MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2020, 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, Karen Wall, Kristen Larsen, Michelle Cordes, Judy Hughes (*all Councilmembers appeared telephonically)

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.

PUBLIC HEARING AND PRESENTATION

Public Hearing to receive citizens comments and accept the Sanitation Rate Study proposed rate increases; and for Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of selecting Option 2, to be effective May 1, 2020.

Ms. Lisa Garcia, Deputy Town Manager/Town Clerk, stated that the Town did not received any comments pertaining to the proposed rate increases. She stated that the public was noticed of the public hearing and the opportunity to participate in the public hearing by calling in and/or submitting their comments to the Town Clerk no later than one hour prior to the start of the Council meeting.

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

Vice-Mayor Anderson inquired about the sanitation leakage in Anthem in which residents were obtaining service without paying for it.

Mr. Carl Dudding, Accounting Manager, stated that Mr. Curtis Williams, Code Enforcement Officer, and Lindsey McKinley, Customer Service Representative, went to Anthem and contacted residents that had containers out but were not on the active list. Those individuals advised staff of when they returned and were retro-billed to the time that they returned. He stated that this will be an ongoing issue because they are not on the Town's water accounts so it is difficult to determine when they return.

Mr. Dudding stated that the issue is that the customers retain the containers while they are gone and just roll them out when they return.

Vice-Mayor Anderson inquired if staff could pick up the containers when they stop service.

Mr. Dudding stated that this may be a conversation that needs to take place, but one of the concerns is the manpower needed to pick up containers. Another option may be that there will be an automatic reconnect three months from the date of disconnect.

Councilmember Cordes inquired if they can be required to provide a reconnect date so that services will resume on a certain date.

Mr. Dudding stated that they can maintain a log manually, but he will need to check to see if the system allows for that type of function. This may also require Council action to make this type of change.

Councilmember Cordes stated that this may not require Council action.

Ms. Garcia stated that requiring a reconnect date at the time of disconnect would be a procedural change and would not require Council action.

Mr. Brent Billingsley, Town Manager advised Mr. Dudding to move forward with the two-phased approach in which the customer will be required to provide a reconnect date. If no date is provided, the customer is advised that service will automatically resume in three months from the date of disconnect.

Mr. Dudding stated that he will move forward with drafting a policy.

Councilmember Wall inquired if the options need to be discussed.

Mr. Billingsley stated the options were discussed at the previous meeting and Council provided direction to move forward with bringing Option 2 to Council for consideration.

On motion of Councilmember Cordes, seconded by Councilmember Larsen, and carried (6-0) to approve Option 2 of the purposed rates to be effective on May 1, 2020.

Proclaim April 19 – 25. 2020 as National Library Week.

Mayor Walter proclaimed April 19 – 25, 2020 as National Library Week. She played the video that was recorded with her reading the proclamation for the public. The video was uploaded to

the Town's social media site. She stated that there are a lot of opportunities to engage with the library remotely.

Proclaim April 2020 as Fair Housing Month.

Mayor Walter proclaimed April 2020 as Fair Housing Month. She played the video that was recorded with her reading the proclamation for the public.

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 enter into a contract with The SJ Anderson Company, to address occupant safety items related to egress in Suite 201 and the balcony area of the Silver King Marketplace, in an amount not to exceed $63,215.21. (Chris Salas)**

b. **Authorizing the Town's participation in an Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchase Agreement with Lead Contracting Agency, A Public Procurement Authority, to Cooperative Purchase 24 fire turnouts from Municipal Emergency Services using a three-year lease agreement in an amount not to exceed $68,191.90. (David Strayer)**

c. **Authorization to accept funds in the amount of $24,469 from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety to purchase mobile data computer tablets for traffic records enforcement. (Bruce Walls)**

d. **Approval of the Application and Affidavit for Uniform Video Service License by FibAire Communications, LLC d/b/a AireBeam for a term not to exceed 10 years. (Trenton Shaffer)**

e. **Approval of the February 3, February 18, and March 2, March 16 and March 18, 2020 Town Council Meeting minutes.**

