

Springerville Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 17, 2020
6:00 p.m.

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

Staff: Joseph Jarvis, Town Manager
Kelsi Miller, Town Clerk
Robert Pena Jr. Assistant Fire Chief / PW Foreman
Robert Pena III. Battalion Chief
James Kempt, Sergeant

Public: Becki Christianson, Doug Henderson, Ryna Kemp, Tony Contreras,
Earl Cochran, Terry Shove, John Huerta III

Mayor Hanson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Town Clerk completing a roll call, a quorum is present. Earl Cochran led the pledge of allegiance.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Max Sadler the Fire Chief addressed the Council and public. He reminded Council that he will be retiring the 30th of June. He thanked staff and council for the 38 years he has been with the Springerville Fire Department. He said he feels it is his time, and that he is leaving the department in very capable hands. He is confident with the direction the department is going, he is happy with the Council's decision to hire Assistant Chief Pena to be acting Chief. He is also happy the town has chosen Robert Pena III as the Battalion Chief. With all of the recent progress he is comfortable being able to retire. He said the volunteer program is going well, they are able to get and retain the volunteer Fire Fighters. He invited staff and council to his retirement party being held on Saturday June 20, 2020. Council thanked Chief Sadler for his service to the Town and community members.

Mike Nuttall on behalf of the 2020 Rib Throwdown wanted to give an update on the event. They will be adding a band performance being sponsored by Western Drug. They are working on being able to take credit cards at the event. He went over some of the category's teams can enter and let council know the website should be up soon to view these. New sponsors are coming forward wanting to sponsor the event. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic they are going to do their best to comply with keeping everyone as distanced as possible. They are working with the county health department on other guidelines they should follow.

3. COUNCIL, MANAGER, AND STAFF REPORT:

Mike Nuttall on behalf of the Springerville Police Department wanted to recognize his staff for all they have done during these challenging times. He said Shane Phillips has really stepped up trying to help out and did a great job. Officer McCue and Kempt have worked really hard on trying to recruit more officers. He then asked Officer Kempt to join him at the podium to introduce him as the soon to be interim Chief of Police. Mike is recommending Mr. Kempt to fill the full-time position, he said he is a great officer and a great candidate for the position.

Councilor Reidhead mentioned the fourth of July celebration. Mayor Hanson said it is an item to talk about later in the meeting.

Manager Jarvis reported that he has tried to recruit individuals to join the MPC. We will have an application on the agenda tonight. He received two more MPC applications today. We can bring those

to the Council if they would like. He reported on the Arizona Cares funding. The town has received direction on what we can use that money for. The town is submitting a report with the requested information to the state, once they receive that report the town should have confirmation and a timeline of when those funds will be sent to the town. The amounts are based upon population, Manager Jarvis believes our amount is around \$250,000. We have not incorporated that money into the FY 20/21 budget. The funds will most likely be used to offset the loss of revenues to the town due to COVID-19. There will be meetings in the future to specifically designate this money. The deadline for the application for the funds is at the end of July. The Town of Springerville will not be submitting an application for DEMA funds, we feel we have not had a large amount of expenses due to COVID-19. He let council know he will be taking a few days off to move. Manager Jarvis then reported next Tuesday June 23, 2020 he will be hosting a meeting for the Revolving Loan Fund for LCRF. Business owners who want to start a business or grow a business should attend.

Battalion Chief Pena reported that the Fire Department is sending a type 3 truck and four firefighters to the Bush fire near Tonto Basin.

4. CONSENT ITEMS:

- a. Consider approval of the minutes of the May 20, 2020 Town Council Regular meeting
- b. Consider ratification and approval of accounts payable register from 5/09/20-5/23/2020.

Robert MacKenzie/ Shelly Reidhead / Richard Davis motion to approve consent items 4a and 4b as presented.

Discussion: None

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

5. PRESENTATION: Springerville Fire Department presentation of Volunteer Shift Program

Battalion Chief Pena addressed the Council. He informed them that over the last 3 months he and Mr. Jarvis have worked on many projects together. At the beginning of June, they implemented the volunteer shift program. He explained we scored low on the ISO rating in the category of staffing and training. Our ISO rating is 6 right now. By implementing the volunteer shift program our rating will increase. This will allow us to have 2 personnel on duty 8 hours a day, and those individuals will be the ones on call during the night. This will also allow us to increase our training also but having the firefighters on shift complete trainings when they are not on calls. Pena let them know once we increase our rating in staffing and training the overall rating will increase dramatically as they are the biggest factors

OLD BUSINESS:

6. RESOLUTION 2020-R012: Discussion and possible action regarding adopting resolution 2020-R012, regarding the "Notice of Intention" to increase water and wastewater rates.

Robert MacKenzie/ Shelly Reidhead motion to adopt Resolution 2020-R012 "Notice of Intention" to increase water and wastewater rates and to hold a public hearing on September 16, 2020 at the Springerville Council Chambers.

Discussion: None

Vote: Ayes: Phil Hanson

Robert MacKenzie
Ruben Llamas
Shelly Reidhead
Richard Davis

7. FIRE DISTRICT PLAN: Discussion and possible action regarding a Springerville Fire District Plan.

Discussion: Manager Jarvis explained at the January Council meeting Council directed staff to analyze the idea of a fire district for Springerville. This was to see if we could find a more sustainable way to fund the Fire Department. Staff did the research based on property values within Springerville. The analysis based on current property value says we would have to charge \$1.50 to \$2.00 per \$100 of assessed property value. Staff feels that is an unreasonable amount of money to ask the residence in an overall economically depressed area to pay. Next staff analyzed if Springerville and Eagar both districted, and the outcome was similar. The residence would have to pay around \$1.30 per \$100 of assessed property value. Staff does not recommend districting due to this. Council agrees and thanked staff for that analysis.

