

**MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN OF SNOWFLAKE
HELD 03/12/2013**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL at 7:01 p.m.

Mayor Kelly Willis, Vice Mayor Jason Whiting, Chris Brimhall, Kerry Ballard, Stuart Hensley, Tom Poscharsky—Bev Kay STAFF: Paul Watson, Bob Hall, Katie Melser, Pat Hancock, Jerry Van Winkle, Officer Russell Sipes

2. PRAYER/PLEDGE Chris/Kerry

3. MAYOR'S PROCLAMATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Recognition of Fire Chief Pat Hancock for Reappointment to Arizona Public Safety Communications Advisory Commission.

Presentation of Certificate of Completion for NATC 1403/Burn Towner/Flash Chamber Live Fire Instructor Training to Fire Chief Pat Hancock

-The mayor read the recognition letter from Ken Bennett and then presented Pat with the certificate.

Recognition of DARE Contributors by Police Chief Jerry Van Winkle- School Resource Officer (Sipes) 2nd year as DARE officer.

-He enjoys the DARE program in the communities. The kids had great ideas to make the dare vehicle new and exciting. Glen Stuart did the airbrush work on the dare car. Businesses in town were approached about helping with the work on the car. Napa (\$1000); Hall's Body Shop (fixed it above and beyond); Robb Hatch (Hatch Motor) parts free of charge; SHS kids and faculty helped with the car in their shop; Computer Tech (really cool lights); Haralson Tire (20" \$3000 wheels and tires high speed rated); All Shade Tinting (all the tinting free of charge). DARE is a positive impact on everyone in the community.

4. CALL TO PUBLIC

No comments from public

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Council meeting minutes dated 02/26/2013.

B. Approval of Invoices from Emmett Engineering for months of December 2012 & January 2013.

Motion by Ballard, 2nd by Brimhall, to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed; unanimous

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Approve Resolution No. 13-01 Submission of projects for consideration in Arizona's 2014 Highway Safety Plan. (Jerry Van Winkle)

Jerry- This is equipment that helps with DUI details. Kerry- Radar trailer is only speed, not photo? Jerry- That is correct.

Motion by Poscharsky, 2nd by Whiting, to approve Resolution No. 13-01. Motion passed; unanimous

B. Approve Appointments of Greg Brimhall & Robb Hatch to the Fire Department Review Committee. (Pat Hancock)

Read letter from Tim Trout about the committee. Pat pointed out that Joe Bjornn is also on committee; sorry he was omitted from the list. Committee members stood and were introduced.

Motion by Whiting, 2nd by Hensley, to approve the recommendations of Greg Brimhall and Robb Hatch to serve on the Fire Department Review Committee. Motion passed; unanimous

