizens of Florence are important. He stated that they had to postpone events at their church because of the project. He stated that the project has been a real inconvenience. He stated that other entities in Florence have been considered when the church wasn't. He stated that they will pray for the Council because the church clergy have been offended and disrespected.

Deacon Oliver Cartwright, Union Baptist Church, stated that he is very disappointed.

Mayor Rankin stated that staff is researching who owns the property. He addressed the issue with the Town Manager as soon as Deacon Cartwright informed him of the issue.

Reverend Woolridge stated that he was not going to bring up the fact that the church has a twenty year lease agreement on the property with the Town, because that is not the point of the complaint. The issue is that staff did not do their due diligence and they were disrespected by not being properly noticed. He stated that their facility is a place of worship and they would like to be respected.

Mr. Jim Tchida, Florence Resident, stated that this is the third time he has come before Council requesting their consideration to have a façade improvement program. He is not referring to façade easement. The type of program that he is referring to has been done in the Town of Queen Creek and is being done in Maricopa.

Mr. Tchida stated that the Town is celebrating their 150th year anniversary as a historic town. He stated that it would be great to announce the program (inaudible). He stated that the seed money could be \$50,000 initially and increase by \$50,000 each year thereafter. He stated that there are ways to find money for the program. The Town found the money for the Teen Program and asked that the Town find a way to do the façade program this year.

PUBLIC HEARING AND PRESENTATION

Public hearing to receive comments on a Text Amendment, requested by Swaback Partners, on behalf of Florence Artisan Acres, LLC to to update the Territory Square Zoning District book per Section 150.070 Territory Square of the Land Usage section of the Town of Florence Development Code; and first reading of Ordinance No. 649-16.

Mr. Brent Billingsley, Town Manager, read Ordinance No. 649-16 by title only.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, TO AMEND THE TERRITORY SQUARE ZONING BOOK PER SECTION 150.070 TERRITORY SQUARE (TS) CONTAINED WITHIN THE LAND USAGE SECTION OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE CODE OF ORDINANCES (CASE PZ 16-51 ORD). (Mark Eckhoff)

Mr. Mark Eckhoff, Community Development Director, stated that the next three items on the agenda are for Territory Square Expansion Project and he will discuss them as one item.

Mr. Eckhoff provided a brief synopsis of how the project came to be. He stated that the items include a Text Amendment, Minor General Plan Amendment, and zone change. The North End Framework Vision Plan was started in 2009 and encompasses the area from Highway 79 to Plant Road, bordering the Gila River. The following items were considered when developing the Plan: engineering, economics, transportation, flood plain mitigation, land use zoning and recreational opportunities. The Plan was approved by Council in 2011, and later renamed Territory Square. The Zoning Book for Territory Square was created and a Text Amendment was done to the General Plan to allow the property to be in the General Plan as a masterplan community. Subsequently, 40 acres were removed from the floodplain and the aquatics center, library and community center were built as well as the Main Street Extension. He stated that additional projects have taken place at the Windmill Winery. The owners of the Windmill Winery and past and current owners of the Green Tree Inn and Suites inquired about adding 40 acres to the project to do an extension at the Windmill Winery. The 40 acres is located at the southeast corner of Plant Road and Butte Avenue. In order to incorporate the property into the Plan, the description needs to be added into the Territory Square Zoning

Book and an amendment to the General Plan needs to be done so the two can be consistent. The zoning would also need to be changed to Territory Square.

Mr. Jeff Denzak, Swaback Partners, stated that they have coordinated with Mr. Harold Christ, his team and the Town on the initiatives looking at the mechanisms that they want to put in place to ensure it is done in a methodical way in terms of looking at the text amendment, General Plan Amendment, and rezoning. He stated that one of the great things about the Territory Square Zoning document is that it created a road map for future development and helped incentivize that development. The document is flexible. They have looked at the range of uses that were originally proposed for Territory Square and ensured that the expansion and strategy for development complemented everything they initially envisioned and in line with what was proposed.

