

**TOWN OF PRESCOTT VALLEY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
October 9, 2014**

Library Auditorium
7401 E. Civic Circle
Prescott Valley, Arizona 86314

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Skoog called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. INVOCATION

Pastor Hobby Wiles of the Robert Road Baptist Church gave the Invocation.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chief Scott Bliss led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Grossman, Council Member Marshall, Council Member Whiting,
Council Member Anderson, Vice Mayor Nye, and Mayor Skoog.

Absent: Council Member Mallory

5. SCHEDULED ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

a. Yavapai College Survey Update

Dr. Dale Fitzner, Yavapai College District Governing Board and Dr. Clint Ewell, VP for Finance & Administrative Services were present to share the results of a survey completed earlier this year. Dr. Fitzner serves on the Yavapai College District Governing Board as the District 5 representative and has for the past 8 years. Dr. Fitzner stated that one of the roles of the College Board is to serve as a link between the tax payers and college management by directing and regulating the organization on behalf of the tax payers. The Board's only employee is Dr. Penny Wills, Executive in charge of the college. Before reporting about the results of the 2014 Survey he drew attention to several handouts including the Yavapai College District Governing Board – How it Works for You, Yavapai College 2014-15 Information and the 2014 Survey Report used to gather county-wide citizen feedback about the Board's goals. Fitzner said the Board's three major goals are: 1. quality education, 2. cultural enrichment, and 3. economic development.

The county-wide survey final report was completed in September 2014. The report, compiled from 1,600 responses, indicated that 96 percent of the respondents agreed with the quality education goals, 75 percent agreed with economic development goals, and 76 percent agreed that the college should enhance cultural life. Overall residents are very satisfied with the college services provided.

Planned actions include additional opportunities for feedback on their website, produce an annual report for residents, improve marketing and outreach.

Dr. Ewel added that the results are very positive; the residents are in agreement with the goals set forth by the board, and participants in the college activities are very satisfied. Dr. Fitzner commented that Yavapai College has more participation by our citizens than most places.

Vice Mayor Nye said she is delighted at the outcome, but what is the impact and response of this survey? Dr. Ewell said part of the feedback received was a concern noted about the amount of CTE course work (allied health & nursing work). They are reemphasizing what they are doing in that area by adding pre nursing course work.

Town Manager Tarkowski thanked Yavapai College for the service they provide to our citizens. In addition he thanked them for training our new generation of police officers through the NARTA program. We support the 10-year plan especially bringing allied health together and locating it adjacent to YRMC East. We also appreciate the forward looking approach through the partnership with NAU and the offerings that it will bring to the students. In addition, he thanked the college for attracting the national soccer championship that will be held at the Prescott Valley amphitheater. He thanked Dr. Fitzner for all the work he has done with Prescott Valley and his representation on the Board to bring Allied Health program together. Council member Whiting agreed with Tarkowski's comments saying education is one of the corner stones of any community. Vice Mayor suggested continued education about the evolving 10-Year Plan.

b. Rotary Club Certificate Presentation to Public Works

Rotary Club member Jim Clemens presented Public Works Operations Manager Alex Romero and his crew with a plaque of appreciation for the work Public Works did preparing for the Balloon Festival held on September 6th and 7th, 2014. Alex said the crew likes to chase the balloons and look forward to continuing to work with the Rotary. Next year's potential competition event may have as many as 25 balloons.

c. Water Resources Update

Water Resources Manager John Munderloh said that just about everything water related that they do is based on the 1980 Groundwater Management Act which designated the 5 Arizona Active Management Areas (AMA) including the Prescott Active Management Area. All of our water in the AMA comes from precipitation and ends up as natural recharge. We get about 450,000 acre feet per year of precipitation with about 8,000 acre feet of that recharged into the ground annually. However, about 16,000 acre feet of water is pumped out of the ground each year. We are pumping out about twice as much as is recharged every year. Munderloh stated even so, we

are not using any more water than we did in 1985 in spite of the growth. The conversion of water use from agricultural use to residential use accounts for the decrease. The 1980 Groundwater Management Act requires that we must reach Safe Yield by 2025. We need to bring natural recharge back into balance with the amount of groundwater we pump out.

Prescott AMA is held to the highest standards and is asked to do more with less than any other community in the state. The other AMA communities down south don't have the regulations our AMA does and we don't have the extra resources they do. Munderloh provided background information about efforts in Water Conservation, Recharge of Reclaimed Water, Growth Restrictions, Water Importation, Water Groups and Watershed Management. Then stressed, this is all about reaching Safe Yield.

