

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2019, 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 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Tara Walter, John Anderson, Bill Hawkins, Kristen Larsen, Michelle Cordes, Judy Hughes.

Absent: Karen Wall

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.

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT TO MERRILL RANCH IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO 1.

On motion of Councilmember Hawkins, seconded by Councilmember Larsen, and carried (6-0) to adjourn to Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No. 1.

Resolution No. MRCFD1 141-19:

Chairman Walter read Resolution No. MRCFD1 141-19 by title only.

A RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MERRILL RANCH COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 1, TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020.

Mr. Rey Sanchez, District Treasurer, stated that the request is for a \$100,000 budget increase to the Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No. 1 (MRCFD1) budget. The increase will be used to cover legal fees and costs to defend the threatened claims against MRCFD1.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Anderson, seconded by Boardmember Cordes, and carried (6-0) to adopt Resolution No. MRCFD1 141-19.

ADJOURNMENT FROM MERRILL RANCH IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO 1.

On motion of Boardmember Hawkins, seconded by Boardmember Larsen, and carried (6-0) to adjourn from Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No. 1.

ADJOURNMENT TO MERRILL RANCH IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO 2.

On motion of Councilmember Larsen, seconded by Vice-Mayor Anderson, and carried (6-0) to adjourn to Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No. 2.

Discussion and possible action to approve Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No.2 July 1, July 15, and September 3, 2019 Special Meeting minutes.

On motion of Boardmember Hawkins, seconded by Vice-Chairman Anderson, and carried (6-0) to approve the Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No. 2 July 1, July 15, and September 3, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes.

Resolution No. MRCFD2 238-19:

Chairman Walter read Resolution No. MRCFD2 238-19 by title only.

A RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MERRILL RANCH COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2, TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINALCOUNTY, ARIZONA, ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020.

Mr. Rey Sanchez, District Treasurer, stated that the request is for a \$100,000 budget increase to the Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No. 2 (MRCFD2) budget. The increase will be used to cover legal fees and costs to defend the threatened claims against MRCFD2.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Anderson, seconded by Boardmember Hawkins, and carried (6-0) to adopt Resolution No. MRCFD2 238-19.

ADJOURNMENT FROM MERRILL RANCH IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO 2.

On motion of Boardmember Cordes, seconded by Boardmember Larsen, and carried (6-0) to adjourn from Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No. 2.

PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation declaring October 2019 as Light Town Hall Purple for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

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Mayor Walter read the proclamation for the record and declared October 2019 as Light Town Hall Purple for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Vice-Mayor Anderson inquired if the Town has any special programs regarding domestic violence.

Mayor Walter stated that Pinal County recently provided a program to raise awareness and promote available resources.

Mr. Daniel Hughes, Police Chief, stated that the Police Department participates in various programs with Pinal County, along with programs that they offer in house. There are shelters that they take victims as well and provide specialized training for officers to recognize signs of domestic violence.

Proclamation declaring October 6, 2019 through October 12, 2019 as Fire Prevention Week.

Mayor Walter read the proclamation for the record and declared October 6 through October 12, 2019 as Fire Prevention week.

Mr. David Strayer, Fire Chief, stated that the Fire Department is a member of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and works closely with them regarding the Town's programming. Studies have shown that the most vulnerable populations are the very young and the very old and they gear their trainings towards that population. They also do home inspections and install smoke detectors.

Chief Strayer stated that the Fire Department hosted an open house to inform the public of the services they offered. Fire prevention week has expanded to Community Risk Reduction which is much broader and includes car seats and other programs. They will continue to expand their programs as well.

Mayor Walter declared October 6, 2019 through October 12, 2019 as Fire Prevention Week.

Presentation on the Florence Police Department Five Year Strategic Plan. (Dan Hughes)

Chief Hughes stated that it is important to have a plan that looks at the future of the Florence Police Department. While general in nature, the plan looks at some of the possible factors that will influence the vision, values and the direction of the Police Department. It is important that their Plan fits into the vision and direction of the Town Manager and the Council.

