

**MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN OF SNOWFLAKE
HELD 04/08/2014**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Kelly Willis, Vice Mayor Jason Whiting, Kerry Ballard, Lynn Johnson, Stuart Hensley—excused, Tom Poscharsky, Bev Kay STAFF: Paul Watson, Bob Hall, Barbara Flake, Terry Cooper, Brian Richards, Don Camacho, Jerry Van Winkle, Cathie McDowell

2. PRAYER/PLEDGE Poscharsky/Kay

3. MAYOR’S PROCLAMATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation to Council Member Tom Poscharsky
Proclamation “Arbor Day 2014”*

Mayor Willis offered condolences to the families of the young boys that were involved in a car accident this week.

Tom Poscharsky was recognized for the Certificate of Appreciation he received at the Little Colorado River Plateau Resource Conservation & Development 7th Annual Winter Watershed Conference. Poscharsky said that the organization is looking at snow enhancement and cloud seeding this next year.

Ballard read the “Arbor Day 2014” Proclamation. Camacho stated that the Town Arbor Day Celebration will be Saturday, April 26th, at 9 a.m., when 3 trees will be planted at the Snowflake Academy Building. He said there will be handouts and questions answered relating to tree subjects. Bruce Mighton, Town Arborist, and Kerry Ballard will travel to Phoenix to receive the Town’s 15 Year Award as a “Tree City”.

4. CALL TO PUBLIC

Camacho announced the Town Easter Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, April 19th, at 10 a.m., at the Snowflake Golf Course. He said several thousand eggs have been donated for the egg hunt and there will be a total of 250 prize eggs. He said there will be a bicycle prize for each age group. Mayor Willis thanked Ed’s IGA and Ace Hardware for their donations

Jarom Hatch thanked Brian Richards for providing him the budget for the Town. He said he is focusing on the HURF monies. He stated that the Town of Snowflake received HURF monies in the amount \$560,451 in 2012 and \$614,347 in 2013. Hatch said he has had a hard time noticing \$1.1 million worth of improvements on the streets. He said that in his opinion the dollars are being wasted and misappropriated. He said that instead of choosing to find free market solutions for worsening road conditions, the Town of Snowflake has chosen to follow a course like the federal government by growing the size and scope of government. He said the Town has used their funds to compete against the private sector that provides the funds. He said a free market solution would be to give out half million dollar contracts each year to do over 2 miles of roadway. He said he does not see any roadway being re-done properly. He said with a \$600,000 budget \$100,000

would be left to maintain over a million to a half-million square feet of asphalt depending on the process done. He said that in 2 weeks a contract company would be able to perform all the work with high quality and warranty. He said the Town has chosen to pay 52 weeks of wages rather than improve streets. Hatch appealed to the Council to begin using the HURF monies the way it should be used and to stop creating a bureaucracy and open up road work for contractors to bid. He said his small company in 2012 did 12% in public works and in 2013 it dropped to 4%. He said that Sunland is the company that paved the roadway from the cuts in Shumway into town which totaled approximately 9 miles at 48 feet wide (2.2 million sq ft of asphalt) and it was done in good time. He said the contract was for \$5 million. He said that Sunland does 50% of revenue work in public works. He said that the entire area starting with municipalities, Navajo County and the State are socializing road construction and maintenance at an alarming rate and failing miserably. He said the trend must change because taxpayer money is not resulting in nice drivable road services but is being wasted in the quest for more government.

Watson stated that staff will research the facts and figures and bring the information back to Council to address the criticism.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Council Meeting minutes dated 03/25/2014.

