

ACTION MINUTES

PURSUANT TO A.R.S. § 38-431.02, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE TOWN OF FLORENCE COUNCIL AND TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE FLORENCE TOWN COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, JULY 6, 2020, AT 6:00 P.M., IN THE FLORENCE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LOCATED AT 775 N. MAIN STREET, FLORENCE, ARIZONA.

SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING PUBLIC MEETINGS

Due to the risks to public health caused by the possible spread of the COVID-19 virus at public gatherings, the Town of Florence has determined that public meetings will be indefinitely held through technological means. Meetings will be open to the public through technological means. In reliance on, and in compliance with, the March 13, 2020 Opinion issued by Attorney General Mark Brnovich, and in conjunction with the Emergency Proclamation signed by Mayor Tara Walter, on March 18, 2020. The Town of Florence provides this special advance notice of the technological means through which public meetings may be accessed. While this special notice is in effect, public comment at meetings will only be accepted through written submissions, which may or may not be read aloud during meetings.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Tara Walter, John Anderson, Karen Wall, Kristen Larsen, Michelle Cordes, Judy Hughes

3. MOMENT OF SILENCE

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

5. 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.

6. ADJOURN TO MERRILL RANCH COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 1

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

- a. Public hearing to receive citizens' comments on the property tax levy of the Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No. 1; and first reading of Ordinance No. MRCFD1 117-20: AN ORDINANCE OF MERRILL RANCH COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 1,

TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, LEVYING THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE PROPERTY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT SUBJECT TO TAXATION OF CERTAIN SUM UPON EACH ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100) OF VALUATION SUFFICIENT TO RAISE THE AMOUNT ESTIMATED TO BE RECEIVED FROM FUNDS FOR COMMUNITY FACILITIES EXPENSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING THE 30TH DAY OF JUNE 2021. (Becki Jimenez)

Chairman Walter opened the public hearing. Chairman Walter closed the public hearing.

- b. Public hearing to receive citizens' comments on the proposed final budget for Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No. 1; and possible adoption of Resolution No. MRCFD1 142-20: A RESOLUTION OF THE MERRILL RANCH COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 1, TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021. (Becki Jimenez)

Chairman Walter opened the public hearing. Chairman Walter closed the public hearing.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Anderson, seconded by Boardmember Larsen, and carried (5: Walter, Anderson, Wall, Larsen, Hughes; 1: Cordes) to adopt Resolution No. MRCFD1 142-20.

- c. Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of the Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No. 1 February 18, March 16 and April 15, 2020 Special Meeting minutes.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Anderson, seconded by Boardmember Larsen, and carried (6-0) to approve the Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District February 18, March 16 and April 15, 2020 Special Meeting minutes.

7. ADJOURN FROM MERRILL RANCH COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 1

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

8. ADJOURN TO MERRILL RANCH COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2

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

- a. Public hearing to receive citizens' comments on the property tax levy of the Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No. 2; and first reading of Ordinance No. MRCFD2 217-20: AN ORDINANCE OF MERRILL RANCH COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2, TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, LEVYING THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE PROPERTY WITHIN THE COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT SUBJECT TO TAXATION OF CERTAIN SUM UPON EACH ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100) OF VALUATION SUFFICIENT TO RAISE THE AMOUNT ESTIMATED TO BE RECEIVED FROM FUNDS FOR COMMUNITY FACILITIES EXPENSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING THE 30TH DAY OF JUNE 2021.(Becki Jimenez)

Chairman Walter opened the public hearing. Chairman Walter closed the public hearing.

- b. Public hearing to receive citizens' comments on the proposed final budget for Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No. 2; and possible adoption of Resolution No. MR CFD2 241-20: A RESOLUTION OF MERRILL RANCH COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2, TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021. (Becki Jimenez)

Chairman Walter opened the public hearing. Chairman Walter closed the public hearing.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Anderson, seconded by Boardmember Larsen, and carried (5: Walter, Anderson, Wall, Larsen, Hughes: 1: Cordes) to adopt Resolution No. MR CFD2 241-20.

- c. Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of the Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No. 2 June 15, 2020 Special Meeting minutes.

On motion of Vice-Chairman Anderson, seconded by Boardmember Cordes, and carried (6-0) to approve the Merrill Ranch Community Facilities District No. 2 June 15, 2020 Special Meeting minutes.

9. ADJOURN FROM MERRILL RANCH COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2

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

10. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. Public hearing to receive citizens' comments on the property tax levy of the Town of Florence; and first reading of Ordinance No. 695-20: AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, LEVYING THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE PROPERTY WITHIN THE TOWN OF FLORENCE SUBJECT TO TAXATION OF CERTAIN SUM UPON EACH \$100 OF VALUATION SUFFICIENT TO RAISE THE AMOUNT ESTIMATED TO BE RECEIVED FROM FUNDS FOR GENERAL MUNICIPAL EXPENSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING THE 30TH DAY OF JUNE 2021. (Becki Jimenez)

Mayor Walter opened the public hearing. Mayor Walter closed the public hearing.

