

**Clifton Town Council Regular Meeting Attendance Information**  
**January 14, 2021**  
**2:00 p.m.**

**IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE AT PUBLIC MEETINGS WAS SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

THIS MEETING WAS HELD BY REMOTE PARTICIPATION ONLY

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE MEETING:

Members of the public were encouraged to participate in the meeting via the following options:

**Zoom Conference – Meeting ID: 856 8504 2570**

**Passcode: 1415**

1. Computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85685042570?pwd=YmR1RmExaXlsUSttZnh2LzVINTBvUT09>

2. Telephone: Dial: One of these listed phone numbers:

+1-669-900-6833

+1-346-248-7799

+1-929-205-6099

+1-253-215-8782

+1-301-715-8592

+1-312-626-6799

3. On Smart Device/Zoom App

4. *Submitting questions and comments:* email [castaneda@townofclifton.com](mailto:castaneda@townofclifton.com)

(No comments were submitted at least 1 hour prior to the meeting)

**Minutes**  
**Town of Clifton**  
**Town Council Regular Meeting**  
**January 14, 2021**  
**2:00 P.M.**

**Members Present**

Mayor Luis Montoya  
Vice-Mayor Laura Dorrell  
Council member Anthony James  
Council member Ray Lorenzo  
Council member B. Waddell Reyes  
Council member Ray West  
Council member, Vacant

**Call To Order:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Luis Montoya at approximately 2:10 p.m.

**Call to the Public:** Susan Breen explained that January 18 is National Day of Service honoring Dr. Martin Luther King. This year, there will be a food can drive event and all are encouraged to place a lighted candle at 5:00 p.m. on their window in memory of those who have lost their lives as a result of COVID-19.

Sheriff Tim Sumner offered his thanks to the Mayor and town staff for their assistance and participation in the recent drug awareness prevention program as sponsored by the Greenlee County Coalition supporting the program.

**Council Reports:** Vice-Mayor Dorrell reported that COVID-19 vaccinations began in December for those individuals in the high risk category. She also reported that planning efforts are underway to organize the annual health fair with collaborative efforts between Gila Health, FMI and other agencies.

Mayor Montoya expressed Happy New Year to all and also acknowledged two town employees who recently retired as employees from the town. He congratulated Jerry Valenzuela, Public Works Director and Greg Moreno, Mechanic for this new milestone and thanked them for their service.

Mayor Montoya, an active member of the Drug Awareness Coalition, also expressed his thanks to all entities that participated in the powerful promotion to the consequences of drug use. The Mayor also reported that Morenci Water & Electric Co. has notified the town that they will be demolishing their abandoned sub-station building located on Frisco Avenue.

**Consent Agenda:** Motion to approve the following items listed under Consent Agenda was made by Vice-Mayor Dorrell, second to the motion was made by Council member West:

1. Approval of the December 2, 2020 Work Session Minutes and the December 10 Regular Meeting Minutes;
2. Receive Department Reports.
3. Approval of December 2020 Demands.

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

**New Business:**

**Second Reading of Ordinance No. 03-2020: An Ordinance of the Common Council of the Town of Clifton, Arizona, Amending the Official Zoning Map of Clifton, Arizona, By Changing the Zoning Classification of Property Located at 249 Leonard Avenue (Parcel 200-85-011G) From Residential (R-2) to Residential (R-3):** The Town Clerk read the title paragraph of the ordinance as required in the ordinance process.

**Discussion and/or action to approve Ordinance No. 03-2020:** Motion to approve Ordinance No. 03-2020 was made by Council member Ray West. Second to the motion was made by Council member Anthony James.

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

**Discussion and/or action to authorize the purchase of a backhoe from RDO Equipment Co. a contracted vendor through the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Agreement:** Town Manager, Rudy Perez explained that funding for the backhoe was allocated and approved as part of this year's budget. The contract price as quoted totals \$118,684.60. This backhoe is an additional piece of heavy equipment to town's inventory.

