**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2017, AT 6:00 P.M., IN THE FLORENCE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LOCATED AT 775 N. MAIN STREET, FLORENCE, ARIZONA.**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Walter called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Walter, Woolridge, Guilin, Wall, Larsen.
Absent: Hawkins, Anderson

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Mayor Walter called for a moment of silence.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Walter 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. Cathy Adam, Historic District Advisory Commissioner, invited the public to attend the many events happening throughout Florence on February 11, 2017.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Pinal County Transportation Planning Update Presentation.**

Mr. Andy Smith, Principal Planner, Pinal County, provided a presentation in which he outlined the following:

- Pinal County as a region
  - 12 cities and towns
  - Three adjacent counties
  - 5,300 square miles of land mass
  - Over 2,000 miles of roadway maintenance
  - Three ADOT Engineering Districts
  - Two metropolitan planning organizations
  - One Council of Governments
  - Four Regional Transportation Plans

- Three Transportation Improvement Programs
- Three Strategic Transportation Safety Plans
- Two Highway Performance Monitoring Systems (HPMS) data collection and reporting processes
- Two air quality control reporting processes
- Limited federal funding divided by three planning agencies

- Looking Regionally
  - Population in Pinal County has grown from 180,000 in 2000 to 400,000 in 2015.
  - There is a lack of federal and state funding and no gasoline tax increase since 1991.
  - State transportation funds are used primarily for preservation and maintenance of existing roadways.
  - Since 2001, the state has diverted $1.8 billion in Highway User Revenue Funds for other governmental programs.
  - A total of 19,159 crashes, with 323 fatal and 878 serious injuries, occurred within the Pinal region over the last 10 years.
  - There are limited north - south and east – west roadways to travel around Pinal County.
  - Over 16 transportation studies documenting transportation needs within the Pinal region have been completed the last 10 years.
  - Traffic projections state with a "no build" scenario that 47% of vehicles will encounter congestion by the year 2040.
  - Implementing regional improvements will improve that percentage to 20%.
- There is a need for regional solution.
  - Approval of this regional transportation plan and half-cent tax will be determined by Pinal County voters in November 2017.
  - The average cost impact to Pinal County residents is $88.00 a year or $7.33 a month (the cost of one fast food meal).
- PRTA – Purpose
  - Provides the governance for the county, cities, towns, and Indian communities to work collaboratively in developing a seamless countywide transportation system.
  - Requires a strong focus on developing a balanced regional transportation system.
  - Stipulates the development of a 20-year regional transportation plan (subject to voter approval).
  - Arizona Revised Statutes 48-5309
    - Provides a dedicated funding source to implement the regional transportation plan through an excise tax (subject to voter approval).
  - Arizona Revised Statutes 42-6106
    - Improves regional coordination and management of the transportation system.
- Pinal Regional Transportation Authority (PRTA)
  - Established on August 5, 2015
  - Presentations to Councils were done October – December 2015
  - Public Open Houses were done March – April 2016
  - Pinal RTA Approved Plan in May 2016
    - Headed for a November 2016 election
    - Arizona Automobile Association requested a change in the legislative language
  - Pinal RTA has rescinded the resolution for a vote prior (December 28, 2016)
    - The Pinal RTA has draft language for introducing – January 2017

    - Additional rounds of open houses
    - Pinal RTA will approve plan
  - Pinal Board of Supervisors will place on November 2017 election

Councilmember Wall inquired if the revenues derived from the half-cent sales tax will be used for payment of the planning itself or for implementation of the plan.

Mr. Smith stated that the revenues will be utilized for the implementation of the projects that were identified on the Pinal Regional Transportation Plan. He stated that the half-cent sales tax will yield approximately $640 million over the next 20 years. The projects on the plan total approximately $625 million.

Councilmember Wall inquired if there was a sunset on the projects.

Mr. Smith stated that the sunset would be 20 years. Changes to the plan would need to go before the Pinal County voters.

