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“The views that I am expressing are my personal opinions and not necessarily the opinions or positions of the city of Sedona or Sedona City Council. My highlights are not intended to be all inclusive - the public record is the final authority.”

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!! I hope everyone is staying warm and has had a great kickoff to the new year. See the information at the end of this newsletter about the 'Community Pulse' event happening **this coming Tuesday (1/8)**.

I am working on a Facebook page that may end up replacing this newsletter. Communication will be more real-time and better organized. In the interim I will still be using the distribution list from the campaign and people can still subscribe or un-subscribe as they see fit.

Transparent, civil communication is critical for our community. I am sharing information that is already publicly available either through the city website or other public meetings. If you choose not to attend the various city council meetings you can review the live and/or previously taped video and audio of the various City Council+ sessions. This is where you will get the detail and see/hear who said what.

**<http://www.sedonaaz.gov/your-government/council-commissions-committees-boards/meetings-video-audio>**

Highlights Since My Last Newsletter

11-27-2018 30 Year Birthday Party – We celebrated our 30 years since incorporation birthday. There were quite a number of citizens at the get together and several 30+ year residents spoke sharing great stories across many subject areas.

11-27-2018 City Council Regular Session

1. Reviewed and approved our ‘consolidated fee schedule’ – several changes were made as part of this required annual review.
2. Reviewed and approved ‘business license code’ change to align with the state of Arizona statute regarding residential rentals.

11-28-2018 City Council – Special Session - The entire session was focused on discussing the Sustainable Tourism study. This was the first of a series of city council public discussions on the sustainable tourism topic. These sessions have run ~3.5 hours each. If you have the interest and the time check out the videos.

12-5-2018, 12-6-2018 Arizona League of Cities and Towns – I went down to Phoenix and participated in a series of presentations over a day and a half for newly elected Arizona city officials. There were over 120 elected officials there from all over Arizona. The topics covered included; Arizona Government 101, Council/Manager Form of Government, the Budget Process, Leadership as Mayor or Councilmember, Public Service Ethics, Open Meeting Law, and Public Engagement. These sessions were extremely valuable and I will use much of what I learned. I also met several newly elected officials from Flagstaff and Cottonwood.

12-11-2018 City Council Regular Session

1. Approved IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) with Coconino County allowing us to receive ~\$400,000 of county resources to help fund Juniper Hills stormwater management work. This work is in line with expectations set as part of Sedona's 2005 Stormwater Management plan.
2. Discussed portions of the SIM PROGRAM to include the proposed Forest Road / 89A connection, Bicycle/walkability Master Plan, and Bypass Lanes.
3. Small Grant Process discussion; council agreed to maintain the 501C requirement, and to maintain the minimum 3 member Board of Directors requirement.
4. Authorized the approval of Midstate Energy contract which replaces specific existing dated infrastructure with new more energy efficient technology;
 - a. In specific areas replace existing lights with new lights (int, ext), & HVAC. Note: external lights are International Dark Sky compliant
 - b. The required investment is offset by forecasted energy cost savings.
 - c. Finance the investment required vs. pay cash topic – Council decided to proceed with financing the project but agreed to review the value of continuing to finance or to pay off (without penalty) as part of future budget discussions.

12-12-2018 City Council Executive Session (not open to the public) - Discussion/consultation with legal counsel to consider the City's position and instruct the City Attorney regarding the impact of Proposition 126 [Prohibit New or Increased Taxes on Services Initiative], passed by Arizona voters on November 6, 2018, and the possible need for legal action. This matter is [was] brought in executive session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) & (4).

12-12-2018 City Council Special Session - Entire session was focused on discussing the Sustainable Tourism study.

****Upcoming Events****

1. January 8, 2019 8a-930a (Next Tuesday!) – Community Pulse event. The Sedona Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau invites residents and business owners to the Community Pulse event Jan. 8, 8-9:30 a.m., at the Sedona Rouge Hotel & Spa, 2250 W. State Route 89A. The Community Pulse, presented by APS, is a free biannual educational and networking event meant to inform and engage on important topics and issues. The event is produced in partnership with the city of Sedona and Sedona Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau. The agenda includes; Sustainable Tourism Plan Update by Jennifer Wesselhoff, President/CEO, SCC&TB, Sedona In Motion Update by Andy Dickey, Director of Public Works/City Engineer, City of Sedona, Winter Marketing Plan by Michelle Conway, Director of Marketing, SCC&TB, Sedona Land Development Code by Mike Raber, Senior Planner, Long Range Planning, City of Sedona, Small business assistance and the VVREO loan program by Molly Spangler, Economic Development Director, City of Sedona. To learn more or to RSVP visit <https://sedonachamber.com/chamber-events/> or call 928.204.1123.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please send me a note @ wchisholm@sedonaaz.gov