

TOWN OF GILA BEND

Minutes of the January 12, 2010 regular Council Meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Mayor Henry
- B. Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Henry.
- C. Invocation given by Fred Hull.

II. ROLL CALL

Mayor Ron Henry
Vice-Mayor Fred Hull
Council Member Fernando Fernandez
Council Member Armida Gonzalez

Council Member Chuck Turner
Council Member James "Bud" Turner - absent
Council Member Donny Young

Staff present: Town Manager Buss, Town Attorney McClure, Town Clerk Turner, Public Works Director Parsi, Finance Director Young, Fire Chief Birchfield, W/WW Larson and Thom, Parks/Recreation Dishman, Counter Services Smith.

III. CALL TO THE PUBLIC *(The procedures to follow if you address the Council are: Council requests that you express your ideas in three minutes or less and refrain from any personal attacks or derogatory statements about any individual . The Mayor will limit discussion whenever he deems such an action appropriate to the proper conduct of the meeting. At the conclusion of an open call to the public, individual members of the Council may respond to criticism made by those who have addressed the Council, may ask Staff to review a matter, or may ask that a matter be put on a future agenda. However, members of the Council shall not discuss or take legal action on any matters during an open call to the public unless the matters are properly noticed for discussion and legal action.)*

Gracie Pinette, resident, commented that it was nice to see everyone and that she felt that the Town was insulted at the last Council meeting by Mr. Greg Swartz and that she would like an apology.

James Hancock, resident, spoke about the lack of fire hydrants on Main Street and asked why fire hydrants on Main Street are not included in the water line project. Town Manager Buss asked that Mr. Hancock speak with him after the meeting.

Terry Basu, resident, wished everyone a Happy New Year.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA (all items subject to approval by a single motion; any Council Member may require any of these items to be voted on separately)

- A. Approval of Meeting Minutes. The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action on the approval of the following minutes:
 - November 9, 2009 Work Session
 - November 10, 2009 Regular Meeting (Minutes tabled at December 8, 2009 meeting)
 - December 8, 2009 Regular Meeting
 - December 15, 2009 Special Meeting
 - December 21, 2009 Special Meeting
- B. Airport Shade Hangers. The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action to approve a Professional Services Agreement with PBS&J for bidding and construction management services for the construction of Aircraft Shade Canopies at the Gila Bend Municipal Airport. This project is being funded 95% FAA and 5% Town.
- C. Employee Health Insurance Renewal. The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action to approve annual renewal of employee insurance benefits beginning February 1, 2010. The renewal reflects the following carriers: Aetna for Health; UCCI for Dental; and USABLE for Life and AD&D.
- D. Valley Metro/Rural Public Transportation Alliance (RPTA). The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action to approve an amendment to Contract No. 127-34-2010 between RPTA and the Town of Gila Bend related to the ADA Paratransit Service Agreement.

Council Member C Turner requested that items B & C be removed from the consent agenda and opened for discussion. Vice-Mayor Hull moved to approve items A and D of the consent agenda and to pull out items B & C for discussion. Motion was seconded by Council Member A Gonzalez. Motion passed unanimously. (6-0)

B. Airport Shade Hangers. Council Member C Turner asked about the 5% Town match and whether or not the match could be in-kind or done in-house. Town Manager Buss advised that it is the FAA's preference that these services be provided by the project engineer. Council Member C Turner spoke about the simplicity of constructing the pre-engineered buildings. He then moved to table this item for further review. Seconded by Vice-Mayor Hull. Motion to table passed unanimously. (6-0)

C. Employee Health Insurance Renewal. Council Member C Turner commended staff related to the savings to the Town on health insurance, however he spoke against raising the deductible and also inquired as to whether or not the employees could receive a cost of living adjustment based on the premium increase. It was noted that a cost of living adjustment can be considered during the next budget cycle. Council Member C Turner moved to approve the employee insurance benefits retaining the \$250.00 deductible. Seconded by Council Member F Fernandez. There was discussion about the marketing process and it was noted that the Town's Insurance Broker Barbara Lear put the Town out to market and the results were that Aetna was by far the lowest. It was also noted that moving to Aetna last year saved the Town \$100,000 over a two year period. There was a brief discussion about setting up a program in order to assist employees in off setting their out of pocket expense and it was advised that a program as such is not fair and equitable. Motion to approve passed 5-0 with Council Member D Young abstaining.

