



TOWN OF EAGAR

REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 5, 2024, at 6:00 PM

COUNCIL CHAMBER, 22 WEST 2ND STREET

MINUTES

Mayor Steve Erhart called the regular meeting to order and welcomed those present. Mayor Erhart requested that the record show all Councilmembers are present. Mayor Steve Erhart led the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilman Bryce Burnham offered the invocation.

5. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Mayor Steve Erhart announced that tomorrow night there is a solar and wind vendor fair with Connectgen at the American Legion, make sure you RSVP.

Brannon Eagar Town Manager stated I just want to give council an update on some of the project we're going to be going through this summer. We have the main street lighting project, which is new poles and solar lighting from Central Avenue to the Springville town limits, that's through a grant that was obtained 3 to 4 years ago and it's now coming to fruition so will be working on that. We were approved for the grant for our meters and installation for the AMI system, that should help detect leaks and that should begin to be installed this summer. Hoping to have all the meters installed by winter. If you have been up to the cemetery you'll see the dirt work is complete and crews will begin installing the sprinkler system and we will prepare to Hydro seed that. We're looking at fencing options for that south end along 4th Street there were just rolls off the hill we don't want kids on motorcycles and ATVs ramping up into the cemetery. Along with that we're looking at renovating the entrance into the cemetery that comes off 3rd street that needs to be widened out and we're looking to renovate that we'll have more for council on that coming up. We also have our hydrant grant which we've been approved for \$70,000 for new hydrants were strategically placing those hydrants in places that are needed and places that haven't had them. That's going on throughout the summer and the town installing.

David Lamm Finance Director stated we're about 60% through fiscal year as of January I'm looking through our revenues and expenditures they're about right on track where we want them to be so we're looking good budget wise for our cash we have about 1.3 million in our operating fund and we have about 6.8 million in our LGIP account and we have been able to transfer 75,000 each month into our LGIP for future savings.

Jessica Vaughan Town Clerk stated that currently working on prepping for the balloon festival we do have six pilots that have registered for the balloon festival I am also working on elections with all the new state legislation laws and then I am working on updating town code and contracts. With new state law that has moved the nomination period up to March 4th until April 1st at 5pm with the Primary Election date now being on July 30th.

John Pedroncelli, Public Works Director stated that we are starting to work on developing the traffic control plans and work plans for the sewer extension project on highway 180 and 191. Patching around town and Bashas parking lot in preparation for overlay.

Britney Reynolds, Community Development Director stated we have been awarded utility grants one is for a contracted grant writer. Assisting other departments with other grants and working on meters.

Robert Pena, Fire Captain stated it is grant season for fire. We were awarded a grant from the Arizona Department of Forestry Fire Management of \$10,000 to help with wild land equipment. We are working on a Homeland Security grant for radios, Highway Safety grant for extraction equipment and Assistance to Firefighters grant for a new fire engine. Working with management on an agreement with Arizona Department of Corrections to help with the Apache-Winslow unit. Also working on the new firehouse with management and call volumes are up 66% from what we were last year.

Dayson Merrill Police Chief introduced Sydney Aragon that just recently graduated from the academy. Personnel numbers we are up to 7 sworn officers, 1 in academy, background on lateral, and 1 ready to go to academy in July, interviewing 4 on Thursday, 1 administrative assistant thank you Zona for all you have done, 1 animal control and 5 volunteers. Some numbers we have for total incidents 253, calls for service 115, officer initiated 138, traffic stops 81, other 57, 44 cases, 22 felony and criminal cases. Police department wants to be out in the public we helped with career days, attended the Apache County crisis system and have been attending classes training at the High School.

6. PRESENTATION

A. PRESENTATION- ZONA GILLIAM RETIREMENT

Mayor Steve Erhart presented and years of service certificate to Zona Gilliam and thanked her for her years at the Eagar Police Department and Round Valley Police Department.

6. OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Terry Shove reported to the council that career day went great with the attendance of the Fire Department and Police Department, we also had Tucson Electric Power, Western Drug, White Mountain Regional Medical Center. Little League Basketball was a success, and we have a sheet for March for Meals donations, and there is a Palm Sunday program at 5pm.

Fred Martin reported to the council that he wanted to thank Brannon Eagar for coming out and meeting with him and stated that there is a dog problem in Eagar. He passed out copies of his complaint form to the council for their review.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 2024
- B. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2024 NATIONAL BANK OF ARIZONA TRANSMITTALS, CHECKS WRITTEN, PAYROLL DIRECT DEPOSIT VOUCHERS, AND CREDIT CARD PURCHASES
- C. ACCEPTANCE OF JANUARY 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT AND SALES TAX REPORT

Councilman Ray Hamblin made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilwoman Debra Seeley seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Vote: Ayes: Steve Erhart
Marsha Tucker
Debra Seeley
Brandon Slade
Bryce Burnham
Ray Hamblin

9. NEW BUSINESS

- A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-03 ADOPTION OF SETTING WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES AND PARK AND CEMETERY FEES

Brannon Eagar stated this is the action item from the public hearing. I believe that with that public hearing and the input from our citizenry, and the input from the Utilities Board I recommend that we approve resolution 2024-03 and set the water and wastewater rates and park and cemetery fees.