8. IGA WITH THE TOWN OF EAGAR FIRE DEPT.: Discussion and possible action regarding entering into an IGA with the Town of Eagar for combing the Springerville and Eagar Fire Departments municipally.

Robert MacKenzie/ Shelly Reidhead motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for fire services between the Towns of Springerville and Eagar and direct staff to send the IGA to Eagar Town Council for their consideration.

Discussion: Manager Jarvis said this IGA is the first step in combining the two fire departments. Councilor Reidhead asked where we are with the feasibility study on the combining of the fire departments. Staff attempted to get a contractor to do the feasibility study in February, it was unsuccessful. We recognize the value in having the feasibility study done before and even after the IGA has been approved. Staff recognizes council may want staff to have the study done before moving forward. The town is looking for a sustainable way to maintain our Fire Department and so is the neighboring town. Councilor MacKenzie asked if we are certain that combining the two would make the departments sustainable. Manager Jarvis said we are not certain but we are confident. We would minimize the duplication of certain things such as apparatuses. He feels it will improve the quality of services provided by the Fire Departments. He wants Council to understand there will be challenges if we move forward, but he thinks it could overall create a great outcome. Councilor Reidhead asked if we know of any negatives when applying for grants. Manager Jarvis said we are applying for grants jointly already. Councilor MacKenzie asked if we have considered a name for the new fire department, Manager Jarvis said we have not. Another important detail that will need worked out in this IGA is employees have to belong to one town or another. Springerville is proposing the employees all become Springerville employees. Mayor Hanson asked if this is set in stone for long term. Manager Jarvis said we would propose a shorter term IGA that can go be reviewed after a year to see if the towns want to continue this. Councilor Llamas wanted a better understanding of who would be funding this department. Manager Jarvis explained the proposed formula is based on state shared revenue. We would add the two towns state shared revenues together then see what percentage is Eagar and what percentage is Springerville. Then those percentages are the amounts that each town will pay of the Fire Departments budget. If we calculated correctly it looks like the Town of Springerville would pay 28% and the Town of Eagar would pay 72%. This could be a negative as both towns were hoping to pay less. He said he met with the new Town Manager of Eagar and the Eagar Fire Chief and they are considering other formulas for determining the funding such as basing it off of the property value of both towns. Eagar has more houses and Springerville has more businesses. Towns of Snowflake and Taylor based theirs off of population originally, this shows there are a number of funding options. Councilor Llamas wanted to point out the issues he has with the IGA. He is concerned that the

Robert MacKenzie/ Shelly Reidhead motion to authorize the advertisement of the Request for Proposals for parcel 105-21-083D.

Discussion: Manager Jarvis explained this is the parcel that the Town of Springerville has leased to Navopache Electric Cooperative for the past 30 years. Councilor Reidhead asked how this is being sold. Manager Jarvis said we are looking for proposals through an RFP process, not a traditional MLS method. We will have them submit bids; however, the Town does have the right to reject any bids we do not see reasonable because we have an idea of the value of the property. Staffs intent is to present the offer to the Town Council at the July meeting for consideration. Councilor Reidhead asked what the size of the parcel is, Manager Jarvis could not recall the size. Councilor Reidhead looked it up on the accessor website and discovered it is almost an acre.

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

11. 4TH OF JULY PARADE:

a. Discussion and possible action regarding the 4th of July Parade.

Discussion: Manager Jarvis explained many cities and towns have canceled their fourth of July events. The Rodeo Committee is comfortable moving forward with the parade and rodeo. The pancake breakfast and bbq have been canceled. The rodeo will have 2 performances and a slack, they will limit the spectators to 1,000 per performance. Staff wants to make sure the council is comfortable with the parade coming through the Town limits. Councilor Reidhead wants to know if we are prepared especially with law enforcement for a large amount of people in town. With all over towns and cities canceling we may have a much larger event turnout than usual. Police Chief Nuttall advised that staff has thought of this, he has contacted the Arizona Rangers and they will be coming to help us out. Council is comfortable moving forward with the parade, Council would like the Town to share a message reminding people to stay home if they do not feel well. Manager Jarvis asked if Council would like to help with registration and organizing at parade, Councilor Reidhead and Mayor Hanson volunteered .

b. Discussion and possible action regarding Parade Judges.

Discussion: Manager Jarvis asked if a Council member would be willing to help with judging. Mayor Hanson has volunteered. Councilor Llamas wants to make sure there is plenty of security at the event incase anti American people show up to our event. Chief Nuttall reassured him will make sure to have plenty of law enforcement available.

12. JULY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING DATE: Discussion and possible action regarding the July 2020 Town Council meeting date.

Discussion: Manager Jarvis explained he will be out of Town on the 3rd Wednesday or July. Staff is prepared to hold the meeting in his absence, but he wanted to make sure Council was okay with that. If Council is not okay with that, he asks they consider moving it to a week prior or after. Councilor Reidhead also stated she will not be in town that day either. She would like we move it, Council agreed.

