

# TOWN OF GILA BEND

Minutes of the regularly scheduled October 14, 2014 Council Meeting

Pursuant to ARS 38-431.02, notice is hereby given that the TOWN COUNCIL will hold a special Council meeting on October 14, 2014 beginning at 6:00 p.m., in the Gila Bend School District Media Center located at 308 N Martin Avenue, Gila Bend, Arizona. A copy of the final agenda will be available twenty-four hours prior to the meeting in the Town Clerk's Office, 644 West Pima, Gila Bend, AZ 85337.

## I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Call to order **Mayor S. Holt called the meeting to order at 6:01pm**
- B. Pledge of Allegiance **Led by Mayor S. Holt**
- C. Invocation Given by **Town Attorney S. McClure**

## II. ROLL CALL

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

**Staff Present: Town Manager E. Rubi, Town Attorney S. McClure, Town Clerk B. Turner, Parks and Recreation Director C. Turner, Public Works Director T. Weter, Deputy Town Clerk C. Eisenberger**

**Mayor S. Holt requested that Item IV. PRESENTATION be addressed first and introduced Patrick McDermott of APS.**

## IV. PRESENTATION: Patrick McDermott of APS will present discussion on APS and future energy related issues. Discussion Only

**Mr. McDermott introduced himself with a brief bio and then summarized the history of APS. Mr. McDermott spoke on the different types of energy used by APS, expected growth of energy use, new technologies effect on energy usage and the challenges of managing and providing electricity across the grid. He spoke on the future of solar energy and Gila Bend's part in it. He spoke on his availability to answer questions and provide presentations to the Council, Management and Staff. A question on whether APS has a Master Plan that addresses approaching growth and expansion. Mr. McDermott noted that usually incoming new developers usually pay for this and that, yes, there is a master plan and they will work with the town when it is needed. No further discussion.**

**The Council returned to and addressed Item III. WORK SESSION.**

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

- A. **Council Policies and Procedures:** The Mayor and Town Council may discuss Council Policies and Procedures relative to Remote Access to Council Meetings **Discussion Only**  
**Town Manager E. Rubi noted this item was requested for discussion only. Council Member R. Henry noted that he requested that this item be put on the agenda and spoke about remotely accessing/attending Council Meetings can be disruptive, has the potential of being abused and a policy should be in place. Discussion on remote access allowed by law and limits/parameters need to be set by the Town. Discussion on different limits needed should include the number of Council Members allowed to attend remotely at one time, limits on absences, notification time for remote attendance and excusable absences. Town Attorney S. McClure will put together a Draft before October 28th so that this item can be placed on the next agenda. Resident Fred Hull noted that Council Members are paid \$200.<sup>00</sup>/month and residents want to see their faces at Council Meetings and be available to carry out their duties as Council Members by attending Council Meetings, town functions and participate in other meetings as required.. Resident Terry Basu commented that Council Members are elected by the public and have the public trust to uphold and so they need to be at the meetings. No further discussion.**