Mr. Denzak stated that the expansion of the Windmill Winery will be part of the west end development land use group. He stated that character images are provided at the public community meetings. They are currently in the planning stage and are starting to advance the design, looking at the character of the buildings and the site. They want to ensure that it reflects the old world character of the Windmill Winery. He stated that the landscape character will bring the feeling that Mr. Christ has created on his property across the street to make sure it carries on the character and nature of the property. He stated that the conceptual plan includes an inn, cottages, an event center, and a small artisan crafts retail component. Circulation will be included for access and aligns to the main access for the Windmill Winery. There is potential for a future RV component. There will be little pockets of parking rather than a large expansive parking lot. An emergency access will be coordinated through the site. They are working through the frame work to understand the phasing. He stated that the inn will be an early phase of development with some degree of the event center, which will be referred to as the cotton gin. He stated that this will be another ceremonial space used for events. The inn would be more of a boutique inn that fits the character of the Windmill Winery. The cottages will also complement the surrounding area. He stated that the cottage units will be designed as singles, duplexes, and fourplexes.

Mr. Denzak stated that after they go through this process with the Council and gain the Council's approval they would go back to design review with more detailed plans, which is typically 25% construction documents to ensure the design they are portraying for Phase 1 would visually represent what has been shown to Council at this meeting.

Mr. Denzak stated that while they were in the conceptual level, they spent a lot of time with Mr. Christ and the group reviewing all the detail of the materials and the finishes. He stated that Mr. Christ has purchased an old cotton gin and salvaged much of the material. They would like to utilize the character on the building and bring some of the detail on the cottages and the inn. He stated that the look will not only encompass the unique characteristics of the Windmill Winery but also of Florence.

Mr. Denzak stated that the space will be an event space, but in the future could have a restaurant and brewery component. It will also have kitchen space. He stated that they will add to the facility over time. He stated that they do not want it to be overly pristine and perfect, but want it to have an eclectic flavor that is representative of what the Windmill Winery has been.

Mr. Harold Christ, Windmill Winery Owner, stated that they are really excited about the project and feels that it is the missing piece of the puzzle that has been needed for quite some time. The type of clientele that they get is from out of state or country and is primarily for marriages that include multi-day events. They are requesting multi-family units and are looking to stay in something outside of the traditional hotel.

Mr. Christ stated that staff has been helpful in assisting them through the details that it takes in putting this type of project together. He stated that there are so many moving parts to make it what they envision. They are excited to see the project come to fruition and to see how it all ties together with Territory Square.

Mayor Rankin opened the public hearing.

Mr. Jim Tchida, Florence Resident, stated that we would be a fool not endorsing this project. He is not sure that, we Florence can ever be the charming small town that he envisions for the future or that he has seen in many places. He reminded Council that many residents are 60-70 years of age so their lifetime is rather limited, relative to the 150 years that Florence has been here. He sees a fair amount of people walking down Main Street with cameras and taking pictures of the buildings. He stated that he is not sure if they are going to come back or if they want to live here, time will tell.

Mr. Tchida stated that he endorses the project and thinks it is fantastic. The project will be on the west end. The original North End Framework Plan and the subsequent Territory Square Plan was conceived directly north of Town Hall and inquired why this couldn't be on the north end as well. He would like little craftsman cottages in the north end. These cottages originally appeared in the North End Framework Plan and subsequent Territory Square. The craftsman cottages are beautiful. He has said many times before that there are 3,000, 4,000, 5,000 people that drive to work and go home. He said the commuters do not want to live in Florence and this need to change. The craftsman cottages and open spaces and trails plan, date back to prior to 2009. It has been approximately ten years since that concept was conceived.

Ms. Bonnie Barriola reminded the Council that Mr. Christ has vision and was instrumental in building Gold Canyon Resort, and you can see what Gold Canyon is today. Gold Canyon was one of his first projects. She stated that when she was the Senior Planner for Pinal County she worked with Mr. Christ on several master planned communities. He knows how to work with staff and never had any problems because he talked with staff. This is an example of how the developers will work directly with staff from the beginning of the process throughout. They have no problems and get what they want and staff gives them input on how to do it and this is a perfect example of that.

