

**MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN OF SNOWFLAKE
HELD 10/28/2014**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL at 7:02 p.m.

Mayor Kelly Willis, Vice Mayor Jason Whiting—resigned, Bev Kay, Tom Poscharsky, Stuart Hensley, Lynn Johnson, Kerry Ballard STAFF: Paul Watson, Bob Hall, Barbara Flake, Dale Call, Don Camacho, Bruce Mighton, Reid Bjerkan, Terry Cooper

2. PRAYER/PLEDGE Johnson/Ballard

3. MAYOR’S PROCLAMATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*****Recognition of Retirement of Bruce Mighton, Parks Superintendent*****

Bruce Mighton shared the accomplishments of the Parks Department over the 30.5 years he has worked for the Town of Snowflake. He stated that there have been 6 town managers and 8 mayors during that time. He thanked those who donated time and equipment to town projects which included parks, ball fields, cemetery, and landscaping.

Reid Bjerkan stated that he has worked with Bruce for 26 seasons. He said he was amazed at what Bruce could accomplish with the budget he had to work with. He said that Bruce made a considerable effort to only use the water necessary getting water conservation going in town. He said Bruce is a great welder and made a trailer for the mower from scratch and also made the Christmas tree displayed on the roof of Town Hall. He said Bruce’s legacy is making Snowflake beautiful and green with trees for future generations.

Steve Flake stated that he and his wife Sharla have been friends with Bruce and his wife Dorie for 30 to 40 years and he echoes what has been said. He said that Bruce has put in long hours to make Snowflake beautiful. He said he appreciates what Bruce has done for the community and loves the Mightons.

Kerry Ballard said Bruce was always a tree lover, is an arborist, and worked hard to make the Town a “Tree City”. Ballard said Flake Willis loved trees and would donate money every year to purchase trees and worked with Bruce to pick and plant the trees. He said that Snowflake has been a “Tree City” for the past 15 years and Bruce is known by the board giving that designation. He said Bruce will be missed by his associates. Ballard presented Bruce with a small shovel in memory of helping to plant trees.

Gary Fenstermaker said he worked with Bruce for 15 years and thanked him for his dedication doing projects in the best way going the extra mile. He said Bruce became an arborist and his legacy lives on in the greenery in Snowflake. He applauded his dedication to the citizens. He said he is grateful to know Bruce and he is a friend.

Bruce stated he could not have done the work without his great, hard-working crew (Reid Bjerkan, Jake Carlson, Charlie Schwab, and Kyra Schnell).

Mayor Willis thanked Bruce for his great contribution to Snowflake and presented him with an iPad Air and a plaque in appreciation for his 30 plus years of hard labor in the Town.

****Recognition of Fred Carnahan—911 Ceremonies****

Moved to next meeting

****Recognition of the Arizona Firefighters Collaborative Fund Recommendation and Award of Funds to the Snowflake Fire Department (Funds through APS Grant)****

Moved to next meeting

4. CALL TO PUBLIC No Comments

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Council Meeting minutes dated 10/14/2014.

B. Approval of 2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 14-07 Rezone General Commercial (GC) and Residential 2 acre (R2A) to Residential 1 acre (R1A). Location is 1195 and 1265 South Main Street, Snowflake, Arizona. Owners are Senius Eilertsen and Mark Eilertsen.

C. Approval of 2014/15 Donation to Silver Creek Senior Citizens Center.

D. Approval of Invoice from Brown & Brown Law Offices, P.C. dated 10/14/2014.

E. Approval of Invoices from Emmett Engineering, LLC dated 08/31/2014 & 09/30/2014.

F. Approval of Invoice from Robert M. Hall, P.C. dated 07/30/2014.

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

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Consideration & Possible Acceptance of Letter of Resignation from Town Council by Vice Mayor Jason Whiting. (Paul Watson)

Jason Whiting stated he was appointed to Navajo County Board of Supervisors requiring his resignation from Town Council and his withdrawal from the election for Mayor.

Whiting thanked all the Councils he has worked with and stated that the current Council has been great to work with also. He said he will miss working with Council but is looking forward to working with the Council in a different capacity. He said that he has enjoyed working with staff and recognizes that they get “lambasted” sometimes but work late into the night taking care of services while holding their heads high and recognizing their responsibilities.

Willis thanked Whiting for all he has done with the many committees he has served on and for his great role as a leader in Snowflake. Willis presented Whiting with a plaque in appreciation of his 5 years of service on the Town Council on behalf of the Council and Town of Snowflake and wished him the best of luck in his new challenge.