- IV. **PRESENTATION: Patrick McDermott of APS will present discussion on APS and future energy related issues. Discussion Only. This item was addressed first.**
- V. 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)  
**Council Member R. Henry motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Council Member J. Turner. Council Member R. Henry asked for clarification on Item C. contractor for this project and whether same contractor used for Well 8 project and Brine Pond project. Council Member J. Turner requested clarification on whether the Item B. payment for sweeping was for sweeping the runway and if the expense was budgeted, with a yes response for each from Town Manager E. Rubi. No further discussion. Motion to approve the consent agenda passed unanimously: 7-0**
- A. **Approval of Council Meeting Minutes:** The Mayor and Town Council may discuss and possibly take action on the approval of the September 23, 2014 work session and regular meeting minutes.  
**Discussion and Action**
- B. **Payment of Claims:** The Mayor and Town Council may discuss and possibly take action to ratify claims in the amount of \$169,115.06 for the period of September 16, 2014 through September 30, 2014. **Discussion and Action**
- C. **Consultant Agreement for Professional Planning Services:** The Mayor and Town Council may discuss and possibly take action to approve a Consultant Agreement with Stella Polaris for providing Professional Planning Services in connection with the Town General Plan Update.  
**Discussion and Action**
- VI. BUSINESS – Discussion and possibly action on the following items:
- A. **Airport Land Lease Agreement - Jesus Baldenegro:** The Mayor and Town Council may discuss and possibly take action to approve an Airport Land Lease Agreement by and between the Town of Gila Bend and Jesus and Rosantina Baldenegro for 24,000 sq ft of “Non Aeronautical Land-Side” Property located at the Gila Bend Municipal Airport. **Discussion and Action (Item was tabled from September 9, 2014 meeting) Council Member T. Sikes asked about the removal of the \$100/month fee. Discussion on removal of fee as Mr. Baldenegro provided an on-call assistance as needed at the airport. No further discussion Motion to approve the Airport Land Lease Agreement made by Council Member J. Turner. Motion seconded by Council Member F. Fernandez. Motion to approve the Airport Land Lease Agreement passed unanimously: 7-0.**
- B. **Part-time Employment:** The Mayor and Town Council may discuss and possibly take action to approve the ability of the Parks & Recreation Department to advertise for a pool of part-time employees to assist the department on an as needed basis. **Discussion and Action Parks and Recreation Director C. Turner reviewed his departments use of part-time employment in previous years. Mr. C. Turner noted that this expenditure is included in the budget and while the budgeted amount supports 23 hours/week of part-time labor the estimated part-time labor needed is approximately 18 hours/week. Question and discussion on whether this includes the lifeguards. Discussion on the need to keep part-time laborers under 20 hours/week. No further discussion. Motion to approve the Part-time employment made by Vice Mayor C. Turner. Motion seconded by Council Member F. Fernandez. Motion to approve Part-time Employment passed unanimously: 7-0.**
- C. **Purchase Storage Units:** The Mayor and Town Council may discuss and possibly take action to approve the purchase of five storage units at \$2,500 each totaling \$12,500.00 and waive bidding requires on this purchase due to discounted cost from a local business owner.  
**Discussion and Action Town Manager E. Rubi reviewed the requested purchase, departments that will utilize the units, status and cost of current leased units. Mr. Rubi spoke on unit size, delivery and set-up included in cost, each department has cost to purchase include in their budget and purchase is from a local business owner. Mayor S. Holt noted that he purchased same type unit from same vendor and is pleased with the unit and extra security it has.**

**Discussion on cost to purchase versus cost of leased units. No further discussion. Motion to approve Purchase Storage Units made by Vice Mayor C. Turner. Motion seconded by Council Member T. Sikes. Motion to approve Purchase Storage Units passed unanimously: 7-0.**

- D. **Pavement Maintenance Timetable:** The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly provide direction to the staff as to the pavement maintenance program. **Discussion Only**  
**Town Manager E. Rubi reviewed status noting that Public Works Director B. Menard was out of the office. Mr. Rubi noted that delay is due to waiting on state contracts in order to save costs on the engineering. Mr. Rubi introduced the new Public Works Director, Terry Weter, gave a brief bio and noted his history of fiscal conservatism received from references that were contacted. Mr. Rubi then spoke about working with Mr. Weter to come up with a good program and bring this item back to the Council in November. He remarked that it was more feasible to start the program in spring due to weather issues and not happy with the delay. Question and discussion on whether funds for project is through HURF and future HURF funding. Council Member F. Fernandez mentioned that in CDAC meetings he attended there has been discussion on funding of some street improvements. Town Clerk B. Turner spoke about the 5-Year Plan is due to be re-done as we are on year 5 projects. Discussion on funds already allocated to entitled cities of 50,000 + population. Question and discussion on whether some crack-sealing could be done with Mr. Weter noting that possibly yes, but he will look into more closely. The Town Manager spoke on doing a revolving 5-Year Plan. No further discussion. Discussion only item: No vote.**
- E. **Town Hall Winter Hours:** The Mayor and Town Council may discuss and possibly take action on the proposal for Town Staff to work a winter schedule consisting of 8 hour workday with ½ hour lunch period Monday thru Friday. **Discussion and Action**  
**Town Manager E. Rubi reviewed current Town staff hours/schedule and having the winter hours for Town Hall beginning on November 1st and residents would like to be able to do business with Town Hall on Fridays. Mr. Rubi commented on reviewing other options for future. Question and discussion on what the Town Staff feel about the proposed winter hours being a 50/50 split and Finance Director S. Young currently researching possibility of providing remote payment option for residents to utilize. No further discussion. Council Member R. Henry made a motion to approve the Town Hall Winter Hours. Motion seconded by Vice Mayor C. Turner. Motion to approve Town Hall Winter Hours passed unanimously: 7-0.**