Mr. Smith continued with his presentation, in which he outlined the following;

- Regionally Significant Routes
  - Began in 2006
  - Identified east-west and north-south corridors throughout Pinal County that would connect all of the cities and towns to the activity centers in the region.
  - Map adopted by Pinal County Board of Supervisors in 2008.
  - Obtained resolutions of support from cities and towns, ADOT, tribal communities and federal highways on the plan.
  - To ensure that right-of-way for regionally significant routes is preserved and the corridors are funded and implemented.
  - To coordinate and be consistent with adopted regional and local transportation plans and activities.
  - To define a process to update the preservation map as regional and local transportation plans are adopted and updated.
- Purpose
  - The Access Management Manual provides guidance on the implementation of access management for Regionally Significant Routes for Safety and Mobility (RSRSM) to Pinal County, local jurisdictions, Native American Communities, and private developers. The intent of the manual is to ensure consistent application of access criteria on RSRs across all entities in the County.
  - Project Approach Overview
    - Access Management Principals & Benefits
    - Existing Policies and Ordinances Review
    - Access Spacing Requirements – Best Practices Review
    - Review Design Standards and Develop New Standards as needed
    - Implementation Methods - Traffic Impact Analysis procedures, retrofit program, and granting variance
    - Access approval & Permit Process – Updates to Early Alert Process
- What's Next

- November 2016-February 2017
  - City-Town Council presentations
- March-May 2017
  - Final draft coordination and city-town resolutions of support
  - Request to come before Florence Town Council requesting a resolution of support on the revised map
- June-July 2017
  - Board of Supervisors Approval and Adoption

- Did You Know?
  - There is a lack of federal and state funding and no gasoline tax increase since 1991.
  - State transportation funds are used primarily for preservation and maintenance of existing roadways.
  - Since 2001, the State has diverted $1.8 billion in Highway User Revenue Funds for other governmental programs.
  - Approval of this Regional Transportation Plan and half-cent tax will be determined by Pinal County voters in March 2017.
  - The average cost impact to Pinal County residents is $88.00 a year or $7.33 a month (the cost of one fast food meal).
  - Current sales tax ranges from 8.7% to 10.7% throughout Pinal County.
  - Regionally Significant Routes for Safety and Mobility
    - Access Management
      - Need to finds ways for development to access the specific corridors
      - Safety is a concern and they needed to come up with better practices to access roads
      - Roadway classification under review
        - Parkway
        - Major arterial
        - Minor arterial
        - Major collector
        - Minor collector
- Next Steps
  - Pinal Regional Transportation Authority
  - No change based on Board of Supervisors
  - Change to Legislation to address $10,000 single item
  - Evaluate revenue projections - $10,000 single item; estimated $22 million dollar impact
  - Stakeholder Outreach
  - Five additional public open houses
  - Prepare Ballot Language
  - Preparation for the Election

Mayor Walter thanked Mr. Smith for the informative presentation.

**Presentation on the 2017 Legislative Update.**

Mr. Jess Knudson, Assistant Town Manager, provided a presentation in which he outlined the following:

- Legislative Overview
  - The Legislative session began on January 9, 2017.
  - Approximately 1500 bills are introduced each session.
    - Approximately 350 bills make it to the Governor's desk.
    - Fewer bills introduced this year than in previous years.
  - Bills are introduced into February.
  - Committee assignments for bills are set usually by 3rd week of February.
    - Bills that do not receive a committee assignment by the deadline are usually done for the year.
    - The 3rd week in March is the second chamber's committee deadline.
  - Session is supposed to last 100 days, but not always.
- Bill Process
  - Steps for a bill:
    - Bill is first assigned to a committee
      - Communities' chance to testify and address concerns or express support of bill
    - Bill then goes to the Rules Committee
      - Ensures compliance with existing rules and regulations
    - Bill is the forwarded to Caucus
    - Bill then goes to the Committee of the Whole (COW)
      - Reading of the bill on the floor
    - Bill is then voted on the third reading of the bill
    - Bill goes to other chamber (House or Senate) and the process repeats.
  - The two bills passed by each respective chamber must be identical and the bill then goes to the Governor.
    - Governor can sign, veto, or let allow bills to become law without a signature.
    - Bills become law 90 days after Sine Die, except when passed with an emergency clause.
- The Florence Way
  - Support legislation the positively effects the Town of Florence and its citizens.
    - Do no harm
  - Oppose legislation that negatively affects the Town's finances.
  - Transaction Privilege Tax (TPT), Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF), state-shared, impact fees, or other revenues received by the Town from various sources.
    - Since 2001, $1.9 billion has been wiped away from cities and towns that was supposed to be spent on roads in infrastructure and are now being spent on other state agencies.
  - Support legislation that strengthens local control.
  - Support legislation that enhances the ability of the Town to improve economic development activities.
  - Support efforts to increase our ability to provide quality parks and library services.
  - Support legislation that increases our ability to plan, design and construct infrastructure projects.
    - Funding
    - Regulations
  - Support legislation that maximizes our ability to protect the health, safety and welfare of our residents
- Action required that allows the Town to work with its legislatures and counter parts.

