



TOWN OF JEROME

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MINUTES

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE TOWN OF JEROME COUNCIL CHAMBERS, JEROME TOWN HALL 600 CLARK STREET, JEROME, ARIZONA

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2024, AT 6:30 PM

Due to the length of this meeting, Council may recess and reconvene at the time and date announced.

6:30PM (0:29) 1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

*Present were Mayor Alex Barber, Vice Mayor Jane Moore, and Council member Sonia Sheffield.
Staff Present included Town Manager Brett Klein and Deputy Clerk Kristen Muenz.*

Ms. Barber shares she is glad that Dr. Dillenberg will be back for the next meeting.

6:30PM (0:49) 2. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion/Possible Action

A. Consider Approval of the Tentative Budget of the Town of Jerome for FY 2024-2025

Council will consider and may approve the proposed tentative budget for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2025. If approved, the public hearing for the budget and tax levy final adoption will take place on June 11, 2023.

Ms. Barber introduces the tentative budget. She says we've worked long and hard on this and asks the Council if they have any additional input.

Ms. Moore comments the State forms confused her but after asking Mr. Klein what it was, she is ok.

Mr. Klein shares nothing has changed. He says this is the third time it's been seen, and that he needs to have the notice to newspaper tomorrow morning (5/29/24) to meet the deadline for the public hearing. The public hearing will be the fourth time the public has had a chance for input.

Ms. Moore asks if anyone has heard anything from the public.

Mr. Klein says he has not received any comments.

Ms. Barber says since she's been behind the dais and everyone elected has been all about infrastructure. She says in the 10 years she's been on council as well as the 20 years that Jane has been around, we've gotten a lot done. She continues that we have a list, some things at the top drop down to the bottom and maybe they get done, and that there's always another piling on. She says this is an old town and we are keeping it together with the tiny bit of residents and staff we have.

Ms. Moore comments it's a slow process but we get there.

Ms. Barber agrees, she says to get shovel ready projects ready is a lot for us, and then we wait to get the state funding. She thanks Mr. Klein for all that he does with grants and asks if Ms. Sheffield has anything she'd like to say about the budget.

Ms. Sheffield answers not at this time.

Ms. Moore moves to approve.

Ms. Sheffield seconds the motion.

Ms. Barber asks Mr. Klein if they are leaving anything out before she calls the question.

Mr. Klein answers no this is the tentative budget, so there will still be another opportunity for input.

Ms. Barber calls the question, and the motion to approve the tentative budget is approved.

Motion to approve the Tentative Budget for the Town of Jerome for FY 2024-2025

COUNCILMEMBER	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
BARBER			X			
DILLENBERG					X	
MOORE	X		X			
SHEFFIELD		X	X			

6:33PM (3:14) B. Consideration of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) Between the State of Arizona and the Town of Jerome for the Verde Avenue Planning and Design Project

Council will consider and may approve the IGA.

Ms. Barber introduces the item for consideration deferring to Mr. Klein for additional detail.

Mr. Klein says speaking of shovel ready projects that's what this aims to do. He says this is a planning and design grant, adding generally when you get this grant, we should be in really good shape to get the subsequent grant which will be in the \$3-5 million dollar range. They will be designing drainage; water, sewer, and of course reconstruction of the roadway, keeping the same footprint that is there. He says it's a state-run project, so we don't have as much control of it. He continues it should go smoothly, adding that our engineer from SEC (Southwestern Environmental Consultants) is looking to get onto the state's list that awards these qualifications and bids to the engineering firms. So, they will be keeping an eye on it, in addition to our staff.

Ms. Moore says she has a question about the cobblestones and the reuse or saving of those. She asks when we might have a say on that.

Mr. Klein says anytime. He says they will come to council with the awarded planning and design. He says they've reached out about what should be considered, because how they engineer the road depends a lot on that. He says as you know it's not a really viable option to reuse the cobblestones but they can be accent pieces.

Ms. Barber says we're talking about on the sides of the road the drainage that already is cobblestone. She says if we aren't putting cobblestone in the drainage then it all needs to be taken somewhere or to the town yard to be used somewhere else and not just be thrown away. She asks Ms. Moore how she feels about that, continuing that some of those stones are huge and we don't even know what we're digging into. She asks about the funding, if this is another layer of funding besides Community Development Block Grant or SSP Grant funding?

Mr. Klein says yes this is DOT funding and we have zero match.

Ms. Barber confirms DOT as Department of Transportation. She says the State has given out more monies that are not grants we normally get. She asks Mr. Klein if we're making sure to capture and get as much of that as we can.

Mr. Klein answered yes.

Ms. Barber moves to accept the IGA. She says we need it. She says this is something that was talked about in a lot of the State talks after Covid; that it's really hard for some municipalities to get shovel ready projects because you can put \$250-300,000 into the shovel ready projects or you can chipseal a couple of roads that are terrible. So sometimes municipalities come to, do we fix what we have, or do we put the money into a nest egg to get the big bucks. She says we do all of those things here in Jerome, adding all of the roads are in disrepair right now, and we do what we can. We get complaints about cars bottoming out and fix the pothole. She says she also wants to go on record with a huge thank you for anyone that helped with the public restrooms. She says if you have not been inside, they are amazing. She says she's getting to like the outside a little bit more but there will be further discussion.

Ms. Sheffield seconds the motion.

Ms. Barber calls the question, and the IGA is approved.

Motion to approve IGA between the State of Arizona and The Town of Jerome

COUNCILMEMBER	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
BARBER	X		X			
DILLENBERG					X	
MOORE			X			
SHEFFIELD		X	X			

Mr. Klein informs Mayor Barber that she will be receiving a DocuSign document to electronically sign the Intergovernmental Agreement and that Ms. Muenz will be available for assistance if needed.

Ms. Barber confirms that she will receive an email.

Mr. Klein answers yes, you'll receive an email and should be able to complete and sign it with a couple of clicks.

6:38PM (8:40) 3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a public majority vote of the members, Council may enter into executive session in accordance with ARS § 38-431.03 (A)(3);(4); and (7)

A. Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session

On a Public Majority Vote of Council Members Constituting a Quorum, the Town Council May Enter into an Executive Session pursuant to ARS § 38-431.03(A)(7); discussion or consultation with designated representatives of the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations for the purchase, sale or lease of real property.

Discussion and instruction will center around easement acquisition for the upgrades to the Town's Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Ms. Barber introduces item number 3, then moves to go into executive session at 6:38p.m.

Ms. Moore seconds the motion.

Ms. Barber calls the question and Council enters executive session at 6:38p.m.

At this time the recording is stopped. It is also noted that the final minute of the meeting returning from executive session at 7:04p.m. to adjournment at 7:05 was not captured via audio recording.

Motion to move into Executive Session at 6:38 p.m.

COUNCILMEMBER	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
BARBER	X		X			
DILLENBERG					X	
MOORE		X	X			
SHEFFIELD			X			

Upon returning to open session at 7:04p.m., Mayor Barber asked Town Manager Klein to summarize the E-Session to the extent that it can be public information at this point. Town Manager Klein stated that he provided a brief update on the Town’s acquisition of easements necessary for the Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade and sought direction from the Council in terms of how to proceed.

7:05PM 4. ADJOURNMENT

Upon return to open session there was an audio

Ms. Barber moves to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Moore seconded the motion.

Ms. Barber called the question, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 7:05 p.m.

COUNCILMEMBER	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
BARBER	X		X			
DILLENBERG					X	
MOORE		X	X			
SHEFFIELD			X			

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

Alex Barber, Mayor

Brett Klein, Town Manager