

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA, HELD AUGUST 21, 2012, AT 6:00 P.M., AT THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS BUILDING, 826 NORTH MAIN STREET, COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Joens called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken as follows:

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Diane Joens, Mayor
Karen Pfeifer, Vice Mayor
Jesse Dowling, Council Member
Tim Elinski, Council Member
Ruben Jauregui, Council Member
Linda Norman, Council Member
Terence Pratt, Council Member

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Doug Bartosh, City Manager	Steve Horton, City Attorney
Matt McLean, Deputy Clerk	Scott Mangarpan, Project Manager
Casey Rooney, Economic Development Director	Carole Brown, Budget Analyst
Rudy Rodriguez, Administrative Services General Manager	
Richard Faust, Community Services General Manager	

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Kimber Lanning led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mayor Joens presented her with a certificate of appreciation.

BRIEF SUMMARY

Mr. Bartosh stated the police department has acquired an emergency notification system that will allow them to notify the whole city by phone, cell phone, or text if there is an emergency; the fire department had partnered with Verde Valley Medical Center to purchase and install child car seats and boosters.

Council Member Dowling stated his friend called in around midnight about having almost no water pressure and the leak was fixed before sunrise the next day and they got on Facebook and gave a glowing review to the city's utility department. He also attended the luau with the Mayor.

Mayor Joens stated they collaborated with the Verde Valley Medical Center and Fit Kids Arizona for a luau. We worked with the first lady's Let's Move program which tried to get kids to be active. The hospital furnished a healthy barbeque of chicken kabobs and watermelon.

Council Member Pratt announced the Verde Valley campus of Yavapai College is open again and started classes on Monday and people could register for classes through August 26.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Karl Priggee with Red Rock Skydiving stated they had been here five years and continued to attract people from all over the world. Several months ago the Carter Oil distribution facility in Camp Verde closed their doors, and he was now the aviation oil distributor for Verde Valley and Prescott Valley. He also handed out a proposal to offer aircraft maintenance at the Cottonwood Airport.

John Hunter thanked the council and the Cottonwood Area Transit for allowing them to get here to attend the meeting. His concern was this was a vital issue for those who depended on public transportation which was the only way some of them had to get around. People could become disabled within 10 minutes and they should keep that in mind when they think about transportation.

PRESENTATION OF THE DISTINGUISHED BUDGET PRESENTATION AWARD FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2011

The Council presented Cottonwood Administrative Services General Manager Rudy Rodriguez a plaque, and Budget Analyst Carol Brown a certificate, for receiving the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for FY 2011-12 from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA.) The award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2012 GOVERNOR'S TOURISM AWARD IN THE COOPERATIVE MARKETING CATEGORY--"TASTE OF HISTORIC OLD TOWN COTTONWOOD"

Mayor Joens stated the merchants of Old Town Cottonwood joined forces to market themselves as a travel destination steeped in wine tasting, great food, and antiquing. The business owners created a package deal and sold 750 tasting packages in less than four months. Ninety six percent of the participants who provided feedback in an online survey after their visit had never been to Cottonwood and indicated they would come back.

Casey Rooney stated for this they were nominated and selected to receive the 2012 Governor's Tourism award in the Cooperative Marketing Category for the "Taste of Historic Old Town Cottonwood, and he showed a photo of the group receiving the award on July 14.

Lita Cox, Lana Tolleson, and Kimber Lanning spoke about the award, and the council stepped down to accept the award.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES--Regular Meeting of 8/7/12

Council Member Pratt stated on page 12 the city attorney was referred to as Council

Member Horton. He then moved to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2012, city council meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Norman, and carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFIT PROGRAM FOR NON-PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES

Mr. Rodriguez provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding costs involved with a potential supplemental benefit plan. One of the questions asked at the last meeting was the costs involved. Over the last five years the city has paid \$23,000 in workman's comp costs. It was very difficult to determine exactly what the costs would be from year to year. There were other costs involved besides workman's comp costs; there was replacement of the employee while they were out. He reviewed an outline of what the city already did for its employees such as health benefits, leave share, no layoffs, merit pay, and a 2.5 percent one time discretionary payment.