Mayor Rankin stated that they have seen what he can accomplish with the winery. He stated that working with the developer, working with the community for the development and betterment of the community is always great. He believes they have a good relationship and wants to keep it going.

Mayor Rankin closed the public hearing.

Public hearing on a Minor General Plan Amendment, requested by Swaback Partners, on behalf of Florence Artisan Acres, LLC, to amend the Town of Florence's 2020

General Plan Future Land Use Map to change the land use designation on approximately 40 acres from Community Commercial and Medium Density Residential 1 to Master Planned Community for property located at the southeast corner of Butte Avenue and Plant Road and first reading of Resolution No 1596-16.

Mr. Brent Billingsley, Town Manager, read Resolution No. 1596-16 by title only.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, APPROVING THE TERRITORY SQUARE EXPANSION MINOR GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF BUTTE AVENUE AND PLANT ROAD (CASE PZ 16-49 GPA). (Mark Eckhoff)

Councilmember Anderson stated that he supports the project and thinks it is fantastic.

Mayor Rankin opened the public hearing. There being no comments, Mayor Rankin closed the public hearing.

Public Hearing to receive comments on a zone change, requested by Swaback Partners, PLLC, on behalf of Florence Artisan Acres, LLC, on approximately 40 acres located at the southeast corner of Butte Avenue and Plant Road from Rural Agricultural (RA-10) Zoning District to Territory Square (TS) Zoning District (APN 202-05-001C); and first reading of Ordinance No. 652-16

Mr. Brent Billingsley, Town Manager read Ordinance No. 652-16.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, APPROVING THE TERRITORY SQUARE ZONE CHANGE ON APPROXIMATELY 40 ACRES LOCATED AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF BUTTE AVENUE AND PLANT ROAD (PZ 16-50 ZC). (Mark Eckhoff)

Councilmember Woolridge stated that she is excited about the project and cannot wait to see dirt moving.

Councilmember Anderson inquired if the neighbors have been notified.

Mr. Eckhoff stated that the proper notifications have been completed. Signage was posted on the property. A wind storm knocked the signs down, but they were fixed shortly thereafter. They also notified all of the neighbors and placed notices in the local newspaper. They have had neighborhood meetings for all of the cases. The meetings were well attended. The Planning and Zoning Commission has forwarded a favorable recommendation on all three cases.

Mayor Rankin opened the public hearing. There being no comments, Mayor Rankin closed the public hearing.

Presentation by Human Resources Director Scott Barber.

Mr. Billingsley stated that there have been several questions received regarding the organization, the approval of the budget, and what it means in terms of the Town's employees and how the Human Resources Department functions and interfaces with the budget.

Mr. Scott Barber, Human Resources Director, provided a presentation, in which he outlined the following:

- For current Fiscal Year there are 165 full time positions authorized
 - Excludes temporary and part time seasonal positions
 - Excludes frozen position that continue to be maintained in class plan
 - There is no funding for the frozen positions
- Employee Classification Plan
 - Currently 102 positions in our class plan; not all in use.
 - Approved by Council each year.
 - Every classification has the following:
 - Position title
 - Position description, duties and responsibilities
 - Classified or non-classified status
 - Exempt or non-exempt status
 - Salary information
- Per Personnel Policy: if person is temporarily in a role higher than their classification for more than 30 days, employee will be compensated.
 - If employee is temporarily in a role lower than their classification, their rate remains status quo.
 - Standard Operating Procedures have been approved for Fire Department that creates a different trigger if they are in an acting capacity.
 - Pay plan has “open ranges” (no steps) – but keys on entry, mid-point and ending rates
 - Approved by Council each year
 - Every position classification assigned to a pay range
- Acting Classification
- Compensation Competitiveness
 - Compensation study done by Public Sector Personnel Consultants (PSPC) in 2009
 - Not implemented due to budget and cost.
 - PSPC asked to update 2009 work in 2011/12; found market shift of <1.5%
 - Updated data and adjusted pay schedule
 - Did a an adjustment to help ease pay compression
 - Results were implemented July 1, 2012
 - Our market comparators:
 - Apache Junction
 - Kingman
 - Camp Verde
 - Marana
 - Casa Grande
 - Maricopa
 - Chino Valley
 - Nogales
 - Coolidge
 - Oro Valley
 - Cottonwood
 - Pinal County
 - Douglas
 - Queen Creek
 - Eloy
 - Sahuarita