- Guided by this legislative platform, staff takes action to influence legislatiion that positively affects the best interests of the Town of Florence.
  - Have the ability to sign in to oppose or in favor of the bill that is flowing through the legislative process
  - Can sign in that you are willing to testify on the bill
  - Enlist assistance from councilmembers
  - Work with aligned interests (cities, towns, and League of Cities and Towns)
- Staff updates Council at Town Council meetings, and by other means, to provide information to and seek direction from the Council.

- Bills of Interest
  - House Bill (HB) 2088 (incorporation; urbanized areas)
    - Companion in Senate is Senate Bill (SB) 1125
    - Affects possible corporation of San Tan Valley
    - Representative Farnsworth is sponsoring the bill
    - Seeks to remove the three and six-mile rule from State Statutes.
    - Since 1961, 30 cities and towns have been incorporated through the existing statutes.
    - If the area is 15,000 or larger than the surrounding cities and towns then the area would not have to come to Florence for a resolution and would not have to seek authorization from Florence to move forward with a vote for incorporation.
  - HB 2179 – (municipalities; counties; intergovernmental agreements; requirements)
    - Requires all cities and towns to catalog and review all their intergovernmental agreements (IGAs), to limit length of terms of all of them to eight years, and continually renew agreements.
  - HB 2212 (federal financial assistance; reports)
    - On October 31st of each year, cities run a report identifying any federal funds and report the findings to legislature by December 1st. Cities have to explain how you fund your programs without federal funding. This unfunded mandate is additional unnecessary regulation.
  - HB 2121 (immigration; prohibited acts; civil action)
    - If an undocumented immigrant is arrested then released after immigration is called but does not show up, and then commits a crime, city and state officials can be held responsible.
  - HB 2213 (GPLET reform; K-12 taxes)
    - GPLET (Government Property Lease Excise Tax) is an economic development tool that allows developers to abate taxes over eight years. This bill requires cities to pay K12 school taxes upfront which renders GPLET impractical. This removes one of the very few economic development tools available to cities and towns.
    - The tool attracts large projects to the communities.
    - Requires cities and towns to pay upfront any loss of property tax revenues to the schools.
  - Senate Bill 1214 an HB 2365
    - Cox and Verizon negotiating language with the League on a "small cell" bill.
    - Technology has changed where they want multiple small antennas with much shorter distance. This would replace the large towers.
    - Would allow consumers faster upload and download times.
    - Concerns with putting the equipment in the Town's right-of-way.
    - Different bills being proposed by Cox and Verizon

- Governor's Budget Proposal
  - Continues the sweep of HURF ($96 million)
  - Does not renew the one-time transportation money that was in last year's budget.
  - No proposed change to the continuation of local government payment for Arizona Department of Revenue services, this year expected to be approximately $12 million for cities and towns.
  - Concerns exist because of continued trend of shifting responsibility of funding state to local governments.
  - Pushes the responsibility back on the cities and towns to provide the burden of the cost or provide services without any type of funding that is available to the cities and towns.
- HB 2143
  - Any maintenance or project that the Town conducts in excess of $25,000 is required to go through a procurement process.
  - Would push work out to the project sector regardless of the cost or benefit to the citizens.
- HB 2022
  - Allows the discharge of small caliber ammunition to occur within the Town's boundaries.

