



TAYLOR TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday October 1, 2020 7:00 pm

Town Hall
425 Papermill Road
Taylor, Arizona

Mayor
David Smith
Vice-Mayor
Jason Brubaker
Council Members
Bill Baldwin
Sherry Cosper
Fay Hatch
Shawn Palmer
Kyle Peck

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Dave Smith, Vice Mayor Jason Brubaker, Council Members Fay Hatch, Kyle Peck, Bill Baldwin, Sherry Cosper and Shawn Palmer (by telephone)

STAFF PRESENT: Gus Lundberg, Town Manager; Aaron Dunford, Recreation Coordinator; Allen Davis, Planning & Zoning Administrator and Geri Judd, Town Clerk

VISITORS: See list

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Smith

INVOCATION: Offered by Vice Mayor Brubaker

CALL TO THE PUBLIC: Chief Martin reported that Officer Alan DeWitt will be retiring; a farewell lunch will be held October 16th.

Doreen Davis said Saturday December 19th is the National Wreaths Across America Day; wreaths are put on veteran graves; last year was the first year in the Taylor Cemetery; the organization is operated through donations; if Taylor donates the funds stay with the Taylor cemetery and carryover from year to year.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve meeting minutes of September 3, 2020
- B. Approve September 2020 Check Register

A motion was made by Councilman Hatch to approve the consent agenda as presented; seconded by Councilman Baldwin; motion carried 7-0 with Mayor Smith, Vice Mayor Brubaker and Council Members Palmer, Cosper, Baldwin, Peck and Hatch voting in favor

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Report on Sweet Corn Festival by the Chamber of Commerce

Charlotte Hatch reported that the Sweet Corn Festival had a good turnout; signs regarding social distancing and masks were displayed; the parade had 19 participants, with two floats. Charlotte would like to see more floats, rather than personal or business vehicles; and entertainment added. There were some issues with the parade route and traffic which will be addressed and improved upon for next year. There were double the arts and crafts vendors with 43 participants.

The Chamber is having an awards banquet October 28th with a Halloween theme.

2. Consideration and Action regarding appointment of John Williams to the Planning & Zoning Commission

Allen Davis said after losing Steve Foster earlier this year; a letter of interest was received from John Williams to fill the seat.

A motion was made by Mayor Smith to appoint John Williams to the Planning & Zoning Commission; seconded by Councilman Peck; motion carried 7-0 with Mayor Smith, Vice Mayor Brubaker and Council Members Palmer, Cosper, Baldwin, Peck and Hatch voting in favor

3. Parks & Recreation Department Update

Aaron Dunford reported on recreation department activities and events; compared to most communities Taylor did a lot considering the pandemic.

A contact initiative has been implemented which gives Aaron detailed information on how many people open, read and respond to emails; links in the email allow participants to register for activities; the Facebook page has over 1,500 followers averaging 5 new followers per week; through the school IGA new volleyball nets have been purchased; summer programs had good turnout; due to Covid participation numbers have declined from previous years.

Upcoming events: Knoll at Night, this weekend; Spikeball Tournament; Trunk or Treat; Turkey Trot; Santa Stampede; also, youth and adult basketball.

4. Executive Session: Discussion or consultation for legal advice with the attorney or attorneys of the public body related to pending and potential litigation associated with the Business Park Purchase Agreement dated November 2018 pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A)(3) and (A)(4) Mayor Smith

A motion was made by Mayor Smith to recess into executive session; seconded by Councilman Peck; motion carried 7-0 with Mayor Smith, Vice Mayor Brubaker and Council Members Palmer, Cospers, Baldwin, Peck and Hatch voting in favor

Council reconvened the regular meeting at 8:07 pm

5. Discussion regarding the Town Manager’s employment performance review

Council elected not to enter Executive Session; the Town Manager requested to have the review in public.

Mayor Smith reported that following the passing of Gus’s wife, the Manager reviews were not done; it is time to move forward and begin the review process. Mayor Smith received and read over the Council’s performance evaluations of Gus; one member added excellent to the categories.

Mayor Smith advised that Gus take care of problems quickly; Councilman Hatch said Council doesn’t realize what they have in Gus and he appreciates him; Councilman Peck said Gus works hard and does a great job; Councilman Baldwin said he appreciates what Gus does for the town; Councilwomen Cospers said she speaks for Carl and herself, Gus can communicate with anyone and the town is lucky to have him; Vice Mayor Brubaker said a leader asks people to do things they don’t want to do and that people need to trust their leader, thanking Gus for his work; Councilman Palmer said Gus is a breath of fresh air, he takes his job serious and we are fortunate to have him on board.

Gus thanked Council; and appreciates the Mayor’s feedback; Council gives him a lot of leeway; he appreciates Council’s foresight and takes direction from Council to implement policies; blessed to work with this great community.

6. Executive Session: Discussion or consultation for legal advice with the attorney or attorneys of the public body regarding possible amendments to the Town Manager’s employment contract Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03 (A)(4)

A motion was made by Mayor Smith to recess into executive session; seconded by Councilman Baldwin; motion carried 7-0 with Mayor Smith, Vice Mayor Brubaker and Council Members Palmer, Cospers, Baldwin, Peck and Hatch voting in favor

Council reconvened the regular meeting at 8:45pm

7. Consideration and Action regarding possible amendments to the Town Manager’s employment contract

Mayor Smith said the Town Manager has not received a cost of living allowance (COLA) increase for the past three years; currently based on other area communities the salary is second lowest; with the recommended increase it remains second lowest; the adjustment would also include an automobile allowance.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Brubaker to amend the Town Manager's employment contract authorizing a cost of living increase (COLA) for the past three years and include the adjustment of an automobile allowance; seconded by Councilman Baldwin; motion carried 7-0 with Mayor Smith, Vice Mayor Brubaker and Council Members Palmer, Cosper, Baldwin, Peck and Hatch voting in favor

8. Summary of Current Events:

- A. Mayor
- B. Council Members
- C. Town Manager
 - December 1-3 League of Cities will have new Council Member training
 - Michelle Solomon has been hired as the Fire Department Admin Assistant
 - Jared Rebideaux has been hired as the Wastewater Treatment Plant operator and will receive training through Rule Water Association

9. Adjournment: There being no further business Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting 8:54 pm

Certification of Minutes:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Taylor Town Council meeting held on the 1st day of October 2020. I further certify that the meeting was duly called to order and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 1st day of October 2020

Geri Judd-Town Clerk