- Did an internal update for FY 2014/2015; recommended adjustments but not included in budget proposal due to fiscal constraints
- Time for a comprehensive classification and compensation study, including position descriptions.
 - In current CIP FY2017/2018 for planning purposes.
- Current snapshot (data from 2016 League of Cities and Towns Salary Survey)

	<u>Market Midpoint</u>	<u>Us</u>
Police Officer	\$53,731	\$53,953
Dispatcher	\$42,395	\$40,117
Maintenance Worker	\$34,922	\$32,926
Administrative Assistant	\$40,122	\$39,138

- How Employees Have Fared (Council approved)
 - FY2011/12 up to 5% merit + 2% COLA plus 10% to end of all ranges
 - FY2012/13 up to 5% merit
 - FY2013/14 up to 4% merit
 - FY2014/15 up to 4% merit
 - FY2015/16 3% stipend (raise does not compound)
 - FY2016/17 3% stipend
 - Employee Benefit Package
 - Vacation leave, sick leave, 11 holidays
 - Retirement system match (ASRS or PSPRS)
 - Health, life and dental insurance:
 - Employee cost 100% paid by Town (United Healthcare)
 - Dependent coverage 78% paid by Town
 - Family coverage is \$135 per pay period (24 pay periods)
- Employee Satisfaction
 - Employee turnover analysis for FY2015/16:
 - 12% (with 5 retirements included)
 - 88% retention rate
 - Average length of service – Eight years (all full-time employees as of August 8, 2016)
 - Employee grievances (not handled successfully in dept.) in FY2015/16 – 1
 - Employee/former employee appeals filed in FY2015/16 – 0

Mr. Barber stated that those who are in entry level positions accelerate to the mid-point faster than employees on the top.

Councilmember Anderson inquired how the Town's turnover rate compares to other municipalities.

Mr. Barber stated that he did not do a comparison to other communities. This type of information is not collected by the League of Arizona Cities and Towns.

Councilmember Guilin stated that the benefit package is very healthy in comparison to other communities and this must be considered when doing comparisons.

Vice-Mayor Walter inquired if Mr. Barber sits on a seat at the Arizona League of Cities and Towns (League).

Mr. Barber stated that he utilizes the data that the League collects quite often. He stated that the Town participates in their salary survey every year.

Mayor Rankin inquired if the Town has any employees working outside of their classifications.

Mr. Barber stated that the Town has had formal classifications and descriptions for every position, including temporary positions. Staff will bring to Council the possibility of creating regular part time positions that receive benefits, which we currently do not have.

Mayor Rankin inquired if any department head has raised concerns regarding the presentation or the information provided within the presentation. He stated that stipends were offered because the Home Rule failed and the Council still wanted to provide something to its employees. He stated that when the downturn occurred in 2008, Council did not lay off any employees. The department heads and employees are doing a great job.

Mr. Barber stated that sometimes staff may not feel like they are getting the compensation they need; however, Council has done a great job over the years of trying their best to take care of the employees. He stated that stipends were done to offer something to the employees that would not compound in the system because staff and Council did not know if the expenditure limitation would pass.

Councilmember Woolridge stated that she appreciates the presentation because there have been some inaccurate facts issued to the public. She stated that the benefit package offered to employees is great because you do not find many employers who pay for dependent coverage to the degree that the Town does. Council tries to do their best for employees because it is important for staff to receive raises when the Town is able to afford it.

Vice-Mayor Walter stated that regarding job classifications, prior management and current management, there were some jobs that did not have classifications as well as some events where some employees were asked to do something outside of their job description in the past.

Mr. Barber stated that he tried to address the acting or temporary positions. He stated that all of the position descriptions state that the duties and responsibilities are illustrative and may include other duties as may be assigned from time to time.

