

**MINUTES
EAGAR TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
22 W. 2nd St., Eagar, AZ
January 17, 2012 - 7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Kim Holaway called the regular council meeting to order and welcomed those present. Mayor Kim Holaway said to let the record show that Councilor Debbie Rogers is absent and all other council members are present. Mayor Kim Holaway led the Pledge of Allegiance and Town Manager Bill Greenwood offered the invocation.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Kim Holaway, Mayor
 James Nelson, Jr., Vice Mayor
 Steve Erhart
 Gary Finch
 Byron Smith
 Tim Rasmussen

ABSENT: Councilor Debbie Rogers

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Greenwood, Town Manager
 Bruce Ray, Community Development Administrator
 Eva Wilson, Town Clerk
 Neil Barton, Public Works Director
 Katie Brady, Finance Administrator
 Mike Hogan, Police Chief
 Howard Carlson, Fire Chief
 Marion Wiltbank, Assistant Town Clerk

ITEM #5: SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

A. MAYOR

Mayor Kim Holaway reminded Council/Staff of the Retreat on Thursday, January 19, 2012 starting at 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at Trailriders Restaurant.

Mayor Holaway reported on the Apache/Navajo Counties Mayors and Councilmember's Association meeting held on January 9, 2012. Items discussed: Being in closer contact with our legislatures at state level and setting perspective dates to meet with them; revenue issues were the legislature has swept Highway User Revenue Funds (HURF) that had gone to cities and towns, and a substantial amount from counties; overreaching federal and state level bills; summary on redistricting and how our representatives and senator did not represent the district better.

B. COUNCIL

Councilor Gary Finch initially wanted an agenda item to address restrictions on sales and use of fireworks, but then recalled that the state legislators are reviewing a bill on the subject.

C. STAFF

Town Manager Bill Greenwood reported:

- Received a call from State Forestry and was told the town was awarded the grant.
- On February 2, 2012 at 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. an Eagar Candidate Forum at town hall.
- February 23, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. the WMRMC Hospital will have a meeting here to update citizens on health care in Round Valley.
- On March 5, 2012 the Game & Fish meeting at town hall on the different property plans. This will be a chance for the public to express opinions on Sipes, the grasslands etc. There will be advertisements coming out on the meeting.

Finance Administrator Katie Brady reported that the weekly legislative session conference calls with the League of Arizona Cities and Towns had started back up. If there is a bill that needs town support, make sure to contact respective legislators.

Mr. Greenwood handed out a summary of this weeks League call on the Legislative Update.

- Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) municipal assessment – The Governor’s recommended budget continues this fee at an estimated \$6.5 million for FY2012-2013. The League is supporting Senator Gail Griffin’s bill to eliminate the municipal assessment and return funding of the ADWR to the state general fund.
- Highway Users Revenue Fund – The Governor’s budget also continues the two HURF sweeps with the funding to go to Department of Public Safety and Motor Vehicle Division at the same levels as last year. The league wants HURF sweeps to end and the money be returned to road construction and maintenance.
- HB2043 – This bill would consolidate all municipal elections to the fall of even-numbered years. Right now virtually all municipalities hold elections in spring.
- Prospective legislation they will be considering eliminating the ability of cities and towns to impose any residential rental tax. It would be a reduction in revenue to the town.

ITEM # 6: OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Boy Scout Chance Barnes suggested the town have an annual Christmas Tree Lighting. It would bring more people to town, have a raffle to flip the switch and light the tree, vendors/crafts fair, and booths for kids to make ornaments.

Springerville-Eagar Regional Chamber of Commerce Director Becki Christensen reported:

- Eagar Candidate Forum, Thursday, February 2, 2012 from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. at Eagar Town Hall.
- Meet with local candidates, Tuesday, February 7, 2012 from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. at the Round Valley Public Library.
- Chamber Breakfast starting at 7:00 a.m. at the Roost Restaurant on Thursday, January 19, 2012. There will be a presentation by American West Company on Potash Mining.

ITEM #7 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION TO ACCEPT THE RAMSEY PARK NORTH DESIGN AS SUBMITTED BY EILEEN BOW

Mayor Kim Holaway stated that if the council accepts the Ramsey Park North plan, Ms Bow could use it on her resume. Ms Bow is an ASU student that has worked on this plan for three semesters at no cost to the town with the exception of travel reimbursements. The plan does not bind the town and it can be changed later.

Councilor Steve Erhart moved to accept the Ramsey Park North design as submitted by Eileen Bow. Councilor Byron Smith seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

B. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 2012-01 AMENDING EAGAR TOWN CODE TITLE 2 SECTION 2.04.050 – FILLING OF COUNCIL VACANCIES

Town Clerk Eva Wilson explained that the state legislature changed the filling of council vacancies. They are now requiring that if a vacancy occurs more than thirty days before the nomination petition deadline the town clerk would make two terms on the same ballot, a two-year term and a four-year term. People running for office will chose to run on a two-year term or a four-year term. If a vacancy occurs less than thirty days the council can still appoint. This will go into effect 30 days after approving this ordinance and not for this election but two years from now.