Chief Hughes presented the Police Department Five Year Strategic Plan, in which he outlined the following:

- Mission
 - The men and women of the Florence Police Department stand firm in our pursuit for justice and public trust. We will stay true to our mission of providing service and safety to our community with honor, respect, and integrity. We are committed to providing fair and equal treatment to those we encounter.
- Vision

- The Florence Police Department will dedicate itself to protecting lives and property, while preserving the public peace with the highest ethical standards.
- Combined areas for mission and vision
 - Staffing
 - Technology
 - APC Accreditation
 - Community policing
 - Future needs
 - Community partnerships
- The objectives and strategies highlighted in this plan are designed to support our five principal goals:
 - Prevent crime: Preventing crime is the primary mission of policing. Crime prevention promotes the health and welfare of a community instead of merely curing its ills (crimes). It reduces the threat of crime on the front end and enhances the sense of security and quality of life within the community.
 - Provide effective police services: We are committed to ensuring Florence remains a safe community by employing the best practices in law enforcement to meet the challenges of Community Policing in a rural setting.
 - Develop, strengthen and sustain partnerships: We realize for us to be successful; we must have the confidence, support and respect of the people who live and work in our community. We are committed to developing and maintaining partnerships with the community, with our internal partners within the Town and with our regional and statewide public safety partners.
 - Develop personnel: We will provide the best equipped, and most highly trained and committed employees to help meet the needs of our community.
 - Enhance infrastructure: We will focus on implementing our Capital Improvement Plan.
- Crime Prevention through Community-Oriented Policing
 - Risk Assessment Program
 - Crime-free Multi-housing
 - Neighborhood Watch
 - Youth Education Programs
 - Partnerships
- Beat Structure
 - The Town of Florence is divided into structures called "Beats." Beats are determined based on population, calls for service, and access to major thoroughfares.
 - Beats encourage officers and citizens to interact more often.
 - Creates a community bond
 - Beats assure consistent and more frequent patrols in neighborhoods.
 - Communication between shifts become easier in a proactive approach to policing.
- Cooperative Programs
 - G.A.I.N Night: Getting Arizona involved in neighborhoods
 - Fleet Watch: Code Enforcement, FUSD transportation, Public Works
 - Graffiti Abatement Program
 - Terrorism Liaison Officer: threat vulnerability assessments, active shooter trainings, rescue task force tactics, regional dispatching
- Identify and plan for future needs
 - Replacement of patrol vehicles
 - Radio Replacement Program-upgrade to 800 MHz (\$109,192)

- Future substations for Police and Fire
- Taser Replacement Program (\$40,000)
- Tablet Replacement Program (\$90,000)
- Technology
 - Text to 911 – Requesting emergency services using text messaging technology
 - Everbridge - mass notification system
 - Electronic citations - each patrol officer
 - Laserfiche project – convert hard copy reports to electronic copies
 - social media/Facebook
 - CompStat and Crime Map
 - www.florenceaz.gov/Police
 - Smart City Technology: Allows officers the opportunity to monitor what is happening in the Town and how it is evolving. A partnership with our IT personnel to integrate into our 21st Century Community Policing Philosophy.
- Accreditation
 - APCO Accreditation: All our public safety dispatch personnel complete courses provided by APCO to obtain certification in police and fire call-taking/dispatching.
 - AZ Law Enforcement Accreditation Program (ALEAP): Assists law enforcement agencies with measuring and approving their overall performance. The department will be going through the accreditation process during this five-year plan.
- Closing Statement
 - While this plan is formulated on good sound planning principles, it is fluid and will change as the Town grows and prospers. Public safety is not for spectators. Public safety requires a partnership of the citizens of the community working in conjunction with police officers to achieve positive outcomes.
 - Our pledge to you is one of working hard in our partnership of crime prevention to ensure that we will continue to be one of the Safest Cities in Arizona.

Mayor Walter commended Chief Hughes and the Police Department for making Florence one of the safest cities to live in.

Councilmember Cordes thanked Chief Hughes for making Florence safe and for giving the citizens a positive look on what the Police Department can do for a community. She understands that Chief Hughes will be retiring, and it will be a challenge to fill his vacancy. She appreciates that he laid out what the vision is for whomever fills the Chief of Police position.

Councilmember Larsen inquired about the “Text to 9-1-1” project. She also inquired about School Resource Officers.

Chief Hughes stated that the Police Department is ready. They are waiting for the State’s approval; however, they are some technical issues that they need to work on. He would expect approval in the next several months.

Chief Hughes stated that the Town does not have a dedicated Resource Officer, the Beat Officers go into the schools each day. The Florence Unified School District is requesting an override and are requesting Resources Officers. He stated that they also are involved with the American Leadership Academy.