- b. Public hearing to receive citizens' comments on the secondary property tax for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 for Anthem at Merrill Ranch Street Light Improvement District #1, Anthem at Merrill Ranch Street Light Improvement District #2 and Anthem at Merrill Ranch Street Light Improvement District #3; and first reading of Ordinance No. 696-20: AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, ADOPTING A SECONDARY PROPERTY TAX FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 FOR ANTHEM AT MERRILL RANCH STREET LIGHT IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #1, ANTHEM AT MERRILL RANCH STREET LIGHT IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #2 AND ANTHEM AT MERRILL RANCH STREET LIGHT IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #3. (Becki Jimenez)

Mayor Walter opened the public hearing. Mayor Walter closed the public hearing.

- c. Public hearing to receive citizens' comments on the proposed final budget for Fiscal Year

2020-21; and Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of Resolution No. 1740-20: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021. (Becki Jimenez) (Roll Call Vote)

Mayor Walter opened the public hearing. Mayor Walter closed the public hearing.

On motion of Councilmember Cordes, seconded by Councilmember Wall, to adopt Resolution No. 1740-20.

Roll-Call Vote:

Mayor Walter: Yes

Vice-Mayor Anderson: Yes

Councilmember Hughes: No

Councilmember Cordes: Yes

Councilmember Larsen: Yes

Councilmember Wall: Yes

Motion Carried: Yes: 5; No; 1

11. 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. Motion to authorize, approve and ratify an Application to Intervene by the Town of Florence in the matter of the application of Johnson Utilities, L.L.C., through its Interim Manager, EPCOR Water Arizona, Inc. for a determination of the fair value of its water and wastewater utility plant and property, for increase in its rates and charges for water and wastewater utility service, and for related approvals (Docket No. WS-02987A-20-0025), including that the Town Manager, the Attorneys for the Town and other officers of the Town, on behalf of the Town, are authorized and directed to do all acts and things and to execute, file and deliver all notices, certificates, filings, pleadings, correspondence, agreements and other documents as may be necessary or convenient to carry out the terms and intent of this authorization. (Clifford L. Mattice)
- b. Approval of accepting the register of demands ending May 31, 2020, in the amount of \$1,983,331.86. (Becki Jimenez)

Councilmember Larsen requested that Item A be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Hughes requested that Item B be removed from the Consent Agenda.

- a. Motion to authorize, approve and ratify an Application to Intervene by the Town of Florence in the matter of the application of Johnson Utilities, L.L.C., through its Interim Manager, EPCOR Water Arizona, Inc. for a determination of the fair value of its water and wastewater utility plant and property, for increase in its rates and charges for water and wastewater utility service, and for related approvals (Docket No. WS-02987A-20-0025), including that the Town Manager, the Attorneys for the Town and other officers of the Town, on behalf of the Town, are authorized and directed to do all acts and things and to execute, file and deliver all notices, certificates, filings, pleadings, correspondence, agreements and other

documents as may be necessary or convenient to carry out the terms and intent of this authorization. (Clifford L. Mattice)

On motion of Councilmember Cordes, seconded by Vice-Mayor Anderson, and carried (6-0) to authorize, approve and ratify an Application to Intervene by the Town of Florence in the matter of the application of Johnson Utilities, L.L.C., through its Interim Manager, EPCOR Water Arizona, Inc. for a determination of the fair value of its water and wastewater utility plant and property, for increase in its rates and charges for water and wastewater utility service, and for related approvals (Docket No. WS-02987A-20-0025), including that the Town Manager, the Attorneys for the Town and other officers of the Town, on behalf of the Town, are authorized and directed to do all acts and things and to execute, file and deliver all notices, certificates, filings, pleadings, correspondence, agreements and other documents as may be necessary or convenient to carry out the terms and intent of this authorization.

- b. Approval of accepting the register of demands ending May 31, 2020, in the amount of \$1,983,331.86. (Becki Jimenez)

On motion of Councilmember Hughes, seconded by Councilmember Cordes, and carried (6-0) to accept the register of demands ending May 31, 2020, in the amount of \$1,983,331.86.

12. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Resolution No. 1744-20: Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA, TO ACCEPT \$3,148,226 FROM THE GOVERNOR'S AZCARES FUND AND AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER AND/OR HER DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS AND TO TAKE ALL OTHER STEPS NECESSARY TO FACILITATE THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GRANT AWARD. (Benjamin Bitter)

On motion of Councilmember Cordes, seconded by Councilmember Wall, and carried (6-0) to adopt Resolution No. 1744-20.

13. MANAGER'S REPORT

14. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- a. Community Development
- b. Community Services
- c. Courts
- d. Finance
- e. Fire
- f. Police
- g. Public Works

15. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

16. CALL TO THE COUNCIL – CURRENT EVENTS ONLY

17. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilmember Hughes, seconded by Councilmember Larsen, and carried (6-0) to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Posted this 7th day of July, 2020, on the Town of Florence website at www.florenceaz.gov by Maria Hernandez, Deputy Town Clerk.