

**MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION & REGULAR MEETING  
TOWN OF SNOWFLAKE  
HELD 01/14/2014**

**WORK SESSION**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL** At 6:05 p.m.

.Mayor Kelly Willis, Vice Mayor Jason Whiting, Bev Kay, Tom Poscharsky, Stuart Hensley, Lynn Johnson, Kerry Ballard STAFF: Paul Watson, Bob Hall, Brian Richards, Barbara Flake, Terry Cooper, Jerry Van Winkle, Pat Hancock, Don Camacho, Steve Schneider, Dale Call

**2. Town Goals for 2014**

Watson told Council that this is their time to talk regarding what they want to see accomplished this year. Staff prepared highlights of 2013 and goals for 2014 are included in Council packets. Watson said that revenue from local sales tax is down from last year and state shared revenues are slightly above last year. He said the Town is on budget. He said the State is starting to see a turnaround but the local level has not turn the corner so the Town will still be very conservative financially until see new industry.

Comments from Council:

- Poscharsky—Pro Build is going out of business and the area is feeling the effect of Catalyst leaving. Focus should be on economic development and bringing in jobs is even more important. Contact businesses that are employing people offering to help if needed and letting them know that they are appreciated. Spend 70% of manager's time and volunteers' time on economic development. Also need to protect right-of-ways.
- Willis—Does the pothole machine run in the winter?
- Cooper—It does and call can be forwarded to Public Works.
- Willis—Received complaint about Freeman Hollow Road.
- Cooper—It is planned to do 1 ½" overlay over the next few years.
- Willis—Where is the work at on the 7<sup>th</sup> South Project?
- Watson—The latest engineer's estimate is \$200,000 over budget so looking at cutting the width of the road and the type of ribbon curb and eliminating the Centennial Road part of the project to get back in budget.
- Ballard—Agrees with Poscharsky regarding needing to get businesses here. Still need to keep the Town looking nice so people live here.
- Watson—It is a challenge with the capital assets falling apart for Recreation and Parks Department to do all that is necessary.
- Willis—Is there money for capital assets?
- Watson—Police have acquired a couple of new police cars. Public Works is looking for approval to purchase a new pick-up and then will hand down an old pick-up to Recreation and Parks. It is a challenge to keep up and credit should be given to staff and their ability to make do with what other departments throw away.
- Willis—Would like to see working on roads as a priority. Appreciates what staff is doing.

- Watson—Staff is cognizant and doing the best they can. There is frustration with equipment in Recreation and Parks, Golf, Police, and Fire. It is one thing to make do but it is another to create unsafe issues and they will be worked on.
- Whiting—It is good to talk but even better to continue by creating concise goals. Let's have a retreat with the department heads to present 2014 goals and discuss what is wanted.
- Willis—Someone suggested hiring a person specifically for economic development for the 2 communities.
- Watson—Real AZ represents Apache and Navajo Counties have been working to get someone on board to work on economic development daily and thanks to Navajo County it has been accomplished with Hunter Moore filling that position. We meet often and work closely together. He will be a representative that will be an asset to the Town. Rob Emmett is retiring and in discussing future engineering needs and economic development, it was noted that the Town needs to have infrastructure and designated zoning so the pieces are in place for development. Working on a position to help accomplish this.
- Kay—Still have a desire to see what the 2 communities can do together, see where expenses can be cut and revenues can grow, and see if it is possible to combine departments even though consolidation was voted down. It is good that Mayors are visiting more, Councilmembers are more congenial, and managers are together more.
- Watson—There are meetings with the current management of both towns.
- Willis—Snowflake is wonderful place to live. Appreciate Poscharsky's efforts and Kay's comments regarding working together.
- Whiting—What is the progress on providing information on how to form a road district? Let's take the information to community areas where it is needed. What are we doing regarding the maintenance of roads? Let's evaluate economic development goals with the economic development committee. Where are we at with the corridor? What are the plans for the pool? What are the plans for a fire district?
- Watson—A retreat is needed. Would appreciate Councilmembers providing 2 or 3 top priorities and then a 1-day retreat will be planned. A joint meeting with Taylor is being planned regarding the Fire Department. The more Councils work together the better it is for staff. Regional dispatch is close and will be better for health and safety.
- Willis—Thanked staff for what they do with what they have.
- Watson—Asked Council to email 2 or 3 top priorities to him by Monday.
- Ballard—Appreciates work days with departments.
- Watson—Planning some community work days.
- Willis—Encourage people to keep up their property and it will make us feel like we are doing something.
- Watson—A retreat will be held Tuesday, Feb 4<sup>th</sup>, 3 to 9 p.m.

