



MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF YOUNGTOWN, AZ

THURSDAY, October 20, 2011, TOWN CLUBHOUSE, 12033 CLUBHOUSE SQUARE

1. Call to Order Mayor LeVault called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m.

2. Roll Call Council present: Mayor Michael LeVault, Vice Mayor Jacob Duran, Councilmembers Margaret Chittenden, Dorena Mello, Shirley Oglesby-Gustafson, Susan MacKay and Judy Johnson.
Staff present: Town Manager Lloyce Robinson, Town Attorney Michelle Swann, Police Chief Terry McDonald, Finance Officer Jackie Hoffman, Public Works Manager Jim Fox, Programs Projects Grants Manager Mark Hannah, and Town Clerk/Treasurer Letty Goldberg.

3. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation Pledge led by Mark Hannah. Invocation offered by Pastor Charles Ring.

4. Communications.

A. Communications from Council

Mayor LeVault

- The G.A.I.N. event was a success and we did well with the first annual 10K, 5K and 1K runs that raised funds for the burn center. There were lots of activities, things for people of all ages to see and do. I want to thank the Sun City Fire Department for its participation, especially Mary Dickinson. We like partnering to educate the public on public safety issues.
- Mining in the Agua Fria River raised its ugly head again. El Mirage held a hearing regarding its proposed annexation of riverbed property adjacent to the Agua Fria Ranch subdivision. They want to zone it I-3 (Industrial/Mining). The El Mirage Council had a meeting last Thursday and we filled the room. We had a Tuesday morning meeting with the Mayor and a Councilmember of El Mirage. They said they are tabling the issue indefinitely. They are going to let the annexation petition lapse. It is a horrible idea to have mining so close to residential areas in Youngtown and El Mirage. We have another opportunity to convince the property owners, Salt River Maricopa Pima Indian Tribe that there is a better use for property next to high density residential areas. We need to work to change state law by shopping for Legislators that will sponsor this legislation. The law needs to be modified to be reasonable regarding quality of life. A parcel as small as five acres is exempt from state and local law and can be mined even if it is in the middle of a residential neighborhood.
- Monday night the Elk Club honored Youngtown Police Department's Sgt. Michael Kessler for meritorious service. Council and some staff were in attendance to see Sgt. Kessler honored.
- The Independent Redistricting Commission has produced an initial map. Youngtown has requested to be considered a community of interest. We will remain in Legislative District 9 and the map pulls El Mirage into District 9 as well. We have no problem with that.

Councilmember Mello

- I want to thank El Mirage Councilmember Delgado for reaching out to Youngtown regarding the annexation and sand and gravel issue.

Councilmember Chittenden

- The Sun City Fire Department worked hard on the G.A.I.N. event.

Councilmember MacKay

- Agua Fria Ranch is holding a community garage sales on Saturday from 7 a.m. to noon.

B. Communications from Staff

Town Manager's Report, Fire Department Report, Police Department Report

Town Manager Robinson

- On Monday, October 31, Compass Church will be hosting the second annual Harvest Festival at Uribe Park from 6 to 8 p.m.
- 4 Paws is hosting a grand opening of their new Thrift Boutique on December 1 at 10:30 a.m.
- El Mirage is starting up a Little League baseball program and we have been invited to partner with them.

