

**MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN OF SNOWFLAKE
HELD 04/12/2016**

PUBLIC HEARING

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING for comment on adopting the Alternative Expenditure Limitation/Home Rule Option

Motion by Lewis, 2nd by Johnson C, to open the public hearing for comment on adopting the Alternative Expenditure Limitation/Home Rule Option. Motion passed; unanimous

No comments

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

Motion by Johnson C, 2nd by Hensley, to close the public hearing. Motion passed; unanimous

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL Mayor Tom Poscharsky, Vice Mayor Kerry Ballard—excused, Lynn Johnson, Stuart Hensley, Byron Lewis, Cory Johnson, Terril Kay—excused
STAFF: Brian Richards, Bob Hall, Barbara Flake, Terry Cooper, Dale Call

2. PRAYER/PLEDGE Lewis/Johnson C

3. PROCLAMATIONS & RECOGNITIONS

Proclamation—“Kenadi Stuart Day—Champion at Basketball Shoot”

Kenadi Stuart was recognized by Mayor Poscharsky for her success in participating in the Elks “Hoop Shoot.” Mayor Poscharsky read a proclamation of “Kenadi Stuart Day” and presented the proclamation and a Snowflake pin to Kenadi.

Proclamation—April 10-16 “National Library Week”

Proclamation—April 2016 “Fair Housing Month”

Proclamation—April 2016 “Child Abuse Prevention & Awareness Month”

Mayor Poscharsky announced the three proclamations listed above. He stated that these proclamations are done every year to encourage public awareness and demonstrate the Town’s support.

5. CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed below are considered routine. Consent agenda is considered a single item and may be approved by a single motion. Any single item removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of the Council may be considered as a separate item.

A. Approve Council minutes dated March 8, 2016.

B. Ratify Resolution 16-04 Authorizing application for funds to obtain Spillman CAD/RMS System for upgrading Police and Fire Dispatch Services and Records Management System.

C. Approve Resolution 16-05 Fair Housing Policy.

D. Approve Resolution 16-06 Submission of Projects for Consideration in Arizona 2017 Highway Safety Plan.

Motion by Johnson C, 2nd by Hensley, to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed; unanimous

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Presentation regarding Forest Issues. (Jason Whiting, District III Supervisor)

Supervisor Whiting gave an update on forest restoration and preparedness for the fire season. Whiting said he serves on the boards of the following organizations: Eastern Counties Organization (ECO)—works on issues that the counties have in common, such as, wolves, forest, mines; 4 FRI—works on forest issues; Natural Resources Working Group (NRWG)—comprised of stakeholders in the local forests, Forest Service, industry, environmental community. The information presented comes from the work of these organizations.

4 FRI is the largest landscape scale contract issued in the United States. Good Earth Power is the contractor and most of the timber sales are in the west near Coconino County with very little activity in our area. Whiting said that the vast majority of the timber cutting being reported has been done in the forests in our area without our timber companies getting the contracts which has become a problem. Whiting said the problem being discussed here and in Washington D.C. is that not enough wood is being given to the companies in our area and without wood these companies will be gone by the time 4 FRI moves this way. He said the NRWG proposed some working solutions at the local, regional, and federal levels. He said the problem is not having enough trees to cut but with being able to get timber sales released. He said there areas of the forest that are really dense are not a healthy forest. He said this causes the dry trees and high-fuel forest fires that threaten our industries, economy, tourism, and homes. He said it also threatens the watershed because of the sediment from forest fires being pushed into reservoirs. He said fire and water are the two major concerns in Arizona as stated by the State Senators. He stated that modern-day forest restoration allows for low-burning forest fires. He said the benefits of modern-day forest restoration are loggers have jobs, helps protect the watersheds, restores grasslands for ranchers, revamps the logging industry, provides sawmill jobs, opens biomass opportunities, and expands energy development. He said Real AZ is meeting on Thursday and will be touring the Biomass Power Plant and also the new timber mill with the new equipment used for modern-day restoration of the forest.

Paul Watson said that when there is enough timber the industry plays well because there are different markets. He said that there are sawmills that can take the large diameter trees, a plant, and a firewood operation in Apache County; a pellet plant in Show Low that takes clean chips; the Biomass Plant that takes the dirty stuff; and, a small diameter sawmill also at the Biomass Plant. He said the problem is that the Forest Service is not relinquishing enough timber sales. He said there is some action on the White Mountain Apache Tribe land that is helping to sustain these industries.

Whiting said the 4 FRI agreement was that there would be 30 to 40,000 acres released each year; but, last year there was less than 10,000 acres released. He said there are acres being released near Coconino County that are not being cut because there is not the industry to sustain itself. He said the industry is here in our area and will die before there is help. He said that with the pushes being made on the Forest Service to release 15,000 acres each year, the Forest Service is planning to get to releasing 20,000 acres over the next 5 years. Whiting said this would allow the logging industry to grow and tourism to grow. He said there may be times when support from the town may be needed to impress on the Forest Service the importance of these forest issues to the region.

