

TOWN OF GILA BEND

Minutes of the February 9, 2010 regular Council meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Henry at 6:00pm.
- B. JB Getzwiller led the Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Invocation given by Town Attorney McClure.

II. ROLL CALL

Mayor Ron Henry	Council Member Chuck Turner - absent
Vice-Mayor Fred Hull	Council Member James "Bud" Turner - absent
Council Member Fernando Fernandez	
Council Member Armida Gonzalez	Council Member Donny Young - absent

Staff present: Town Manager Buss, Town Attorney McClure, Town Clerk Turner, Public Works Director Parsi, Finance Director Young, Community Development Director, Fire Chief Birchfield

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.*) **NONE**

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 January 26, 2010 Meeting Minutes. The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action on the approval of the January 26, 2010 meeting minutes.
- B. Payment of Claims. The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action to ratify claims as follows:

October 2009	\$227,269.16
November 2009	\$196,564.81
December 2009	\$304,235.18
January 2010	\$95,170.75

Vice-Mayor Hull moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; seconded by Council Member Armida Gonzalez. Motion to approve passed unanimously. (4-3)

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

- A. Public Safety IGA. Staff requests direction from the Mayor and Town Council on entering into negotiations for an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) for public safety, specifically police services, to include the Town of Gila Bend, the Tohono O'odham Nation, Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, Arizona Department of Public Safety, and the United States Border Patrol.

Town Manager Buss advised that the Tohono O'odham Nation is adding officers to patrol the local reservation. He spoke about the possibility of entering into an IGA in order to assist each other in enforcing State laws without boundaries. He advised that there are similar agreements in Florence and Pinal County. Town Attorney McClure spoke about the immunities that are afforded to the reservations and the possibility of utilizing the current sub-station. He also suggested that an AD HOC steering committee be formed. There was discussion about Border Patrols ability to

engage in such an agreement. Town Magistrate JB Getzwiller spoke about the rights in the Courts. Vice-Mayor Fred Hull moved to allow the Town Manager to enter into negotiations for public safety. Seconded by Council Member Fernando Fernandez. Vice-Mayor Fred Hull amended his motion to include forming an AD HOC steering committee. Council Member Donny Young spoke about current events happening at the reservation and how difficult it is for EMS to sometimes access patients. There was discussion as to whom should be on the committee and it was suggested that the Superintendent of the school be invited to be on the committee, along with other professionals. Motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

- B. Martin Avenue Design. The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action on recommendation from staff and e-Group on design issues for the Martin Avenue landscape and pedestrian Improvement Project.

Town Manager Buss introduced Jason Harrington and Hans of E-Group, noting that E-Group was awarded the RFP for the Martin Avenue Street design. Mr. Harrington gave a brief review of the project noting that it is being funded thru ARRA. There was discussion on alternative designs based on the fact that conditions have changed since this project was first created. The following conditions were discussed, residential access; Vehicular access to individual homes; Gila Bend Canal Maintenance Drive; Existing walk at Unity Park; North side of Gila Bend Canal; Railroad crossings; Integration with existing walks; curb type; Papago Street and Euclid Avenue regarding the Palm Trees and boulders; First Baptist Church sidewalks and parking; above grade utilities; school turn-around and fence. It was noted that the project will meet ADA requirements. Mr. Harrington reviewed E-Groups recommendation on each of the aforementioned conditions advising that widening the sidewalk at the canal and adding curb and gutter would increase the cost of the project. Town Manager Buss clarified the funding sources for the project noting \$169,000 HURF and that the Towns grant submission to the SAFE Routes to School program is ranked #5 and that MAG is recommending that Gila Bend be funded \$300,000. There was discussion about rights of way and pedestrian safety. Council Member Donny Young spoke about crossings on Pima and noted that 85% of the school children who walk to school use the east side of Martin. Vice-Mayor Fred Hull moved to approve the recommendations submitted by E-Group Vertical curb; Sidewalk on one side of the street; retain on street parking for commercial business but not for residential. Seconded by Council Member Fernando Fernandez. Motion to approve passed unanimously. (5-0)

- C. ARRA Funded Signage Design. The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action on recommendations and ideas from staff and E-Group on design of the monument signage project being funded via the America Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and ADOT Enhancement Funds.

Town Manager Buss asked for input on designs and location of monument signs. Jason Harrington advised that there is limited funding for this project and he reviewed the materials to be used to construct the signs noting they will be lighted and 25' wide and 7' tall. There was discussion on the location and verbage to be placed on the signs. There was a question as to whether or not the monuments would be adaptable using a portion now and add more at a later date. It was advised that te signs do have modular components and that an additional panel could be added in the future. Mr. Harrington advised that the project needs to be out to bid within one month and that they are asking for a place holder. It was suggested that the words "Thank You for Coming" be added to the back of the signs. There was discussion about the location and E-Group recommended placing the monuments on the west end of Town in the same location as the current sign and east of the interchange. There was discussion about the future of the east end interchange and it was advised that the monument can be relocated, however it would not be cost effective. It was also noted that the interchange realignment is several years down the road. There was a question as to what will happen to the Old Crab signs and it was suggested to use that verbage as a footprint for the new signs. Council Member Donny Young moved to save the old signs and place the new monuments in the existing sign location. Seconded by Council Member Fernando Fernandez.

Motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

Council Member Donny Young moved to approve recommendation on verbage as presented by E-Group. Seconded by Vice-Mayor Hull. Motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

- D. Proposed Street Improvement Projects. Staff request direction from the Mayor and Town Council on setting priority for street improvements.
Public Works Director/Engineer Harry Parsi reviewed four proposed projects and noted that there is \$150,000 in available funding, he also spoke about the right of way issues on Cemetery Road. There was a question as to what roads are most traveled and in most need of repair and it was advised that those listed in project one as well as Main Street. Town Manager Buss suggested that project one and three be done this year and project two next year using HURF funds. Council Member Donny Young moved to approve projects 1 & 3 this year and project 2 as funding becomes available. Motion seconded by Council Member Fernando Fernandez. Motion passed unanimously. (5-0)
- E. Emergency Equipment Repair. The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action to approve payment to Empire Southwest in the amount of \$5,163.30 (Invoice #EMWK1816343) for emergency repairs to the backhoe.
Vice-Mayor Fred Hull moved to approve payment to Empire Southwest for emergency repairs to the backhoe. Seconded by Council Member Armida Gonzalez. It was advised that the backhoe had brake issues. Motion passed unanimously. (5-0)
- 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)
Vice-Mayor Fred Hull reported that he attended the Historic Preservation Committee meeting at which the topic of discussion was the Gatlin Site. No other reports given.
- VII. TOWN MANAGER REPORT
Town Manager Buss reported on the Solana Solar Plant reporting that they plan to break ground mid to late summer and a contract has been signed for the environmental portion of the project. He also reported that he will be presenting to WESTMARC on March 3rd on the establishment of a West Valley Foreign Trade Board and on the SR 85 meeting; Safe Routes to School; interviews for a new sanitation driver will be held Monday and interviews for the part time water/wastewater position will be held on Thursday.

Finance Director Stacey Young reported on the progress of reconciling the invoices for Gannett Fleming and advised that she is dealing with request from the auditors. Town Clerk Beverly Turner reported that she is preparing for the CDBG annual audit.
- 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 called.
- IX. ADJOURNMENT
Vice Mayor Hull moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Council Member Armida Gonzalez. Motion passed unanimously; 5-0. Time of adjournment: 7:36pm.

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 February 9, 2010, and the meeting was duly called and posted and that a quorum was present.

Beverly Turner, CMC
Town Clerk