The Water Conservation programs are about facilitating and educating. These efforts have resulted in a usage reduction from 130 down to 90 gallons per capita of water use in Prescott Valley annually primarily due to the tiered [water usage] rate schedule. Reclaimed Water (Effluent) becomes potable water through recharge netting a credit balance system through ADWR. Growth Restrictions have been in place since 1999 when the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) said we were out of the condition of safe yield so subdivisions would no longer be permitted based on groundwater resources. Since then, no new subdivisions have been based on groundwater resources. Although, existing homes have a 100-year assured supply, new homes will have to have a source of water such as the reclaimed effluent credits or imported water supplies to grow here. Water importation will come from the Big Chino Water Ranch which was purchased in 2004 by partners Prescott & Prescott Valley. As a result of the City of Prescott, Prescott Valley and Salt River Project Agreements of 2/11/10 and 9/20/12 we will receive about 8,000 acre feet of water rights coming to the two cities. This is an outgrowth of the vision of our state leaders dating back from the early 1900s to provide water for Arizona's growth through the creation of the Central Arizona Project (CAP) which was completed in 1993. Through that, the City of Prescott and Yavapai Indian Tribe were granted an 8,000 acre feet of CAP water that could be taken directly from the Verde River in exchange of that CAP allocation to a down stream user. By the time our communities have grown to the need, the environmental regulations have made it improbable to take a direct diversion from the upper Verde River. Through trades and agreements, water rights were developed in the Big Chino rather than taking a direct diversion from the Verde. Our Chino Valley water rights actually come from the CAP rights which are codified in A.R.S. 45-555. The second agreement between Prescott, Prescott Valley and SRP in 2012 established Big Chino monitoring and modeling to understand the hydrology and any impacts so we don't impact the Verde River system. Stream gages to study flowtopography of the water have been installed to understand where recharge occurs. Geophysics electromagnetic surveys, gravity measurements, water level measurement surveys are also current activities with monitoring wells and developing a groundwater model occurring in the near future.

Active Water Groups are numerous. The Groundwater Users Advisory Committee (GUAC) is an advisory group to the ADWR. They issued a 4th management plan constraining water use to 3,000 acre feet annually through 2020 and developed another ground water model in the AMA. ADWR agrees with what we are doing in trying to reach safe yield. The Yavapai County Water Advisory Committee (WAC) originally established by the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors

now ceases to exist, but their hydrologic studies are being absorbed by Prescott Valley, Prescott and SRP, at least the parts related to the Big Chino.

Vice Mayor Nye stated that Prescott Valley is the only community to take a project out of that WAC organization to make sure it was accomplished. Our citizens need to be aware of that.

The Northern Arizona Municipal Water Users Association (NAMWUA) makes sure we have good public policy in place for doing our business and serving our customers. NAMWUA members include: Prescott, Chino Valley, Clarkdale, Cottonwood, Sedona, Flagstaff, and Prescott Valley. The Upper Verde River Watershed Protection Coalition (Coalition) oversees on-the-ground projects throughout the Big Chino subbasin and Prescott AMA building projects based on science. Most significant of the projects is the *Watershed Restoration Initiative* dealing with the limited 2 percent precipitation water that makes it into the ground for long-term use.

Council member Whiting questioned what the benefit was in moving away from the CAP allocation to the Big Chino allocation. Was it a paper manipulation for tracking purposes? When would we have access to Big Chino water? Munderloh responded that through our agreement with SRP, we agreed to put off construction until completion of the monitoring and ground model design that will help us define how we mitigate pumping impacts, if any - probably about an 8-year process.

Mayor Skoog asked how much is the aquifer water level dropping in Prescott Valley. Munderloh responded that the most recent ADWR report indicated the decline in the Agua Fria basin is about 2 inches a year in Prescott Valley and about 6 inches a year average across the basin. We probably have 500 feet of saturated thickness in our wells or more. But given the unusual nature of aquifers getting narrower as they get deeper, there is probably conservatively a 200-year supply.

Vice Mayor Nye said she is frustrated with the Arizona Republic and their front page scare tactics. You have to read the meat of the articles before it is explained away. We have a lot of uninformed citizens that are very concerned that next week, next year, we will run out of water. She encourages citizens to go to the experts to get the information, not get it from the media. Munderloh commented that living in droughts and managing water supplies is what we do. That is what Arizona is. This is such an issue because California doesn't know how to manage the water supply during a drought or probably any other time. They are the ones that have gotten themselves into trouble because they refused to address this over the years. Arizona has been on the ball with this for more than a century.