Mayor Walter inquired if the Town has a diversion program similar to one that the Pinal County Sheriff's Office offers.

Chief Hughes stated that they have had individuals perform community service at the Police Department; however, there had not been a large demand for such a program. They would like to offer a Citizen's Academy for Kids if they can get the participation. He stated that it is important to engage the youth.

Mayor Walter asked Chief Hughes to expand on regional dispatch.

Chief Hughes stated that the Town has the equipment and the space. He has had conversations with other communities for a regional dispatch regarding a regional dispatch; however, the issue is with the different records management systems that each entity utilizes. They still have some communication with Pinal County. There could be a county wide community dispatch center. He stated that Florence dispatches for Superior Fire. Florence is available to do more, and the Town is in discussion with Superior to be a backup for each other. He stated that there is a cost savings to these partnerships.

Mayor Walter stated that the Town will have a Meet and Greet with the final selection of candidates for the Police Chief position on October 24, 2019 at the Windmill Winery. This will be an opportunity for them to introduce themselves to the community and answer any questions.

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. **Authorization to upfit three Police Tahoes, by utilizing the MHQ of Arizona Cooperative Contract ADPS15-091457, in an amount not to exceed \$59,198.82. (Chris Salas)**
- b. **Approve the acceptance of the improvements of the warranty period for Unit 38, Unit 56A, Unit 52, Unit 3, Unit 5 and Unit 7 of the Anthem @ Merrill Ranch subdivision. (Chris Salas)**
- c. **Authorization to contract with Capital Pump & Equipment LLC, to provide emergency pump rental services for the Public Works Department, Water & Wastewater Divisions, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000. (Chris Salas)**
- d. **Acceptance of the FFY 2019 Homeland Security Grant Program Subrecipient Agreement 190305-01, from Arizona Department of Homeland Security, in the amount of \$43,506, for the Florence Public Safety Interoperable Communications Project. (Jennifer Evans)**
- e. **Approval of Poston Butte Preserve as the formal name of Poston Butte. (Bryan Hughes)**

- f. **Approval of the re-appointment of Lisa Garcia to serve as a citizen representative on the Town of Florence Public Safety Personnel Retirement System – Police and Fire Local Boards for a term of four years. (Scott Barber)**
- g. **Authorization for the Town Manager to enter into a 3rd Party Agreement with Pinal County, and Brown & Associates, to provide Building Plan Review Services for the new Pinal County Attorney’s Building and the new Pinal County Development Services Building. (Larry Harmer)**
- h. **Authorization to sell one set of turnouts, at current fair market value to Timber Mesa Fire and Medical District, to accompany the employee that they were purchased for, who has accepted a position with Timber Mesa Fire. (Rey Sanchez)**
- i. **Authorization to dispose of a 1997 Chevy Silverado and Payne air conditioning unit that are no longer needed and have outlived their useful life. (Rey Sanchez)**
- j. **Authorize an increase of the not-to-exceed amount for Fester and Chapman’s, PLLC annual audit services by \$10,150 to \$55,800. (Rey Sanchez)**
- k. **Approval of accepting the register of demands ending August 31, 2019, in the amount of \$3,409,740.61. (Rey Sanchez)**

On motion of Councilmember Cordes, seconded by Vice-Mayor Anderson, and carried (6-0), to approve the Consent Agenda, with removal of Item d, Item h, and Item j.

- d. **Acceptance of the FFY 2019 Homeland Security Grant Program Subrecipient Agreement 190305-01, from Arizona Department of Homeland Security, in the amount of \$43,506, for the Florence Public Safety Interoperable Communications Project. (Jennifer Evans)**

Vice-Mayor Anderson stated that the Town will only receive 50% of what was requested and asked if this will impact the Police Department.

Ms. Jenifer Evans, Management Analyst, stated the amount to be received is sufficient to complete the upgrade of the portable radios for the Police Department. The Town also received a grant from the Gila River Indian Community, which allowed for the Town to purchase all the radios that were needed.

On motion of Vice-Mayor Anderson, seconded by Mayor Walter, and carried (6-0) to accept the FFY 2019 Homeland Security Grant Program Subrecipient Agreement 190305-01, from Arizona Department of Homeland Security, in the amount of \$43,506 for the Florence Public Safety Interoperable Communications Project.

