

**MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL RETREAT
TOWN OF SNOWFLAKE
HELD 08/05/2015**

ROLL CALL: Mayor Tom Poscharsky, Vice Mayor Kerry Ballard, Lynn Johnson, Stuart Hensley, Byron Lewis, Cory Johnson, Terril Kay **STAFF:** Brian Richards, Barbara Flake, Terry Cooper, Cathie McDowell, Dale Call, Don Camacho

1. Council Goals

Brian Richards gave the following updates:

- Southern Solution—basins complete, Hwy 277 crossings complete and 3 additional crossings will be completed; Reach 3 end at the Industrial Park; Reach 4 will address Brimhall's and getting water to the wash—Kirk Brimhall has solution to take water along Hwy 277 and to the wash; Town will apply for grant to help process
- Northern Solution—FEMA grant in the amount of \$360,000 was applied for and there is good chance Town will get it; will know in November if receiving the grant; met with Naturesweet and the Flakes regarding a channel on the north side of the greenhouse; channel would take the Industrial Park out of the floodplain; Town was close to being under probation with FEMA because so much construction was allowed in the Industrial Park and this will address that issue
- Fire Dept Merger—feel it is going well; Fire Chief Clint Burden is happy with how things are going and with the Assistant Fire Chief, Willie Nelson
- Northern Pioneer College—have met with President Swarhout twice and just waiting to see what will be done; Brian, Gus, Byron will work on a position paper regarding NPC reorganization; Tom wants NPC to know we want more classes in the future and are willing to support changes if administration is coming to the Snowflake Campus; Brian state importance of Council contacting NPC Board members
- Streets and Roads—Pavement Management System is ongoing work
- Police Dept—Robert Martin has served as Interim Police Chief since May 26th; Administrative Committee reviewed applicants and an offer was made to Larry Scarber to fill the position of Police Chief; will start Sept 1st
- Regional Dispatch—ongoing work; consultant recommended software used by Navajo County and Show Low; will have medical capable dispatch; Summit Healthcare has agreed to participate to help keep costs down; possibly ready by July 1, 2016; Town has committed to join regional dispatch
- Apache Railway—should have ruling on Aug 12th regarding Snowflake Community Foundation being able to sell stock to the Little Colorado Watershed District
- Chicken Farm—Our area is the top runner in site selection; Tom said the rail is needed for this industry

Richards presented the following items for discussion:

- **Golf Course**

Ballard—talked with Gene Hall and Larry Brewer and they feel a golf pro is needed to attract more tournaments

Camacho—course looks great; staff has cut down on the number of people not paying to play; clubhouse looks like a professional shop; Lyndsay Lyman has been working with staff on using the Software Program.

Richards showed the last 10 years of financials for the golf course. He said golf play is tied to the economy. He said that he can accept a \$230,000 subsidy after the loan on the last 9 holes is paid off. He said it is important that all pay to play and that there be an increase in membership fees.

Johnson L—try thinking outside the box by letting someone run a tournament for golf and recreation and paying a little to the Town

Kay—at the next meeting Council needs to bring ideas for increasing revenues, making it better, and making it less funded; do not support spending \$2.4 million on golf course

Cooper—members of the Elks Lodge in Show Low held 3 to 4 summer benefit tournaments in Snowflake but when the course condition went down they went to Silver Creek and are now at Bison

Hensley—need to get it to a subsidy (debt) that we can live with

Cooper—need to push the course; let what has been done play out for a while; organize leagues, tournaments, fundraisers

Call—have other activities to bring people, such as, cook-off, bbq competition

Richards—look at now watering as much turf currently being watered; try to bring in more revenue

- **White Mountain Connection**

Richards said the cost to the Town is \$6,000 a year. He said Council will be asked to approve signing an IGA to continue contributing. Johnson C said patients using Summit Healthcare are using the bus service.

- **Water and Sewer Rates**

Richards showed Council the current water rates. He said he would like to phase in a 13% increase. He gave a preliminary recommendation to raise the base rate. He said according to a WIFA cost comparison the Town is not too expensive. There was discussion concerning offering a “fixed income” discount.

- **Planning and Zoning Commission**

The Planning and Zoning Commission is in need of one more Commissioner. Council was informed that 2 individuals have submitted letters of interest.

- **Administration Vehicle**

The current Administration vehicle will be donated to the Senior Center and another vehicle is being researched with Hatch Motors.

Additional Comments:

Richards and Kay feel a splash pad would be good and should be researched.

Cooper said staff has a plan for maintenance and improvements for roads. He asked that Council tell him who is complaining about which roads. He said he only receives a few calls regarding potholes.

Cooper explained the complications with the 7th South ADOT Project. He said the ADOT inspector will only allow what is in the design so the Town's and contractor's hands are tied.

Kay asked what Council can do to understand what the department needs.

Hensley said Council can bring what they hear to staff and ask staff for explanations regarding complaints.

Cooper suggested a work session an hour or two before Council be held on a quarterly basis.

Johnson L suggested that one work session a month should be held with different departments each month

Kay said he would like one department work sessions. He would like an action plan with an end date to be discussed at the work session. He would like streets and roads to be the first work session in October.

There was discussion regarding holding work sessions on the first Wednesday of each month.

2. Committee Assignments

No discussion

Barbara Flake, Town Clerk