

**MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN OF SNOWFLAKE
HELD 12/03/2024**

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL at 7:00 pm; Present: Byron Lewis, Joe Bjornn, Greg Brimhall, Cory Johnson, Mark Sheen, Travis Kay, Reid Stinnett; Staff: Brian Richards, Katie Melser, Chief Martin, Ella McAdams**

2. **PRAYER/PLEDGE** Ella McAdams/Claire Hall

3. **SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED COUNCILMEMBERS** (Bjornn, Sheen, Kay, Stinnett)

Mayor Lewis - thank you to all who swore in our new council members

A. **DESIGNATION OF VICE MAYOR**

Motion by Lewis, 2nd by Brimhall to nominate Mark Sheen as Vice-Mayor. Motion passed; unanimous

4. **PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Mayor Lewis- Thanks to JoAnne, Lora, and especially Kerry for their years of service

POLICE OFFICER RECOGNITION

Chief Martin presented James Frost with special recognition for a meritorious conduct award by the STPD for unusual police service

CLAIRE HALL - 2025 NAVAJO COUNTY TEEN QUEEN

Claire presented her accomplishments and made herself available for future events

5. **CALL TO PUBLIC:**

MaryBeth N- unborn sanctuary cities – make this an unborn sanctuary city, do we have the facilities if something goes wrong during an abortion? She asserts that no we don't, so we should be a sanctuary city. We don't have the facilities to provide for that; small towns are going to be impacted by the passing of 139.

Louise Liggett – unborn sanctuary city status – how many babies have to die here because of abortions? The unborn are being murdered in our state; sanctuarycitiesfortheunborn.org; what are we waiting for, how many little ones must suffer? Today, not some day.

Mark Lee Dixon – came from Illinois and is, founder of the Sanctuary Cities Unborn organization; 139 has passed here in AZ, but that doesn't mean nothing can be done; the ordinance that Snowflake could pass is one that has been passed in other states and would require compliance with the federal statutes; we want to see this law passed to protect Snowflake and throughout the state of AZ.

Bill Plants – letter about the service line; Brian gave him his card to discuss

6. **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. **COUNCIL MINUTES DATED NOVEMBER 5, 2024**
- B. **NOVEMBER CHECK REGISTER**
- C. **LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS**

D. PARTIAL STREET CLOSURE 1ST NORTH AND MAIN ST.

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

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. FILLING A VACANCY ON THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Trent Lucas – moved here in June 2020, been involved in real estate and development of his own land; with Reid stepping out thought this would be a good chance to serve the community. Because of his meeting attendance, he feels like he has a good handle on what's going on in the town.

Kay- what other background do you have? Trent – he never officially got into building, but he has the real estate and some development

Bruce Meyer – classically trained physicist and an engineer and mechanic; today he works for a consulting firm in his retirement, consulting for ADOT; transplant to Snowflake of 4 years; would be a pleasure to help Snowflake reach their goals; can be an asset because he's been recognized nationally and internationally for his work;

Mark Sheen – what made you interested in this position? Bruce – Joe Bjornn's SUP, this specific item has the ability to be codified already to avoid meetings

Sheen – what would your philosophy be for a small town, coming from big orgs? Bruce – he has worked with some horrendous specs and has been able to rewrite and rebuild; scaling it is not a challenge

Lewis- any difficulty enforcing town code? Bruce – not a challenge

Kay- doesn't want to make a nomination today if there are others to hear from

Johnson – would like to get the chance to hear from Marcus Butler too, since he's expressed interest

Motion by Lewis, 2nd by Stinnett to table the item. Motion passed; unanimous

B. SPECIAL USE PERMIT: 1145 E SNOWFLAKE BLVD: WOOD: REQUEST TO CONSTRUCT

AN OVERNIGHT RECREATIONAL PARK

This was approved by P&Z, Mr. Wood is present to answer questions. RV Park proposal on East Concho Hwy; found a piece of land that is commercial, generally quiet as a small park, the challenge he has is that there is no town sewer, but it perked and he would have to follow state regulations for septic;

Brian- it will have to go through a development review

Kay- what are the expectations, or will that be decided with the review? Brian- there is a list of requirements

