

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2018, AT 6:00 P.M., IN THE FLORENCE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LOCATED AT 775 N. MAIN STREET, FLORENCE, ARIZONA.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Mayor Woolridge called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Vice-Mayor Woolridge called for a moment of Silence.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Vice-Mayor Woolridge 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.

There were no public comments.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Teen Council Update.**

Mr. David Lewis, Recreation Leader III, stated that members of the Teen Council will update the Council on what has been happening with the

Mr. Robert Swinford, Teen Council member, stated that they did the following in September 2017:

- Cleaned a one mile stretch of Hunt Highway
- Helped with two successful events with karaoke and food eating competition
- Planned and designed the Haunted House

Kayden Cluff, Florence Teen Council member, stated that they did the following for the month of October 2017:

- Participated in Make A Difference day in which they painted tables on Main Street and picked up trash at the park
- Operated the Florence Haunted House

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- Worked on a building

James Bruin, Florence Teen Council member, stated that they did the following for the month of November 2017:

- Increased membership numbers in the Anthem area
- Ran successful sports events during the school's half days with such sports as basketball corn hole, and music at the park
- Participated in the Jr. Parada festivities with the Town Council in which they built a float for the parade

Abby Johnson, Florence Teen Council member, stated that they participated in the following for the month of December 2017:

- Participated in the Christmas on Main Street Parade
- Hosted 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Holiday Hoedown hosted at the Community Center
- Hosted Kick Ball Tournament in which they had over 40 participants and Sonic donated water for the event.

Lolita Vasquez, Florence Teen Council member, outlined the upcoming events, which include:

- Senior Prom for the senior citizens on March 10, 2018 at the Community Center
- Teen Leadership Symposium on April 12, 2018

Councilmember Anderson thanked the Teen Council for building the float for the Jr. Parada and Christmas on Main Parades. She enjoyed singing Christmas carols with them.

Councilmember Larsen commended them for the progress that they have made and for their involvement in the community.

Councilmember Anderson thanked the Teen Council and the Parks and Recreation staff for the great events. Everything is coming together so well.

Councilmember Guilin thanked Mr. Hunter for instilling enthusiasm and professionalism in the students. The students are doing a great job.

Mr. Lewis has been instrumental this year. They are transitioning from Mr. Hunter to Mr. Lewis and Mr. Lewis has been instrumental in moving the Teen Council forward.

Vice-Mayor Woolridge complimented the teens for being willing and able to come and speak at the Council meeting. They did a great job.

Councilmember Hawkins complimented the Teen Council for the job they did on the haunted house. He stated that they did an awesome job and it was well attended.

Mayor Walter is extremely impressed. Many of the members on the Teen Council were past students of Mayor Walter and she is proud of them. The skills that they are developing are so important as well as their community involvement. She thanked Mr. Hunter for his work with the Teen Council as well as with staff.

## **Presentation on upcoming special events from February to July 2018.**

Ms. Allison Feliz, Recreation Coordinator, outlined the upcoming Town-sponsored events, which include the following:

- Cornhole Cup
  - January 27, 2018 at Padilla Park
- 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Home Tour
  - February 19, 2018
  - Theme: An Arizona's Hidden Treasure
  - Will have tour guide map instead of a booklet
    - Will have a hidden treasure at each location
  - 18 total properties which include the eight homes on the tour
  - Three reenactments from the Maricopa High School Drama Club
  - Quick draw for artists and their artwork will be auctioned off later in the day
  - Wine Garden at Padilla Park presented by the Windmill Winery
  - Wild Horse and Burro Inmate Program
- Munch and Music at Padilla Park
  - February 14, 2018
    - Poston Butte High School Orchestra
    - Florence High School Band
  - March 14, 2018
    - Rusted Spur West
  - No cost for performers
    - Performers are able to collect tips
- Pooch Party
  - February 24, 2018 Central Bark Park
  - Pinal County will offer vaccinations and licensing
  - \$10,000 in improvements were done at the park
    - Pet Safe Park Grant
- Easter Eggstravaganza
  - March 24, 2017 at Heritage Park
  - Partner - Mosaic Church
  - Partner – Pinal County Mounted Posse who will be doing breakfast
  - 12,000 prize-filled eggs
  - Recreational games
  - Pictures with the Easter Bunny
- Road to Country Thunder
  - March 31, 2018 in downtown Main
  - Several partners
    - Country Thunder, KMLE, Pinal County Mounted Posse, American Legion, Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce and Eegees
- Movie in the Park
  - April 28, 2018 at Aquatics Center Multi-purpose fields
  - Despicable Me 3
  - Teen Council will provide entertainment prior to the movie
  - Refreshments will be sold as well as food vendors will be present