Council Member Jauregui stated at the bottom of the last slide it mentioned two wrongs, and questioned what the two wrongs were.

Mr. Rodriguez stated one is the legislature is doing this to us and it's not right. The other is if we implement this it was another wrong decision they way he saw it. We already have a policy in place that keeps employees whole.

Mayor Joens stated one thing about workman's comp is you get two thirds of your salary and she thought the reason for that is because it's not taxable, so essentially about a third of your income goes in taxes so they were essentially making the same amount of money.

Mr. Rodriguez stated certainly that was the case. We continue to pay the additional one third out of their vacation to make sure they are whole.

Mayor Joens stated she agreed with staff on this item.

Council Member Pratt stated he did too.

Mr. Bartosh stated just to make sure the council was clear on what the two differences really are is with public safety employees the state legislation has said you have to pay them for that third without them using their sick leave or vacation and make up their retirement contribution, which was 7.65 percent. With regular employees it would mean making up that one third where they would not have to use their sick leave or vacation. As a city we can't make up their contribution to ASRS; it was not allowed by state law.

Vice Mayor Pfeifer thanked Mr. Rodriguez for the information and stated this gives them some idea of why we should not extend it to the whole entire staff because they were already getting a better deal than they would with this.

After further discussion regarding the state law regarding providing the program for public safety employees, Council Member Jauregui stated his concern was having two standards for two groups of people, and in the legislature's eyes that is what we have here.

CONSENT AGENDA--The following items are considered to be routine and non-controversial by the Council and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member or a citizen so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the Agenda.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2656--APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF CLARKDALE, ARIZONA, FOR POLICE DISPATCHING SERVICES

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2657--A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA, APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF JEROME, ARIZONA, FOR POLICE DISPATCHING

Mayor Joens asked if there were any items anyone wanted to remove for discussion, and there was no response.

Council Member Pratt then moved to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Council Member Elinski, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Joens then requested the Deputy Clerk to read Resolution Number 2656 and 2657 by title only.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2656

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA, APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF CLARKDALE, ARIZONA, FOR POLICE DISPATCHING.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2657

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA, APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF JEROME, ARIZONA, FOR POLICE DISPATCHING.

NEW BUSINESS

REQUEST FROM SHARON BUSNELL TO KEEP BEES AT HER RESIDENCE LOCATED AT 631 SOUTH 7TH PLACE

Ms. Busnell addressed the Council and stated she had been observing bees all her life and these last seven years she had stumbled across how to prevent them from going extinct and she was wondering if it would be okay to put one hive on her property.

Mayor Joens stated in past discussions we have always talked about our concern about the bees becoming extinct and we approved one bee hive behind the grade school about four or five years ago, and one close to her house in Vista Grande. She questioned if to staff's knowledge have we had any complaints about either of those.

Mr. Bartosh stated not to his knowledge. The police chief brought up an incident that happened in Glendale today where they had to evacuate a neighborhood because of bee attacks where somebody was keeping bees in their backyard. He wondered how you do that, because obviously these were African bees and how do you prevent that from happening.

Ms. Busnell stated they were 95 percent Africanized now, but they can be trained if you know how to handle the bees.

Mayor Joens stated the last people that wanted bee hives talked about importing different queen bees and the queen bees controlled a lot of that.

Ms. Busnell stated if she has had her wing clipped, just one third of one of her wings, it keeps her from flying and going about. If she stays put then the eye will stay put. She passed around a paper that showed where she was planning on placing the bees on her property.

Council Member Jauregui asked her if she had any neighbors where she lived.

Ms. Busnell stated she had neighbors on her side.

Council Member Jauregui questioned if she had any of her neighbors here tonight to speak in favor of this or of their position on this, and Ms. Bushnell responded no.

Council Member Elinski stated the council had approved them in the past and haven't had any issues. He was in favor of people being allowed to keep the bees at their residence. It was an important thing not just for her, but her neighbors as well as for people who were trying to grow gardens in the area, as the bees do pollinate the gardens.