Councilman Bryce Burnham asked if we did a study compared to Springerville

Brandon Slade stated that yes, it is quite a bit less even after the increases and also compared to other municipalities around the area.

Councilwoman Debra Seeley made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-03 Adoption of setting Water and Wastewater rates and Park and Cemetery fees. Vice-mayor Marsha Tucker seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Vote: Ayes: Steve Erhart
Marsha Tucker
Debra Seeley
Brandon Slade
Bryce Burnham
Ray Hamblin

B. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF APPROVING RESOLUTION 2024-05 APPROVING THE 2024 FEE SCHEDULE

Brannon Eagar stated in the packets there is an updated fee schedule for services the town charges for. The directors and I went through the list and with all things considered we tried to not price people out of being able to do things but not price the town into debt. There are increases and decreases in some areas but do believe that the fee schedule is what's best for the town moving forward and our citizens.

Vice-mayor Marsha Tucker made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-05 approving the 2024 Fee Schedule. Councilman Ray Hamblin seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Vote: Ayes: Steve Erhart
Marsha Tucker
Debra Seeley
Brandon Slade
Bryce Burnham
Ray Hamblin

C. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION 2024-04 CALL OF THE 2024 ELECTION

Jessica Vaughan stated that with the Legislation law changes we need to amend the last resolution updating it with the July 30th, 2024 election date.

Mayor Erhart asked if the people that picked up packets have been notified. Jessica Vaughan stated she did call them and let them know of the change.

Vice-mayor Marsha Tucker made a motion to amend Resolution 2024-04 Call of the 2024 Election. Councilman Bryce Burnham seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Vote: Ayes: Steve Erhart
Marsha Tucker
Debra Seeley
Brandon Slade
Bryce Burnham

Ray Hamblin

D. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE A JOB ORDER CONTRACT WITH NICOLL ELECTRIC

Brannon Eagar stated we went out to Request for Proposals for electricians. We have needs throughout the town that require small electrical consulting and work. Having gone through that process we received the only local electrician was Nicoll Electric, the rates are concurrent with the local pricing. Anything over \$10,000 will still come to council and would recommend approving the Job Order Contract.

Councilman Ray Hamblin made a motion to approve a Job Order Contract with Nicoll Electric. Vice-mayor Marsha Tucker seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Vote: Ayes: Steve Erhart
Marsha Tucker
Debra Seeley
Brandon Slade
Bryce Burnham
Ray Hamblin

E. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE INTERIM INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF SPRINGERVILLE FOR ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES

Brannon Eagar stated with the joint services agreement with Springerville you are all aware that the Animal Control was the part that would go with the police department. With that document we did not specify within that document that the Town of Eagar gave the Springerville Animal Control officer any right to cite ordinances in the Town of Eagar. We have had to dismiss some cases in the Town of Eagar and Brett Rigg has helped bring this interim IGA with the Town of Springerville while we work on the final IGA which would be an addendum to the shared services agreement that the animal control officer can take care of animal issues in Eagar.

Bret Rigg stated that this will be only for a month and then at the next meeting should have the IGA and beefing up the offenses for animal offenses from a petty offense to a misdemeanor. It's not just Eagar but Apache County has a dog problem. We have had to dismiss a few cases one that involved a dog bit that was bad. Hoping that we can refile under State Statute rather than the citation.

Brannon Eagar stated that with this interim agreement the animal control officer during this period will cite in both communities under Springerville ordinance so that he is not having to figure out both ordinances for the next month.

Councilman Bryce Burnham made a motion to approve the Interim Intergovernmental Agreement with the Town of Springerville for Animal Control Services. Councilman Ray Hamblin seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Vote: Ayes: Steve Erhart
Marsha Tucker
Debra Seeley
Brandon Slade
Bryce Burnham
Ray Hamblin

F. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ROUND VALLEY FIRE AND MEDICAL DEPARTMENT AND ALPINE FIRE DISTRICT

Robert Pena stated that this is an agreement we had in place before we are just cleaning up with the merge and updating the name change.

Councilwoman Debra Seeley made a motion to approve a Mutual Aid Agreement between the Round Valley Fire and Medical Department and Alpine Fire District. Councilman Bryce Burnham seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Vote: Ayes: Steve Erhart
Marsha Tucker
Debra Seeley
Brandon Slade
Bryce Burnham
Ray Hamblin

G. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE A MUTUAL AID FOR EQUIPMENT BETWEEN ROUND VALLEY FIRE AND MEDICAL AND GREER FIRE DISTRICT

Robert Pena stated that Greer Fire has Scott air packs that are 20 years old. With the merger we have excess equipment that we can lend them and streamline service.

Brannon Eagar stated that Greer Fire will pay \$1000 a year for maintenance.

