

**Minutes  
Town of Clifton  
Town Council Regular Meeting  
September 12, 2024  
2:00 P.M.**

**Members Present**

Mayor Laura Dorrell  
Vice-Mayor Anthony James  
Council member Ray Lorenzo (arrived late)  
Council member Ray West\*  
Council member Karen Crump-Frye\*\*  
Council member Janeene K. Carrillo

\*Excused

\*\*Participated via telephone

**Quorum Present**

The Town's legal counsel, Trish Stuhan, participated via telephone.

**Call To Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Laura Dorrell followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Call to the Public:**

Leslie Ray, Clifton Visitors' Center Manager discussed her recent attendance and the Governor's Conference for the Office of Tourism. At the conference it was discussed that there is a rebranding for Arizona, we will no longer be "The Grand Canyon State", but the rebranding is now "Vibrant Arizona" with Turquoise and Copper being the state colors. Leslie will be arranging to have representatives come and visit Clifton to allow us to be part of upcoming state wide tourism activities.

Daniel Cervantez, resident spoke to the Council in support of the agenda item for the liquor license for The Little Frisco restaurant.

**Council Reports:**

Council Member Carrillo appreciated the opportunity to attend the annual conference at the League of Arizona of Cities and Towns, it was a great experience with helpful information to bring back. Yesterday was September 11<sup>th</sup>, important to remember the tragedy and our first responders.

Mayor Dorrell also spoke on the opportunity to attend the conference and the chance to be part of a pilot program to test AI software with police body cameras to help write reports. Currently working on six grants to help with different projects around town, including working with Heather from FMI on triangle park, FMI would like to help contribute trees to the area. The Town Manager search is still on-going, appreciates the interims filling in at this time.

**Consent Agenda**

The Motion to approve the following items as listed under consent agenda was made by Vice-Mayor James, seconded by Council Member Carrillo

1. Approval of the August 8, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes and August 15, 2024 Special Session Minutes
2. Receive Department Reports;
3. Approval of August 2024 Demands.

Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members: Dorrell, James, Lorenzo, Crump-Frye, and Carrillo

Motion Carries

#### **New Staff:**

Town Clerk explained the new agenda item to inform the Council when new personnel is added they will be introduced at the Council Meetings

1. Discussion to update Council on new personnel additions to the Town of Clifton staff.
  - a. Jonas Romero-Villanueva; Full-Time Library Clerk
  - b. Tanya Baumann; Full-Time Dispatcher
  - c. Desiree Apodaca; Full-Time Admin Filing Clerk

#### **Old Business:**

##### **Discussion and/or action to direct staff on the Town of Clifton Waste Water Policy**

Town Clerk Jernigan suggested to move forward with this item it would be best to form a committee with staff and a couple of council members. Council Member West had previously expressed interest, Council Member Carrillo also volunteered.

The Motion to direct the staff to create a manager working group committee was made by Vice-Mayor James, seconded by Council Member Carrillo

Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members: Dorrell, James, Lorenzo, Crump-Frye, and Carrillo

Motion Carries

#### **New Business:**

##### **Discussion and/or action to recommend granting or denying the liquor license application as applied for by The Little Frisco restaurant located at 307 S. Coronado Blvd. to the Arizona State Liquor Board.**

Town Clerk Jernigan presented the liquor license application and process for the Council. Owner of The Little Frisco Abigail Quintana was present. No questions from the Council.

Motion to recommend granting the liquor license application as applied for by the Little Frisco restaurant located at 307 S. Coronado Blvd. to the Arizona State Liquor Board made by Council Member Carrillo, seconded by Vice-Mayor James

Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members: Dorrell, James, Lorenzo, Crump-Frye, and Carrillo

Motion Carries

##### **Discussion and/or action to approve Resolution No. 2024-07: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CLIFTON, ARIZONA, APPROVING THE DESIGNATION OF APPLICANT'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE AUTHORIZED**

**REPRESENTATIVE FORMS SUBMISSION TO THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS, WHICH DESIGNATES THE CITY'S REPRESENTATIVES FOR APPLYING FOR CERTAIN PUBLIC ASSISTANCE; AND AUTHORIZING THE APPLICANT'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER SAID APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF CLIFTON**

Town Clerk Jernigan explained that this was another area where the Town needs to update the contacts and authorized town representatives.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-07 made by Vice-Mayor James, seconded by Council Member Carrillo.

Town Clerk Jernigan clarified for the public that the authorized contacts will be herself and Omar Negrete.

Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members: Dorrell, James, Lorenzo, Crump-Frye, and Carrillo

Motion Carries

**Discussion and/or action to approve the use of the Council budget to become a sponsor of the Greenlee County Fair.**

Clerk Jernigan explained to the Council the sponsorship request file received from the County, chances are due to the late date Town of Clifton will not be featured in any publications as a sponsor, however they can provide a banner to display onsite. Mayor mentioned that it may be nice to sponsor the Cornhole Tournament as it is big in Clifton, Council Member Crump-Frye mentioned that being a friend of the fair as well.

Motion to approve sponsoring the Cornhole Tournament for \$150 and \$150 for Friend of the Fair made by Council Member Crump-Frye, Seconded by Council Member Carrillo

Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members: Dorrell, James, Lorenzo, Crump-Frye, and Carrillo

Motion Carries

**Discussion and/or action to endorse to the Arizona Department of Revenue the Bingo License Application as submitted by Lloyd C Hill American Legion Post #28**

Town Clerk Jernigan explained that although we haven't had a bingo license application in a long time, the process seems straight forward and the Council could choose to endorse or not the application and it will be sent to the Arizona Department of Revenue. Vice-Mayor James confirmed that the Legion previously had bingo, Legion representative John Freida stated this was true when the Legion lost their charter they lost the Bingo license and they are now trying to bring it back.

