

Minutes
Town of Clifton
Regular Town Council Meeting
June 14, 2018
7:01 P.M.

Members Present

Luis Montoya, Mayor
Barbara Ahmann, Councilmember
Laura Dorrell, Councilmember
Ray Lorenzo, Councilmember
B. Waddell Reyes, Councilmember
Ray West, Councilmember
Vacant, 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: Danny Cervantez commended the town's librarian for her efforts in securing grant funding to provide the community with assistance in digital literacy skills.

Greenlee County Sheriff, Tim Sumner expressed his thanks to the town for offering the use of the top floor of the Community Center for training.

Council Reports: Council member B. Waddell Reyes shared a copy of the spring issue of the Gateway to the Copper Corridor, featuring an article on the rich history of Clifton, Arizona. She also displayed one of the T-Shirt's worn by Visitor's Center volunteers, donated by Council member Dorrell.

Council member Ahmann offered her congratulations to the local American Legion and all Veteran's for their successful efforts in organizing the Memorial Day Event and park improvements.

Council member Dorrell reported on the San Francisco River Cleanup sponsored by the Gila Watershed Partnership. She also acknowledged the summer programs offered by the town's library for children are a benefit to the community.

Council member Akos Kovach offered comments regarding his decision to serve on the Town Council.

Mayor Montoya informed members of the Council that he will be attending a kick-off meeting of the Greenlee County Housing Feasibility Study Group scheduled for June 26 & 27. Event will be held at the Greenlee County Golf Course. He explained that the

agenda includes opportunities where the entire council is invited to participate as well. The Town Clerk has been instructed to post a public notice accordingly.

Consent Agenda: Council member Ray West made a motion to approve the items listed under consent agenda with correction to the minutes: referencing Luis Montoya as the Vice-Mayor vs. Mayor during Call to Order.

1. Approval of the May 3, 2018 Special Session Minutes; May 10, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes; May 10, 2018, 8:00 a.m. Special Session Minutes; and May 10, 2018 6:00 p.m. Special Session Minutes (correcting all documents presented in Call to Order; changing Luis Montoya, ~~Vice-Mayor~~, Mayor).
2. Receive Department Reports;
3. Approval of May 2018 Demands.

Second to the motion was made by Council member Ray Lorenzo. Motion carried.

Old Business

Discussion and/or action to appoint a Vice-Mayor: Mayor Montoya explained the nominating procedures for the office of Vice-Mayor.

The Mayor continued the process by calling for nominations.

Mayor Luis Montoya nominated Laura Dorrell as Vice- Mayor.
Council member B. Waddell Reyes nominated Barbara Ahmann as Vice-Mayor.
Council member Laura Dorrell nominated Ray West as Vice-Mayor.

There being no further nominations, Council member Barbara Ahmann made a motion to close the nominations. Motion was seconded by Council member West. Motion carried.

The Clerk polled the Council as to the candidate of their choice and the results were as follows:

Voting in favor of Council member Dorrell for Vice-Mayor were Council members Lorenzo, Montoya and Dorrell.

Voting in favor of Council member Ahmann for Vice-Mayor were Council members Reyes, West, Kovach and Ahmann.

There were no votes tallied for Council member West.

Council member Ahmann receiving a majority of votes was elected as Vice-Mayor.

New Business

Discussion and/or action to adopt a tentative budget for FY19: Interim Town Manager, Espie Castaneda referred Council to the budget totals page of the tentative budget worksheet. She explained the layout of the report which summarizes each department's total budget and funds allocated to special revenues. It also provides the amount of revenues available to cover General Fund Expenses and Special Revenues.

She reported that prior to leaving employment with the Town of Clifton, Mr. McGaughey had presented a balanced budget totaling \$16,323,602. It should be noted that generally the town's budget total averages \$5,000,000 however, the inclusion of \$11,000,000 in funding for a wastewater treatment plant project significantly increased the total.

Ms. Castaneda also reported that upon adoption of a tentative budget, the total amount cannot be increased. She further explained that the next step in the adoption process would be to advertise the budget in the required legal format together with a public notice providing information of the time and date of the public hearing.

Motion to adopt the tentative budget for the Town of Clifton in the amount of \$16,323,602 was made by Council member Laura Dorrell. Second to the motion was made by Council member Ray Lorenzo. Motion carried.

Discussion and/or action to authorize the Mayor to execute an employment contract between the Town of Clifton and Heather Ruder as Town Manager: Council member West reported that he had been in contact with Ms. Ruder regarding the employment negotiations and was pleased to report that she had verbally agreed to the terms of employment. At this time however, the town is waiting for results of the background check currently being conducted by ESR Screening. He explained that the employment contract document was being finalized by the town's attorney as of this meeting and recommends moving forward with council's approval to authorize the Mayor to execute the document pending receipt of the employment screening report.

Motion to authorize the Mayor to execute the employment contract as accepted by Ms. Ruder, pending the results of the background check was made by Vice-Mayor Ahmann. Second to the motion was made by Council member Reyes. Motion carried.