Councilwoman Debra Seeley made a motion to approve a Mutual Aid Agreement for Equipment between the Round Valley Fire and Medical Department and Greer Fire District. Vice-mayor Marsha Tucker seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Vote: Ayes: Steve Erhart
Marsha Tucker
Debra Seeley
Brandon Slade

Bryce Burnham
Ray Hamblin

H. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF FIREWORKS NOT TO EXCEED \$40,000 FOR THE 4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS SHOW

Brannon Eagar stated that the cost has gone up for fireworks and for the same size show we had last year. We have sent out letters to businesses for donations and citizens are also welcome to donate. Springerville will be splitting the cost with Eagar.

Councilman Ray Hamblin made a motion to approve the purchase of Fireworks not to exceed \$40,000 for the 4th of July Fireworks Show. Councilman Brandon Slade seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Vote: Ayes: Steve Erhart
 Marsha Tucker
 Debra Seeley
 Brandon Slade
 Bryce Burnham
 Ray Hamblin

I. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE A CONTRACTOR FOR THE RAMSEY PARK BATHROOM REMODEL

Britney Reynolds stated that we had two bids submitted one is a General Contractor which is what we asked for in the bid and I would recommend for this project. The other being a plumbing company which was Unit 1 Plumbing. Staff recommendation is to approve Hamblin Building Systems.

Vice-mayor Marsha Tucker made a motion to approve Hamblin Building for the Ramsey Park Bathroom remodel. Councilman Brandon Slade seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Vote: Ayes: Steve Erhart
 Marsha Tucker
 Debra Seeley
 Brandon Slade
 Bryce Burnham
 Ray Hamblin

J. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-07 APPROVING DESIGNATION OF APPLICANTS AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE FOR SUBMISSION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Britney Reynolds stated this is more of a house keeping item Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA) at times has different funds available. I was reached out to by DEMA asking about funds that were not used, after further investigation Mr. Mears was still the applicant and asked how to fix the situation and was told we needed to authorize a new authorized representative and alternate representative.

Councilwoman Debra Seeley made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-07 approving Brannon Eagar and Britney Reynolds as authorized representatives for submission to the Department of Emergency and Military Affairs. Councilman Ray Hamblin seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Vote: Ayes: Steve Erhart
 Marsha Tucker
 Debra Seeley
 Brandon Slade
 Bryce Burnham
 Ray Hamblin

K. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPOINT CHELSEA SLADE AS A COMMISSIONER TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Britney Reynolds introduced Chelsea Slade she did meet with Ethan Eagar and I we went over the parameters of the Planning & Zoning Commission. She was our only applicant but excited for her to join the commission and has great idea that I think will benefit the town and is ready to help improve the area and bring in new business.

Vice-mayor Marsha Tucker made a motion to appoint Chelsea Slade as a Commissioner to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Councilman Ray Hamblin seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Vote: Ayes: Steve Erhart
 Marsha Tucker
 Debra Seeley
 Brandon Slade
 Bryce Burnham
 Ray Hamblin

L. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE A VARIANCE FOR BUTLER STREET JOG PROPERTY- ~~REMOVED~~

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. EXECUTIVE SESSION AS ALLOWED BY A.R.S § 38-431.03.A7 DISCUSSIONS OR CONSULTATIONS WITH DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PUBLIC BODY IN ORDER TO CONSIDER ITS POSITION AND INSTRUCT ITS REPRESENTATIVES REGRDING NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE PURCHASE, SALE, OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY- **BASHAS CONTRACT****

Councilwoman Debra Seeley made a motion to move into executive session [at 6:50 pm]. Councilor Bryce Burnham seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Vote: Ayes: Steve Erhart
Marsha Tucker
Debra Seeley
Brandon Slade
Bryce Burnham
Ray Hamblin

Councilwoman Debra Seeley made a motion to move into regular session [at 7:10 pm]. Vice-mayor Marsha Tucker seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Vote: Ayes: Steve Erhart
Marsha Tucker
Debra Seeley
Brandon Slade
Bryce Burnham
Ray Hamblin

11. RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION

A. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE TO GO OUT TO BID FOR ASPHALT FOR THE BASHAS PARKING LOT AND APPROVE THE TOWN MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE LOWEST AND OR RESPONSIBLE BIDDER

Vice-mayor Marsha Tucker made a motion to approve to go out to bid for Asphalt and Striping for the Bashas Parking lot and approve the Manager to accept the lowest and or responsible bid. Councilor Ray Hamblin seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Vote: Ayes: Steve Erhart
Marsha Tucker
Debra Seeley
Brandon Slade
Bryce Burnham
Ray Hamblin

12. ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Bryce Burnham made a motion to adjourn at [at 7:13 p.m.]. Councilwoman Debra Seeley seconded; all were in favor, motion carried unanimously. 6-0

Vote: Ayes: Steve Erhart
Marsha Tucker
Debra Seeley
Brandon Slade

Bryce Burnham
Ray Hamblin

Attest: _____

Mayor: _____

Vice-Mayor: _____

Council: _____

CERTIFICATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of Regular Council Meeting of the Town of Eagar, Arizona held on March 5, 2024. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Jessica Vaughan, Town Clerk