- Helpful Resources
  - Arizona State Legislature – ALIS, www.azleg.gov
    - Legislator Information, Bill Search, Bill Status, Bill Summaries, Committee Agendas, Watch Live Proceedings, Request to Speak (RTS)
  - League of Cities and Towns - www.azleague.org
    - Legislative Issues and Bulletin, Events and Training Schedule, Resource Library, General Counsel Opinions, Helpful Publications

Councilmember Larsen inquired about the signing in process.

Mr. Knudson explained the signing in process. He stated that you can view the proceedings and hear the discussions on the bills as well.

Mr. Brent Billingsley, Town Manager, stated that you must be registered with the State Legislature in order to create an account and can register as an individual or as a councilmember. He explained what the process entailed.

**Presentation to provide an update on the 2012 Police Operations and Data Analysis Report.**

Mr. Billingsley stated that the Town enlisted International Cities and County Managers Association (ICMA) to assist in conducting an audit of the Florence Police Department in 2012. Through this effort a large report was generated with milestones and goals to be achieved from leadership, to management staff, to the Police Department. Things continue to be implemented, based on the report and the implementation is nearly complete.

Mr. Dan Hughes, Police Chief, stated that the staff of the Florence Police Department stand firm in their pursuit for justice and public trust. They will stay true to their mission of providing

service and safety to their community with honor, respect, and integrity. They are committed to providing fair and equal treatment to those they encounter.

Chief Hughes provided a presentation in which he outlined the following:

- Created a mission statement
  - Not necessarily a recommendation but felt that the officers needed a mission statement that they created to truly adhere to.
- In early 2012 the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Center for Public Safety Management was engaged to perform an analysis and evaluation of the Florence Police Department including its organizational structure, management processes, policies, staffing, and operations. Specifically, ICMA was asked to review the operations, policies, and practices of the department; analyze those operations, policies, and practices in light of current standards and practices of police organizations of similar size; identify major areas where the operations, policies, and practices of the department appeared to deviate from standard practice; and broadly recommend corrective actions that could be taken to correct any deficiencies.
- ICMA was asked to critically examine the department's capabilities regarding strategic planning, internal and external communications, decision making, record keeping, and overall command structure. ICMA was also charged with obtaining and analyzing performance information contained in the department's computer aided dispatch (CAD) system.
- Overall there were approximately 90 recommendations within the ICMA report. All reasonable and necessary recommendations have been addressed.
- Went through the ICMA report page by page and reviewed the recommendations in order to evaluate how quickly each could be accomplished.
- Recommendations were listed throughout the report.
- The following are highlights from the ICMA report.
- General Recommendations – Implementation:
  - It was recommended that the department communicate a coherent strategic plan.
    - A five year strategic plan has been developed for the department
    - A complete set of new policies and procedures were written and are available for the officers both in print and online.
      - Written to national standards should the Police Department seek accreditation
  - It was recommended that the department hold staff meetings for all supervisory personnel.
    - Staff meetings are held bi-weekly.
  - A complete shift schedule with a proposed personnel level of three officers per shift and one supervisor.
    - When required supervisors are adjusted to cover shifts.
  - Supervisors have specific areas of responsibility and assigned a geographical area with a squad of officers.
- Community Dashboard
  - Shows what crimes have happened in the last three days and they can go back one year
  - Can determine hot spots so they know where they need to spend their time at.
  - Staff reviews dashboard daily and discuss quality of life and the crimes that have occurred.