- h. **Authorization to sell one set of turnouts, at current fair market value to Timber Mesa Fire and Medical District, to accompany the employee that they were purchased for, who has accepted a position with Timber Mesa Fire. (Rey Sanchez)**

Councilmember Hughes inquired if the turnouts were for an employee who has recently resigned and had he used the turnouts before.

Chief Strayer stated that the employee is in the process of resigning. He has used the turnouts for three years and they have a 10-year life. He stated that they are custom fit turnouts and the Town is benefitting by receiving almost full value back for the turnouts so they can buy a new set for whomever fills the vacancy.

On motion of Councilmember Cordes, seconded by Vice-Mayor Anderson, and carried (6-0) to authorize to sale one set of turnouts, at current fair market value to Timber Mesa Fire and Medical District, to accompany the employee that they were purchased for, who has accepted a position with Timber Mesa Fire.

j. Authorize an increase of the not-to-exceed amount for Fester and Chapman's, PLLC annual audit services by \$10,150 to \$55,800. (Rey Sanchez)

Councilmember Cordes inquired why there is an increase in the contract amount.

Mr. Rey Sanchez, Finance Director, stated that the Town exceeded the \$750,000 limit for Federal Grant expenditures and additional audit services are needed when you go over that limit. The Court needs to be audited every three years per the M.A.S. standard and it was last audited in 2016. The Courts are due to be audited this year. Lastly, the CFDs will also be audited separately rather than collectively as it has been done in the past. This will allow for more transparency.

On motion of Councilmember Cordes, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, and carried (6-0) to authorize an increase of the not-to-exceed amount for Fester and Chapman's PLLC annual audit services by \$10,150 to \$55,800.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of appointing Isabella Pool to a two-year term on the Florence Youth Commission, with a term to expire October 31, 2021. (Bryan Hughes)

Mr. Bryan Hughes, Community Services Director, stated that two members have resigned and the Town has been actively recruiting for new members. Ms. Pool submitted her application and meets all the criteria.

On motion of Vice-Mayor Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Hawkins, and carried (6-0) to appoint Isabella Pool to you a two-year term on the Florence Youth Commission, with a term to expire October 31, 2021.

Resolution No. 1716-19:

Mayor Walter read Resolution No. 1716-19 by title only.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, ORDERING THE PROPOSED STREET LIGHTING IMPROVEMENTS DESCRIBED IN RESOLUTION NO.

1715-19 FORMING THE “TOWN OF FLORENCE, ARIZONA, ANTHEM AT MERRILL RANCH STREET LIGHT IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT 4” TO PROCEED. (Lisa Garcia)

Ms. Lisa Garcia, Deputy Town Manager/Town Clerk, stated that on August 19, 2019, staff brought forth Resolution No. 1715-19 which was the notice of intent to form a Streetlight Improvement District titled “Town of Florence, Arizona, Anthem at Merrill Ranch SLID 4 Lighting Improvement District”. This is for a majority petition.

Ms. Garcia stated that staff has worked with Pulte and were able to provide the necessary notices on the property within the parameters, every 250 feet. The signs were placed as well as advertisements seeking if anyone had a reason why the Town of Florence should not form this district. The Town received zero communication from the property owners during that time.

Ms. Garcia stated that the Town is bring forward a resolution that would form Streetlight Improvement District No. 4. It will require the recordation of petition, Notice of Intent, and the formation resolution. The Town must first go through the budgetary process of assessing the property before SLID No. 4 can collect taxes. Per State Statutes, the Town will be able to charge up to \$1.20 per \$100 net assessed valuation (NAV).

Ms. Garcia stated that the Town currently only collects \$.01207 per \$100 NAV for SLID No. 3.

Ms. Garcia stated that staff will be presenting a work session with the Council on both the SLIDs Policies and the ordinances in November for Council’s consideration and to ensure that they meet Council’s expectations.

Ms. Garcia stated that the Town is not collecting taxes on SLID No. 1 and SLID No. 2 because they had collected the maximum that the State would allow on the onset and there are sufficient funds to pay at this time.

Discussion occurred on what will be discussed during the work session.

On motion of Councilmember Hawkins, seconded by Councilmember Larsen, and carried (6-0) to adopt Resolution No. 1716-19.

Resolution No. 1718-19:

Mayor Walter read Resolution No. 1718-19 by title only.

