

TOWN OF GILA BEND

Minutes of the July 9, 2013 Work Session

I. CALL TO ORDER - *Mayor S. Holt called the Work Session to order at 5:02pm*

II. ROLL CALL

Mayor Steve Holt

Council Member Ron Henry

Vice-Mayor Chuck Turner

Council Member Tommy Sikes

Council Member Fernando Fernandez -

Council Member James Turner

absent

Council Member Armida Gonzalez

Staff present: Town Manager F. Buss; Town Attorney S. McClure, Town Clerk B. Turner, Finance Director S. Young, Planning & Economic Director (PEDD) E. Fitzer, Parks & Recreation Director (PRD) C. Turner, Deputy Clerk C. Eisenberger

III. WORK SESSION (the Council cannot take action on any of these subjects because they are on the agenda for discussion only)

A. **Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget:** The Mayor, Town Council, Town Manager and Department Heads may discuss the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget. **Discussion Only** *Town Manager F. Buss began PowerPoint presentation with review of budget with Council Member Henry interjecting the question of how long this would take as he has some questions. Discussion on rodeo ground improvements, State Land lease and permanent versus portable fixtures for rodeo grounds. Council Member R. Henry questioned wage increase for Town Manager with Town Manager Buss responding that there was no additional increase in his salary, verbiage to be removed as already discussed, he would continue to do IT and these matters have already been discussed and addressed. Council Member R. Henry then questioned some increases in pay to a few employees above the 3% COLA and believes Council should vote on each individual wage increase as done in previous years where they went through every position. Discussion on pay equity research done by management and staff and policy created and approved. Town Manager F. Buss noted that discussion on each individual employees pay/increase must be done in Executive Session with employee able to attend session per Arizona statute. Council Member R. Henry commented on no employee names mentioned so it shouldn't matter if discussed by department even if only one or two people in department. Discussion on open meeting law. Mayor S. Holt noted that Council responsible for setting Town Manager and Town Attorney salary and only set salaries when there was no Town Manager and spoke on what the duties of the Council are with Town Attorney S. McClure concurring. Discussion on pay increase upon certifications, employee incentive, other cities and towns hiring, salary caps on some positions and loss of good employee(s) if not paid equitably. Mayor S. Holt noted that one Council Members opinion does not reflect that of the entire Council and there are differing philosophies with each having a vote. Town Manager F. Buss noted that there are three (3) less employees than last year and look at all that is being accomplished and staff should be thanked for all*

of their hard work. Council Member R. Henry asked about beginning and ending balances. Resident Fred Hull asked if there was money in the budget to maintain the Gila Bend 9/11 Memorial Park and for park signs. Mayor S. Holt spoke about minor repairs needed on SR238 and the need for road repairs on Main Street. PEDD E. Fitzer commented on having a work session and there was discussion on using local experienced persons first to save on costs.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor S. Holt moved to adjourn. Second by Vice Mayor C. Turner. Motion to adjourn passed: 6-0 Time of adjournment: 5:47pm

Steven Holt, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beverly Turner, MMC
Town Clerk

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Work Session held July 9, 2013 and the meeting was duly called and posted and that a quorum was present.

Beverly Turner, MMC
Town Clerk