- The dashboard is available on the website and users can review their area and what is happening in their area
  - Some information is not available to the public

- Beat Maps
  - Broken down to three beats
  - Sergeants and officers are assigned to a beat.
  - Police officers are responsible for their areas
  - Gives them ownership of their areas and they look for strategies to keep crime down
- Supervisors develop annual goals which include: community meetings, manpower allocation, directed patrols, training, crime prevention and beat integrity.
  - Supervisors utilize the beat team sergeants and officers to promote Community policing programs.
  - We have provided technology to assist our supervisors as well.
- Recommendation – Implementation: Building
  - Have made numerous changes to the building.
    - Building has been repainted
    - Added covering parking area
  - Reconfigured the briefing area
  - Replaced the furniture for a more efficient work area.
  - Now have training area
  - Audio and video equipment has been added in the holding area and the interview room giving the capability to record for sight and sound.
  - Through grant funding a LiveScan machine was purchased to take digital fingerprints.
    - The LiveScan is connected to DPS where the prints are sent to the statewide data
  - Civilian personnel and volunteers play an important role.
    - Dispatchers are certified through the Association of Public Safety Officials (APCO certified).
    - Volunteers are recognized for their valuable service.
- General Recommendations – Implementation: Criminal Investigations
  - Investigators are assigned cases through Case Management where cases are tracked electronically eliminating paper logs.
  - Solvability factors are utilized when determining which cases should be assigned.
  - A Professional Standards Unit (PSU) Sergeant reports directly to the Chief on disciplinary matters and conducts investigations as necessary.
- 2013 - Florence was recognized as one of the top safest cities.
- 2016 - Florence was named one of the safest places in Arizona.
  - Florence was ranked as the number one safest place to live in Arizona.
  - In addition to a low rate of violent crime, it had the lowest rate of property crime in this study.
  - Florence was the only Arizona city with a crime score below 500.
- This information comes from Value Penguin a Consumer Research Company that has been featured in several major publications including CNN, CNBC, US News & World Report, USA Today, Associated Press, and more.
- General list of accomplishment for the Florence Police Department since 2013:
  - Revamped the volunteer program and recruited new volunteers (ongoing)
  - Assigned volunteers to take reports of minor thefts or incidents

- Completion of the Anthem substation
- Applied for and received grants from GOHS and Homeland Security
- Completed the Police Department's covered parking
- Providing superior fire dispatch services (part of regionalization)
- Completed two Citizen's Police Academies
- I was elected President of the Pinal County Law Enforcement Association Board of Directors for 2017
- Conducted a complete evidence audit yearly with all items accounted for

Mayor Walter inquired as to what the process is for becoming an accredited Police Department.

Chief Hughes explained that there are 400 standards that the Police Department has to meet. He stated that the policies also have to match exactly with what the Police Department does and explained how the verification process is done. The process takes approximately three years. He stated that there is a cost and it requires a lot of extra work, but is worth it.

Mayor Walter inquired if there are benefits associated with the accreditation.

Chief Hughes explained that the benefits include:
- Forces departments to keep up with the standards.
- Must continually update polices
- Assists in lawsuits (accreditation and meeting of national standards).

Mayor Walter inquired as to what the current training requirements are for the Police Department.

Chief Hughes stated that they are currently training on:
- Officer ambushes
- Dealing with unstable individuals
  - How to de-escalate
- Updates on current laws
- Search and seizure
  - Marijuana laws

Mr. Billingsley stated that he has been through the accreditation process while he was working in Maricopa and it is very expensive. Typically an agency hires an individual whose sole responsibility is to work on the paperwork regarding the accreditation. It is normally large agencies who go through the accreditation and not the small communities primarily due to the associated cost.

Mr. Billingsley stated that Chief Hughes was elected as President of the Pinal County Law Enforcement Association this year, which is a distinct honor for the Chief and the Town of Florence.