Motion by Willis, 2nd by Ballard, to approve and accept letter of resignation from Town Council by Vice Mayor Jason Whiting effective October 20, 2014. Motion passed; unanimous

B. Consideration & Possible Approval of Resolution No. 14-15 Authorizing the Procedure to Resolve the Withdrawal of the Sole Candidate for the Office of Mayor in the Primary Election. (Paul Watson)

Watson stated that due to issues with the ballot at the scheduled August 26th Primary Election the Primary Election for the Town of Snowflake was moved to November 4th. He said there are 4 candidates for 2 Council seats and there was 1 candidate for the Mayor seat. He said the 1 candidate for Mayor, Jason Whiting, withdrew from the election and after consulting with legal counsel, other legal experts, and election specialists, and based on that information, staff is asking Council to approve this resolution stating that there will be no candidate on the ballot for the Primary Election or the General Election, if necessary. He said Council will appoint a Mayor for a period of 2 years until the next regularly scheduled election when persons will have the opportunity to run for Mayor for a period of 2 years allowing the Town to get back on the 4 year term election schedule for the Mayor seat.

Motion by Ballard, 2nd by Poscharsky, to approve Resolution No. 14-15 Authorizing the Procedure to Resolve the Withdrawal of the Sole Candidate for the Office of Mayor in the Primary Election. Motion passed; unanimous

Poscharsky read by title only.

C. Discussion regarding Participation in a Regional Geocaching Event. (Paul Watson) Watson explained that the idea of organizing a geocaching event was brought forward at a meeting of the Apache & Navajo Counties Mayors and Councilmembers Association. He said geocaching enthusiasts use GPS coordinates to find caches. He said the concept was presented to the Association with the thought that if the prize was good then there would be news coverage. He said the idea is to have caches in all the communities. Poscharsky said each of the communities would contribute funds of possibly \$6,000 and do the work to hide the caches in their own community. He said the idea was to hold the event for 2 or 3 weeks in the fall or spring. He said there was discussion that the amount of funds could be negotiated. Watson said that there was an organization regarding water rights that has funds that were contributed by all the communities and there was thinking that that money could be used crediting the contributing communities and collecting an additional \$3,000 from each community. Kay suggested looking at something unique to the area as a prize versus an expensive prize. Poscharsky suggested using the "Fire in the Sky" as a draw. He said a meteorite fell near Holbrook. Mayor Willis said staff should look into participating in the event.

D. Consideration & Possible Approval of Council Meeting Dates for the months of November & December 2014. (Paul Watson)

Watson stated that the conflicts for the regularly scheduled Council meetings in November and December are as follows:

- November 11—Veterans Day (Holiday)
- November 25—week of Thanksgiving (Holiday)
- December 23—week of Christmas (Holiday)

The dates of November 18 and December 9 were suggested as the only meetings for the 2 months cancelling the meetings on November 11 and 25 and December 23.

Consensus of Council is to hold 1 meeting in November on the 18th, and to hold 1 meeting in December on the 9th.

7. COUNCIL MEMBER'S SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Ballard said a non-denominational day of prayer will be held on November 2nd at 5 p.m. at Freeman Park.

Ballard said he attended the Community Outreach meeting at Northland Pioneer College. He said they offer 12 credits tuition free to individuals that have not graduated from college and the same offer is made in a fast-track program offered to new high school graduates.

Ballard said Marion Wilhelm is the Chairman of a new Emergency Program offering to help individuals learn about HAM radio operation.

Johnson urged support for the “12 Days of Christmas” organized by the Heritage Committee. He said the event attracts people from other communities and he encouraged support for the Heritage Committee.

Kay announced the “Frontier Lights” will be held on December 8th. She said they are encouraging businesses to decorate a light pole. She said the Chamber of Commerce will be doing their Thanksgiving dinner on November 12th at 11:30 a.m. at the Social Hall.

8. MANAGER'S SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS AND REPORT

Watson said the Raise A Barn project held at the Animal Shelter to clean up the outside area and repair the fence. He said there was a good turn out by staff.

Watson said staff has been charged with looking at how to reduce the subsidy to the golf course. He said a potential management group has looked at the golf course and provided preliminary information. He said Bruce Mighton is retiring and Steve Schneider will be leaving the area which has allowed staff to step back and reevaluate other possible options. He said he will come back in November with recommendations of options to reduce the subsidy to the golf course.

Watson said the current project on Hwy 277 will be done in a week or two and then work will move to the next crossing.

9. ADJOURNMENT at 8:12 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Town of Snowflake Council meeting held October 28, 2014. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Barbara Flake, Town Clerk