### 3. ADJOURNMENT At 7:07 p.m.

## **REGULAR SESSION**

### **1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL** At 7:10 p.m.

.Mayor Kelly Willis, Vice Mayor Jason Whiting, Bev Kay, Tom Poscharsky, Stuart Hensley, Lynn Johnson, Kerry Ballard STAFF: Paul Watson, Bob Hall, Brian Richards, Barbara Flake, Terry Cooper, Jerry Van Winkle, Pat Hancock, Don Camacho, Steve Schneider, Dale Call

### **2. PRAYER/PLEDGE** Ballard/Johnson

### **3. MAYOR'S PROCLAMATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

### **4. CALL TO PUBLIC**

Lowry Flake asked Council to remember when dealing with issues that strengthening the family is important. He said that we as a people need to return to God and he is grateful that Council meetings are opened with prayer. He said our very foundation is based on God. He encouraged Council to pay attention to the constitutional government.

### **5. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of Council meeting minutes dated 12/10/2013.
- B. Approval of Invoice from Emmett Engineering, LLC dated December 2013.
- C. Approval of Invoice from Brown & Brown Law Offices dated December 2013.
- D. Approval of Invoice from Jackson/Lewis Attorneys at Law dated November 2013.
- E. Approval of Invoice from Robert M. Hall, P.C. for months of July-Sept 2013.

***Motion by Ballard, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hensley, to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed; unanimous***

### **6. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

A. Discussion & Possible Action regarding Closing of the Snowflake Swimming Pool. (Don Camacho)

Camacho said the pool roof needs replacement and all of its operating systems will need replacement in the future. He said there is further evidence of the severity of the roof failure with a large crack in a beam located at the southwest end of the pool. He said the beam is sagging and mold is showing in the same area. He gave Council the following information regarding the future possible actions for the pool:

New Facility

#### 1. Facility Construction

- Cost--\$3,000,000
- Debt Service--\$200,000 per year
- Average Assessed Value (83,000)--\$50 per year

#### 2. Operate/Maintenance Year-round

- Personnel--\$249,400
- Operating Expenditures--\$138,000
- Revenue--\$94,800

- General Fund Subsidy--\$292,600
3. Operate/Maintenance 2 months full program/2 months lap swim, etc.
- Personnel--\$35,000
  - Operating Expenditures--\$30,000
  - Revenue--\$35,000
  - General Fund Subsidy--\$30,000

#### Roof Replacement

1. Construction
- Cost--\$100,000
2. Operate/Maintenance 2 months full program/2 months lap swim, etc.
- Personnel--\$35,000
  - Operating Expenditures--\$25,000
  - Revenue--\$30,000
  - General Fund Subsidy--\$30,000

#### Alternative Funding

1. \$100,000 Tax Levy
- Average Assessed Value (\$83,000--\$26.19 per year
2. \$50,000 Tax Levy
- Average Assessed Value (83,000)--\$13.10 per year

Watson said these are estimates of the costs. He said all of the consultants are saying the facility is unsafe. The pool and building is 40 years old and has not been well-maintained and funds have not been set aside to maintain along the way. He said the Town of Eagar closed their pool after ADEQ evaluated the facility and said it was unsafe. He said the condition of the Snowflake Pool including exposed mold is unsafe and as the pool exists now it needs to be closed. He listed the 3 alternatives for the future: no pool, fix the facility at a cost of \$1,000,000, or build a new facility at a cost of \$3,000,000. He said it is the recommendation of staff that the pool needs to be closed based on the safety factor and then thought given about what to do for the future of the pool.

#### Comments from Council and staff:

- Willis—Did the engineer that visited the pool say it was in good shape?
- Camacho—The engineer was surprised that there were no cracks in the pool. Pipes are rusted under the pool but the structure is not moving and cracking. New pipes and a new pool built into the existing pool is necessary.
- Ballard—Would it cut costs if a new pool was built to handle solar?
- Hensley—The condition of the pool was discussed in a work session. Boilers have not had maintenance in 40 years. If roof is pulled off and problems are found in the walls there could be additional costs.
- Johnson—Thought that a feeler was going to be put out on the utility bill to see if citizens would support a bond for a new facility.
- Watson—Timing is everything and a decision was made to wait based on the failure of bond elections. Does Council want to send out a survey now?