On motion of Councilmember Cordes, seconded by Councilmember Wall, and carried (6-0) to approve Items c and e on the Consent Agenda.

a. **Authorization to enter into a contract with The SJ Anderson Company, to address occupant safety items related to egress in Suite 201 and the balcony area of the Silver King Marketplace, in an amount not to exceed $63,215.21. (Chris Salas)**

Vice-Mayor Anderson stated that he is concerned about the stairs. It is his understanding that there is now open access to the balcony without going through the building.

Mr. Chris Salas, Public Works Director, stated that this issue was addressed by the Building Safety and Facilities Maintenance Departments. They worked with Code Enforcement and installed a Code allowable gate that only opens in one direction.

On motion of Vice-Mayor Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Larsen, and carried (6-0) approve the contract with The SJ Anderson Company, to address occupant safety items related

to egress in Suite 201 and the balcony area of the Silver King Marketplace, in an amount not to exceed $63,215.21.

b. Authorizing the Town's participation in an Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchase Agreement with Lead Contracting Agency, A Public Procurement Authority, to Cooperative Purchase 24 fire turnouts from Municipal Emergency Services using a three-year lease agreement in an amount not to exceed $68,191.90. (David Strayer)

Councilmember Wall inquired if the Town needs to purchase a second set of turnouts if one damaged beyond repair, or can it be added to the lease.

Mr. Billingsley stated that each firefighter will now have two sets of turnouts. They will still have a set in the event if one is damaged or needs to be cleaned. If a set of turnouts is damaged beyond repair, a new one will be provided. In the past, the firefighters have only had the one set and no backup.

Mr. David Strayer, Fire Chief, stated that one of the main drivers for this agreement is cancer prevention. A number of state laws have recently been passed related to fire service and mitigation efforts and the ability to rotate to a fresh set of turnouts after a fire is a huge step in avoiding carcinogens. It is a huge safety mechanism for the firefighters.

Mr. Strayer stated that this also provides a starting point for replacements. If a set of turnouts are damaged, it is considered a loss and, at times, may be processed through the Risk Pool.

On motion of Councilmember Wall, seconded by Vice-Mayor Anderson, and carried (6-0) to approve the Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchase Agreement with Lead Contracting Agency, A Public Procurement Authority, to Cooperative Purchase 24 fire turn-outs from Municipal Emergency Services using a three-year lease agreement in an amount not to exceed $68,191.90.

d. Approval of the Application and Affidavit for Uniform Video Service License by FibAire Communications, LLC d/b/a AireBeam for a term not to exceed 10 years. (Trenton Shaffer)

Vice-Mayor Anderson inquired what this item is for.

Mr. Trenton Shaffer, IT Manager, stated that in 2018, the State of Arizona amended Title 9 for cable providers. This limits the Town's ability to regulate cable and video companies. It also required all municipalities to establish a uniform video license agreement that the cable providers are required to submit if they are going to conduct business within the Town limits, rights-of-way, etc. The Town is not able to charge application fees; however, the Town is able to charge a license fee. The form is standardized, and all video and cable providers must complete. The license fee is five percent which is the standard cost.

Mr. Shaffer stated that this specific application is for AireBeam and their area of operations include the downtown area and Florence Gardens. They provide cable service through fiber optics.

Vice-Mayor Anderson inquired if Cox has submitted their form as of yet.

Ms. Garcia stated that Cox has requested a copy of the standard agreement; however, they have not submitted as of yet.

On motion of Vice-Mayor Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Larsen, and carried (6-0) to approve the Application and Affidavit for Uniform Video Service License by FibAire Communications, LLC d/b/a AireBeam for a term not to exceed 10 years.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Resolution No. 1736-20: Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, ADOPTING REVISIONS TO THE TOWN OF FLORENCE PROPERTY LEASE POLICY.