C. Report by Fire Department Review Committee. (Pat Hancock)

A report is included in the council packet. Taylor Fire Chief Burden is also in attendance, and Chief Hancock welcomed him. Pat turned the time over to Terril Kay for the report presentation. Kay gave appreciation to members and support staff. Personal preference of Mr. Kay is that of going to a district. There are many great ideas that they have and they have already put in a lot of time and are looking for some direction on what to do. The committee is dedicated to making this happen and get the people on board. The Town of Snowflake has not been the driving force in pursuing the ambulance. The committee was insistent and asked for the information on being able to run an ambulance. The committee thinks the town needs to move forward. Mayor asked about having Taylor in the fire district. Terril- the number one goal would be to combine the towns into a district. The focus right now is to keep the process separate so one community is not held back by the other. 9 months ago if you asked him about this he would have been strongly opposed to it, but now he sees that this is the only option to help relieve the town of budget issues and help the fire department run within a more reasonable budget. Mayor- is the district the consensus of the committee? The benefits of going to the district are driving most of the committee in that direction. Jason asked about the profitability of an ambulance service and was told there are many factors but they are generally profitable. He then asked if the committee is suggesting that there would be 2 separate ambulance services. Terril would prefer a combined district but if that is not possible, to create their own ambulance service (details would have to be worked out). Mayor asked Clint Burden if Taylor has considered this as an option. He believes it would be advantageous to have the towns combined in one district. Chris- there is a lot of expense to create an ambulance and he really doesn't think that having two separate ambulance services would be profitable or cost effective. Terril pointed out that nothing is in stone and they are looking for guidance. Competing with Taylor isn't the goal, they want to combine. If combining isn't possible Snowflake has to look at all the options and what it will take to build a lasting department. He would like Taylor to come to the table and have discussions with Snowflake. Contracts need to be revisited and see where things can go. Chris would like to send it in a different direction- he would like to keep the ambulance out of it other than maybe sharing profits (if any). Jason- obviously the best option is to work together. We need to look at everything (like Chris said) including revenue and cost, not just how to get revenue. Mayor- The committee has to be the work horses, to bring to the table the facts and figures and as a consensus what the committee wants to do. The Mayor appreciates Terril's attitude, saying we can do it means a lot. What kind of revenues does the committee feel like the town needs and how can we get there? They need more solid information, with facts and figures- probably a power point

giving an outline. Paul- Needs are dependant on the level of service that is trying to be performed. To operate at the level that would be acceptable they would like to operate at \$900,000.00 a year. He would drop it to below \$500,000.00 based on how the town operates. Chris- you need to be able to show the community how going to the district will be better for them, even if there are higher taxes. Otherwise you won't be able to get the community on board. Jason- in regards to ISO, there is no funding being given to the department by the council in their budget so something has to change to keep ISO ratings down or steady. Kerry- the committee has come together and learned a tremendous amount and would like to do what is best for the community. Terril- Asked that the council recognize the issue and give approval to form a truly conservative district and focus on the least amount of tax rate that the community can stand. The Mayor would like to add that the town would desperately like Taylor to come together with us and work together, having input and help from Taylor. It would only benefit both communities to work together on this. Tom- there needs to be discussions, Mayor to Mayor; Manager to Manager; Council to Council. The Mayor feels that something does need to be done, and this committee can do it. The mechanism needs to be found to get the right message to the people about the positives of change in the department.

Paul- A letter needs to be drafted (signed by the Mayor) to Taylor discussing what has been done and asking for them to participate in moving forward.

- on a one to one basis have conversations with those from Taylor to bring us together.

- the committee has done much more than he expected- we may need to spend some money to have a consultant do the detailed research that is required to get all the facts and best information possible. Before any firm decisions are made about anything- expertise will be key. Joseph de Wolfe (has already been working with the committee) is worth the money for his experience.

The council feels strongly that the committee should move forward with the things Paul has outlined, with support and thanks to the work that has already been done. Working with Taylor should also be a priority.

7. COUNCIL MEMBER'S SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Tom- good news from Snowflake Power that it has been sold and it should be able to continue to operate without interruption. Passport shows that they may have 3 times the number of employment than they expected.

Chris- thanks to the committee.

Mayor- I don't think people of the community knows to the full extent what goes on in the town and what it takes to run it. Everyone works hard and Paul works hard on every issue to keep the community vital. This council is a great group.

8. MANAGER'S SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS AND REPORT

- Been awarded a PARA grant to do a transportation study (industrial area) 21st march at 1:00pm in the council room is the next session to discuss it.
- Economically the apache railway is a major issue right now; many things are being done to keep it a viable operation.

- It is budget time; budget calendar will be brought to council at the next meeting. At first glance it looks like it will be pretty much flat, in years past we have been cutting so staying the same is nice.
- The council is good and works well together; there is diversity and expresses different opinions but works through things together. The staff is great and works hard despite little reward if any for the last 5 years. They recognize the community needs and try to address them.

9. ADJOURNMENT at 8:43 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Town of Snowflake Council meeting held February 26, 2013. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Barbara Flake, Town Clerk