Motion to authorize the purchase of the backhoe from RDO Equipment Co. in the amount not to exceed \$119,000 was made by Council member Ray West. Second to the motion was made by Vice-Mayor Laura Dorrell.

Voting in favor of the motion were Council member's West, Dorrell, Lorenzo, James, Reyes and Montoya. Motion carried.

**Discussion and/or action to authorize the purchase of a 2021 Chevrolet Tahoe vehicle from Midway Chevrolet a contracted vendor through the Arizona Cooperative Program:** Town Manager, Rudy Perez explained that funding for this vehicle was allocated and approved as part of the FMI Police funding support budget.

Police Chief, Omar Negrete explained that the newest police unit in the town's vehicle fleet is a 2013. He explained that the units are getting old and require ongoing maintenance.

Motion to authorize the purchase of the 2021 Chevrolet Tahoe in the amount not to exceed \$39,600.00 was made by Vice-Mayor Laura Dorrell. Second to the motion was made by Council member Ray Lorenzo.

Voting in favor of the motion were Council member's Dorrell, Lorenzo, James, Lorenzo, Reyes and Montoya. Motion carried.

**Discussion and/or action to authorize the purchase to up-fit the 2021 Chevrolet Tahoe from Arizona Emergency Products a contracted vendor through the Arizona Cooperative Program:** Police Chief Negrete explained that additional equipment is required to up-fit the vehicle as a fully functional emergency response unit.

Motion to authorize the purchase to up-fit the 2021 Chevrolet Tahoe from Arizona Emergency Products not to exceed \$16,400 was made by Council member Ray West. Second to the motion was made by Vice-Mayor Laura Dorrell.

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

Motion carried.

**Discussion and/or action to approve \$27,000 to purchase and install six light poles and fixtures between Lynch Street and Palacio Loop (Historical Society Museum) as part of the Morenci Water & Electric's Chase Creek Street underground utilities project:** Town Manager, Rudy Perez explained that MW&E is moving forward with the underground utilities project in the lower Chase Creek Street area and has informed the town that pedestrian lighting will be needed since the existing wooden poles which currently provide lighting will be taken down. The utility company has informed the town that the expense to replace the pedestrian lighting will be the town's responsibility. MW&E has offered to sell the town the same style light poles and fixtures that they are installing throughout the town. Another option the town could consider is to consider installing the donated street light poles that came from the Stargo neighborhood, a once occupied housing development area within the copper mining townsite.

Mayor Montoya expressed concern that these additional light poles and fixtures which go beyond the town's historic district bring an unexpected expense to the town. He recalled that previously the town had paid for a professional report to guide the town when considering appropriate lighting in the town's historic district. The Town Council, after receiving the recommendation from the town's Historic Preservation Commission, approved a pole style and fixture. The purchase of this pedestrian lighting was contingent upon grant funding. As of this discussion, no funding has been secured for that particular area.

Mr. Perez suggested that funding from this years Public Works/General Fund Budget could be used to purchase the six light poles and fixtures as quoted by MW&E.

Council member West expressed concern about using the donated poles because of their height. The engineering study recommends 14' poles as appropriate pedestrian lighting. The donated poles are 20' in height and would shine directly into the living quarters on the upper floor of the businesses commonly found in the historic district. Council member West stated that he would prefer uniform lighting throughout the street.

Council members James and Lorenzo concurred with Council member West.

Additional discussion continued on the proposal submitted by MW&E on the 6 poles and lights.

There being additional questions and concerns regarding the matter, Council member West made a motion to table the item and schedule a work session. Second to the motion was made by Vice-Mayor Dorrell.

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

Motion carried.

**Manager's Report:** Town Manager, Rudy Perez reported on the following activities:

- Reported that the Greenlee County Health Department and Gila Health Resources have offered COVID-19 vaccinations to the town's emergency response personnel.

- Provided an update on the town's Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade. Noted that the bid documents have been completed and approved by WIFA.
- Stated that the Quinn Street retaining wall repair bid documents are being finalized. Anticipates bid advertisement the first week of February.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:09 p.m