

**Minutes  
Town of Clifton  
Town Council Regular Meeting  
May 12, 2022  
2:00 P.M.**

**Members Present**

Mayor Luis Montoya  
Vice-Mayor Laura Dorrell  
Council member Anthony James  
Council member Ray Lorenzo  
Council member Ray West  
Council member, Karen Crump-Frye  
Council member, Vacant

\*Excused

Quorum Present

Also present was Town Attorney, Trish Stuhan who participated via telephone.

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

**Call to the Public:** Akos Kovach, reported on the success of the recent Hill Climb Event. He estimated that approximately 650 spectators had attended various events associated with the Hill Climb. Additionally, on behalf of the Greenlee County Tourism Council, Mr. Kovach presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Arturo Roybal, Town of Clifton Public Works employee, who participated during the Hill Climb Event as a courtesy driver, shuttling event participants to various viewing sites. Mr. Kovach stated that the idea of presenting the certificate of appreciation resulted from the numerous positive comments from event participants who expressed that Mr. Roybal was courteous, respectful and helpful, while interacting with them. Mr. Kovach noted that this young man went above and beyond what he had been assigned to do.

Also making a presentation, were representatives of Valley of the Sun United Way of Graham and Greenlee Counties. Making the formal presentation of a check in the amount of \$250,000 to the Clifton Fire Department to be used for their new fire station facility, was Mr. Matt Bolinger accompanied by the new Executive Director, Denise Benton.

**Council Reports:** Mayor Montoya extended his appreciation to the organizers of the Hill Climb and congratulated them on a successful event. The Mayor also suggested that prior to next year's event, guidelines will be available to determine the recipient of the Mayor's Cup Trophy. He suggested that the award be presented to an event organizer or volunteer recognizing their contribution to the event.

Mayor Montoya also noted that Council members will be receiving performance evaluation forms as part of the annual review of the Town Manager.

Council member Karen Crump-Frye reported that the Big Quack Race will be the next event hosted by the Greenlee Tourism Council. Detailed information will be presented later on the agenda. She also referred the Council and members of the public to the tourism's website: [www.visitgreenleecounty.com](http://www.visitgreenleecounty.com) for information on forthcoming events.

Vice-Mayor Laura Dorrell provided information on the local Food Bank. Food distribution is currently scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month as well as on demand requests.

No other reports were presented at this time.

**Consent Agenda:** Vice-Mayor Laura Dorrell made a motion to approve the following items:

1. Approval of the April 5, 2022 Regular Meeting and April 14, 2022 Special Session Minutes;
2. Receive Department Reports;
3. Approval of April 2022 Demands.

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

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

### **Old Business**

**Discussion regarding restoration of the Elk's Lodge Building. – Barbara Ahmann:**  
The item was tabled until further notice.

### **New Business**

**Arizona Department of Administration 9-1-1 Program Presentation – Police Chief Omar Negrete:** Chief Negrete provided information on future funding currently covered by the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) for each Public Safety Answering Point, (PSAP). As the 9-1-1 system transitions to NG911, ADOA will be limiting their funding support to only one PSAP per County at this time. Greenlee County has two PSAP's which are the Town of Clifton Dispatch Center and Greenlee County Sheriff's Office. Each PSAP is required to meet a funding threshold established by the state in order to be eligible to continue to receive funding. Each PSAP must receive a minimum of 300 9-1-1 emergency calls per month. Neither PSAP in Greenlee County is meeting the funding threshold. Per Chief Negrete, ADOA has requested that the Town and County consider consolidating their PSAP. He reported that if each agency continues operating its own PSAP, the anticipated cost would be \$45,775.24 each annually to be paid from local general funds.

Final comments from the Chief included the need to have a comprehensive study covering the two agencies due to varying logistics due to different communication systems and staffing levels. ADOA has allocated funding for their contracted vendor to conduct the study.

Chief Negrete explained that at this time a deadline has been established as 2/04/2023 for the town's PSAP to transition to the NG911 system. Chief Negrete further explained that this presentation serves as an introduction to the matter at this time however, Council will have to decide whether to continue operating its own PSAP or consolidate with Greenlee County.

