



TOWN OF JEROME

POST OFFICE BOX 335, JEROME, ARIZONA 86331
(928) 634-7943
www.jerome.az.gov

MINUTES

SPECIAL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN OF JEROME
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, JEROME TOWN HALL
600 CLARK STREET, JEROME, ARIZONA

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 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 (0:24) 1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor/Chairperson to call meeting to order
Town Clerk to call and record the roll.

Present were Mayor Alex Barber, Vice Mayor Jane Moore and Council member Sonia Sheffield.

Absent was Council member Dr. Jack Dillenberg.

Staff present included Town Manager Brett Klein, Zoning Administrator Will Blodgett and Deputy Clerk Kristen Muenz.

6:30PM (1:47) 2. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion/Possible Action

A. Conduct a Public Hearing on the 2024-2025 Town of Jerome Budget and Tax Levy

Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed 2024-2025 budget and tax levy for the Town. Any taxpayer may appear and be heard in favor of, or against, any proposed expenditure or tax levy. No increase in the tax levy is proposed.

Mayor Barber introduces the item and defers to Mr. Klein for further introduction.

Mr. Klein says he has nothing to add and asks if Ms. Barber would like to open up the public hearing.

Ms. Barber opens the public hearing at 6:31 p.m. acknowledging a member of the public present for the public hearing.

Mark Krmpotich, Jerome resident, approaches the microphone and introduces himself. He says he has no objections to the budget but does have a couple of questions just to get a better understanding. He starts with Item A on page 10 regarding fees for short term rental licenses. He notes the decrease budgeted amounts year over year and asks about the decrease in amounts.

Mr. Klein answers those are one-time fees for short term rentals and can't be charged every year. He further explains the reason for the higher historical amount was that was the year the ordinance was adopted, but compared to this year, there are anticipated to be fewer new short term rental applications.

Mr. Krmpotich asks if it is a one-time fee and is it mandated by the state.

Mr. Klein answered yes.

Ms. Barber adds that it is a new relief from the State because they wouldn't originally allow a fee to be charged.

Mr. Krmpotich says his second question was regarding a 1% tourism bedding fee as part of a revenue item.

Mr. Klein answers that is from bed or lodging tax that we charge and 1% has to go towards tourism activities as also mandated by the state.

Mr. Krmpotich seeks clarification on where that money goes.

Mr. Klein confirms the Chamber of Commerce as the tourism entity for the Town.

Ms. Barber adds for clarification that we also pay for a shuttle and a shuttle driver. She continues that we received a donation from the Yavapai Apache Nation to purchase the shuttle, so a lot of that money goes back into the shuttle and moving people around town on weekends and holidays.

Mr. Krmpotich says he was wondering why it was stuck at 1% when he suspects surrounding communities might have a higher fee than that.

Mr. Klein confirms it does go up every year and is based on tax revenue that comes in.

Ms. Moore adds the money would still be directed toward tourism things.

Mr. Krmpotich says you have to put money back in the bank towards the new shuttle.

Ms. Moore asks if they can do something like that.

Mr. Klein answers we can designate funds, but we also have the first shuttle to sell which will kickstart the funding toward a new shuttle.

Mr. Krmpotich remarks the cost and prices will continue to increase giving the example that at \$50,000 shuttle will be more like \$100,000 or more.

Mr. Klein imparts that it shouldn't cost quite that much, adding we received a good deal on the last shuttle being a

government entity.

Mr. Krmpotich expresses that was all he had questions on and he has no objections to the current budget.

Ms. Moore asks, following up on a question from Mr. Krmpotich, if the businesses in town pay for a business license every year.

Mr. Klein confirms yes they do.

Ms. Moore says she wonders why Airbnb's wouldn't have to do that as well.

Mr. Klein confirms due to state regulation.

Ms. Barber asks if anyone has anything to add or wants to talk about the budget. They expressed no. Ms. Barber continues stating she wants this to go on the record. She asks regarding page 36 item A. CEMA, FEMA COVID Reimbursement, we have not received any covid reimbursement is that correct?

Mr. Klein answers correct, to-date we have not received any.

Ms. Barber says so we are looking at \$30,000 for the last 4 years and when she asks for clarification it was shared no one has received any money but we have filled out the paperwork. She asks Mr. Klein for further elaboration.

Mr. Klein says he is sure we will have more bureaucratic paperwork and red tape to go through. He says the good news is that we are considered a small unit of the government, so we are first out of 3 groupings, and they have started. He is sure we will need to fill out many more forms before we get it but unfortunately, it's been reduced to \$13,000.

Ms. Barber points out for 2024 estimated revenue was at 30,000, but there are actually no revenues and no estimated revenue for 2025. She asks if she's being told that the \$30,000 is being reduced to \$13,000

Mr. Klein confirms yes based on a funding formula in addition to what we've paid. He says this was mostly the sign, masks, and personal protective equipment, and with their formula of funding we are looking at about \$13,500.

Ms. Barber further clarifies we spent \$30,000 out of our Town coffers for the things they told us they were going to reimburse us for and now we're looking at \$13,000 is that correct?

Mr. Klein confirms correct, but that he couldn't confirm for sure it was \$30,000, it could have been more.

Ms. Barber says for this record that is very disappointing, and is not what you should do to municipalities in pandemics.

She says she has nothing else on the budget other than it is well thought out hard working budget. She thanks everyone who has put their time and effort towards this budget, and closes the public hearing at 6:39p.m.

6:39PM (9:00) 3. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Discussion/Possible Action

A. Consider Resolution No. 670; A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Jerome, Arizona, Adopting the Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025

Council will consider and may approve Resolution No. 670.

Ms. Barber moves to approve the budget.

Ms. Sheffield seconds the motion.

Ms. Barber asks if Ms. Moore had anything further to add. She did not.

Mr. Klein asks for clarification if the Mayor is moving to approve resolution 670.

Ms. Barber confirms she makes a motion to approve Resolution 670 adopting the Town budget for FY 2025

Ms. Sheffield seconds the motion.

Ms. Barber calls the question and Resolution 670 is approved.

Motion to approve Resolution 670

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

6:40PM (9:32) 4. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Barber makes the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Moore seconds the motion.

Ms. Barber calls the question, and the meeting is adjourned at 6:40p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 6:40p.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

DRAFT