B. Approval of Invoice from Emmett Engineering dated February 2014

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

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Presentation regarding Bullying of students in our Community—Michael Bethea. (Paul Watson)

Bethea, an employee of Community Counseling, stated that the issue of bullying has come up through talking with parents and teen groups. He said he met with school principals yesterday and it was recognized that a good job is done with 5th and 6th grades but setting up programs for the younger grades is needed. Bethea said that the general feeling is that no one cares or is supportive and that the Town Council is for a few select members of the community. He said he volunteered to bring community awareness to the issue of bullying. Whiting asked how these people felt when speaking with Council Members. Bethea explained that no one has spoken with Council Members but that it is a general feeling. He said some families have pulled their children from the schools. Whiting asked if Bethea had any solutions. Bethea said from meeting with principals and administration he learned that the school policy allows for self-defense. He informed the teen group who were not aware that the policy allows for self-defense. He said that the Community Counseling Centers sponsors a suicide prevention week annually in October and will be increasing the anti-bullying portion of the education this year.

Van Winkle stated that the Snowflake-Taylor Police Department has a Resource Officer that teaches an anti-bullying curriculum in grades 5 and 6. He said he would be glad to look at expanding the program. He said the department has not received calls from parents regarding bullying but any bullying is a problem. He suggested that this issue be

brought to the Community Values Committee because it is a community problem that can become a law enforcement problem.

Alan Flake, resident of Taylor, explained the problems his children have had riding the school bus and being bullied. He said his daughter's situation was handled by the principal last year. He said that 90% of the bullying is from high school students and he is now driving his children to school. Another citizen complained of their child being hit on the playground and the child could not find a Teacher's Aide to report the incident. She said the principal of Highland Primary has been great to address the issue but then the same issue has to be addressed repeatedly. She wants her child to have a better experience in school.

Carl Cosper, Town of Taylor Council Member, said there seems to be a communication problem. He said that some problems have been looked into and are thought to be solved when comments are not received to say that they are not solved. He said the Town of Taylor is supportive of the schools and the kids.

Watson said this is an issue that all need to be aware of to be able to help. He said the Town of Snowflake has passed a resolution regarding being an anti-drug and anti-bullying community. Ballard said that bullying is something for school staff to be trained to handle. Alan Flake stated that the principal has been on top of the problem but there is trouble on the buses. He said that he hears announcements on the radio regarding Apache County's contests to prevent bullying but does not hear anything from Navajo County. Mayor Willis thanked everyone for making the Council aware of the problems so they can make those they are in contact with aware for the prevention of bullying. Poscharsky recommended contacting Gayle DeCross with Navajo County to discuss this issue.

B. Consideration & Possible Approval of Resolution No. 14-09 Call to Election.
(Barbara Flake)

Flake said that Resolution No. 14-09 designates August 26, 2014 as the date for the Primary Election and the last day to register to vote is July 28, 2014. The location to vote is the Social Hall, 78 West Center, Snowflake, Arizona. Navajo County will be conducting the election.

Motion by Poscharsky, 2nd by Ballard, to approve Resolution No. 14-09 Call the Election for Mayor and 2 Council Members. Motion passed; unanimous

C. Presentation of Financial Quarterly Update. (Brian Richards)
Richards gave a review of the current year and prior year revenues and expenditures.
Highlights given:

- City Sales Tax down \$41,000
- Building Permits down \$21,000
- State Shared Revenues up roughly 7% and will be up 7% next budget year
- Received \$365,000 through FEMA grant for new fire truck
- Expenditures in line with last year
- Jail Fees are lower

- Police Department purchased 2 new vehicles
- Community Improvement capital outlay higher this year
- Attorney fees were higher in prior year due to working with Apache RR issues
- Individual departments were reviewed
 - Expenditures have exceeded revenues—waiting for CDBG reimbursement and flood control monies
 - HURF monies are up \$27,000
 - HURF is gas tax monies collected each month and are a part of State Shared Revenues calculated by formula
 - HURF monies are used only on transportation
 - Auditor affirms that HURF monies are used properly and a report is sent to the State stating that the monies are used according to State law
 - HURF restoration bill passed in State Legislature
 - Metered Water Sales down slightly—usage down
 - Water Well was rehabbed and vac truck purchased
 - Adjustment to water rates will be made based on the new capital plan for water
 - Sewer rates are adequate now—raised rates in 2004 to effectively use capacity of the sewer plant over the life of the plant
 - Looking into the Golf Course numbers to find strategy to bring them up

Richards reviewed the Budget Calendar for FY 2014-15.

