

**Minutes  
Town of Clifton  
Regular Town Council Meeting  
August 16, 2018  
7:00 P.M.**

**Members Present**

Luis Montoya, Mayor  
Barbara Ahmann, Vice-Mayor  
Laura Dorrell, Councilmember  
Ray Lorenzo, Councilmember  
B. Waddell Reyes, Councilmember  
Ray West, Councilmember  
John Freida, Councilmember

\*Excused

A quorum was present.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Luis Montoya followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Call to the Public:** Resident, Daniel Cervantez expressed his thanks to members of the council for their continued public service.

**Council Reports:** Council member Reyes announced the recent addition of recreation activities offered by Freeport McMoRan. She explained that one of the gymnasium facilities at the former Clifton Unified School District was now open to the public.

Council member Dorrell reported that a recent report on County Health Rankings and Roadmaps website ranked Greenlee County, Arizona at #2 which is a significant improvement from previous years. She also announced that the Town of Clifton had been awarded \$150,000 from United Way Grant for park improvements to the North Clifton RV Park Playground. She applauded Vice-Mayor Ahmann and the town's grants committee for their efforts in submitting the application. Finally, Council member Dorrell commended all Greenlee County Emergency personnel for their continued professionalism during the recent emergency situation occurring over the past weekend.

Mayor Montoya noted that the town would be hosting the SEAGO's Executive Board Meeting on Friday August 17, 2018 at the town's Community Center. He also mentioned that the Festival of Lights Committee had met to formally "kick-off" planning for the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual event scheduled for December 1, 2018.

No other reports were given at this time.

**Consent Agenda:** Motion to approve the following items listed under consent agenda was made by Council member West:

1. Approval of the June 8, 2018 Special Session Minutes and July 12, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes;
2. Receive Department Reports;
3. Approval of July 2018 Demands.

Second to the motion was made by Council member Reyes.

Voting in favor of the motion were Council members: West, Reyes, Ahmann, Dorrell, Montoya and Lorenzo. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

**Discussion and or action regarding the vacancy on the Board of Directors for the Town of Clifton, Municipal Property Corporation:** Town Manager, Heather Ruder explained that

staff is seeking the assistance from the Council to find a qualified local resident to serve on the board. The vacancy resulted from the resignation of Steve Ahmann.

## **New Business**

**Oath of Office – John Freida, Council member:** Mayor Luis Montoya invited Mr. Freida to the podium where Town Clerk, Espie Castaneda administered the oath of office to recent Council member appointee, John Freida.

**Discussion and/or action to approve Resolution No. 2018-10: Approving authorized signers to execute all documents and other items which may be required by the National Bank of Arizona on behalf of the Town of Clifton:** As required by the local banking institution, a resolution identifying the authorized signers is required. Mayor Montoya explained that the change in signers will include the addition of Town Manager, Heather M. Ruder.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2018-18 was made by Council member Laura Dorrell. Second to the motion was made by Council member Ray West.

Voting in favor of the motion were Council members: Dorrell, West, Freida, Lorenzo, Ahmann, Reyes and Montoya.

Motion carried.

**Discussion and/or action to amend the Town of Clifton’s Personnel Policy; Rule XX; Reporting of Travel and Business Expenses; Reimbursable Expenses; Section 2. Personal Car:** Town Manager, Heather Ruder recommended that the policy amendment included a revision to accommodate the standard mileage rate as determined annually by the IRS.

Motion to amend the Town of Clifton’s Personnel Policy; Rule XX as presented was made by Council member Ray West. Second to the motion was made by Council member John Freida.

Voting in favor of the motion were Council members West, Freida, Dorrell, Ahmann, Lorenzo, Reyes and Montoya. Motion carried.

**Discussion and/or action to authorize the closure of Chase Creek Street on August 25, 2018 from the 4-way Stop to the Chase Creek Marketplace as requested by the Greenlee County Democrats:** Town Manager, Heather Ruder provided members of the council with a cost estimate of \$500 in town resources for this event. These resources include overtime for police officers and public works employees to provide the necessary presence and equipment for a safe event.

Susan Breen, Chairman of the Greenlee County Democrats, explained that although the event is not expected to draw as large a crowd as the Festival of Lights for example, she anticipated that the road closure would not exceed 30 minutes. The event was to showcase the new Greenlee County Democratic Party headquarters and show of support for the “Save our Schools” issue currently being advertised statewide. She stated that the funds were not available to cover the town resources and offered an alternate to the event. She stated that she would withdraw her request to close the road and any procession would be limited to walking on the sidewalk.

There was no action taken by the Town Council on this issue.

**Discussion and/or action to cease the May 10, 2018 fire restrictions as adopted for the Town of Clifton:** Fire Chief, Peter Ortega explained that both statewide and county restrictions have been lifted, primarily related to open flame fires. He is recommended that the town also follow lifting the currently restrictions.

Chief Ortega did provide information on the current requirement to obtain burn permits from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. These requirements will still be necessary for any type of controlled burning considered by the public.

Motion to cease the May 10, 2018 fire restrictions as adopted for the Town of Clifton was made by Council member John Freida, second to the motion was made by Council member Barbara Ahmann.

Voting in favor of the motion were Council members Freida, Ahmann, West, Dorrell, Montoya, Lorenzo and Reyes.

Motion carried.

**Manager's Report:** Ms. Ruder reported on the following activities and projects:

- Thanked the staff for their warm welcome and acknowledged the incredible amount of work they handle
- Attended the SEAGO Administrative Council meeting and informed the Council of the forthcoming 2020 Census and future efforts to promote the new method required to participate. This new method will be an electronic submittal.
- Reported on continuing conference calls to various state agencies related to issues involving the town's Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mentioned a Work Session of the council scheduled for August 28, to provide updated information on the facility.
- Also reminded Council of the August 29<sup>th</sup> meeting with the Planning Center regarding the development of the town's General Plan.
- Planning on organizing a Soccer Field "kick-off" event in September\_would be an extremely short timeframe and would not be able to happen this year.
- Informed the Council that she had previously scheduled personal plans prior to commencing her employment with the town and would be off on September 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn was made by Council member Reyes, second to the motion was made by Council Lorenzo. Motion carried unanimously

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:55 p.m.