Discussion and/or action to authorize the Mayor to execute the Installation Agreement for Energy Efficient LED Lighting Pilot Program as proposed by Midstate Energy: Interim Town Manager, Espie Castaneda explained that an assessment of town facilities had been conducted by Midstate Energy representatives to determine potential energy cost savings through lighting; HVAC systems and water usage. Midstate Energy has offered to cover the cost as a "Pilot Program" of Phase I described as providing LED lighting material, lamps, drivers, fixtures and labor to effect the change in the lighting system as defined in the Lighting Audit at no cost to the town.

In exchange, the Town will offer a press release of the project. Midstate Energy is hoping to expand their program into municipal governments. Their current experience has been to provide this service to school districts.

Council member West expressed concern about the project and audit results. Council member Reyes suggested that staff look into references provided by Midstate Energy.

Council member Akos Kovach made a motion to authorize the Mayor to execute the Installation Agreement for Energy Efficient LED Lighting Pilot Program after references from prior projects can be verified. Second to the motion was made by Council member Reyes. Motion carried.

Discussion and/or action to adopt Resolution No. 2018-08: Committing Local Funds as Leverage for an FY 2018 Community Development Block Grant Application: Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2018-08 was made by Council member Ray West; second to the motion was made by Council member Laura Dorrell. Motion carried.

Discussion and/or action to remove Steve Ahmann as a member of the Board of Directors for the Town of Clifton, Municipal Property Corporation: Members of the Council were provided with a letter of resignation from Mr. Ahmann. In the letter he stated concerns of potential conflict of interest for his wife, Vice-Mayor, Barbara Ahmann.

Motion to accept Mr. Ahmann's resignation was made by Vice-Mayor Ahmann. Second to the motion was made by Council member B. Waddell Reyes. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding the vacancy on the Board of Directors for the Town of Clifton, Municipal Property Corporation: Interim Town Manager, Espie Castaneda reported that she has been searching for a replacement to the Board of Directors but has been unsuccessful as of this date. She suggested tabling the matter at this time.

Item was tabled.

Discussion and/or action to appoint B. Waddell Reyes to the Historic Preservation Commission: Mayor Montoya explained that this appointment will complete the five-member board of the Historic Preservation Commission.

Motion to appoint B. Waddell Reyes to the Historic Preservation Commission was made by Council member Laura Dorrell. Second to the motion was made by Council member Ray Lorenzo. Motion carried.

Discussion and/or action to accept Emily Muteb's resignation to the town's grants committee: Chairman of the Grants Committee, Barbara Ahmann, expressed her appreciation for Emily's service to the town.

Motion to accept Ms. Muteb's resignation was made by Vice-Mayor Barbara Ahmann. Second to the motion was made by Council member B. Waddell Reyes. Motion carried.

Discussion and/or action regarding the town's participation in the Greenlee County Community Investment Fund: Interim Town Manager, Espie Castaneda explained that during the budget preparation, Mr. McGaughey did not specify a project for this grant although he had allocated \$150,000. Recently the opening of the grant cycle was announced, and the process has changed by which potential applicants are encouraged to meet with Community Investment Fund (CIF) grant administrators to discuss grant concepts prior to submitting the application. The date of this meeting is July 9, 2018. Therefore, Ms. Castaneda suggested that a work session might be in order to select a potential project.

Vice-Mayor Ahmann suggested that the Grants Committee might also participate to offer input.

Motion to schedule a joint worksession of the Town Council and the Grants Committee was made by Vice-Mayor Ahmann. Second to the motion was made by

Interim Town Manager's Report: Ms. Castaneda reported on recent activities to include:

- Updated the Council on the USDA-RD grant application informing them that the Preliminary Engineering Report is on hold until the issue of flood elevation can be resolved for the existing facility location.
- Provided updates of the pumps/motors on order for the WWTP.
- Reported on parking issues in the South Clifton neighborhood.
- Informed the Council that five official candidates have filed the appropriate documents to run for town council in the August 28, 2018 Primary Election.
- Reported that she and the Chief of Police had attended the Greenlee County Local Courts Security Standards Committee meeting and have formed a town committee to address the security issues that will need to be implemented by the Magistrate Court to comply with Arizona Supreme Court Security Standards which went into effect July 1, 2017.
- Explained that the Administrative Staff is working on finalizing the 2020 Census Local Updates of Census Addresses Operation. (LUCA)
- Participated in the Grants Committee meeting held May 29, 2018.
- Reported that the health/dental benefits contracts and agreements have been signed and an employee meeting was held to discuss the forthcoming changes.
- Updated the Council on the status of the General Plan. The Planning Center Representative, Jessica Sarkissian reported that the necessary maps should be finalized by next week. Once those are completed, the next phase will be to move onto the public outreach process.
- Informed Council that she would be on vacation during the week of June 25th.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Council member Ray West. Second to the motion was made by Council member Laura Dorrell. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Approved:

Luis M. Montoya, Mayor

Attest:

Esperanza Castaneda, Town Clerk