

TOWN OF GILA BEND

Minutes for the December 13, 2011 regular Council Meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Call to order **Mayor Henry called the meeting to order at 6:04pm**
- B. Pledge of Allegiance **led by Mayor Henry**
- C. Invocation **given by resident Fred Hull**

II. ROLL CALL

Mayor Ron Henry
Vice-Mayor Chuck Turner
Council Member Fernando Fernandez
Council Member Armida Gonzalez
Council Member Steve Holt
Council Member Tommy Lee Sikes
Council Member Donny Young

III. 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 **Motion to approve made by Vice Mayor Turner and seconded by Councilmember Sikes. No discussion. Passed unanimously; 7-0**

- A. **Approval of Council Meeting Minutes:** The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action on the approval of the November 22, 2011 meeting minutes. **Discussion and Action**
- B. **Payment of Claims:** The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action to ratify claims in the amount of \$3,210.24 for the period of November 15, 2011 through November 30, 2011. **Discussion and Action**
- C. **Agreement by and between the Town of Gila Bend and HFIN:** The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action to approve an agreement with Helping Families in Need (HFIN) for the provision of health insurance outreach and application assistance. **Discussion and Action**
- D. **Agreement by and between the Town of Gila Bend and ALI:** The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action to approve an agreement with Arizona Learning Institute (ALI) for the 3rd year continuation of the Readiness Basket Program. **Discussion and Action**
- E. **Agreement by and between the Town of Gila Bend and TOPS:** The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action to approve an agreement with Teenage Outreach Pregnancy Services (TOPS) for the 3rd year continuation of the Teen Pregnancy Outreach and Support. **Discussion and Action**

IV. BUSINESS – Discussion and possibly action on the following items:

- A. **Transmission Lines and Utility Scale Solar:** Martin Shultz, of the law firm Brownstein, Hyatt, Farber, and Schreck, and formerly with Arizona public Service (APS), will present to Council a discussion relating to the critical importance of transmission line planning and construction, the outlook for utility scale solar, and the economic development opportunities that exist with the California market. **Discussion Only A PowerPoint presentation outlining how a transmission line would be beneficial to Gila Bend was provided by Martin Shultz. Mr. Shultz gave a brief summary of personal history and experience in the electrical utility industry, spoke about the 33% renewable power needed by California, summarized the Devers Transmission Line history, the opportunity that is available to Gila Bend and the advantageous position Gila Bend has over other areas. Discussion on the problem(s) with the Corporation Commission, Nevada looking into supplying the power to California, availability of market in Mexico and possibility of federal assistance. No further discussion.**
- B. **410 West Papago:** The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss possible purchase by private citizen of the property located at 410 West Papago. **Discussion only Discussion on the two potential buyers, benefits to Town if no demo, requirements and timeframes for buyer and consequences to buyer if failing to fulfill. Discussion on the Town having \$10,000.⁰⁰ already invested in it, \$20,000.⁰⁰ more to demo it and that a buyer would save the Town having to spend the money to demo the building. Roxanne Brinker, resident, noted her**

concern with a buyer having the needed funds to properly clean-up and repair the property in a timely manner and inquired whether the Town could request a potential buyer show proof of funds. No further discussion.

- C. **415 West Norma:** The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action to pay back taxes on the property located at 415 West Norma in order to obtain ownership of the said property. **Discussion and Action** *Motion to approve made by Councilmember Holt. Seconded by Councilmember Young. Discussion on tax lien purchase provides property owner three (3) years to buy back, Town earn 16% interest on payment if owner pays, and that 410 West Papago cannot be purchased as the taxes have been paid. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously; 7-0*
- D. **Town Billboards:** Request by Councilmember Steve Holt to authorize staff to enter into an agreement with Puerto Penasco, Mexico for the use of two (2) of the north facing Billboards on SR85 near the Airport at a cost of \$1.00 per year per billboard. The intent is to promote international relations, trade, and local tourism for both communities. **Discussion and Action** *It was noted that the Town cannot give use free of charge as a government entity and that a fee for use must be charged. Discussion on a minimal fee to foster good relations with Rocky Point, travelers going to and from Rocky Point benefit Gila Bend, three billboards available, Town using two of them to advertise special events and lease one to Rocky Point. No further discussion. Councilmember Fernandez made a motion to approve allowing Rocky Point to use one of the three available billboards. Seconded by Councilmember Holt. Motion passed unanimously; 7-0*
- E. **Gila Bend Branch Library Grant:** Request by Town Manager Buss to authorize staff to accept a grant in the amount of \$73,564.00 from the Arizona State Library and another grant in the amount of \$73,564.00 from the Maricopa County Library District. The total amount of \$147,148.00 will be used to renovate the Gila Bend Library and enclose the outside patio, thereby adding 629 sq. ft. to the library. **Discussion and Action** *Town Manager Buss gave brief summary of the requirements. Discussion on safety issues. No further discussion. Vice Mayor Turner moved to approve. Seconded by Councilmember Fernandez. Passed unanimously; 7-0*
- F. **Gila Bend Volunteer Fire Department Roster:** The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action on a request to appoint Firefighters to the Official Gila Bend Volunteer Fire Department Roster. **Discussion and Action** *Vice Mayor Turner moved to approve. Motion seconded by Councilmember Gonzalez. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously; 7 - 0*
- G. **Resolution 11-25:** A Resolution of the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Gila Bend, Maricopa County, Arizona, to authorize the application for a DWSFR Loan from Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA). **Discussion and Action** *Town Manager Buss commended Finance Director Young on a great job. Discussion on savings to Town will be \$155,000.⁰⁰ per year, possibility of selling power back to APS and solar panels mostly maintenance free. No further discussion. Councilmember Young moved to approve. Seconded by Councilmember Sikes. Motion passed unanimously; 7-0*
- H. **AZSTA Youth and Amateur Sports Biennial Grant Acceptance:** The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action to approve the acceptance of the Arizona Sports and Tourism Authority grant award to the Town of Gila Bend in the amount of \$132,334.00. The total cost for this project is \$198,500.00, and the Town's one-third matching contribution will be \$66,166.00, which will come from the General Fund. **Discussion and Action** *Vice Mayor Turner motioned to approve. Motion seconded by Councilmember Holt. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously; 7-0*
- I. **Call for Bid – Basketball Court:** Pursuant to the approval of the AZSTA Youth and Amateur Sports Grant, the Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action on authorizing staff to issue a Call for Bid for the resurfacing of the Town of Gila Bend's Community Park Basketball Court. **Discussion and Action** *Town Manager Buss noted that Items I, J, and K are regarding Item H. but each item needs individual approval due to costs. No further discussion. Councilmember Sikes moved to approve. Seconded by Councilmember Young. Motion passed unanimously; 7-0*