VII. **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 F. Fernandez reported on the CDAC meeting he attended where funding was discussed but no set figures determined yet.**

**Council Member R. Henry had no report.**

**Council Member A. Gonzalez had no report.**

**Council Member J. Turner had no report but welcomed Mr. Weter as the new Director of Public Works.**

**Council Member T. Sikes had no report.**

**Vice Mayor C. Turner reported that October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the members of the Fire Department are wearing pink T-shirts all month in support. Vice Mayor Turner then noted his thoughts and prayers are with Council Member T. Sikes as he goes into the hospital for heart surgery. He spoke about the items donated to the fire department of our sister city, Puerto Peñasco (Rocky Point) and spoke about the bad tragedies the Fire Department has dealt with lately and to thank Fire Department personnel when you see them.**

**Mayor S. Holt spoke about the West Valley Mayor/Manager meeting and the new website created focusing on what the West Valley, including Gila Bend, has to offer and commented on reuniting with a long-time Gila Bend resident, Dara Mann, with West Marc.**

VIII. **TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

(This is the time the Town Manager may present a brief summary on current events. The Council may not propose, discuss, deliberate or take any legal action on the information presented)

**Town Manager E. Rubi reported on the status of the new website, the number of different**

**activities being planned around the upcoming Super Bowl in February 2015 and contact with MCSO Captain Whelan and a planned "Meet the Cops" with residents of Gila Bend on November 1st. Mr. Rubi commented that Gila Bend was off the hook for the leak of information about the bio-fuels project, the project will bring 600 – 800 new permanent jobs and that Gila Bend is on the top of the list for project location. Mr. Rubi noted that Public Works Director B. Menard is out of the office, Finance Director S. Young is attending an annual training and Social Services Director D. Dempsey is out sick.**

IX. STAFF REPORTS

(This is the time Staff 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)

**Parks & Recreation Director C Turner reported on the following; youth tackle football program; new doors at the Community Center are done; Fishing Derby; two separate races scheduled for Gila Bend; Christmas lights in the park will begin to be installed in October and he is also announced that he is working on the annual Butterfield Stage Days event, annual Fright Night event and the 2015 Events Brochure. Mr. Turner spoke on being contacted by a group out of San Diego that is interested in hosting two "Over-the Line" tournaments a year in Gila Bend; a representative for an upcoming Fly Zone event they are hosting would like to rent the bleachers at \$500/bleacher, repairs needed on the one and a half year old pool pump motor, and signage for the 9/11 Memorial Park and (some) Gatlin Archaeological Park signs are being made.**

**Finance Department: Town Manager E. Rubi reported that the Finance Department left today for the annual training with Caselle and will return to the office on Monday.**

**No other Staff Reports given.**

**Town Manager E. Rubi introduced the new Public Works Director, Terry Weter, with a brief bio. Mr. Weter spoke a little bit on his history, family, and remarked that he was proud to be here and looking forward to working for the Town of Gila Bend.**

- X. 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 Fred Hull thanked Town Manager E. Rubi for his innovated thinking and needed changes and welcomed Mr. Weter to Gila Bend. He mentioned that two (2) sidewalks on the south side had buckled. Mr. Hull then requested that Council Meetings be moved back to the Town Council Chambers and that the Town purchase a good audio system. He noted that the Council Members are not seated on a dais in the Media Center and that it was difficult to see who was speaking from the back row.**

XI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

(This is the time Council Member's may request items be placed on future agenda's)

**Council Member R. Henry requested that an item be placed on the next agenda to make/set a Policy addressing remote attendance and absences by Council Members at Council Meetings. Vice Mayor C. Turner requested that an item be placed on the next agenda for crack sealing information. Vice Mayor Turner also noted that an agenda item to finalize the Town Manager position agreement with E. Rubi.**

- XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(1) Personnel Matters The Town Council may go into executive session relative to the Town Manager position and A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3) for purpose of obtaining legal advice relative for any of the above agenda items.  
**No executive session called.**

XIII. ADJOURNMENT  
***Council Member F. Fernandez made the motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Council Member R. Henry. Motion to adjourn passed unanimously: 7-0. Time: 7:22pm.***

---

Steven Holt, Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Beverly Turner, MMC  
Town Clerk

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of regular Council Meeting held October 14, 2014 and the meeting was duly called and posted and that a quorum was present.

---

Beverly Turner, MMC  
Town Clerk