Stinnett- there was discussion about access for turning and police and fire, it would all be figured out during the development review

Brimhall- it seems like people start out short term but then fall in love with the area, and pretty soon they buy property and become permanent

Kay- there is definitely a need

Motion by Kay, 2nd by Lewis to approve Special Use Permit to construct an overnight recreational park. Motion passed; unanimous

C. SPECIAL USE PERMIT: 1957 W WESTERN DOVE DR: FLAKE: SECONDARY DWELLING ON THE PROPERTY

Chris Flake addressed the council; retroactive request for a special use permit; during the process of building he submitted plans and as they built they found they had more room than they realized so they decided to turn it into a living space; got approval for the certificate of occupancy; they are renting currently; it was a bit of a surprise for it to come up; P&Z approved this with updates to make it to code and fire compliant; state of AZ passed a bill called the casita bill for single family zoned residences you can add up to 3 units (for cities over 75,000)

Motion by Sheen, 2nd by Kay to approve Special Use Permit to allow secondary dwelling on the property with the stipulation to come into compliance with the fire code. Motion passed; unanimous

D. VARIANCE: 202-35-015B: ASCENT 144 LLC: ALLOW ADDITIONAL SPLITS OF THIS PARCEL

The representatives for this item had to be turned around because of a road closure; Kirk Brimhall is in attendance as their representative; this was approved by P&Z;

Kirk Brimhall- it has been zoned multi-family for many years; it is cost-prohibitive to do their project all at once, so they would like to split the property into phases according to market;

Brian- did speak with the representatives about why they need to split, and they need it for financing reasons; Kirk – they have had to readjust their plans because the lenders would like to finance smaller parts instead of the whole project at once;

Stinnett- this has been to planning and zoning several times over the course of several years; they started off with all 4-plexes but have changed to more traditional homes

Kay- it appears that they have options if we aren't comfortable with approving all the splits that they want;

Johnson – we've turned people down for splits this year; they have options to do this in phases without doing the splits

Lewis- we don't know what they'll do if they split it; we don't want to set a precedent for too many splits and would like to adhere to the codes;

Kay- there is an opportunity for us to look at the county rules to allow for more splits in town in the future

Motion by Johnson, 2nd by Sheen to deny the Variance to allow additional splits of the parcel. Motion passed; unanimous

E. ORDINANCE 2024-08 TEXT CODE CHANGES TOWN CODE 3-1-10

Brian presented this item; business license requirements for the town of snowflake needs updating and would like to add the language in the ordinance to the town code

Lewis- it is in the best interest in Snowflake to collect all fees or to revoke their licenses

Kay- this benefits Snowflake and an opportunity to protect Snowflake

Brian- this came about when we talked to our auditor, she gave us direction on what other communities do and a way to revoke a business permit; but we will work with people

Motion by Johnson, 2nd by Lewis to approve the reading of Ordinance 2024-08 one time, by title only. Motion passed; unanimous

Motion by Johnson, 2nd by Bjornn to approve Ordinance 2024-08, text code changes. Motion passed; unanimous

8. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS –

Brimhall – town lighting was great, appreciate the hard work of the staff

Johnson – Light the World Giving Machine 17th at 4 PM kick off; sidewalk on his road is done, exciting

Bjornn – main street looks awesome with the new snowflakes up on the lamps; recognize our football team and coaches for a great season

Stinnett- thrilled to be here on this council, thankful for so many people in our meeting

Kay – add to what Joe had to say for volleyball and soccer, Snowflake sports are awesome

Sheen – Giving Machine is a really cool opportunity; sad that Kerry Ballard isn't here, he is an awesome, inspirational figure of the community, I hope that I'm like him when I'm his age; thank you for sharing your convictions and being a force for good, and the library looks great

Lewis- there is not a single life in here that has not been touched by Kerry Ballard's service; love how our youth and teams carry themselves; the town lighting was fantastic; please support the 12 Days of Christmas events; we purchased a menorah to place by the Christmas tree, lighting on December 31st; library looks great; shout to family that came to support their councilmembers

9. MANAGER'S REPORT

Welcome to the new council members; will miss Kerry Ballard, sad that he couldn't attend tonight

10. ADJOURNMENT 8:21 pm