- J. **Call for Bid – Playground Equipment:** Pursuant to the approval of the AZSTA Youth and Amateur Sports Grant, the Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action on authorizing staff to issue a Call for Bid for the purchase of new playground equipment for the Town Park. **Discussion and Action Councilmember Holt moved to approve. Seconded by Councilmember Fernandez. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously; 7-0**
- K. **Call for Bid – Light Replacement:** Pursuant to the approval of the AZSTA Youth and Amateur Sports Grant, the Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action on authorizing staff to issue a Call for Bid for the replacement of the lights at the Linda McMahon Memorial Softball Field. **Discussion and Action Councilmember Holt moved to approve. Seconded by Councilmember Sikes. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously; 7-0**
- V. 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)
- Councilmember Holt commended staff for all of the great things they have been bringing before the Council.**
Councilmember Young apologized for missing the office Christmas Party. He was attending his the graduation of his son from the Fire Academy.
Vice Mayor Turner thanked Town Manager Buss and staff for sharing accomplishments to date and for the great job they are doing.
Staff reported:
Town Clerk Turner reported that Financial Disclosures will be provided to Council and must be returned by January 31, 2012; insurance claim filed for stolen manhole covers; she and Deputy Clerk Eisenberger will be attending Quarterly West Valley Clerks Meeting on Thursday, December 15th
Planning & Economic Development Director Fitzer reported that Butterfield Trail Waterline Project is 80% complete and will be done by January 16, 2012; issues on property on Papago; and will be attending a meeting on the Capital Ave. Waterline Project.
Finance Director Young reported on ASRS meeting she attended with Town Clerk Turner and Accounting Clerk Villegas; MID meeting with Greg Shwartz; WIFA award; and AAA audit
Parks & Recreation Director Turner thanked Director Young for assisting with the AZSTA grant; Santa in the Park on Saturday, December 17th; tree lighting on December 16th; and thanked the Chamber of Commerce for assisting with Butterfield Stage Days
Public Works Director Menard reported will be putting the ACIP on the next Council agenda; need to clean 30,000 feet of sewer lines and issues with replacing manhole covers.
Social Services Director Dempsey reported that 450 – 500 people have gone through the Resource Center for job services; working with Salvation Army for holiday season; received \$6,600 for Seniors and working on Christmas activities.
Mayor Henry wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.
- VI. TOWN MANAGER REPORT
Town Manager Buss thanked staff for their hard work and noted that looking at the accomplishments for the past six months it shows staff has gone above and beyond what was expected.
Town Manager Buss recognized Town Clerk Turner for achieving the Master Municipal Clerk (MMC) designation, noting that there are 166 Clerks in Arizona and only 40 of them have achieved a MMC designation.
- VII. 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.) **Resident Roxanne Brinker thanked Town for working with her in resolving property issues. Resident Diane Henry noted that the Chamber of Commerce has shrimp from Mexico for sale and that a representative from Raul Grijalva's office will be here between 9:00am and 2:00pm tomorrow with the Lion's Club Eye Van.**

- VIII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
(This is the time Council Member's may request items be placed on future agenda's) **No items**
- IX. 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.**
- X. ADJOURNMENT **Vice Mayor Turner moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilmember Fernandez. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously; 7-0 Time: 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 December 13, 2011, and the meeting was duly called and posted and that a quorum was present.

Beverly Turner, CMC
Town Clerk