**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 the acceptance of the public improvements for the Anthem at Merrill Ranch Subdivision Unit 50 prior to the start of the warranty period beginning February 6, 2017.**

b. **Approval of the acceptance of the public improvements of Anthem at Merrill Ranch Constitution Way Phase II, prior to the start of the warranty period beginning February 6, 2017.**

c. **Approval of partial acceptance of the public improvements of Anthem at Merrill Ranch Spirit Loop III Station 10+00 thru 24+00 and Spirit Loop IV Station 10+00 thru 12+09.32, prior to the start of the warranty period beginning February 6, 2017.**

d. **Favorable recommendation to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control on the Elks Lodge of Coolidge/Florence #2350 application for a Special Event Liquor License for their participation in the Anthem at Merrill Ranch Spring Fling event on April 1, 2017.**

e. **Approval of the Pinal County Property Use Agreement for use of the vacant lot, located at 383 N. Main Street, for the Road to Country Thunder event, on April 1, 2017.**

f. **Suspension of the Special Event Vendor Permit rules on April 1, 2017, for the Road to Country Thunder Event.**

g. **Approval of granting Steven Smallidge a 180-day extension, pursuant to the Special Warranty Deed, for completion of the rehabilitation of the Cuen Building.**

h. **Adoption of Resolution No. 1614-17:**

Mayor Walter read Resolution No. 1614-17 by title only.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, ACCEPTING THE TRANSFER OF RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR A PORTION OF HUNT HIGHWAY, PURSUANT TO THE CONDITIONS CONTAINED IN PINAL COUNTY CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR TRANSFER OF COUNTY RIGHT-OF-WAY , AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE ATTACHED RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT.**

i. **Adoption of Resolution No. 1615-17:**

Mayor Walter read Resolution No. 1615-17 by title only.

**A RESOLUTION OF TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING MAYOR TARA WALTER, TOWN MANAGER BRENT BILLINGSLEY, AND FINANCE DIRECTOR JOE JARVIS TO ACT AS SIGNATORIES FOR THE TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS ON THE TOWN OF FLORENCE BANKING ACCOUNTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

j. **Re-appointment of Talma Harmon to a two-year term to the Library Advisory Board, with a term to expire December 31, 2018.**

k. **Appointment of Victoria A. Ruiz to fill the remaining one-year term on the Historic District Advisory Commission, with a term to expire December 31, 2017.**

l. **Appointment of Lonnie K. Frost to fill the remaining one-year term on the Planning and Zoning Commission, with a term to expire December 31, 2017.**

m. **Approval of accepting the register of demands ending December 31, 2016, in the amount of $2,193,556.59.**

n. **Notice of Task Orders issued for On-Call Engineering pursuant to Council approved contract. This item is Information Only.**

   i. **Responses to the Request for Proposals were received on November 2, 2016, for the 1st Street Improvements Project and was awarded to Wilson and Company.**

   ii. **Responses to the Request for Proposals were received on December 14, 2016, for the design and permitting of a new recharge facility at the Town of Florence South Plant Wastewater Reclamation Facility (WRF), and for the design and permitting of a renewed recharge facility at the North WRF and was awarded to Westland Resources.**

   iii. **Responses to the Request for Proposals were received on December 16, 2016, for the Engineering and Design Services related to Improvements for Well #1 and Associated Equipment and was awarded to Hazen and Sawyer.**

   iv. **Responses to the Request for Proposals were received on January 5, 2017, for the Engineering and Design Services related to Improvements for Florence Gardens Phase IV and V and was awarded to EPS Group Inc.**

   v. **Responses to the Request for Proposals were received on January 12, 2017, for the Engineering and Design Services related to North West Florence Gardens Water Storage Tank Structural Assessment and was awarded to Hazen and Sawyer.**

Mayor Walter asked for clarification of item i. asking that the "declaring an emergency be stricken from the resolution.

Ms. Lisa Garcia, Deputy Town Manager/ Town Clerk, stated that since there are not enough councilmembers present to declare an emergency the Clerk's Office will automatically remove that from the resolution and the resolution will become effective in 30 days.

Ms. Garcia also corrected the typographical error on Item n iv. which should have read Florence Gardens Phase IV and V in the description.

On motion of Councilmember Guilin, seconded by Vice-Mayor Woolridge, and carried to approve the Consent Agenda, as written, with the exception of Item 7g.