- We are in the process of updating our website. I have asked each Department Head to market their department.
- Records management continues to be a priority. We need to assure that permanent records are kept and temporary records are destroyed at the appropriate time.
- On November 8 our Economic Development Team, Gayle Cooper and Mark Hannah will be meeting with business owners to discuss our Economic Development plan.
- Our business tax auditor has been working for us for three years and we now have 223 accounts on the residential rentals list. This is an increase of 172 accounts since 2004 and 46 accounts since September 2010.
- Revenues are down for the Town and staff is looking at ways of improving revenues. Our major sources of revenue are city sales tax, state sales tax, urban revenue sharing (income tax), vehicle license tax, and HURF funds.
- Library Manager Heidi Speed has resumed story time and is now offering beginner computer classes.
- Department Heads have been asked to provide articles for the Village Reporter. Judge Lex Anderson is preparing an article for Veterans Day about the veterans serving Youngtown.
- The annual winter event has been scheduled for Saturday, December 10 starting at 5 p.m. Deputy Town Clerk Diane Cordova is chairing the event committee.
- Library Clerk Twila Lampe is moving to North Carolina. Her last day is November 11. We will be advertising the part-time position.
- I have met with the Town Engineer Grant Anderson, Public Works Manager Jim Fox and Programs Projects Grants Manager Mark Hannah to coordinate coverage of committee meetings at MAG (Maricopa Association of Governments). There are 10 separate committees. Currently the Mayor covers three, Mr. Anderson covers two, and I cover two.
- We have an ADEQ (Arizona Department of Environmental Quality) issues regarding an oil spill behind a Youngtown business.

Finance Officer Hoffman

- A feasibility study for medical and other benefits is being conducted for a pool of cities and towns. Currently the focus is on medical benefits for the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 beginning on July, 1, 2012. I am asking Council to complete medical health questionnaires for the study. This might get us better benefits. We won't know until January or February if it's going to work for us. Everyone who is eligible for our insurance plans needs to complete the questionnaire even if they do not currently participate in our insurance plan.

PPG Manager Hannah

- Emergency Management will be conducting a statewide exercise. On November 3 and 4 we will be participating in a simulated exercise of severe rain and flooding in the West Valley. At the same time there will be a simulated exercise of a nuclear device in Downtown Phoenix or Tempe. This simulation is the largest emergency exercise ever conducted in Arizona.

Chief Hank Oleson, Sun City Fire District

- I am here to present the September 2011 Report for Youngtown. (Report attached). Accompanying me this evening are Sun City Fire District Board Members Tom Stroozas and

Chief McDonald

- I want to commend Officer Sharonda Dean for her efforts in planning the G.A.I.N. event. I also wish to thank Sgt. Dave Evans for his efforts in supporting this event. There was hard effort by everybody. I thank Council and Staff for attending the Elks Night event honoring Sgt. Kessler. He was thrilled to have the Town represented there. I think he will move on for further recognition by the Elks organization.
- I attended a West Valley Chiefs meeting. Our communities have similar problems but they affect us in different ways. One concern is that the Legislature swept all of the funding for upgrades to the 9-1-1 system. There is a charge on bills for landlines that was earmarked for the 9-1-1 system that has gotten reduced over time.
- I have mentioned before that the Police Department has a backlog of cases. Robin Rennels is our primary investigator. In 2010 we had 97 assigned cases; to date in 2011 we have 253 cases. Property crimes are up. We are trying to find the set point. What is our true picture? We have a very safe town. The Speak Up survey showed that residents want their Police Department. What would a model Police Department look like? Are we meeting the needs of our citizens? I am working on a Police model.

5. Consent Agenda:

- A. Consideration and Action on Meeting Minutes: Minutes of October 6, 2011 Regular Meeting.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda – Councilmember Mello
Second – Councilmember Oglesby-Gustafson
Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

6. Business

A. **Public Hearing Re: Request for public comments on Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Project Selection based on Town's Priorities in the 5-year CDBG Plan FY 2011-2015 (HANNAH)**

PPG Manager Hannah

- This evening's hearing is part of the process for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). In December the Town will be applying for the 2012-2013 grants. Fire Flow is the Town's current priority and Phase 1 was recently completed. The Town is currently waiting for the release of funds for Phase 2. The grant application to be submitted is for Phases 3 and 4 of Fire Flow. This hearing is to take public comments on the proposed application or other projects that are necessary to the Town.

1. Hearing open.
Mayor LeVault opened the meeting.

No public comments.

