

**Minutes
Town of Clifton
Town Council – Work Session
September 24, 2019
10:00 A.M.**

Members Present

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

*Excused

A quorum was present

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:04 am by Mayor Luis Montoya followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Work Session:

Discussion regarding amending the Town’s wastewater ordinance related to mandating the installation of grease interceptors for commercial users: Chad Crockett of Bowman Engineering began the discussion with a brief introduction. He explained how Public Works director Jerry Valenzuela had approached him for solutions in regards to the frequent mechanical issues with the pumps at the Town’s Lift Stations. Jerry was looking at chemical breakdown or grinder pump solutions at the Lift Stations around Town. Chad helped them to analyze the cause of the problems and helped to determine that the high grease levels from restaurants are straining the lift stations. Chad also showed picture examples of sewer lines that had large amounts of grease build up and discussed the potential damage to our aging sewer lines in addition to the strain on our lift stations and treatment plant. Chad than presented pictures of grease interceptors and explained how they worked. There are generally smaller ones to be installed at restaurants and larger ones to be installed under catch drains at car washes and services stations.

Points of discussions were:

- Cost to businesses and whether it would be a potential hardship that may dissuade possible new businesses
- Briefly went through an example of Safford’s Ordinance in regards to grease interceptors
- Suggested to speak with attorney regarding timeline for compliance of existing facilities and possible ways for Town to ease the burden and/or assist with businesses becoming compliant in the

- event the ordinance is amended and adopted
- It was also mentioned by Chad that there should be a requirement for the Jail to install a grinder pump due to the large amounts of debris going directly to the WWTP from the jail
- Speak with Town Attorney Susan Goodwin for advice/examples of similar ordinances from other towns/cities
- Staff would be directed to comprise a list of businesses that would be affected

Discussion regarding the recruitment process and/or benefits for Town of Clifton Police Academy Cadets:

Mayor Montoya opened discussion with a general explanation for the agenda item. With upcoming increased costs to sending a cadet to the academy and no guarantees that the cadet will stay with the Town after the investment does the Council want to consider an agreement or contract with incoming officers. He explained the Town's current cost/investment into sending a cadet through the academy. The Town has paid the cadet an hourly wage for 40hrs a week while in the academy for approximately 16 weeks as well as paying full health and dental benefits and academy uniform and equipment costs. Up until now we have been sending cadets to S.A.L.E.T.C. for training and it has been at no cost to the town. He turned it over to Chief Negrete who explained in more detail the changes in cost for Cadets to go to Training Academy. The Chief explained that it will now cost \$15,000 to send a cadet to S.A.L.E.T.C. there is another academy available with P.R.P.A that would not cost the town, but does not include housing for the cadet as S.A.L.E.T.C. did in the past.

Points of discussion were:

- What was causing our turnover to begin with? Should the Town focus more on retention of current officers? Higher pay needed? Increase the Police budget?
- Could the Town enter a contract with incoming cadet stating if they leave before a certain amount of time ex. 2 years the cadet may be responsible for a certain portion of the academy costs
- The Town Manager received feedback from the Town Attorney that it is legal to create such a contract, but not advisable by most Towns/Cities
- Discussion of pros and cons of said contract
- The Town Manager, Town Clerk, and Police Chief will meet to discuss revisions to the Police Policy for the Council's review

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:49 a.m.