Munderloh added that they have an annual report on the City of Prescott website.

6. COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

Vice Mayor Nye welcomed back Council member Marty Grossman who thanked all who assisted him in recovery from injury. Grossman commended the Fire District, YRMC, Lifeline Ambulance and Good Samaritan Rehab.

Nye also thanked Parks & Recreation for their successful Corn Toss and Touch a Truck activities.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. *Approving the September 25, 2014 Council & Executive Session meeting minutes and September 18, 2014 Work Study Session minutes*
- b. *Approving a letter of support for the CYMPO Regional Public Transit System*
- c. *Approving Accounts Payable September 15 thru 29, 2014*

Council Member Marshall made the MOTION, seconded by Council Member Whiting, to approve all items listed on the consent agenda, by electronic vote. MOTION carried with 6 ayes and 0 nays.

8. NEW BUSINESS (FOR REVIEW, COMMENT, AND/OR POSSIBLE ACTION)

- a. *Consideration of awarding a contract for the installation of Hot Melt Crack Seal Materials for the Fiscal Year 2014/2015 to Graham Contractors, Inc. for the contract amount of \$35,325.00*

Public Works Director Norm Davis said that crack seal application is an annual maintenance of our roads. It is done this time of year when it is cold and the road is contracted to seal the cracks on the roads followed up with chip sealing in the summer months. Twenty tons of crack seal material is bought off of state contract each year. Norm brought a box of it to show those in attendance. Public notices will be distributed to the residents of the area prior to the work beginning.

Vice Mayor Nye made the MOTION, seconded by Council Member Grossman, to award the contract for the installation of Hot Melt Crack Seal Materials for the Fiscal Year 2014/2015 to Graham Contractors, Inc. for the contract amount of \$35,325.00, by electronic vote. MOTION carried with 6 ayes and 0 nays.

- b. *Consideration of approving and adopting updates to Personnel Policies and Procedures 2-04 Compensation and 2-37 Cellular Phone*

Human Resources Director Karen Smith said the Personnel Board has made a proposal to *Policy 2-37 Cell Phone* policy which removes “encouraged not to use cell phone” to now specify that employees are *not to use cell phones while operating a town vehicle unless it is an emergency and required to do so*. Policy 2-04 Compensation was adjusted to provide *Section 8.0 - Shift Differential* to all employees consisting of 50 cents per hour extra pay for shifts worked between 9:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. This is very competitive with other organizations of like size and responsibilities. New language in *Section 9.0 - Public Safety Grants* was added to apply to grant project employees, primarily PD officers, allowing them to be paid the grant amount when on

vacation etc. An unused portion of any grant money has to be returned. The language changes this from overtime pay to premium pay. As long as employees are paid 40 hours in the work week whether on general leave, holiday pay or compensatory pay when they work safety grants they will be paid 1.5 times their base salary. Karen thanked the Personnel Board and legal department for the time devoted to these policy changes.

Council Member Marshall made the MOTION, seconded by Council Member Grossman, to authorize the Mayor (or, in his absence, the Vice Mayor) to sign Resolution No. 1889 adopting revised Policy No. 2-04 "Compensation", and Policy No. 2-37 "Cellular Phone", by electronic vote. MOTION carried with 6 ayes and 0 nays.

9. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Public Comment:

Dan Dalano lives in Viewpoint North. Dalano commented that they have a problem with a lot up there in great disrepair. Mayor Skoog inquired if that was the one they had a lot of emails about. Dalano said yes. They have 55 residents about 80 percent of the houses in the neighborhood that signed a petition asking the town to do what they can with the situation. They have not been able to get anything done with the people they have contacted. Tarkowski stated that Fernando Gonzalez took someone from Public Works up there to see if there was a site visibility issue as it relates to the height of the shrubs and weeds on the property. There is not. There is a process that has to be followed to give the property owner the opportunity to clean it up –notices, etc.

No additional comments were forthcoming.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Mayor Nye made the MOTION, seconded by Council Member Grossman, to adjourn the meeting, by electronic vote. MOTION carried with 6 ayes and 0 nays.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Diane Russell, Town Clerk

Harvey Skoog, Mayor

STATE OF ARIZONA)
COUNTY OF YAVAPAI) ss:
TOWN OF PRESCOTT VALLEY)

CERTIFICATE OF COUNCIL MINUTES

I, Diane Russell, Town Clerk of the Town of Prescott Valley, Arizona, hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Town

Council of the Town of Prescott Valley, held on Thursday, October 9, 2014.

I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this October 13, 2014

Diane Russell, Town Clerk