Mary Springer, Navajo County Emergency Management Director, stated the focus of her department as mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. She said work is being done on a community welfare protection plan which includes the Apache Sitgreaves and Central Navajo. The updated plan shows wildland urban interface boundaries and what has changed as far as fuel loads. She said that for fire departments and districts to receive fuel mitigation grants these updates have to be done. She said Navajo County Board of Supervisors approved the Mitigation Grant Update today. She said that the plan is updated every 5 years and encompasses all the threats and hazards for communities in Navajo County and how to mitigate them. Springer said they are also working on an emergency operations plan to be sure there is current data.

Catrina Jenkins, Emergency Management Department, said to address preparedness they bring local training to all the partners. She said last year a full-scale active shooter exercise was held in Show Low and there will be another opportunity for the same training this year in Holbrook. She said they work with local responders until the danger is past and monsoons negate further fires. Mary Springer said that Navajo County is 4 to 6 weeks earlier than where it should be in the fire season. She said a coordinating group is able to make informed decisions regarding restrictions based on science and resources available to handle situations. She said they work with local schools regarding setting up sheltering facilities. She said that they are working with local cert teams and community values teams to plan responses to care for their communities.

B. Consideration & Possible Approval of Renewal of Special Use Permit for Our Lady of the Snow Catholic Church Swap Meet. (Dale Call)

Call said it is required for this permit to be renewed every 5 years. He said there has been some concern with vendors without a transaction privilege tax number selling new merchandise. He said this issue has been addressed by the church. He said rules are strictly enforced and a new traffic plan is working well. Call said the Community Hall was not finished when the last permit was issued so language regarding the Hall was included by the church in this request for a renewal of the permit. Call said no members of the public spoke in opposition to this Special Use Permit request. He said the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the permit. Call said the permit is for multiple days.

Poscharsky said there was a fatal accident and potential accidents at the entrance to the property from the highway. He asked Police Chief Scarber to address this issue. Chief Scarber said the issue was reviewed by the Town Attorney. The Town Attorney said there are 2 Town Ordinances that can be used to enforce right turns only when exiting the property.

Motion by Poscharsky, 2nd by Johnson C, to approve the Special Use Permit issued to Our Lady of the Snow Catholic Church to operate a Swap Meet on church property. Motion passed; unanimous

C. Consideration & Possible Approval of Ordinance No. 16-01 Rezone from Agricultural 5 Acre (AG) to Residential 2 Acre (R2A). Property owner & location: Robert Hipps, 58 S. Savage Street. (Dale Call)

Call said the owner desires to construct a home and would like his son to be able to construct a home close to him. He said the owner is requesting the property be rezoned in order to facilitate

a property split. He said 1 neighbor supported the rezone and stated he felt it would be an improvement. Call said the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval.

Motion by Johnson C, 2nd by Lewis, to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 16-01. Motion passed; unanimous Johnson C read Ordinance No. 16-01 by title only.

D. Consideration & Possible Approval of Ordinance No. 16-02 Rezone from Agricultural 5 Acre (AG) to Residential 2 Acre (R2A). Property owner & location: Danial Bowers, 188 S. Freeman Hollow Road. (Dale Call)

Call said the owner desires to construct a home and would like to split the property so a portion of the property that does not contain the new home would be unencumbered by the financial institution that may be used for the construction of the home. He said no member of the public opposed the request. He said there are several zonings in the area. Call said the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval.

Motion by Johnson C, 2nd by Lewis, to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 16-02. Motion passed; unanimous Ordinance No. 16-02 was read by title only.

E. Consideration & Possible Approval of Call of Election and Approval of IGA between Navajo County & Town of Snowflake to administer such election consisting of—4 Council Seats (4 year term), Office of Mayor (2 year term), and Alternative Expenditure Limitation/Home Rule Option. (Barbara Flake)

Flake said the Call of Election is being held to fill 4 Council seats, to fill the Office of Mayor, and to vote on the Home Rule Option. Flake said Council passed Resolution No. 14-06 requesting Navajo County to conduct elections for the Town and that Navajo County is now requesting a signed agreement with the Town of Snowflake to conduct the elections.

Motion by Johnson C, 2nd by Hensley, to approve Call of Election and approve agreement with Navajo County Elections Office to administer elections for the Town of Snowflake. Motion passed; unanimous

F. Consideration & Possible Award to Hatch Construction for Centennial Blvd Reconstruction Project. (Terry Cooper)

Cooper said that when the Federal-aid Reconstruction Project of 7th South and Centennial Blvd was completed, a portion of the roadway was not included due to the structure of the federal-aid process. He said that the Town contacted 4 local contractors to request proposals to complete this portion of the roadway. He said Hatch Construction was the low bidder at \$21,795.12. He said the bid is a good price and staff recommends awarding the bid to Hatch Construction.

