

Springerville Town Council
Minutes
September 18, 2019
6:00 p.m.

Council present: Phil Hanson, Mayor
Robert MacKenzie, Vice Mayor
Richard Davis, Councilmember
Ruben Llamas, Councilmember
Shelly Reidhead, Councilmember

Legal Counsel: Timothy Shaffery, Shaffery Law, LLC

Staff: Joseph Jarvis, Town Manager
Valentina Cordova, Town Clerk
Mike Nuttall, Police Chief
Kelsi Miller, Finance

Public Linda Martin, Brady Watlin, Don Scott, Misty Pate, Kay Dyson, Jerry Campeau, Phil Hanson, St., Dave Williams, Kevin Burk, Mannie Bowler, Earl Cochran, Tony Contreras, Diane Tilton and Sam with USFS and Amber Sheppard, Reporter w/White Mtn. Independent.

Mayor Hanson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Doug Henderson was asked to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentations:

White Mountain Special Communities Special Health Care District presentation:

Jerry Campeau, Board Chair for the Special Health Care District gave the presentation on the upcoming special election for the White Mountain Special Health Care District. He went on to explain when and how the Health Care District was formed and why. He explained that it was created in 1995 when our hospital had been abandoned by Samaritan and was about to close its doors. Through these secondary taxes of \$5.00 to \$6.00 per month, they are able to assist with funding for not for profit health care providers with documented needs. Mr. Campeau emphasized the importance of passing this tax through a special mail ballot that will go to all registered voters in St. Johns, Round Valley, Nutrioso, Alpine and Greet. He explained that the Board felt electors were confused during the November election due to the placement of the ballot. He also noted the dates for voter registration.

Arizona Game & Fish Community partnership between the Town and the AZ Game and Fish presentation:

Diane Tilton, Regional Public Affairs/Community Liaison with Arizona Game & Fish explained that their mission is to conserve Arizona's diverse wildlife resources while managing safe outdoor recreation opportunities. She explained that the Game and Fish annual operating budget of \$120,000,000 none of which is tax dollars. They are fully funded through fees from hunting, fishing and watercraft fees collected in excise taxes and some Heritage money (State Lottery dollars). She went on to talk about the partnerships within Apache and Navajo Counties. They are looking for opportunities that are easily accessible and learned, less expensive and closer to home for the changing customer base and how to partner with communities like ours. She talked about other communities they've partnered with. In closing she reiterated that they would like to partner with our community to improve the quality of life for our residents and encourage more visitors to come into town as it helps the Town and it helps them.

Public participation:

Chief Nuttall gave a quick update on the Labor Day Rib Burn. He reported on the number of teams in the adult and children's participation divisions, number of plates sold for the Tri tip dinner and the events throughout the weekend. He reported they raised just shy of \$100,000 for the charity. A special raffle for the contestants from receipts of items they purchased in town showed that they spent over \$9,672.9. They received kudos from the Health Department on the cleanliness of the event.

Mannie Bowler with the Boy and Girls Club also shared a recap of all the summer events including membership enrollment, visitors and daily attendance. Ms. Bowler thanked the council for their support and said since school has been in session, they do homework Monday through Thursday along with activities and Friday's are Funday that includes several activities. In partnership with the Show Low and Round Valley Libraries and the Springerville Airport and will be hosting a starry night. The Show Low library will be bringing eight telescopes to look at constellations on September 26th at the airport. She also said they received \$40,000 from the 50/50 raffle which is about a third of their operating budget.

Dave Williams also thanked Mike for all he does for the Rib event.

Vice Mayor MacKenzie reported he and Manager Jarvis attended a Blue Hills Environment teleconference meeting.

Councilmember Davis reported that he and Councilmember Ruben Llamas attended the "Hunt of a Lifetime" banquet benefit for youth with life threatening illnesses. He said that his 12-year-old grandson received an all expense paid guided moose hunt in Alberta Canada next month. He said his grandson had a youth cow tag for the same time period which he in turn donated it another event in our community.

Mayor Hanson reported they attended the Annual League Conference. He signed up for the Greater Arizona Mayor's Association.

Manager Jarvis reported it was a very effective conference especially with Economic Development and meeting valuable connections.

Fire Chief Sadler couldn't be here tonight but wanted to report on his behalf. He said the Fire Department would be holding their Open House on October 5th from noon until 4:00 p.m. at the future Public Safety building. Fire prevention week will be October 7th through the 12th and they will be present at the schools handing out fire prevention information and on October 26th, they will hold a propane training on October 26th.

Manager Jarvis continued with his report saying that he received a letter and packet from the Academy of Model Aeronautics. They held their International Indoor Championship at the RV Dome earlier this year and want to do it again next year April 17th through the 20th. They were very impressed with the community.