Watson said the economy is beginning to bounce back which is evident in the State but not yet in Snowflake. He said the priority for Snowflake is to do what can be done to get industry back. He said there is a need to take a serious look at the golf course—use is down and member fees are down. Kay asked why revenues at the golf course are going down but expenses are going up. Richards said utility rates go up when more water is pumped to the course because of no rain. He said staff is aware of the challenges and is bringing the information to the attention of Council. Whiting thanked Richards for the information and preparation. Kay asked if a comparison can be done between staff doing roads and with outside people doing roads. Richards said he did not think the Town is out of line with what other towns and cities do and the percentage of salaries paid would be the same. Kay said she received a complaint that untrained people are used and the proper equipment is not being used. Watson said he takes offense to that and that the Town does contract out some services. Poscharsky said it was good to be given budget information.

D. Presentation of Goals of Public Works for FY 2014-15. (Terry Cooper)
Cooper reviewed the goals of the Public Works Department:

ENGINEERING

Streets (HURF) Program

- Second Knolls PARA Transportation Study – Present to Town Council for adoption including recommendations from the Snowflake/Taylor Transportation Plan. For inclusion in General Plan

- 7th Street South, East of Centennial Rd to Jake Flake Crossing, NACOG/Federal Aid Project – Assist ADOT consultant to finalize plans and bid package; construction start scheduled for fall 2014.
- Submit PARA application for topographic and alignment analysis for northern extension of Freeman Hollow Road

Water

- Well #1 Tank Rehabilitation Project – Complete rehabilitation
- 7th Street South 12-inch Water Line Improvement – Complete design and construct
- 0.3 MG Water Storage Tank at Well #4 – Complete design and construct
- Developed Standard Operating Procedures for On-Line Chlorine Analyzers at well sites

Wastewater

- Sewer Collection System Master Plan – Using existing system analysis finalize plan and provide CIP recommendations

Drainage

- Arizona Department of Water Resources Community Assistance Visit – Continued coordination with ADWR to resolve issues
- High School Football Field Flooding – Work with School District to mitigate flooding
- Drainage Master Plan – Complete by June 30, 2014 the hydrologic and hydraulic analysis to identify non-FEMA floodplains and potential flood hazards

Miscellaneous

- Small Community Environmental Pollution Prevention Plan – Complete plan and submit to ADEQ

WATER – CAPITAL PROJECTS

- Upgrade Well No. 3 Booster Pumps to 30 hp with VFD
- Upgrade Well No. 4 Booster Pumps to 50 hp with VFD
- Install Fire Hydrants downtown (25 missing)
- Complete 12” Water Main Extension from Centennial across Jake Flake Crossing.
- Galvanized & ABS Water Main Replacement in Downtown Area
- Install Missing System Valves for Better System Control

WATER – OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

- Complete Meter Audit and Data Collection – link to GIS
- Exercise 100 Water Valves – link to GIS
- Test all Town-owned backflow devices – link to GIS
- Perform fire flow testing and paint hydrants – link to GIS
- Expand utilization of iWorQ work order system

SEWER – CAPITAL PROJECTS

- Install 4 Omnisite Monitoring Stations for Wastewater Lift Stations:
Savage / College / Turley / Brimhall
- Land Acquisition for College Lift Station Upgrade

- Complete Rehabilitation of Oxidation Ditch No. 1 at WWTP
- Manhole Rehabilitation and Main Line Spot Repairs

SEWER – OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

- Cleaning, Inspection and Data Collection of 6 miles of Sewer Main – link to GIS
- Smoke-test 3 miles of Sewer Main (I & I elimination)
- Install clean-outs as needed
- Utilize iWorQ work order system for documentation and follow-up work