Motion to endorse to the Arizona Department of Revenue the Bingo License Application as submitted by the Lloyd C Hill American Legion Post #28 made by Vice-Mayor James, Seconded by Council Member Lorenzo

Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members: Dorrell, James, Lorenzo, Crump-Frye, and Carrillo

Motion Carries

**Discussion and/or action to authorize the Mayor to execute contract for Wastewater Treatment Plant Services with Skinny Horse Services**

Clerk Jernigan explained that Town Attorney pointed out that the scope of work was not listed clearly it is broad in the contract and that insurance was not listed. Previously the Council had discussed and approved using Skinny Horse as the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator for services. Vice-Mayor James inquired on the status, the Town is still waiting on the ADEQ permit to be finalized.

Motion to table agenda item made by Council Member Carrillo, seconded by Vice-Mayor James

Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members: Dorrell, James, Lorenzo, Crump-Frye, and Carrillo

Motion Carries

**Discussion and/or action to approve the purchase of a 2025 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado Crew Cab WT 4WD from Courtesy Chevrolet State Contract #CTR059315 for the Public Works Department for \$45,893.89**

Clerk Jernigan explained that the vehicle was approved in the budget. Mayor questioned procurement and whether the staff had attempted to go local first. Clerk Jernigan explained the different reasons why procurement is used over going out to bid. Council would prefer for staff to try local.

Motion to approve the purchase of a 2025 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado Crew Cab WT 4WD from Courtesy Chevrolet State Contract #CTR059315 for the Public Works Department for \$45,893.89 made by Vice-Mayor James, Seconded by Council Member Carrillo

Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members: Dorrell, James, Lorenzo, Crump-Frye, and Carrillo

Motion Carries

**Discussion and/or action to approve the purchase of 2 Chevrolet Tahoes with police package from Midway Chevrolet State Contracts #CTR059320 & CTR069474 for \$54,095.94 (Unmarked) and \$55,947.44 (B&W)**

Motion to approve the purchase of a 2 Chevrolet Tahoes with police package from Midway Chevrolet State Contracts #CTR059320 & CTR069474 for \$54,095.94 (Unmarked) and \$55,947.44 (B&W) made by Council Member Carrillo, Seconded by Vice-Mayor James

Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members: Dorrell, James, Lorenzo, Crump-Frye, and Carrillo

Motion Carries

**Discussion and/or action approve the purchase of a 2025 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado DBL Cab WT 4WD from Courtesy Chevrolet State Contract #CTR059315 for the Code Enforcement Department for \$43,918.67**

Motion to approve the purchase of a 2025 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado DBL Cab WT 4WD from Courtesy Chevrolet State Contract #CTR059315 for the Code Enforcement Department for \$43,918.67 made by Council Member Crump-Frye, Seconded by Council Member Carrillo

Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members: Dorrell, James, Lorenzo, Crump-Frye, and Carrillo

Motion Carries

**Community Clean-Up Trailer Program, Code Enforcement Officer presentation**

Code Enforcement Officer Art Roybal informed the Council that he is starting a program modeled off of a similar successful program in Safford that allows residents to have a trash trailer from the town dropped off to them and the residents will be able to fill it with garbage, the Town of Clifton will then pick the trailer after a couple of days and haul the garbage to the landfill. Free of charge to the resident. The Council is excited to see the project start up and hope that it will help keep the town cleaned up. The Mayor spoke with people from the Town of Safford at the League Conference and

they spoke about how well the program has worked for them

**Discussion and/or action to direct the staff on the spending of the funds budgeted in Council Budget line item for Improvements**

Clerk Jernigan explained to the Council the need for this agenda item. The budget contains \$251,000 in the Council budget that was earmarked as a match if the Fire Department obtained their Congressional Direct Spending Grant for a new fire truck, if they did not obtain it the funds could be used for building improvements such as the Train Depot/Elks Building. The staff would like to have the Council help direct how to use those funds. Current issues are the Train Depot where roof tiles are flying off, a fire truck that is having trouble starting, and the town's needed contribution to the Elk's building. Fire Chief Varela presented on the problems with the Fire Department fleet, some repairs would be possible, however repairs would be extremely costly and may not prolong the life of the vehicles for very long. Chief Negrete explained all the different areas that the Fire Department assists in emergency situations. Clerk Jernigan stated to the Council that staff is asking for Council direction on spending of funds in this line item. Mayor Dorrell talked about needing matches in grant applications for each of the priority areas. Council Member Lorenzo suggested picking a priority and starting there. Mayor Dorrell suggested forming a committee to help with this process. Suggestion also made for Clifton Fire.

Motion to form a managerial committee to discuss funding for priority needs made by Council Member Carrillo, seconded by Vice-Mayor James

Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members: Dorrell, James, Lorenzo, Crump-Frye, and Carrillo

Motion Carries

**Interim Manager and Town Clerk Report**

Police Chief/Interim Town Manager Negrete updated the Council that we're working with Public Works on job descriptions to fill Public Works Vacancy.

Town Clerk/Interim Town Manager Jernigan restated that the ADEQ permit is still pending for the WWTP. Updated the Council on The FMI Land Exchange is in escrow, still trying to schedule ADOT to discuss Chase Creek Bridge #1, waiting to get quote from Sunland Asphalt for Park Ave. They're may be a need for a Special Session to be scheduled between now and the next Council Meeting, depending on availability of ADOT and the need to approve Sunland Asphalt's Park Ave Quote.

**Adjournment**

**Motion to Adjourn made by Vice-Mayor James, seconded by Council Member Carrillo**

**Meeting Adjourned at approximately 3:39**