He arranged a meeting on October 3rd with our District Senator Jamescita Peshlakai and asked the council to review their calendars. Manager Jarvis advised the council he would be on vacation on that day and Mayor Hanson asked him to change the date of the meeting so he could be present. He said he would reach out to her admin assistant and reschedule. The purpose of the meeting is to develop relationships with our elected officials. The last item he reported on was a meeting in Phoenix regarding the Little Colorado Coalition. Speaker of the House Rusty Bowers and Senator Sylvia Allen were present as well as managers and mayors from Navajo and Apache Counties along with leadership from water districts that are impacted by the water adjudication. Legislation will be presented to the State for consideration to assist with the litigation.

Consent items:

Robert MacKenzie/Shelly Reidhead motion to approve consent items 5a and 5b as presented.

Vote:	Ayes:	Phil Hanson Robert MacKenzie Richard Davis Ruben Llamas Shelly Reidhead
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6. Arizona State Parks Recreation Grant: Discussion and possible action regarding consideration of eliminating the splash pad from the State Parks grant application.

Robert MacKenzie/Richard Davis motion to eliminate the splash pad from the Arizona State Parks grant application.

Discussion: Manager Jarvis explained that the town would unfortunately lose the money allocated for the splash pad. In talking with the person from State Parks grant manager he was told there were three options, one: would be submit a new grant, two: move forward with the existing grant, three: modify the existing grant by removing certain aspects from the grant. Manager Jarvis said that he had been incorrect in saying that the grant had not been approved. The grant had been approved but was waiting to be approved by SHPO because this property is in a historical zone. The Grant Manager Micky Rogers explained that we can't trade it out for something else. The current grant without the splash pad includes, improvements to the ground by adding a sprinkler system, adding stands for the public, improvement to the ball fields, a couple of playground features, ramada and the CDBG grant will add the ADA walking path around the entire area and should start around mid-2020.

Manager Jarvis explained that the amount of water daily would be approximately 30,000 gallons of water that is lost. This would not be a recirculating water and much more expensive.

Robert MacKenzie/Richard Davis motion to eliminate the splash pad from the Arizona State Parks grant application.

Vote:	Ayes:	Phil Hanson Robert MacKenzie Richard Davis Ruben Llamas Shelly Reidhead
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7. Polling Place Agreement: Discussion and possible action regarding approval of the 2020 Polling Place agreement with Apache County.

Richard Davis/Shelly Reidhead motion to approve the Polling Place Agreement with Apache County for use of the Udall-Johnson room for elections.

Vote:	Ayes:	Phil Hanson Robert MacKenzie Richard Davis Ruben Llamas Shelly Reidhead
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8. Round Valley Youth Football League Sponsorship Request: Discussion and possible action regarding a sponsorship for the RV Youth Football League, Brandy Watling. Ms. Brandy Watling introduced herself as the Fundraising Captain of the RV Youth Football League. She explained that the team has an average of 60 football players each year from kindergarten to sixth grade and a full cheer team of 25 girls. She said they are a 501C3 which means that all their

fund raising goes directly back into equipment for the kids. Each year they've rotate out one set of equipment, helmets or pads but this year decided they needed to replace all the equipment. All the money they've raised is going to the purchase of 75 sets of helmets and pads for three teams. She emphasized that safety is their number one concern to protect all the kids with the appropriate head gear and pads and equipment they need. She said the Town's name would be on the shirts next year. She also noted that they are starting flag football next year. She explained the three levels of sponsorship.

Shelly Reidhead/Richard Davis motion to approve a sponsorship of \$1,000 for the RV Youth Football League.

Manager Jarvis advised the council these funds would come out of the public relations fund.

Vote:	Ayes:	Phil Hanson
		Robert MacKenzie
		Richard Davis
		Ruben Llamas
		Shelly Reidhead

9. Letter for Financial Assistance: Discussion and possible action regarding approval of a letter to the Apache County Flood Control District for finance assistance in the amount of \$22,500 to prepare the engineer documentation for the FY2019-2020 FEMA grant cycle.

Richard Davis/Shelly Reidhead motion to approve a letter to the Apache County Flood Control District for FEMA financial assistance in the amount of \$22,500 to prepare the engineering documentation for the FY-2019-2020 grant cycle.