Ms. Feliz outlined the upcoming non-Town-sponsored events, which include the following:

- Model Air Show
- Events at the Rodeo Grounds
  - Florence Prison Run – February 11, 2018
  - Queen Creek Jr. Rodeo
  - Arizona High School Rodeo – March 31, 2018
  - Ranch Rodeo – March 3, 2018
- Events in the Anthem Community
  - Arts in the Park – February 3, 2018, March 3, 2018 and April 7, 2018
  - Spring Festival – March 10, 2018
  - Anthem Triathlon – February 24, 2018
- Other events in the community
  - Assumption Parish Festival – February 10, 2018
  - Classic Car Show – February 17, 2018
    - Hosted by Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce
  - Fashion Show
    - Women’s Club
  - Country Thunder – April 5 – 8, 2018
  - Dionysus Dash
    - Windmill Winery
  - Little League Opening Ceremony
    - Heritage Park

Councilmember Anderson inquired if this information is available on the website.

Ms. Feliz stated that the information is available on the website; however, it is will be updated periodically. The non-Town sponsored events are not listed on the website.

Vice-Mayor Woolridge requested that all community events be listed on the Town’s website.

Ms. Feliz stated that they will list the events and link them to their respective organizer/organization.

### **2017 Annual Report from the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce.**

Ms. Jennifer Evans, Management Analyst, stated that the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce recently held their board elections and their new Chairperson is Wendy Yu. Unfortunately, Ms. Yu is unable to attend the Council meeting, and the past Chairman, Rodney Mendoza, will do the presentation.

Mr. Rodney Mendoza, Past Chairman, thanked Councilmember Wall for her attendance tat all of their meetings. He also thanked Ms. Evans and Mr. Billingsley for their continual attendance and their ideas.

Mr. Mendoza provided an overview of the 2017 year for both McFarland State Park and the Visitor’s Center, which included:

- The hours of operation are:
  - October 1<sup>st</sup> through May 31<sup>st</sup>: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
  - Summer Hours: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Provided access to public telephones, drinking water and general information.
  - It is the small things that the public appreciates.
- New brochures have been added
- Outside racks have been kept stocked with brochures
  - Available to the public after hours.
- An annual Special Event Calendar was compiled and updated quarterly.
- Total visitor count for McFarland State Park and Visitor Center was 8,197
  - McFarland State Park: 6,089
    - Took full tour
  - Visitor Center: 2,108
    - Did not take tour and/or visited the Visitor Center only
  - Had less visitors than the previous year
- Goal for 2018 is to raise visitor numbers
  - Will have quarterly events
  - Will have talks in the courtroom
- Donations for 2017 were \$1,971.
- Promotional letters sent to regional RV parks and 55+ communities
  - Educate winter visitors of what Florence has to offer
- Discussion for more advertisement opportunities
- Doing continual improvements to draw guests
- Upcoming Events
  - Chamber is hosting the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Car Show
    - Will be located in downtown Main Street
    - Commitments from car clubs in Casa Grande, Mesa, Phoenix and Apache Junction
    - Many have never been to Florence
  - Cinco De Mayo Event
  - Casino Night
  - Cornhole Tournament
- Plans for 2018
  - Do a Strategic Plan
    - Will have succession in place for future board members

**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. **Acceptance of Larry Putrick's resignation from the Planning and Zoning Commission. (Lisa Garcia)**
- b. **Authorization to advertise Peter Villa Verde's vacant seat on the Industrial Development Authority. (Lisa Garcia)**

- c. **Approval of entering into a Professional Services Agreement with the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce for Calendar Year 2018, in an amount not to exceed \$45,000. (Jennifer Evans)**
- d. **Authorization to suspend the Town of Florence Special Event Vendor Permit rules for the Road to Country Thunder event to allow the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce to coordinate vendors and collect vendor fees as a fundraiser during the Road to Country Thunder event on March 31, 2018. (Lisa Garcia)**
- e. **Approval of the December 4, 2017 Town Council Regular Meeting minutes.**
- f. **Receive and file the following board and commission minutes:**
  - i. **November 9, and December 7, 2017 Arts and Culture Commission meeting minutes.**

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

- a. **Acceptance of Larry Putrick's resignation from the Planning and Zoning Commission.**

Councilmember Anderson stated that he was on the Planning and Zoning Commission with Mr. Putrick for several years. He has been an excellent representative for Florence. He also serves on the Pinal County Board. He has always had Florence's best interest at heart.

