

**Minutes**  
**Town of Clifton**  
**Regular Town Council Meeting**  
**May 10, 2018**  
**7:02 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:** Local resident Daniel Cervantez offered his thanks and appreciation to the candidates who expressed interest in serving on the Town Council.

Sheriff Sumner reported on a recent meeting involving local law enforcement agencies and Freeport McMoRan regarding enforcement issues within company property. He also provided information related to comments he made earlier at a meeting of the FMI Community Investment Program supporting projects that support the entire county. He expressed that the southern part of the county is often forgotten.

**Council Reports:** Council member Reyes provided an update on the ongoing project involving the restoration of the doors at the Train Station. She also commended the Police and Fire Departments for their response to the structure fire on Chase Creek St.

Mayor Montoya offered his thanks and appreciation to Council member West for representing the town during the recent visit and welcome of Alan Stanton, a notable prior resident of Clifton. Mr. Stanton was instrumental in securing funding for the Town's Flood Control Project through his lobbying efforts.

There were no further reports from Council at this time.

**Consent Agenda:** Motion to approve the items listed under Consent Agenda as presented was made by Council member Barbara Ahmann:

1. Approval of the April 12, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes; April 9<sup>th</sup> & April 19<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting Minutes;

2. Receive Department Reports;
3. Approval of April 2018 Demands.

Second to the motion was made by Council member B. Waddell Reyes. Motion carried.

### **New Business**

**Discussion and/or action regarding the appointment to fill the vacancy on the Town Council to replace Felix Callicotte:** Mayor Montoya explained the nomination process and called for nominations to fill the council vacancy.

Mayor Luis Montoya nominated Austin Adams.

Council member Laura Dorrell nominated John Freida.

Council member Ray West nominated Ákos Kovach.

Motion to close the nominations was made by Council member Ray West. Second to the motion was made by Council member Barbara Ahmann. Motion carried.

The following votes were tallied for each of the nominated candidates:

<u>Austin Adams</u>	<u>John Freida</u>	<u>Ákos Kovach</u>
Mayor Montoya	Council member Dorrell	Council member West
	Council member Lorenzo	Council member Ahmann
		Council member Reyes

Receiving a majority of the votes was Ákos Kovach.

Members of the Council welcomed Mr. Kovach and offered their congratulations.

**Oath of Office Town Council appointee:** Town Clerk, Espie Castaneda administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Council member Ákos Kovach.

**Introduction and welcome of Police Officer Braydon Harsh to the Clifton Police Dept:** Police Chief, Omar Negrete offered a brief biography of Officer Harsh's background and extended his personal congratulations to the recent graduate of the Southern Arizona Law Enforcement Training Center.

Officer Harsh expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve the town.

**Town of Clifton Wastewater Rate Study/Analysis & Long Term Financial – Dan V. Jackson, Vice President, Willdan Financial Services:** Mr. Jackson provided Council with a report of the results and recommendations related to the town's wastewater user rates. He explained that this type of study is common procedure for an entity that is considering any type of capital improvement project such as a wastewater treatment plant.

Mr. Jackson reported that the town has a solid fund today due to the rate increase implemented a few years ago. He provided a comparison chart of similar size communities and reported that the Town of Clifton rate is \$6.18 below the state average. He also provided a Long-Term Rate Plan to consider for implementation beginning this next fiscal year. The rates are based on the assumption that a new wastewater treatment plant will be operational and maintenance costs are applied to the new facility.

**Discussion and/or action to accept Sarah Day’s resignation from the Planning & Zoning Commission and the Board of Adjustment:** Council members were provided with a copy of Ms. Day’s letter. Motion to accept Ms. Day’s resignation was made by Council member Ahmann. Second to the motion was made by Council member Dorrell. Motion carried.

It was recommended that a letter of appreciation for her service to the town should be mailed.

**Discussion and/or action to appoint Danette Reyes to Historic Preservation Commission:** Interim Town Manager, Espie Castaneda reported that town has published a notice in The Copper Era of the various vacancies affecting town boards and commissions. As of this date, Ms. Reyes has indicated interest in continuing to serve on the Historic Preservation Commission.

Motion to appoint Danette Reyes to serve on the Historic Preservation Commission was made by Council member B. Waddell Reyes. Second to the motion was made by Council member Barbara Ahmann. Motion carried.

**Discussion and/or action requesting approval for weeding and disposal of library materials:** Town Librarian, Sabrina Dumas explained that she will be weeding out materials that have outlived their usefulness to the library. The weeding out process will be done in three phases. Weeded materials will be made available for the community to purchase; then the County Librarian will have the opportunity to choose items to include in the community book nooks and finally the surplus materials will be discarded.

Motion to approve the weeding and disposal of library materials as presented by the Town Librarian, Sabrina Dumas was made by Council member Ray West. Second to the motion was made by Council member Barbara Ahmann. Motion carried.

**Discussion and/or action regarding participating as a sponsor of the Greenlee Gives Back Gala:** Representing the Arizona Community Foundation was Ted Prina and Steve Ahmann. They provided information in the foundation’s mission and specifically their efforts to bring awareness to the Greenlee County Community Fund. The purpose of the Gala is to raise funds and for the local fund from which investment earnings will be available to successful local non-profits in the form of grants.

Council member Ray West made a motion to donate \$500 towards the event. Second to the motion was made by Council member Ahmann. Motion carried.

**Discussion and/or action to approve the Town of Clifton General Plan Update – Public Participation Plan:** Interim Town Manager, Espie Castaneda explained that this draft had been

prepared by The Planning Center and requires Council approval. Additionally, Council was provided with a list of the Stakeholders Teams.

Under discussion, it was noted that some of the email contacts were incorrect on the Stakeholders Teams list. Also questioned was the state requirement to inform known sand and gravel mine owners.

The Interim Town Manager would make the email corrections and follow up with The Planning Center contacts to inquire about reference to “known sand and gravel mine owners.”

Motion to approve the Town of Clifton General Plan Update – Public Participation Plan contingent upon clarification of the state requirement related to sand and gravel mine owners, was made by Council member Dorrell. Second to the motion was made by Council member Reyes. Motion carried.

**Discussion and/or action to adopt fire restriction within the Town of Clifton:** Motion to approve fire restriction within the Town of Clifton was made by Council member B. Waddell Reyes. Second to the motion was made by Council member Laura Dorrell. Motion carried.

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

- Temporary reassignment of job duties within the administrative staff to help the work load until a new Town Manager is hired;
- Participated in conference calls related to potential financing options for the wastewater treatment plant improvement with Mark Reader, Stifel Inc., and USDA-RD Representatives
- Reported on the status of the pump and grinder previously ordered for the current WWTP;
- Reported on the status of the town’s election process which is now underway.
- Informed the Council on the status of the next application for 2018 RA - CDBG Funds which will cover the cost to install a “parshall flume” at the WWTP.

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

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:58 p.m.