The general consensus of the Council was to wait for the comprehensive study to begin any discussion.

**Discussion and/or action to approve Resolution No. 2022-05: A Resolution of The Common Council Of The Town Of Clifton, Greenlee County, Arizona, Establishing New Or Increased Miscellaneous Rates And Fees; Establishing An Effective Date; Repealing Conflicting Resolutions And Providing For Severability:** Mayor Montoya explained that the town's Rates and Fees Committee had recommended the rate increases as shown in the report to justify the need. In February 2022, Council approved the notice of intent to proceed with the process notifying the public of the proposed increases to miscellaneous fees. The required notifications have been posted on the town's website as required and the waiting period has also been met.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2022-05 was made by Council member Karen Crump-Frye, second to the motion was made by Council member Ray West.

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

**Discussion and/or action to approve the recommendation of the American Rescue Plan Act Committee (ARPA) to allocate ARPA funds for engineering services for the design and procurement of construction services of the Ward Canyon and Paradise Lift Stations Replacement Projects:** Town Manager, Rudy Perez reported that the ARPA Committee has focused on funding "public benefit" projects. In February 2022 the ARPA Committee requested a cost estimate to cover engineering services for design and construction of both lift stations. The ARPA Committee received the cost estimate in April 2022 and agreed to recommend the project for funding to the Council. The engineering services to design the facilities will cost \$98,215. The recommendation is to fund design and construction of both lift stations. Construction costs will determine if both lift stations can be done with ARPA Funds.

ARPA Committee Chair, Laura Dorrell and Anthony James concurred that the committee was in agreement to utilize these funds which will benefit the whole community.

Motion to approve the recommendation of the ARPA Committee to allocate ARPA Funds for engineering services and construction services for the Ward Canyon and Paradise Lift Stations Replacement Projects was made by Council member Ray West. Second to the motion was made by Council member Karen Crump-Frye.

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

**Discussion and/or action to approve \$74,391.34 for Sunland Asphalt & Construction, LLC, an authorized vendor with 1 Government Procurement Alliance (1GPA) to pulverize, grade and pave Palacio Loop Road and to authorize the Mayor to execute the Purchase Order contract between the Town of Clifton and Sunland Asphalt:** Town Manager, Rudy Perez reported that a previous project to mill, grade and pave Webster Ave., 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> St. has been postponed until Morenci Water & Electric completes their project to upgrade water lines in those areas.

The Town Manager continued to explain that he and the town's public works director recommend that it would be beneficial to pave Palacio Loop in conjunction with the current project already underway along Chase Creek Street.

Council discussion included concerns that Palacio Loop had not been prioritized by the Road and Streets Committee. However, Council members did agree that Chase Creek Street has been neglected for some time and both the residents and motorists have been more than patient with all the obstacles that have resulted due to the original MW&E Project to relocate electrical service lines from above ground to underground.

Motion to approve \$74,391.34 for Sunland Asphalt & Construction, LLC to pulverize, grade and pave Palacio Loop Road and to authorize the Mayor to execute the Purchase Order Contract between the Town of Clifton and Sunland Asphalt was made by Mayor Luis Montoya. Second to the motion was made by Vice-Mayor Laura Dorrell.

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

**Discussion and/or action regarding the Big Quack Duck Race to be held on June 4, 2022:** Akos Kovach, addressing Council on behalf of the Greenlee Tourism Council invited all to support and participate in the Big Quack Duck Race. He provided information on how to purchase your plastic duck for the race. He also explained that the "ducks" will float from Zorrilla St. Bridge to the San Francisco Bridge. The event is held in partnership with the Gila Watershed River Clean Up.

Mayor Luis Montoya made a motion to encourage participation and support the Big Quack Duck Race scheduled for Saturday, June 4, 2022. Second to the motion was made by Vice-Mayor Laura Dorrell.

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

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

- Reported that Circle K Corporation has submitted their building permit application for a new retail facility for review,
- Mentioned that Morenci Water & Electric has installed the new street poles/lights along the historic Chase Creek Street business district. They should be operational upon completion of the paving project.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:26 p.m.

Approved:

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Luis Montoya, Mayor

Attest:

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Esperanza Castaneda, Town Clerk