On motion of Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Wall, and carried to accept Larry Putrick's resignation from the Planning and Zoning Commission.

- b. **Authorization to advertise Peter Villa Verde's vacant seat on the Industrial Development Authority. (Lisa Garcia)**

Councilmember Anderson stated that Mr. VillaVerde has been a cornerstone for the community. He was a past State Legislative and has always been active in the community. He always tried to do the best for Florence.

On motion of Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Wall, and carried to accept Larry Putrick's resignation from the Planning and Zoning Commission.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Appointment of Board/Commission members.**

### **Re-appointment of Ann Rankin and Ed Curran to the Arts and Culture Commission with terms to expire December 31, 2020.**

Ms. Lisa Garcia, Deputy Town Manager/Town Clerk stated that the Clerk's Office advertised for the positions from October through December. The applicant listed on the agenda are the only applications that were received. The Town will re-advertise for the following:

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- Industrial Development Authority – one opening
- Library Advisory Board – two openings
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board – one opening

The positions will be advertised until filled.

On motion of Councilmember Wall, seconded by Vice-Mayor Woolridge, and carried to re-appoint Ann Rankin and Ed Curran to the Arts and Culture Commission with terms to expire December 31, 2020.

**Re-appointment of Cathy Adam, Victoria Knight, and Debbie Novotny to the Historic District Advisory Commission with terms to expire December 31, 2020.**

On motion of Councilmember Wall, seconded by Vice-Mayor Woolridge, and carried to re-appoint Cathy Adam, Victoria Knight, and Debbie Novotny to the Historic District Advisory Commission with terms to expire December 31, 2020.

**Re-appointment of Tom Smith to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board with term to expire December 31, 2020.**

On motion of Councilmember Wall, seconded by Vice-Mayor Woolridge, and carried to re-appoint Tom Smith to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board with a term to expire December 31, 2020.

**Re-appointment of Lonnie Frost and Robert Smidt to the Planning and Zoning Commission with terms to expire December 31, 2020.**

On motion of Councilmember Wall, seconded by Vice-Mayor Woolridge, and carried to re-appoint Lonnie Frost and Robert Smidt to the Planning and Zoning Commission with terms to expire December 31, 2020.

**Appointment of Mike Shoppell to the remainder of Larry Putrick's vacated seat on the Planning and Zoning Commission, with term to expire December 31, 2018.**

On motion of Councilmember Wall, seconded by Vice-Mayor Woolridge, and carried to appoint Mike Shoppell to the remainder of Larry Putrick's vacant seat on the Planning and Zoning Commission, with a term to expire on December 31, 2018.

## **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Brent Billingsley, Town Manager, recognized Mr. Brian Smith, who is one of the Town's interns. He is from Illinois State University and is graduating in May 2018. He is interning with the Parks and Recreation and Library Departments. He will be with the Town through April 6, 2018.

Mr. Billingsley stated that the AV system has been upgraded in the Council Chambers. He stated that this is the first phase of improvements. There are other improvements that will be considered in the upcoming budget to update the infrastructure.

Mr. Billingsley read the following letter into the record:

"I just want to give a giant thank you to the guys at Station 2. My mom dropped her keys and all of her essentials down the storm drain in her neighborhood today. Your guys came out and retrieved them for her. She is 81 years old and mostly lives alone and my brother is at least three hours away. I am all the way in Washington State so I am so grateful that she can get that kind of help when she needs it. We all try to be there for her and sometimes it doesn't work out. You guys always say that it is your job. This was above and beyond what I expected. Thank you."

Mr. Billingsley stated that the Town has been given a grant to purchase a new PM10 Certified Street Sweeper. The Town has been trying for this grant for three years.

### **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

There were no public comments.

### **CALL TO THE COUNCIL – CURRENT EVENTS ONLY**

Councilmember Guilin congratulated the Florence High School Cheerleaders for winning the State Championship, the 5 Stunt Team also won State Championship, and the Pom Squad placed third.

Councilmember Hawkins thanked all of the boardmembers and commissioners who volunteer their time and talents to the Town. It is much appreciated.

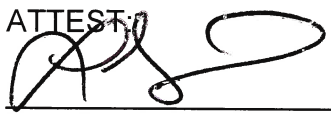
Vice-Mayor Woolridge thanked everyone who continues to sign up for the boards and commissions.

Mayor Walter is looking forward to all of the upcoming events.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Guilin, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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 January 2, 2018, and that the meeting was duly called to order and that a quorum was present.



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Lisa Garcia, Town Clerk