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO ESTABLISH A STREET LIGHT IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT TO PURCHASE ENERGY FOR LIGHTING THE PUBLIC STREETS AND PARKS IN THE AREA WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE, ARIZONA, DESCRIBED ON EXHIBIT A, ATTACHED HERETO; DECLARING SUCH IMPROVEMENTS TO BE OF MORE THAN LOCAL OR ORDINARY PUBLIC BENEFIT AND THAT THE EXPENSES THEREOF BE PAID FOR BY THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF AD VALOREM TAXES UPON THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF ALL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY IN A CERTAIN DISTRICT TO BE KNOWN AS “TOWN OF FLORENCE, ARIZONA, ANTHEM AT MERRILL RANCH STREET LIGHT IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 5; AND ORDERING THAT SUCH

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IMPROVEMENTS BE PROVIDED FOR UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 48-572, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES. (Lisa Garcia)

Ms. Garcia stated that the resolution is for a unanimous petition. The laws differ between a majority and unanimous petition. The Council can, without posting in the paper and without posting the notice on the sites, proceed today with establishing Streetlight Improvement District No. 5. (SLID No. 5). The petitions have been signed off on by the developer, who is the single property owner in the district.

On motion of Vice-Mayor Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Hawkins, and carried (6-0) to adopt Resolution No. 1718-19.

Discussion/Approval/Disapproval to enter into an agreement for professional services with D2 Surveying Services, utilizing Direct Selection allowed under Arizona Law, Statute Title 34 – Section 103, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000. (Chris Salas)

Mr. Chris Salas, Public Works Director, stated that they will be doing a capacity analysis for the entire sewer system in order to determine if improvements are needed to facilitate Territory Square and the North end Framework Study. There is also a survey and GIS component included.

Mr. Salas stated that the Town put a Request for Price Task Assignment and Westland was the most qualified bidder; however, they did not have enough capacity in their current contract. Staff had previously asked Council to approve an additional amount for Westland and even with the additional amount, they still ran out of capacity.

Mr. Salas stated that Westland has agreed to allow the Town to work directly with their subcontractor, which would save the Town \$4,520. The Town has done work with D2 Surveying Services in the past.

Vice-Mayor Anderson inquired if this will survey all the sewer lines. He inquired if all the sewer lines are mapped.

Mr. Salas stated that it will include the sewer lines, the manholes and the cleanouts. All the sewer lines are mapped; however, there are errors in the GIS system.

Mayor Walter stated that the company is local and it is great to use local companies.

On motion of Councilmember Cordes, seconded by Councilmember Larsen, and carried (6-0) to approve entering into an agreement for professional services with D2 Surveying Services, utilizing Direct Selection allowed under Arizona Law, Statute Title 34 – Section 103, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

Discussion/Approval/Disapproval to purchase Insta-Valve 250 Patriot Insertion Valves, from Hydra-Stop, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000. (Chris Salas)

Mr. Salas stated that Council previously approved the purchase of a valve insertion tool, which staff purchased two tools to allow for the installation of valves on live lines. This request is for the

purchase of the actual valves. He noted that they must use their valves on their equipment. They will have valves on hand so that staff will be prepared in case of an emergency.

Vice-Mayor Anderson inquired if the valve fits on an existing pipe.

Mr. Salas stated that it is meant to be used on a hot line. This will allow staff a lot of flexibility.

On motion of Vice-Mayor Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Larsen, and carried (6-0) to purchase Insta-Valve 250 Patriot Insertion Valves, from Hydra-Stop, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

Discussion/Approval/Disapproval to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Swan Architects Inc, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000. (Chris Salas)

Mr. Salas stated that the Town purchased two parcels of property, east of the Public Works yard. The services of an architect are necessary to render the design and site plan renderings. They will be responsible for the schematic design, design development construction documents and bidding. The entire package will cost approximately \$64,400. They are requesting \$100,000 in case there are changes made along the way. The project will entail a steel building for the Water Department's Water Barn and a block wall that they will mimic from the Police Department's Evidence Building. They will do a recycling component on the other parcel of land, which will move the recycling bins from Heritage Park.

Mayor Walter stated that the Town has worked with Swan Architects before and is looking forward to what they design.

On motion of Councilmember Cordes, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, and carried (6-0) to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Swan Architects Inc, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Brent Billingsley, Town Manager, stated that the Parks team has put a call out for volunteers for the P.O.W.W.O.W. Program. There is still a need for assistance for this program. He asked for anyone interested in volunteering to contact the Community Services Department.