Mr. Barber stated that he, Mr. Billingsley, and Ms. Garcia are working with the Public Works Director to adjust some of the Public Works staff's classifications. He has not heard a story that had legitimacy of some grisly situation where the staff has been asked to do something dramatically outside of their realm of normal responsibilities.

Vice-Mayor Walter stated that when staff was seeking to annex an area the Town had staff, while on Town time, go outside of the area they were servicing to collect signatures.

Mr. Billingsley stated that he is unable to respond to that specific instance as he was not employed with the Town at that time. He stated that during his tenure with the Town, there have been three separate instances where staff has been asked to take on additional responsibility beyond their position and job description. He stated that staff met with Human Resources in all three cases and typed up what the responsibilities would be, the term that it would be on a temporary basis and adjustments were made to the persons' pay.

Mr. Billingsley stated that the discussion that Mr. Barber referenced is regarding positions that some of the individuals have performed very well in those temporary assignments. He stated that staff will be coming back to Council to make those temporary assignments permanent.

Councilmember Hawkins inquired if the Town has asked any employee to do anything that they were not qualified to do.

Mr. Billingsley stated no, the employees that are in the temporary assignments were qualified to do the work and have performed admirably.

Councilmember Wall stated that she would hate to see the Town become so rigid that any one of the employees would not be willing to pitch in and work as a team with other employees. She stated that she doesn't want the Town to confine its employees just to the duties that are in their job description. She would like to see challenges for each employee and she would like to see a sense of team work. She believes that if the Town takes care of its employees, the employees will take care of its customers. She does not want the Town to be so particular where someone isn't willing to step up and help out the whole team.

Councilmember Woolridge agreed with Councilmember Wall.

Mayor Rankin stated that all employees are employed by the Town of Florence and not by a specific department. He stated that all employees should be team players. He stated that there may be some employees who are disgruntled, but that is everywhere. He stated that overall; he believes all the Town's employees are team players.

Councilmember Anderson stated that with regards to the annexation issues, it was a mistake what the Town did back then. He stated that the Town learned from it and it was different management at that time.

Vice-Mayor Walter stated that the majority of the staff will pitch in and do anything that is asked to help. There have been certain jobs that have been made available that were not clarified as to their specific roles and responsibilities. There have also been jobs that were created that never existed before, but it was not under our current Town Manager.

Mayor Rankin stated that when an employee states that they will not do a specific job because it is not in their job description, you are talking about a union employee. He stated that while he is on the Council, he will ask the members of Council to support him in keeping the unions out of the public sector.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session will be held during the Council Meeting for legal matters pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431.03 (A)(3), (A)(4), and (A)(7) for the purpose of discussion and consultation with the Town's attorneys for legal advice on the following items:

- a. **Town's position and instruct its attorneys in regard to pending litigation in Maricopa County Superior Court: Town of Florence v. Florence Copper, Inc. CV 2015-000325.**
- b. **Town's position and instruct its attorneys in regard to Arizona Department of Environmental Quality proceedings.**

- c. **Town's attorneys for legal advice on a pending and threatened claim filed by Johnson Utilities.**

On motion of Councilmember Hawkins, seconded by Councilmember Woolridge, and carried to adjourn to Executive Session.

ADJOURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilmember Hawkins, seconded by Vice-Mayor Walter, and carried to adjourn from Executive Session.

Presentation of the Town Manager Work Plan (Brent Billingsley)

On motion of Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Vice-Mayor Walter, and carried to table the presentation of the Town Manager Work Plan.

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.

Approval of the Pinal County Historical Society's application for their Special Event Liquor License application to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control for their event to be held on October 2, 2016. (Lisa Garcia)

Approval of the Pinal County Historical Society's application for their Special Event Liquor License application to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control for their event to be held on November 18, 2016. (Lisa Garcia)

Approval of Letter of Support for the designation of Historic Arizona U.S. Route 80 as an Arizona Historic Road. (Jennifer Evans)

Approval of the July 5 and July 18, 2016 Council minutes.

On motion of Vice-Mayor Walter, seconded by Councilmember Guilin, and carried to approve the consent agenda as written, with the exception of Item C.