**g. Approval of granting Steven Smallidge a 180-day extension, pursuant to the Special Warranty Deed, for completion of the rehabilitation of the Cuen Building.**

Mayor Walter asked that the wording of the motion be specific to read: "approval of granting Steven Smallidge a one-time 180-day extension, pursuant to Section 3, Article ii of the Special Warranty Deed with Reverter, to complete the renovation and rehabilitation of the Cuen building and receive a Certificate of Occupancy no later than 11:59 pm, November 11, 2017".

On motion of Councilmember Guilin, seconded by Vice-Mayor Woolridge, and carried for approval of granting Steven Smallidge a one-time 180-day extension, pursuant to Section 3, Article ii of the Special Warranty Deed with Reverter, to complete the renovation and rehabilitation of the Cuen building and receive a Certificate of Occupancy no later than 11:59 pm, November 11, 2017.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of the Terms of Engagement for Legal Services and Engagement Agreement letter dated January 12, 2017 with Gust Rosenfeld, P.L.C., for legal representation of the Town in regulatory matters, including administrative appeals and potential litigation against county, state and federal environmental agencies with respect to the permitting process for the "Florence Copper Project", including but not limited to permits for the proposed "Production Test Facility" and any future commercial operations.**

Mr. Cliff Mattice, Town Attorney, stated that Gust Rosenfield, P.L.C., currently represents the Town as outside counsel in the litigation regarding the Florence Copper Project. The law firm is required to have a written Engagement Agreement clarifying the scope of engagement.

On motion of Councilmember Wall, seconded by Councilmember Guilin, and carried to approve the Terms of Engagement for Legal Services and Engagement Agreement letter dated January 12, 2017 with Gust Rosenfeld, P.L.C., for legal representation of the Town in regulatory matters.

**Resolution No. 1617-17**

Mayor Walter read Resolution No. 1617-17 by title only.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT RELATING TO REAL PROPERTY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A SINGLE-STORY MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING LOCATED AT 174 WEST HIGHWAY 287, FLORENCE, ARIZONA.**

Mr. Billingsley stated that the project will help a local business in town to enhance the services they provided as well as enhancing the health care services for Florence. He stated that

adoption of the resolution will enact a development agreement that was presented to Council last month with respect to the healthcare facility.

Mr. Billingsley introduced Mr. Peter Crandall, SimonCRE Representative,and stated that they started a project for Sun Life Family Health Center in June 2016. They have gone through the design review process and the construction submittal process as well. During this time, it was discovered that they had a low fire flow. The minimum requirement for fire flow was 1,500 gallons per minute and they were approximately half of the minimum amount. He stated that the need for a development agreement came in order to increase the water flow to the site.

On motion of Councilmember Larsen, seconded by Councilmember Wall, and carried to adopt Resolution No. 1617-17.

**Discussion/Approval/Disapproval to approve the purchase of a Kaeser Omega 83P blower from James, Cooke & Hobson, Inc., in an amount not to exceed $29,088.**

Mr. Billingsley stated that the Town had a catastrophic failure last week with one of the four blowers. The blowers are used to aid the sewage treatment plant in treating water. The Town is currently operating on the back up.

Mr. Billingsley stated that the Town did not go out for bid for this item because only a specific type and specific brand of blower will work at this plant.

On motion of Councilmember Wall, seconded by Councilmember Larsen, and carried to approve the purchase of a Kaeser Omega 83P blower from James, Cooke & Hobson, Inc., in an amount not to exceed $29,088.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Billingsley stated that a letter was received by the Parks and Recreation Department, which read: "I want to say thank you for all of your help on the set up for the Florence Football Banquet last week. It was a great night. The facilities are outstanding and the staff was super helpful. It was our first time going off campus for one of these events. The feedback that I have received has been nothing but positive. Everyone complimented the facilities. Thank you again for all of your help. I look forward to working with you in the future. Sincerely, Scott Howard, Florence High School Head Football Coach".

Mr. Billingsley stated that for the first time ever, the Town had twice as many patrons attend the monthly movie than they had space for. He stated unfortunately, approximately 20 patrons had to be turned away because they exceeded the capacity. The space was able to accommodate 100. He stated that staff had a second screening the following week and approximately 40 patrons attended. He thanked the staff for handling the situation professionally.