Mr. Billingsley stated that Council approved the ability for staff to move forward with an outside reviewer to assist the Town with the review of the two large Pinal County buildings that are coming in the near future.

Mr. Billingsley stated that the upper clarifier rebuild project has been completed at the North Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Manhole Rehabilitation Project has been completed. The Downtown 12" Water Loop Projects are nearing completion.

Mr. Billingsley commended everyone who participates in the Florence CERTS Program. He read the following letter into the record from the Eloy Fire District: "I would like to take a moment and send our sincere thanks to you and your CERT Team for your assistance Tuesday, during a power outage in Eloy, when they showed up on the scene and immediately made contact with us and

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got organized and developed a plan of action. They were very friendly and did a good job of interacting with our citizens. Florence should be proud of their new CERT Team. They are well trained and very helpful. It was a joy having them here. Once again, pass along our gratitude and be sure to thank your Town Council and Town Manager.”

Kelly Weddle, Fire Chief, Eloy Fire District.

Mr. Billingsley stated that the Town received a grant for \$17,223 that will fund 15 ballistic vests and helmets for the Fire Department. This grant was received from the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Grant.

Mr. Billingsley recognized Mr. Scott Barber, Human Resources Director, for his seven years of service with the Town. He has made an impact on the professionalism and the quality of the Town’s Human Resources Program. His key accomplishment includes:

- Rewrote the Town’s Personnel Policy
- Implemented a new employee annual performance evaluation process
- Established the Town’s Safety Committee
- Wrote and implemented a new risk management manual
- Initiated the annual boards and commissions appreciation dinner
- Handled the Employee Classification and Compensation Update last year
- Managed the Employee Benefit Program
- Handled the last Town Manager recruitment
- Represented the Town on the Municipal Insurance Pool Board of Trustees for several years
- Served on the League of Cities and Towns Public Safety Pension Task Force
- Currently serves as the President of the Central Arizona Human Resource Management Association
- Board of Directors for Pinal County Federal Credit Union

Mr. Scott Barber, Human Resources Director, stated that this will be his last week with the Town of Florence. It has been his privilege to serve as the Town’s Human Resource Director for the last seven years. He has developed some great relationships and friendships. The Town has an outstanding group of Department Directors that they have been able to work with. He stated that the Town should be proud that it has a great group of employees who are engaged in doing the things that need to be done every day to take care of the services offered to its citizens.

Mr. Barber stated that he has worked under the direction of Ms. Garcia, Deputy Town Manager and she has been a great supervisor. He stated that they are a two person HR Department and Ms. Virginia Felix, HR Coordinator, is an outstanding employee. She is a trusted and reliable resource for the Town’s employees. He is very proud and pleased to have had her as his partner.

Mr. Barber wished the Town well. He thanked the Town Council and wished the Town the very best.

Mayor Walter inquired who will oversee the Human Resources Department in the interim while his position is being filled.

Mr. Billingsley stated that Ms. Felix will assist until the position is filled.

Mayor Walter stated that many employees speak well of him and he has done many wonderful things for the Town. She thanked him for his service.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Community Development

Community Services

Courts

Finance

Fire

Police

Public Works

Councilmember Hughes asked for an update on the Code violations. She also asked for a year to date total.

Mr. Larry Harmer, Community Development Director, stated that they have issued the following:

- Verbal Notices: 123
 - The verbal notices seldom result in a written complaint because they are usually taken care of.
- Written Notices: 242
 - 105 fully abated
 - Various stages, 30 days, 30 days plus notification process
 - Will work with them on extensions if there is no health or life safety issues
- Cases forwarded to Town Attorney: 14

Councilmember Hughes inquired if staff is using the Nuisance Chapter 93.03 of the Town Code for removal or have they used the Clean and Liens.

Mr. Harmer stated that the Cleans and Liens are authorized and may use that methodology in working with the Town Attorney with regards to the 14 cases that were referred to the Town Attorney. These types of issues normally pertain to absentee property owners.

Councilmember Hughes inquired if they are seeing reoccurrences.

Mr. Harmer stated that there are few instances, but it is not common.

Councilmember Hughes inquired if the Town Attorney will utilize the Clean and Lien option outlined within the Town Code.

Mr. Clifford L. Mattice, Town Attorney, stated that the option is available to use the Clean and Lien option. He stated that the first option will be to get the property owner to be compliant in order for the Town to not have to expend its funds. There are instances where the Town may not recoup the costs. There are due process rights that need to be followed.