2. Hearing closed.
Mayor LeVault closed the public hearing.

B. **Discussion and/or Action Re: Authorizing establishment of a Dog-Recreational area to be constructed along the eastern edge of Schliefer Park, located at 11300 W. Alabama Avenue, and approving the initial construction concept. (HANNAH/COUNCILMEMBER CHITTENDEN)**

PPG Manager Hannah

- The request this evening is that Council approve the site of a dog park at Schliefer Park.

Councilmember Chittenden

- I have a report that I would like to read into the record. (Report attached)

Public Works Manager Fox

- We are still working on conceptual things for design of the dog park. We are looking at the least maintenance possible. The park will be watered, mowed, and trimmed. The Public Works Department is not outfitted to do some of the tasks required. We may have to act as general contractor to facilitate some installations, such as the drinking fountain. We are working on design and maintenance.

Mayor LeVault

- Council is attempting to make the cost of this park as close to nothing as possible. We own the property and we already have to water and mow the grass.

Opal Hantke, nonresident

- I am a member of the Best Friends Dog Club (Sun City, AZ). Fairway Recreation Center in Sun City at 107th Avenue and Peoria Avenue has facilities for training dogs that you may want to see. Skelli Dedmon is coordinator of the Fairway Dog Park.

Chief Oleson, Sun City Fire District

- A citizen called to ask if the District had any statistics on dog attacks. We are not aware of any attacks.

Dr. Kathryn French, resident

- The steering committee for the dog park consisted of 30 to 35 people. A dog park was discussed in 2007 and earlier but other things took precedence. This is a citizen-driven project and the committee is seeking funds outside the Town's coffers. We are seeking amenities that will make it more useful. It will be closer to home. It will also be an attraction. Best Western hotel is working to make itself "pet friendly". They could let their guests know that a dog park was available a short distance away. We will be asking for donations. Drinking fountains have been donated by Compass Bible Church for the Community Garden and the Dog Park. Jacob Duran has donated a concrete table and benches for the dog park. We will be development a sponsorship letter.

Motion to authorize establishment of a Dog-Recreational area to be constructed along the eastern edge of Schliefer Park, located at 11300 W. Alabama Avenue – Councilmember Johnson

Second – Councilmember MacKay

Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

- C. Discussion and/or Action Re: Approval of change order No. 1 to the contract with Speedy Gonzales Construction Company in the amount of \$27,749 for the Youngtown Fire Flow Improvement Project – Phase I (CDBG Project DG1008), and authorizing the Town Manager to execute the change order in behalf of the Town.

Public Works Manager Fox

- As work was begun on the Fire Flow Phase 1 project we discovered that utility lines were not always at the level they were supposed to be. This required extra measures to see that water lines were shielded from sewer lines. This activity required increased costs. We are asking Council to approve this Change Order. The amount is reasonable and we still have grant funds available to pay the bill.

Motion to approve change order No. 1 to the contract with Speedy Gonzales Construction Company in the amount of \$27,749 for the Youngtown Fire Flow Improvement Project – Phase I (CDBG Project DG1008), and authorizing the Town Manager to execute the change order in behalf of the Town – Councilmember Mello
Second – Vice Mayor Duran
Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

7. Call for Executive Session

Not needed.

8. Citizens Comments/Appearances from the floor:

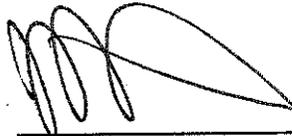
No additional public comments.

9. Future Agenda & Meetings:

1. There may be discussion of whether to place an item on a future agenda and the date, but not the merits of the item.
2. Announcement of next Regular Meeting: Thursday, November 3, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

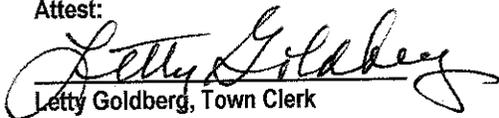
Adjournment

Motion to adjourn – Councilmember Mello
Second – Councilmember Oglesby-Gustafson
Meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.



Michael LeVault, Mayor

Attest:



Letty Goldberg, Town Clerk

Minutes approved at the November 3, 2011 Regular Meeting.