Motion by Lewis, 2nd by Johnson C, to award Hatch Construction the Centennial Boulevard Reconstruction Project for an amount not to exceed \$21,795.12. Motion passed; unanimous

G. Consideration & Possible Award to Sunland Asphalt for Citywide Roadway Pavement Preservation Seal Project. (Terry Cooper)

Cooper said the funds are available for the 1st phase of the Citywide Roadway Pavement Preservation Seal Project. He said that staff felt the best approach was to let everyone propose their particular product that they felt would best suit the Town's road conditions and then staff would evaluate the proposals based on specified criteria and select acceptable products allowing only those proposers to bid their product. He said a total of 5 proposals were received with 3 of the proposals found to not meet the criteria to bid. Johnson L said he understands the roads with red lines are in good enough condition for this product and the roads with green lines are not. Cooper said that is correct. He said staff recommends accepting the bid by Sunland Asphalt.

Motion by Johnson L, 2nd by Hensley, to accept bid by Sunland Asphalt for Citywide Roadway Pavement Preservation Seal Project for an amount not to exceed \$311,040.24. Motion passed; unanimous

H. Consideration & Possible Pre-authorization of Pavement Preservation Funds for FY16-17.
(Terry Cooper)

Cooper said he made a 3-day road trip to view products being proposed for the Citywide Roadway Pavement Preservation Seal Project. He said a material was discovered that will work well on the next set of roads lined in green. He said there is a lot of cracking on these roads but a stable base. He said in an effort to make a significant impact to the community in a short period of time and also take advantage of low product costs, staff is asking Council's consideration of pre-authorization of next fiscal year's pavement preservation project, pending final budget approval. He said the other purpose for this pre-authorization is to inform the contractor so that they could possibly schedule this treatment to be completed before the Pioneer Days Celebration. He said the project would not have to go through the bid process if the Town chooses to "piggy-back" off an existing Job Order Contract with Sunland Asphalt. He said these amounts of funding will not be available every year and staff is trying to get the most bang for their buck. He said staff is committed to continuing pavement preservation.

Motion by Hensley, 2nd by Johnson L, to allocate \$364,493.44, pending final budget approval for FY17, for pavement preservation. Motion passed; unanimous

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION: PURSUANT TO ARS 38-431.03A1: Discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining or resignation of a public officer, appointee or employee of any public body, except that, with the exception of salary discussions, an officer, appointee or employee may demand that the discussion or consideration occur at a public meeting. The public body shall provide the officer, appointee or employee with written notice of the executive session as is appropriate but not less than twenty-four hours for the officer, appointee or employee to determine whether the discussion or consideration should occur at a public meeting.

A. Town Manager Position

Motion by Johnson L, 2nd by Lewis to go into Executive Session. Motion passed; unanimous

J. Consideration & Possible Action regarding contract for Town Manager position.

Motion by Johnson C, 2nd by Johnson L, to return to Regular Session. Motion passed; unanimous

Motion by Poscharsky, 2nd by Lewis, to allow Mayor to finalize the contract for Town Manager for an ongoing period of time in excess of 1 year and using the 1 year contract as a basis of negotiation. Motion passed; unanimous

7. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Poscharsky said that tomorrow is food box day at the Senior Citizens Center, and Monday is surplus vegetables day. He said emergency boxes of food are available any day of the week for those in need. He announced the rummage sale at Our Lady of the Snow Community Hall next week.

Hensley said the swap meet does a good job. He said it is really clean with good signage and forms. He said it is a well-run machine. He congratulated them for turning it into something positive.

Johnson L announced the Special Olympics this Saturday at the high school. He said there will be a Track and Field Meet in Snowflake on Wednesday, April 27th. He said the Snowflake Track Team has outstanding kids participating and people attending the track meet will be rewarded with good entertainment. He said he is hoping to take 37 kids to the state meet. Johnson thanked people who thought about him and prayed for him. He feels he experienced a miracle.

8. MANAGER REPORT

Richards stated that the positions of Ballard, Johnson L, Hensley, Lewis, and Poscharsky are up for election. He said there is an Apache and Navajo Counties Mayors and Council Members Association meeting at the Snowflake Fire Station on Thursday, April 21st, at noon. He said the Town is looking for sponsors of the GeoTour and sponsors will have their names on the website and will receive other considerations. He said it is good to have Lynn Johnson back. Richards said Keith Baldwin passed away recently and that he was good role model for the community.

9. ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Town of Snowflake Council meeting held April 12, 2016. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Barbara Flake, Town Clerk