Councilmember Cordes inquired when the groundbreaking will take place for the Wade Journey homes.

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Mr. Harmer stated that Wade Journey Homes are already under construction. They picked up the remaining 31 lots in Villa Adelaida. They will be entry level homes with a cost of approximately \$200,000.

Councilmember Cordes inquired how the Parks Department is seeking out volunteers for the P.O.W.W.O.W. Program. She suggested that they visit various sites such as Anthem, the Mosaic Church, and the Five Parks to ask for volunteers.

Mr. Bryan Hughes, Community Services Director, stated that they have sent out email blasts and a news release in the local newspaper.

Councilmember Larsen inquired what phone number should people call if they want to volunteer.

Mr. Hughes stated that they should call 520-868-7589.

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 invited everyone to the Homecoming event on October 11, 2019 and the Fright Fest on October 31, 2019.

Councilmember Cordes stated that it is important to show your Florence Pride and invited everyone to the Homecoming Parade and game. She also attended the open house at the Florence Fire Department and it was a great event. She welcomed DR Horton to the Town. They have their models open. The homes are affordable and is excited in the direction that the Town is moving in.

Vice-Mayor Anderson attended an event at the TO Village and listened to Chicken Scratch music. He stated that the music was very good and it was a fun event. He attended the Fire Department Open House and it was nice to see the Police Department there as well. The hospital opened on September 26, 2019. He stated that he attended a meeting in honor of the outgoing Pinal County Manager and incoming Pinal County Manager.

Vice-Mayor Anderson has asked the Town to find a resolution with regards to the person sleeping on benches in the downtown area as well as how to take care of the person.

Vice-Mayor thanked the Community Services Department for coming up with a music festival in the downtown area.

Vice-Mayor Anderson is requesting Council's support to have the Town Clerk to draft documents that would require new Department Head hires to reside within the Town limits of Florence. The Town would need to incur some of the moving costs and there would be a timeline in which the

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person must move into the Town. He would like this requirement to take effect on the current job openings.

Mayor Walter stated that she can appreciate where Vice-Mayor is coming from but has also seen talent come from other communities. She would like to add a differential for those who reside within the municipal boundary.

Councilmember Hawkins stated that the Town may be limiting themselves by adding that requirement. There are a lot of people who commute. We may limit who applies if we set those types of limits.

Mayor Walter stated that Councilmember Larsen is stepping down from the Police and Fire Pension Board. Mayor Walter appointed Councilmember Cordes to take her place.

Mayor Walter thanked everyone who assisted with their first State of the Town. The Town has accomplished a lot in the past year. She stated that in preparing for the State of the Town, she was impressed in the totals of business licenses issued and single-family building permits issued. She explained what it entailed to put the State of the Town together.

Mayor Walter stated that she is attending a Counsel of Foreign Relations meeting. This ties in with an independent task force on the United States Work Force.

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION.

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), (A)(4) and (A)(7) to consider its position and instruct its representatives and/or attorneys regarding:

- a. **Town's position and instruct its attorneys regarding pending litigation in Maricopa County Superior Court: Town of Florence v. Florence Copper, Inc. CV2015-000325, including counterclaims.**
- b. **Town's position and instruct its attorneys regarding Arizona Department of Environmental Quality proceedings, related to Water Quality Appeals Board Case No. 16-002, including appellate proceedings to reviewing courts.**
- c. **Town's position on potential land purchase.**

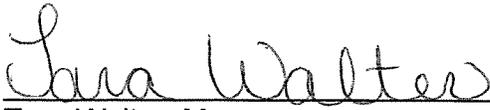
On motion of Councilmember Cordes, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, and carried (6-0) to adjourn to Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

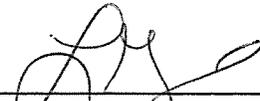
On motion of Councilmember Cordes, seconded by Mayor Walter, and carried (6-0) to adjourn from Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

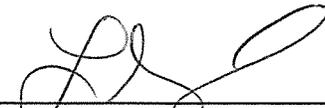
On motion of Councilmember Cordes, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, and carried (6-0) to adjourn from the meeting at 9:23 p.m.


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 October 7, 2019, and that the meeting was duly called to order and that a quorum was present.


Lisa Garcia, Town Clerk