V. BUSINESS - Discussion and possible action on the following items:

A. Part Time Water/Wastewater Technician. Request for Council approval for the creation of a Part Time Water/Wastewater Technician with expenditure to be equally split between the water and wastewater enterprise funds. Town Manager Buss spoke about the need for a part time water/wastewater technician advising that currently there are two employees to cover both departments. It was noted that creating this position would relieve overtime and grant the Town the ability to cancel the current contract with MCL. It was also noted that the position would pay for itself if the contract with MCL is cancelled. MR. Thom advised that MCL is not trained in wastewater and that the Town is required to monitor both systems seven days a week. There was discussion about the requirements of the position and it was noted that the person hired would be required to obtain a grade 1 certification within one year of hire; work weekends Fri – Sun up to 3 hours per day; required to check systems and complete readings. Mr. Thom and Mr. Larson spoke about the mandates that have been placed on the Town by ADEQ. Town Manager Buss advised that the recruitment process is out. Vice-Mayor Hull moved to approve the request for the creation of a part time water/wastewater technician. Seconded by Council Member A Gonzalez. Motion to approve passed unanimously. (6-0)

B. Call for Bid. The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action to Call for Bid for the repair and refurbishing of the Town Swimming Pool. Andrew Dishman, Parks & Rec. Assistant spoke about the need to have the swimming pool open this summer. He noted he has received several estimates ranging from \$1,800.00 to \$12,400 however, these estimates do not include reinstalling the joint and plaster which could increase the by \$35,000 high end. There was a question about using the Lewis Prison Fire Crew for labor and it was suggested that the professionals handle the project. Mr. Dishman advised that the pump system is good working condition and the scope of work to repair the pool includes chipping out old plaster, epoxy injection and re-plaster. He also advised that there is no issue with the crack it is with the expansion joint. It was noted that if the bid is awarded by March 1st the project would be completed by April 1st. Vice-Mayor Hull moved to approve calling for bid for the repair

and refurbishing of the Town swimming pool. Seconded by Council Member A Gonzalez. Motion to approve passed unanimously. (6-0)

- C. Lease Agreement. The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action on approving the renewal of State Land Lease No. 023-102136.03 for the water storage tank property located on Butterfield Trail.
There was discussion about the renewal of the lease agreement and it was suggested that the tank be sold as scrap. Finance Director Young advised that the \$1,800 lease payment was not included in the current budget. Vice-Mayor Hull suggested that the Town look for different uses for the site. Council Member C Turner moved to not renew the lease agreement and begin site remediation as soon as possible. Seconded by Vice-Mayor Hull. Vice-Mayor Hull suggested that the lease be paid to allow more time to clean-up the site. Motion to not renew the lease and begin site remediation as soon as possible passed 5-1 with Vice-Mayor Hull voting nay.
- D. Resolution 10-01. A Resolution of the Town of Gila Bend, Arizona, adopting increases to the Town's wastewater user fees.
Mayor Henry read Resolution 10-01 by title. Town Manager Buss noted that the Resolution allows for separate metering for those customers who have gardens, pools etc. He also advised that the separate meter and backflow cost would be born by the customer. Mr. Clyde Kreeger, resident asked if the Town would install the meters and backflow devices and it was noted that the Town would install the meters but the backflows would be installed by professionals and inspected annually. W/WW K Larson explained the process to install meters. Council Member Young asked how the Town would monitor usage and it was noted that it would be on the honor system. Vice-Mayor Hull moved to approve Resolution 10-01. Seconded by Council Member F Fernandez. Motion to approve passed unanimously. (6-0)
- VI. MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT ON CURRENT EVENTS
(This is the time Council Member's may present a brief summary on current events. The Council may not propose, discuss, deliberate or take any legal action on the information presented)
Council Member Young wished everyone a Happy New Year and commented that in the new year Council hopes to clear up issue's and become more prosperous.
- VII. TOWN MANAGER REPORT
***Town Manager Buss reported on the following:
Expressed thanks to water and wastewater crew for their hardwork and creativeness in saving funds.
Town Web Site is up, currently contains 13 pages and is a work in progress. He welcomed all input and noted that there are 2 job announcements posted as well as Youth Basketball registration forms.
Meetings - there will be a Citizens participation meeting on January 28, 2009 regarding the Solar Field Overlay Zone proposal and on February 11, 2009 the Planning Commission will hold 2 public hearings on the overlay and Lauridsen Museum.
Town Manager Buss also commented that Mr. Lauridsen has paid his first years rent in the amount of \$10,000.
Finance Director Young commented that her department is preparing for the audit.
Public Works Director Parsi reported that a pre-construction meeting will be scheduled for the water line and fire hydrant project.
Town Manager Buss commented that on January 14, Mr. Alan Stephens will present the Town with a check from USDA and once that presentation is concluded the pre-construction meeting can be set.***
- VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Town Council may go into executive session for purpose of obtaining legal advice for any of the above agenda items pursuant to A.R.S.38-431.03(A)(3). ***No Executive Session was called.***
- IX. ADJOURNMENT
Council Member Young motioned to adjourn. Motion seconded by Vice Mayor Hull. Motion passed unanimously; 6-0. Time of adjournment: 6:51pm.

Ron Henry, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beverly Turner, CMC
Town Clerk

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the regular meeting held January 12, 2010, and the meeting was duly called and posted and that a quorum was present.

Beverly Turner, CMC
Town Clerk