Mr. Billingsley stated that the Town closed on February 2, 2017, the refunding for Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No. 1. The Town met the terms of refunding at 2.97%, as promised to Council.

Mr. Billingsley stated that the Town's Safe Routes to School Grant Applications were approved, and Florence was approved through Maricopa Association of Governments to receive $39,606 for the Florence Frameworks Study which will look at all of the school zones around Flroence and will work with a consultant to do a safe route to school plan for implementation in coordination between the Police Department, Fire Department, Florence Unified School District and the Town's Administration Department. He stated that the recommendations will be forwarded to the Arizona Department of Transportation, who administers the program.

Mr. Billingsley, stated that the APS Office of Corporate Giving and Community Affairs has provided funding, based on application to Florence for the following:

- $2,000 for the Town's Board and Commissions Dinner
- $1,500 to assist with the Electric Light Parade
- $100 for trash boxes to be used at various events

Mr. Billingsley thanked APS for their generosity.

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

**Community Development**
**Courts**
**Finance**
**Fire**
**Library**
**Parks and Recreation**
**Police**
**Public Works**

Mr. Billingsley stated that Mr. Jess Knudson, Assistant Town Manager, will provide a written and verbal report to Council throughout the legislative session on legislative issues.

The Department Reports were received and filed.

## CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public comments.

## CALL TO THE COUNCIL – CURRENT EVENTS ONLY

Councilmember Larsen thanked everyone for attending the Council meeting.

Councilmember Wall thanked all of the board and commission members that were appointed at this evening's meeting. She appreciates their service to the Town. She thanked Mr. Bryan Hughes, Parks and Recreation Director, and the Arts and Culture Commission for the work done on the Suter Home in preparation of the Home Tour. She also thanked Mr. Hughes and staff for the great publicity on the Home Tour. She has seen advertisements in many locations.

Vice-Mayor Woolridge stated that she attended the Ak-Chin Indian Community First Tribal Council Inauguration. They now have a tribal council which will be another resource the Town has.

Mayor Walter stated that there is a Relay for Life event on April 21, 2017 for Coolidge and Florence. The Elks Lodge hosted a scavenger hunt between both communities. The Mayor of Coolidge participated and Florence won the scavenger hunt. She stated that in total there were approximately 15 spots between Coolidge and Florence in which clues were located. She learned some interesting facts about both communities.

Mayor Walter stated that she shared an invitation to those in attendance at the last Maricopa Association of Government meeting to the Home Tour so hopefully there will be officials from other communities attending.

**ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**An Executive Session will be held during the Council Meeting for the purposes of discussions or consultations with designated representatives of the public body and/or legal counsel pursuant to A.R.S. Sections 38-431.03 (A)(3) and (A)(4) and (A)(7) to consider its position and instruct its representatives and/or attorneys regarding:**

**Town's position and instruct its attorneys in regard to Arizona Department of Environmental Quality proceedings and related Water Quality Appeals Board Case No. 16-002.**

**The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 ("EPA"), Class III Underground Injection Control ("UIC") Permit, No. R9UIC-AZ3-FY11-1, issued to Florence Copper, Inc. for an In-Situ Copper Production Test Facility ("PTF"), along with comments and the EPA's response to comments and the Permit proceedings and procedures.**

**Possible negotiations with government agencies and private entities involving the purchase, sale or lease of the Town's real property, and contracts and/or settlement discussions related to such real property, in the area of the Florence Gardens, Caliente and Casita Hermosa subdivisions.**

**Possible contract negotiations related to the proposed Johnson Estates development project.**

On motion of Vice-Mayor Woolridge, seconded by Councilmember Guilin, and carried to adjourn to Executive Session.

**ADJOURNMENT FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Vice-Mayor Woolridge, seconded by Councilmember Larsen, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

Tara Walter

Tara Walter, 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 February 6, 2017, and that the meeting was duly called to order and that a quorum was present.

Lisa Garcia, Town Clerk