Approval of Letter of Support for the designation of Historic Arizona U.S. Route 80 as an Arizona Historic Road. (Jennifer Evans)

Councilmember Anderson inquired if U. S. Route 80 came through Florence at one time.

Ms. Jennifer Evans, Management Analyst, stated that U.S. Route 80 is now State Route 79 and comes right through Town. She stated that it was in the early 1990s that the highway was re-designated to a State Route.

Councilmember Anderson inquired if the name will revert back to U. S. Route 80. He also inquired if signs will be placed indicating that it is a historical route.

Ms. Evans stated that the name will not be changed officially. It is a designation change similar to Route 66 in northern Arizona. It will be used as a promotional tool. She stated that

she does not have a definitive answer if they will be placing signs, but it would not be unusual for signs to be installed.

Councilmember Hawkins stated that the Town will have to go through Arizona Department of Transportation to do anything along the route and read examples of what that entailed. He inquired if Council needs to review this further before a decision is made. This will provide time to research the process that they will have to do in the future with regards to that route.

Mayor Rankin stated that there are state highways within the Town currently and they need to get permits from ADOT. He inquired if the U.S. Route 80 will go through the Historical District or through Oracle Junction with regards to the vegetation along the route.

Ms. Evans stated that U. S. Route would come up South Main Street, which is Business Route 79 and turn east on Butte Avenue and connect with State Route 79 at that intersection and continue north. She stated that her understanding of the regulations is that while there may be some additional regulations with regards to the historical designation. There would be an Intergovernmental Agreement with ADOT and the Town of Florence to address the specific needs. She stated that for the most part, ADOT already controls access, and everything on that route. The request is to allow for a letter of support to be remitted with the application. If there were anything binding, the item would need to come back before Council for consideration.

On motion of Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Woolridge, and carried to approve a letter of support for the designation of Historic Arizona U.S. Route 80 as an Arizona Historic Road.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of a modification to the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Arizona Department of Revenue related to Uniform Administration of the Town's Transaction Privilege Tax. (Gabe Garcia)

Mr. Gabe Garcia, Finance Director, stated that all cities and towns are required to enter into this agreement with the Arizona Department of Revenue. The agreement is a housekeeping issue which includes minor modifications.

Councilmember Wall commented on the wordiness of the modification in the agreement. One sentence is half of paragraph long. She stated that it makes it very difficult to understand.

Mr. Garcia stated that the initial reports that came out indicated a cost of \$53,000 for administration. He stated that after the final approval and the passage of the fees for everyone's share, the cost is now \$60,000, resulting in a slight increase from the budgeted amount.

On motion of Councilmember Guilin, seconded by Councilmember Hawkins, and carried to approve a modification to the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Arizona Department of Revenue related to Uniform Administration of the Town's Transaction Privilege Tax.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Billingsley read into the record a letter he received, which stated:

"Dear Brent, Although I couldn't attend last night's Council meeting, I finished watching the proceedings online. I was so impressed and moved by what I saw, I wanted to do something. The poise of those teens to get up and speak to the Council and express themselves so eloquently at their young and inexperienced age is proof positive of the value of this program that is just in its infancy. I can only wonder how far Robert will go with his head start and obvious charisma. I had a chance to speak with Bryan Hughes at the July Council meeting where Koko was introduced. The light in his eyes and enthusiasm spoke volumes about his belief in this program in our teens. I heard you say that the Town is ready to accept contributions so I would like to do my share. I only wish it could be more. Thank you and your team for all that you do. Ms. Cathy Adam"

Mr. Billingsley stated that Ms. Adam provided the Town with a donation for \$500.

Mr. Billingsley stated that the staff is preparing to go to the annual League Conference and have released their years of service awards. Councilmember Woolridge will receive her 12 Year Award.

Ms. Lisa Garcia, Deputy Town Manager/Town Clerk, stated the Primary Election is August 30, 2016. The mail ballots have been distributed. There were 2,501 mail ballots requested, and as of the close of business on August 12, 2016, there have been 427 ballots returned. She will provide an update to Council every Friday up until the election.

