

**SUMMARY REPORT  
OF COUNCIL ACTION TAKEN AT THE OCTOBER 13, 2009, WORK SESSION**

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This summary is a statement of discussions engaged in by the Cottonwood City Council at a work session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02(D), and is being provided as required by A.R.S. § 38-431.01(D.).

Council Members Present: Diane Joens, Mayor; Karen Pfeifer, Vice Mayor; Council Members Tim Elinski, Duane Kirby, Linda Norman, Terence Pratt, and Darold Smith.

Staff Members Present: Doug Bartosh, City Manager; A. Douglas LaSota, Magistrate; Steve Horton, City Attorney; George Gehlert, Community Development Director; Charlie Scully, Planner; Gary Eisenga, Police Commander; Kyla Allen, Executive Assistant to the City Manager; Richard Smith, Deputy Clerk.

Mayor Joens called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM FOR THE CITY

George Gehlert, Community Development Director and Charlie Scully, planner, presented an overview of the concept of historic preservation. Should the concept be applied in Cottonwood, there were a number of older structures eligible for historical designation. A municipal program for historical building preservation would focus efforts and attention on local heritage and provide an opportunity for enhancing a sense of place and identity for citizens of Cottonwood by encouraging the preservation of such historic structures.

Council direction was for Council Member Elinski and City Manager Doug Bartosh to get a citizens group together to solicit citizen input and opinion in order to determine whether there was sufficient community interest for the Council to further pursue this matter by appointing a Commission for Historical Preservation.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 407., LANDSCAPE REQUIREMENTS, OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE

George Gehlert, Community Development Director and Charlie Scully, planner, presented a proposed new landscape code for new development which emphasized streetscape appearance and water conservation through use of plants appropriate for the two vegetation areas within the city, riparian areas where water intensive plants were allowed and chaparral where drought tolerant plants would be permitted. The current landscape requirements are based on a percentage of each property having plant cover. The purpose of the new code was to favor qualitative appearances of site development instead of requiring a flat percentage of landscaping with limited guidance for integrating it with the site.

Council direction was for staff to finalize the proposal for formal consideration by the Council.

#### ESTABLISHING A DIVERSION/DEFERRED PROSECUTION FEE FOR THE MUNICIPAL COURT

Judge LaSota discussed the lack of funds being received by the court on deferred prosecutions and diversion programs offered defendants. The court incurred costs in such cases but could not impose fines since convictions had not been secured in such cases. Municipal fees for court services may be imposed if provided for by Municipal Code. As the actions of those appearing before the court occasioned expense to the City it was appropriate to charge fees to offset some of the costs incurred.

Council directed staff to prepare an appropriate ordinance for consideration by the Council that would allow the collection of such fees.

#### PROPOSED REVISIONS TO TITLE 10 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE, CONCERNING PARKING, TOWING AND IMPOUNDMENT OF MOTORIZED VEHICLES; ABANDONED/INOPERABLE VEHICLES; CIVIL TRAFFIC REGULATIONS; THE USE AND REGULATION OF ALTERNATIVE MOTORIZED AND NON-MOTORIZED VEHICLES SUCH AS BICYCLES, SKATEBOARDS AND OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES; AND OTHER RELATED REGULATIONS

Commander Eisenga reviewed the need to revise the Municipal Code as it pertained to vehicles and traffic. Revisions were intended to clarify infractions and assist enforcement by updating definitions and penalties. Among the proposed changes were: police aides would be permitted to enforce parking regulations, the authority of the traffic engineer clarified, and enforcement would be allowed on private roads used by the public. Definitions of offenses would be created and include such activities as driving while distracted, solicitation of drivers by pedestrians, and when low-water crossings would be restricted.

The Council directed staff to finalize its proposals for formal consideration by the Council.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The work session adjourned at 8:13 p.m.