STREETS – CAPITAL PROJECTS

- Surface Treatment Preservation – Scrub Seal approximately 1.5 to 2 miles of roadway
- Downtown Traffic Calming Measures
- Reserve Funds for 1.5-inch overlay on Freeman Hollow
- Purchase Quad-type Vehicle (i.e. Rhino or Gator) for better weed control and also to be used for meter reading (joint purchase with Water Funds)

STREETS – OPERATION & MAINTENANCE

- Continue Spray-Patching applications for pothole maintenance
- Continue Drainage Maintenance
- Continue Unpaved Road Maintenance
- Continue developing more of a pro-active mentality as opposed to reactive to all customer concerns
- Improve response time to utility asphalt repairs

BUILDING & FACILITIES

- Retaining Wall at Post Office

IT / ELECTRICAL

- Convert generators at Well No. 2 and Well No. 4 to automatic transfer.
- Install remote scale readings for chlorine and sulfur dioxide for safety purposes
- Install DO (Dissolved Oxygen) and ORP (Oxidation Reduction Potential) monitors for oxidation ditches at the WWTP

GIS

- Drainage Master Plan
- Landbase Datasets – Easements and Right-of-Ways linked to GIS
- Continue using GIS as a Decision-Making tool and Infrastructure Maintenance Programs

GENERAL

- Create Certification Incentives: ADEQ/ Backflow/ OSHA, etc.

Comments:

Watson said that to help in calming traffic in the downtown area striping could be done for bike paths narrowing the wide roads. He said that the same paths could be used for pedestrians.

Cooper said that Freeman Hollow Road is the focus of new development and an overlay would protect the chip seal that is already there. He said the Town could possibly partner

with the Town of Taylor. He said that slurry was done on the Taylor side and that he will still be contacting the County for help with the project.

Jarom Hatch, resident, said that a minimum of 3” of asphalt should be put down and a fog seal for a nice road that will last 30 years instead of wasting money on a cheap chip seal that does not last. He said he sees administrative costs taking up the monies. He suggested the Town use \$10,000 for administrative costs and then let a contractor use the rest of the monies to do the work.

E. Discussion & Evaluation of Town Manager.*

Watson said that his contract was discussed and renewed at a previous meeting. He said that he would like to discuss the results of the confidential, anonymous survey that he requested department heads and Council to complete regarding his position as Town Manager.

Motion by Ballard, 2nd by Kay, to move to Executive Session. Motion passed; unanimous

Adjourned to Executive Session

Motion by Willis, 2nd by Ballard, to return to Regular Session. Motion passed; unanimous

No official action taken by Council upon returning to Regular Session.

7. COUNCIL MEMBER’S SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Whiting said the Mayor’s and Council Member’s Association meeting is open to all the Council and it is an opportunity to get know other Councils coordinating efforts on a regional level.

Poscharsky said he hopes potash will be revived by the modification to potash with a new company.

Ballard said the Mayor’s and Council Member’s Association meeting was good.

8. MANAGER’S SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS AND REPORT

Watson said the Goldwater Institute is of the mindset to birddog Arizona Commerce Authority by attacking the loan that Arizona Commerce authorized for the Apache Railroad. He said the Institute is not criticizing the Town for going after the loan but is stating that the State did not do it legally.

Watson said a confidentiality agreement has been signed with a company interested in development in the area.

Watson said he met with the new owner of the Catalyst property. He said the business cleans up sites with attention to environmental issues and demolition of materials and they have a 10 month schedule to clean up the site improving some facilities and

demolishing some facilities. He said the company wants to clean up and then work with the Town to get new industry. He said the company has knowledge of green renewable energy and he has helped make connections with Good Earth Power. He said that Apache Rail is accommodating the storage of liquid propane and has offered pricing to the new owner of the Catalyst property to haul material. Good Earth Power has talked with the rail regarding transportation and the 4 FRI is also talking to the rail.

9. ADJOURNMENT at 9:33 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Town of Snowflake Council meeting held April 8, 2014. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Barbara Flake, Town Clerk