Council Member Jauregui stated he remembered years ago they had this issue come before us. The man's first name was Stanley and he lived somewhere close to Franquero Lane and there were concerns about keeping the bees in that area because of the issue of the Africanizing of the bees and such. It was a concern and we've had quite a few incidents in the news of such issues of the Africanized bees, which would his concern.

Mayor Joens stated she hadn't ever heard or read that they come out of the hives as much as they get into walls and people surprise them when they tear something off of a building.

After further discussion regarding the keeping of bees, Council Member Pratt moved to approve authorizing the Mayor to sign a letter granting Sharon Busnell permission to keep bees in the backyard of her residence located at 631 South 7th Place. The motion was seconded by Council Member Elinski, and carried with a dissenting vote by Council Member

Jauregui.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2658--APPROVING A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTHERN ARIZONA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR THE USE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE BLOCK GRANT FUNDS AND SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT FUNDS FOR THE COTTONWOOD AREA TRANSIT AND VERDE LYNX SYSTEMS

Mr. Faust stated staff was recommending an authorization by the council of Resolution Number 2658. This was a service agreement with the Northern Arizona Council of Governments, NACOG, which basically identifies Cottonwood's management and operation of the CAT/Verde Lynx associated with the low income block grant opportunity. NACOG would fund all costs and reimburse the city as it pertains to authorization of this grant from July 1 through June 30, 2013. Staff feels confident that this is a community justifiable program of good intent and ability to assist local disadvantaged populations within our system of operations of both the Cottonwood Area Transit and the Verde Lynx transit systems. We would have to monitor the monthly expenses and go back to NACOG to request reimbursement and we have the staff to do that. This agreement identifies there is, through this Community Service Block Grant (CSBG), an amount of \$3,000 for bus vouchers and an amount of \$18,206 for the Social Services Block Grant for a total of \$21,206 on a reimbursable basis.

Council Member Elinski questioned if he knew how much money we are going to get next year and if the funding was going to continue.

Mr. Faust stated these amounts can be adjustable from year to year. It depends on FTA funding as well as funding through their system. We don't know if this will be the same amount next year.

Mayor Joens questioned how do you make sure people understand while they are accessing the programs that they are limited funds and they might not necessarily last and might not be available.

Mr. Faust stated they will have to fill out the paperwork that is necessary for disadvantaged individuals and at that point in time we can inform them of that.

Gary LaMaster addressed the council and stated Mary (Rodriguez) asked him to read a number of documents that he handed out to the council, which he was going to try and paraphrase them because he thought they fit into a few issues that pertain to NACOG and current para-transit. She wanted to point out with the transit system there was an issue recently where the bus driver had a flat and couldn't run the route when people were depending on the bus to get to work and there was no one available to answer the phones. She said that routinely there is no one available to answer the phone between the hours of 7 a.m. and 8 a.m., and 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., for people to call and find out where the bus is and when it would be arriving to pick them up. He continued talking about the instances when she could not arrange a ride on the bus system.

Nancy Scarangella stated it was the status report that she came to hear and relay to people at the center and she had heard information that was just devoted to our transportation system that she appreciated having. She was confused about the number 50 percent for the para-transits and questioned what did that translate to as far as paying the bus service. It was a long time not to have the voucher system in place and they were hoping to know that there was an application with NACOG to fund that leg of the transportation system.

Mr. Faust stated at the last meeting they had discussed the Section 5317 grant which was the taxi voucher grant through FTA, and the council identified that system needs to be put on hold at this time period. An update from Jason Kelly was they are going out for a request for proposal for another entity to possibly take the administrative controls of that and move forward with it and see if the Verde Valley Caregivers would possibly consider it or another entity or agency in the Verde Valley. There were a lot of requirements we would not be able to uphold because we do not have the additional personnel.

Eileen Smith addressed the council and stated she did not understand what this grant is about and if the city is still going to maintain control over the CAT system, which Mr. Faust responded to.