Ms. Garcia stated that the policy changes have gone before Council at three separate meetings. She went over the final revisions. She noted that Council asked for the following changes, which have been included:

- Change lease to a modified triple net lease
- Include definitions
- Use 0.51 for a combination rate
- Discounted rates are included
- Changed hours to be a minimum of 35 hours per week
  - Minimum hours required to receive the summer discount rate
- 10% discount will be offered in the months of June, July and August
- RFP is due April 27, 2020

On motion of Vice-Mayor Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Wall and carried (5-1; Yes: 5: Walter, Anderson, Wall, Larsen, Hughes; No: Cordes) to adopt Resolution No. 1736-20.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Billingsley discussed the latest Covid 19 figures

– Arizona	5,064 confirmed cases; 187 deaths
– Pinal County	256 confirmed cased; 7 deaths
– Florence	32 confirmed cases; 0 deaths
– Florence Prison	17 confirmed cases; 0 deaths
– Eyman Prison	4 confirmed cases; 0 deaths
– INS Facility	6 confirmed cases; 0 deaths
– GEO facility	1 pending case; 0 death

Mr. Billingsley stated that the numbers fluctuate because those who get better are removed from the list.

Mr. Billingsley stated that he was contacted by Council pertaining to a lawsuit filed in the Federal District Court from the Sierra Club on the EPA. The lawsuit pertains to what Sierra Club believes to be lack of enforcement on the Clean Air Act – Particulate Matter 10 Microns and smaller (PM 10) and PM 10 Non-Attainment Area for western Pinal County. PM 10 is dust matter in the air that has been known to cause illnesses in humans and Sierra Club believes that the EPA has not

done a good enough job of enforcing its rules in Western Pinal County. Florence is in the PM 10 Non-Attainment Area for Western Pinal County, along with Coolidge, Casa Grande, Eloy and Maricopa. There have been no exceedances in Florence for PM 10; however, they have had exceedances in Maricopa and Casa Grande.

Mr. Billingsley stated that he has reached out to Maricopa County of Governments (MAG) on how the Town should proceed and what the potential impact may be. He has not received feedback from MAG as of yet.

Mr. Billingsley stated that Pinal Partnerships will hold a virtual breakfast panel on April 24, 2020. The panel will include updates from Pinal County city managers. A mobile app from the Pinal Partnership website must be downloaded in order to participate.

Mayor Walter stated that she has a MAG meeting on April 22, 2020 if anyone has anything they would like discussed.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no public comments.

CALL TO THE COUNCIL – CURRENT EVENTS ONLY

Councilmember Larsen appreciates everyone checking in on each other. It helps with not only each person's physical health, but emotional health as well. She hopes everyone stays healthy and enjoys their families while we are in quarantine.

Councilmember Wall stated that it is important to practice social distancing and echoes Councilmember Larsen's sentiments.

Councilmember Hughes stated that she is feeling better and echoes the sentiment of the Council with regards to maintaining social distancing, staying healthy and enjoying the time with family.

Councilmember Cordes reminded everyone to support local businesses. It is important to help them during this difficult time to ensure they are still here when this is all over. Many of the retailers are available through electronic means.

Vice-Mayor Anderson inquired if there has been an increase in fire or police calls.

Police Chief Bruce Walls stated that they have not seen an overall increase in calls; however, there has been a slight uptake on calls pertaining to arguments between family members, but they have not developed into anything serious.

Fire Chief David Strayer stated that calls have decreased; however, there are confirmed Covid 19 cases in Florence. There were two confirmed cases over the weekend and several more last week.

Mayor Walter thanked everyone for participating in the meeting. They will continue to disseminate information as it is available. They are communicating with the EOC tthree times per week and

with the Governor's Office twice per week. They are also having conversations with Congressman Gosar's Office regarding funding for smaller cities.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Vice-Mayor Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Wall, and carried (6-0) to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 pm.

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 April 20, 2020, and that the meeting was duly called to order and that a quorum was present.

Lisa Garcia, Town Clerk