Mr. Billingsley clarified a few points. He stated that there is information that is spreading amongst Proposition 411. He stated that it is being said that Proposition 411 is linked to organization of labor in Arizona, more specifically, in the Town of Florence. He stated that Arizona is a right to work state so there is no such thing as a labor union in Arizona. There are organizations that sometimes elect to do collective bargaining. Florence is not one of those entities.

Mr. Billingsley stated that Proposition 411 is purely a local control issue. It is with regards to our local officials being able to make decisions on how they spend the revenues the Town receives. It is not a taxation issue or labor issue. The passage or defeat of Proposition 411 does not raise or lower taxes, fees, or what it costs to live in the Town of Florence. It only impacts the Town's ability to spend and make decisions for the money the Town receives as revenues. Proposition 411 will have absolutely no impact on the organizational structure of the Town or how the Town relates to its employees, with the exception that if the Town is unable to spend its revenues due to the state base adjustment and state limitation, service levels, and consequently the number of employees could be impacted based on the decision that is made.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Ms. Cathy Adam stated that she did not know that Mr. Billingsley was going to read her letter, and thanked him for doing so. She was present at the Council meeting to ensure that the Council approved the Pinal County Historical Society's Special Event Liquor License.

Ms. Adam stated that she was present when the Council approved the money for the Teen Program and left shortly after. She watched the remainder of the meeting and saw where the students properly addressed the Council and she was floored. It brought back memories of when she was in a similar program. She stated that she went to college because she was

given that opportunity through the program. She saw where Councilmember Woolridge volunteered and Vice-Mayor Walter has a special relationship with one of the participants. She thanked everyone for supporting the youth. She stated that Florence is on the right track.

Mr. Billingsley addressed the issue where construction has taken place adjacent to the local church. He stated that the construction is not being done by the Town. The Town has agreements with its utilities that allow them to do work on Town property under certain confines and guidelines. The property in question has been researched and is Town property and there is a 20 year lease on vacant Town property to allow for parking for the church. The Town should have done a better job of notifying the church for the construction that was going to take place by a third party.

Mr. Billingsley stated that as soon as he saw them staging to do the construction, he immediately contacted Public Works and they immediately reached out to the church and had a meeting before construction began. He stated that there should have been more notification. He stated that the Town will do better in providing proper notification.

CALL TO THE COUNCIL – CURRENT EVENTS ONLY

Councilmember Wall invited the public to the two Strategic Planning Forums on August 16, 2016 at the Anthem Sun City Ballroom and on August 17, 2016 at the Windmill Winery.

Councilmember Woolridge thanked staff for going door-to-door on Main Street to advise them of the Streetscape Project on Main Street.

Councilmember Anderson would like an update on the Façade Program at the next Council meeting.

Mr. Billingsley stated that what was approved in the budget was a potential dollar amount in the grants budget. He stated there is no funding for the Façade Program until a grant is applied for and awarded for the program. Staff has drafted guidelines and has reviewed Queen Creek and Maricopa's program. There have been discussions with both communities regarding their programs as well.

Councilmember Anderson asked for staff to share their ideas of what the program will entail, specifically after their discussions with the communities.

Vice-Mayor Walter thanked the public for attending the meeting. She thanked staff for their work with Mr. Christ with regards to his project. She thanked Mr. Billingsley for clarifying the issue regarding unionization. She stated that it is important for the public to know that unionization is not an issue and has never been an issue. There are associations in the community such as the Law Enforcement Association of Florence and the Association of Florence Firefighters. She stated that the association gives to the community and provided examples of what they do for the community. She stated that the Town is not in negotiations with the associations.

Discussion occurred regarding politicking.

ADJOURNMENT

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 Hawkins, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 pm.



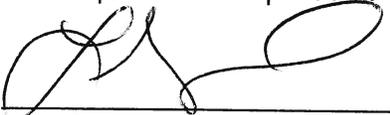
Tom J. Rankin, Mayor

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 August 15, 2016, and that the meeting was duly called to order and that a quorum was present.



Lisa Garcia, Town Clerk