After further discussion regarding the taxi vouchers and why the city took back the transit system from NAIPTA, Mr. Bartosh stated it was important that people understand the city never had a taxi voucher program. NAIPTA put that in place because they got grant money for it as an experimental program. There was never intention by NAIPTA to continue that program unless funding was available to do it. There was some question as to whether NAIPTA was actually meeting all the reporting and monitoring requirements of that grant. It was an experimental program and from our perspective it may not be a program that works, particularly if there is only \$10,000 worth of funding and we have to pay \$40,000-\$50,000 to bring on another staff member to monitor it, it doesn't make a lot of financial sense.

Council Member Pratt stated he thought it was important to note the city is trying to serve people with this grant. Going after the grant was a positive, progressive move by the city's part.

Mr. Klein addressed the council and stated if NAIPTA had that \$40,000 grant and people were misusing it, if we get a decent grant here and figure it all out, we won't be misusing it and will have money left over to do stuff with.

Nancy Rineck addressed the council and stated she appreciated the fact that you do have a bus system for us. She questioned if on this grant was there any consideration of extending the hours in the evening or a Saturday or Sunday which she found was needed for herself and several other people. She also questioned where the focus of the money we were getting was going. She thought there was a major computer problem and they were not structured properly to make them user friendly for the staff that are using them and helping us make our reservations.

Mr. Faust replied the grant was for transportation services. Due to a loss of LTAF and HURF funding they had to cut back to two routes and were unable to provide service on Saturday and Sunday.

Mayor Joens stated the best thing that members of the audience could do is contact your state legislators and ask them to restore the funding that has been taken away.

Council Member Pratt moved to approve Resolution Number 2658, approving a service agreement with the Northern Arizona Council of Governments for the use of community service block grant and social services block grant funds for the Cottonwood Area Transit and Verde Lynx transit systems from July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013. The motion was seconded by Council Member Norman, and carried unanimously.

AMENDMENT NUMBER TWO TO THE DESIGN/BUILD CONTRACT WITH EMCOR SERVICES ARIZONA FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF THE SOLAR THERMAL SYSTEM FOR THE COTTONWOOD RECREATION CENTER

Mr. Magarpan stated they were requesting the approval of the next phase of this project which was the actual purchase and construction of the solar system. He explained the system which was simpler than initially planned. They had looked at installing a system at the recreation center and the outdoor pool, but the pool was a very limited season which made for an inefficient use of the panels. You would have a hot water system sitting on the roof of the pool house doing nothing for 6-8 months out of the year. The money they would have put into that system they put into this system to make it a little bit bigger which ended up being a lot better use of the dollars.

Council Member Pratt stated he saw that it will be between 13 and 16.5 years before it pays for itself and that it does have a 25 year life span. It will reduce utility costs at the rec center which was one of the big killers there, be a clean kind of energy, and was something they had looked forward to for ages.

Mr. Mangarpan stated it was not possible to forecast where the gas prices were going which was why it was difficult to determine a true payback for the system.

Council Member Dowling moved to approve amendment 2 to the design/build contract with Emcor Services Arizona in the amount of \$417,600 for the purchase and installation of the solar thermal system for the recreation center. The motion was seconded by Council Member Elinski, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Joens stated if the Council did not mind, they had to have the Deputy Clerk read Resolution Number 2658 by title only.

Mr. Bartosh interrupted and stated as a piece of this item the council had discussed the playground equipment and they were doing some research on that and would come back to the council with some options.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2658

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COTTONWOOD, YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA, APPROVING A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTHERN ARIZONA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS FOR THE USE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE BLOCK GRANT FUNDS AND SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT FUNDS FOR THE COTTONWOOD AREA TRANSIT AND VERDE LYNX SYSTEMS.

CLAIMS & ADJUSTMENTS

Council Member Norman moved to pay the claims and adjustments. The motion was seconded by Council Member Elinski, and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Joens moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Pratt, and carried unanimously. The regular meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Diane Joens, Mayor

ATTEST:

Matthew McLean, Deputy Clerk

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES

I hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of the minutes of a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Cottonwood held on August 21, 2012. I further certify that the meeting was duly called, and that a quorum was present.

Matthew McLean, Deputy Clerk

Date