Vice-Mayor James Nelson, Jr. moved to approve Ordinance 2012-01 amending Eagar Town Code Title 2 Section 2.04.050 – Filling of Council Vacancies. Councilor Steve Erhart seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

ITEM #8: NEW BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION TO PROCLAIM JANUARY 2012 AS NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH AND CALL UPON THE CITIZENS OF EAGAR TO RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF MENTORING

Brett Curry from Big Brothers and Big Sisters presented the National Mentoring Month Proclamation and told about the importance of mentoring that is being done currently and that they are looking for volunteers.

Vice-Mayor James Nelson, Jr. moved to proclaim January 2012 as National Mentoring Month and called on the citizens of Eagar to recognize the importance of mentoring. Councilor Steve Erhart seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

B. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2012-02 DECLARING A NOTICE OF INTENT TO INCREASE WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES, WATER AND SEWER CONNECTION FEES, AND ROAD CROSSING FEES, AND SETTING A DATE TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED INCREASES

Town Manager Bill Greenwood stated that the proposed connection fees are less than what the town had charged for impact fees.

Public Works Director Neil Barton did a lot of research on the actual costs of connection and road crossings. Current historical costs had extremes on the high and low ends, so he averaged the costs. The intent is to not hinder businesses or residents from future connections nor to cripple the public works department in such capacity that public works is unable to recover the costs. The only significant increase is road crossings; asphalt cost alone is \$400.00. Every two weeks the public work crews have had to replace millings in the crossings until a more permanent solution can be applied in the summer. The proposed fee of \$1,250 will cover millings, asphalt, and labor.

In the rate study from 2007 it was suggested that a predetermined yearly water and wastewater rate increase be charged, instead the town chose to base the yearly rate increase on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) which was been flat for a couple of years, so the town got behind, these proposed rate increases will make those corrections. This resolution also calls for the setting of a date and time for a public hearing to discuss water and wastewater rate and connection fee increases with the public.

Mayor Holaway stated that the Utilities Board recommended the rate and fee increases be brought to the council..

Vice-Mayor James Nelson, Jr. moved to approve Resolution 2012-02 declaring a Notice of Intent to increase water and wastewater rates, water and sewer connection fees, and road crossing fees, and setting the date to hold a Public Hearing on the proposed increases.

Finance Administrator Katie Brady said that Dan Jackson from economists.com provided the study, which is filed in the clerk's office, would be at the public hearing to answer any questions. The public hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Eagar Council Chamber.

Councilor Gary Finch seconded the motion; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously.
6-0

C. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF ENTERING INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH THE LITTLE COLORADO SANITARY DISTRICT

Public Works Director Neil Barton stated that the Little Colorado Sanitary District (LCSD) had sent out a Request for Proposal (RFP) for operators or companies that had the proper certifications and qualifications to maintain their wastewater facilities and infrastructure in Greer. This would give additional opportunities within the water, sewer and public works

department of the town to help diversify staff, meaning that staff would be able to look at other facilities and bring additional revenue into the department to improve the Town of Eagar's infrastructure and facilities. The town has six staff members who have the qualifications and certifications to do the work. ADEQ is a big proponent and recognizes the Town of Eagar as the big brother assisting a small community where they don't have the full-time resources to support the operations that are required. Public works staff would be the project managers for the operations. The staff would assist on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The town could be committed to 20 hours a week charging an hourly rate; the town would subcontract out major repairs. This arrangement would supplement the on-call position. Eagar Public Works Department and LCSD would like to enter into a MOU on an annual basis to utilize the Eagar Public Works staff to maintain the regular operations of the LCSD. Mr. Barton will bring the MOU draft back to the council for approval.

Council directed staff to prepare a MOU and bring back to council for consideration.

D. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF EAGAR CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION SCHEDULE DETAILS

Council decided to set Friday, July 6, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. as the formal ribbon cutting and Eagar Centennial Celebration at Centennial Park, 194 N. Main Street and to complete the plans later.

E. DEMONSTRATION OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT THERMAL IMAGING CAMERAS THAT WERE PURCHASED UNDER A HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT

Fire Chief Howard Carlson reported that the thermal imaging cameras cost \$10,000 a piece and were obtained through a Homeland Security Grant. The cameras allow fire crews to see detect heat and see through darkness, fire, and smoke to find victims. The cameras can pick up an animal or person a mile away. The cameras record up to an hour and recordings can be downloaded to a computer and used for training. Chief Carlson demonstrated the cameras and allowed the council to look through the camera. The cameras also have a temperature gauge letting the operator know what temperature of fire is being dealt with.

ITEM # 9: SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

Necessary signatures were obtained for Ordinance 2012-01 and Resolution 2012-02.

ITEM #10: ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Steve Erhart moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Vice-Mayor James Nelson, Jr. seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Attest: _____

Mayor: _____

Vice-Mayor: _____

Council: _____

CERTIFICATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular session of the Town of Eagar, Arizona held on January 17, 2012. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Eva M. Wilson, Town Clerk