- Poscharsky—It seems that the pool is used by both communities and if a new pool is being looked at then our neighbor community should look at it as well.
- Johnson—Good stats have been provided. In looking at the general budget, the Town subsidizes recreation and parks, library, golf course, but not the pool. The facility accommodates a need in the community and all subsidies to departments should be looked at with the same scrutiny. Still feel that this should be taken to the people and maybe they will want to step up and support the pool.
- Camacho—Can't compare the pool to recreation and parks. It is thousands that go to parks and participate in all the recreation activities.
- Hall—Shocked at the structural damage and the roof has to be addressed or there is obvious liability. It is irresponsible to open the pool until the roof is structural.
- Whiting—Feel people should be a part of the process regarding future of the pool.
- Johnson—Don't have a choice regarding closing of the pool. The pool is a valuable resource to say that it is not needed anymore.
- Watson—Community needs to be involved. Timing is important and a bigger retailer just closed.
- Kay—Does Town have the income to support a new facility? Do we put on the same burden as the golf course and library? Would we want to make a new facility available to the community all year if spending that amount of money to build the facility?
- Whiting—If people want to build the facility then the Town could maintain for 2 months and explore anything further.
- Willis—People look at what a community has to offer. We need to talk with our neighbor to the south to see how to make it better—new roof and then fix whatever happens next.
- Watson—The cost to bring the pool up to standard is \$1,000,000.
- Willis—The cost to address the safety is \$100,000 for the roof.
- Kay—How old is the estimate received for roof repair? If it is necessary to do repairs under the roof there will be more costs.
- Watson—Community fundraising has not been enough. Money was donated from the Triathlon events but the Town also contributed to these events. What does Council want in the survey—outdoor pool/\$500,000; indoor renovated pool/\$1,000,000; new pool/\$3,000,000?
- Willis—Show the options and costs.
- Whiting—A committee of concerned citizens should be created to work with the Town on how to present this to the community.
- Why doesn't the school district and the Town of Taylor participate?

***Motion by Johnson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Poscharsky, to close the pool for the safety of the public due to the condition of the building. Motion passed; unanimous***

B. Discussion of Groundhog Breakfast. (Pat Hancock)

Hancock said the Groundhog Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, Feb 1<sup>st</sup>. He asked Council to serve the breakfast beginning at 5 a.m. He said the Police Department would

make the biscuits and the Barry Flake family would make the gravy. A request for the donation of the sausage has been made to PFFJ.

C. Consideration & Possible Approval of Letter of Support for Nature Sweet. (Paul Watson)

Watson explained that NatureSweet acquired the tomato facility from Eurofresh and has a desire to bring tomato plantlets from Mexico to be more profitable. NatureSweet currently has to bring the plantlets from Canada.

***Motion by Poscharsky, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kay, to approve a letter of support for NatureSweet. Motion passed; unanimous***

D. Consideration & Possible Approval of Resolution No. 14-01 Urging Arizona Legislature to Discontinue Sweeps of HURF and Restore Funding to Pre-Sweep Levels. (Paul Watson)

Watson said that this resolution is to urge the Legislature to stop taking HURF monies. He said these monies support the Town's road work.

***Motion by Willis, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Johnson, to approve Resolution No. 14-01. Motion passed; unanimous***

E. Consideration & Possible Approval of Purchase of Vehicle for Public Works. (Terry Cooper)

Cooper said the Public Works Department is seeking to replace the pick-up driven by the Wastewater Supervisor. He said several factors necessitate the need for the replacement; such as, increased age of the vehicle and the entire Public Works fleet, increased maintenance costs, and increased travel needs of the Sewer Division. He said staff requested bids from local area dealerships for a 2014 ½ ton, VH 6, 4-wheel drive pick-up. Cooper shared the bid information:

- The lowest bidder was \$21,293.61.
- The next lowest bid was the local dealership, Hatch Motor Company—Snowflake, at \$23,227.12 which also includes two years of scheduled maintenance as well as a more convenient location for any needed warranty work and local taxes stay in the community.
- Two other bids were \$26,184 and \$27,377.
- The fifth bid request was non-responsive.

Cooper said staff recommends the purchase of the 2014 Ram 1500 Tradesman/Express from Hatch Motor Company—Snowflake for an amount not to exceed \$23,227.12.

***Motion by Willis, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Poscharsky, to approve purchase of 2014 Dodge Ram 1500 Tradesman/Express from Hatch Motor Company—Snowflake for an amount not to exceed \$23,227.12. Motion passed; unanimous***

F. Presentation of 2014 Election Calendar. (Barbara Flake)

Flake said the Town will hold a Fall Election this year. She said the Primary Election will be held August 26, 2014 and if needed, a General Election will be held November 4,

2014. She said the packets for the Office of Mayor and 2 Council Seats will be available April 28, 2014. It is the intent of the Town to contract with Navajo County to conduct the elections.

**7. COUNCIL MEMBER'S SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS**

No comments

**8. MANAGER'S SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS AND REPORT**

Watson said we are poised for industry that will be significant and help in the economic turnaround.

**9. ADJOURNMENT** At 8:30 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Town of Snowflake Council meeting and Work Session held January 14, 2014. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

---

Barbara Flake, Town Clerk