Manager Jarvis said this was not a budgeted item. He explained that his understanding is that when we have a big rain event Coconino becomes a big river. This project will address this issue. Apache County has a long-standing relationship with an associate and together with CMI Engineering. Together they have submitted grant applications to DEMA and to FEMA and together they were successfully be awarded for flood medigation projects. Apache County came spoke with him and Tim Rasmussen and discussed the Coconino project. Town staff had previously worked with Mr. Toy and Apache County but did not move forward with the proposal but they are comfortable moving forward now. Mr. Jarvis said they are asking the council to allow him to send a letter to Apache County Flood District asking them to fund up to \$22,500 to pay for the grant and the preliminary engineering. If they do not fund this request, he, Tim and Heidi will shuffle funds around within Tim's Enterprise fund to pay for the preliminary engineering. If the grant is awarded the Town would receive a reimbursement because they've made the in-kind contribution toward this grant. He submitted the first Notice of Intent with DEMA. The total project cost is \$665,000, with the Town coming up with \$175,000 and this can be done with in-kind services. Tim is confident that he and his staff can do the work, if not it can be contracted out and considered in-kind services.

When asked how much this was going to come out of the budget, Manager Jarvis said that nothing will be coming out now but there is a possibility in December or January with stronger commitment. He explained that this would be a staged approach with multiple fiscal years in which they will budget for the construction of this project.

Vote:	Ayes:	Phil Hanson
		Robert MacKenzie
		Richard Davis
		Ruben Llamas
		Shelly Reidhead

10. Springerville Municipal Airport Advisory Committee. Discussion and possible action regarding the future of the (SMAAC) Springerville Airport Advisory Committee.

Richard Davis/Robert MacKenzie motion to dissolve the Springerville Municipal Airport Advisory Committee effective immediately.

Discussion: Mayor Hanson stated that the Committee is having a hard time getting a quorum together for various reasons such as retirement, relocations. He said that the recommendation from Sean Kienle and the Manager Jarvis was to dissolve the Springerville Municipal Airport Advisory Committee.

Manager Jarvis stated that he and Sean would try their best to disseminate information related to the airport community so they can come in and share their views and comments.

Vote:	Ayes:	Phil Hanson Robert MacKenzie Richard Davis Ruben Llamas Shelly Reidhead
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11. Old Airport Hangar: Discussion and possible action regarding options and direction from the Town Council regarding the old airport hangar.

Robert MacKenzie/Richard Davis motion that the Town have the metal building reconstructed at cost, using existing capital or through a loan program for discussion only.

Discussion:

Mayor Hanson reported that the building has been sitting on the ground in the weather since 2013 at the airport noting it would be very expensive to put back up if it hasn't rusted through.

Manager Jarvis noted that extensive research has been done for use of the building, community center, public works building, hanger or hanger space. The concern is the cost and condition of the building. Compared to the cost of a new building it doesn't make sense. Staff's recommendation is to eliminate the asset. It doesn't make financial sense. If this was reconstructed at a cost of \$500,000 and turned into a hangar, the estimated revenue would only be \$20,000 per year and would take 25 years to recover the capital outlay (cost).

The Council agreed it wouldn't make financial sense.

Legal Counsel Timothy Shaffery advised the council to call for the vote and it doesn't pass a new motion can be made.

Vote:	Ayes:	
	Nays:	Phil Hanson Robert MacKenzie Richard Davis Ruben Llamas Shelly Reidhead

Robert MacKenzie/Richard Davis motion to sell the metal building for scrap.

Discussion: Manager Jarvis asked the council if they would amend the motion to give direction to sell the metal building for scrap and find a private buyer.

Robert MacKenzie amended the motion to sell the building for scrap or direct staff to find a private party to sell it to. There was no other discussion.

Robert MacKenzie/Richard Davis to direct staff to move forward with a franchise agreement with Navopache at zero percent fee.

Manager Jarvis explained that the franchise would have to go before the voters for approval before a franchise agreement could go into effect. The earliest would be late 2020 or 2021 if approved.

Vote:	Ayes:	Phil Hanson Robert MacKenzie Richard Davis Ruben Llamas Shelly Reidhead
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In answer to Councilmember Reidhead's question regarding franchise agreements for other companies, Manager Jarvis said he and the attorney finalize the steps, going forward he'll come back to the council and advise them they are ready to pursue a franchise with XY company and ask for approval to pursue the franchise.

Legal Counsel Shaffery explained to the council that a new law that became effect this year, where certain utility companies that provide content are exempt from franchise fees.

Manager Jarvis further noted that we would need to pursue other franchises that have physical infrastructure in our town. Satellite companies don't have to pay franchise fees but do have to pay transaction privilege tax.

Vote:	Ayes:	Phil Hanson Robert MacKenzie Richard Davis Ruben Llamas Shelly Reidhead
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Robert MacKenzie/Richard Davis motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

Vote:	Ayes:	Phil Hanson Robert MacKenzie Richard Davis Ruben Llamas Shelly Reidhead
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Phil Hanson, Jr. Mayor

ATTEST:

Town Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Springerville Town council in regular session on Wednesday, September 16, 2019. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and a quorum was presented.

Dated this 2nd day of October, 2019

Town Clerk