

**TOWN OF PRESCOTT VALLEY
WORK STUDY MEETING
MINUTES
April 21, 2016**

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

1. Call to Order

Mayor Skoog called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

2. Roll Call

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

Absent: Council Member Nye.

3. Presentation - Streets CDL License Awards

Public Work Director Norm Davis said additional positions, with required qualifications, were put into the Public Works Department to provide some employee advancement opportunities. This challenged the employees in the streets department to attain a Commercial Driver License (CDL). Davis presented Jordan Fagelman, Phil Stoneburner, Raphael Zepeda, Dakota Collins, and Garrett Gummer and Jim Crowe with a Certificate of Recognition for having attained their CDL or CDL learners permit. Jordan Fagelman thanked council for the opportunity for further advancement with the town. Council congratulated them for their ambitions and willingness to do that.

Davis pointed out that the new dump truck with snow plow on front is parked just outside if Council would like to look at it. Council member Mallory said she is thankful for the new truck and looks forward to the street improvements that will be made with it. Davis recognized Bruce Handley who worked hard to put the specs together for the new truck which is tailored to the town's needs.

4. Discussion: Mowing Services Contract for FY 16/17

Public Works Director Norm Davis said this is an annual outsourced contract. Staff contacted 20-25 local companies requesting bids but only got one last year that was not worth recommending for award. So the mowing job was done in house. This year they got three bids with the lowest being from "Swept Away" for \$39,000. That company is our current sweeping contractor which is expanding into mowing. Davis commented that, "We are happy with their sweeping work and confident that they will give good value in taking over mowing."

Council member Grossman questioned why one of the three bids was so low compared to the other two bids. Red flags went up for him wondering whether that was an appropriate bid or were the other two extremely high, or was the one low balling us. The fact that we already work with this person through another contract makes him feel better.

5. Discussion: Glassford Hill Trail Parking Lot Bid Award

Public Works Director Norm Davis said in house staff was able to acquire the right of way for the trail. Staff built the trail and we are ready to add a 61,000 square foot 25 spot, asphalt parking lot off of Castle Drive. NCU funding from a tuition deferment will put this improvement in place. It is about a two or three day project. Council is glad to see this trail come to fruition. Davis responded to Council member Grossman that the 25 space parking lot is expandable if needed. Parks & Recreation have done some enhancements to the trail as have the Over the Hill Gang (volunteers). A ribbon cutting is scheduled for Saturday morning May 21, and on the 28th Parks & Rec has a scheduled 5K run starting at the middle school up to the top of the trail.

Vice Mayor Anderson commented that Castle Drive is narrow. Additional traffic is anticipated when the trail opens. Davis responded that expansion of the road width is under design and will be a budget item for next year.

Town Manager Tarkowski complimented the AZ state Land Dept. for quickly responding to our right of entry request to build the parking lot and the widening of Castle Dr. They gave Gordon Bowers with Dava and Associates verbal approval for right of entry last week. Expansion capabilities came with the right of way for the Summit Tank. The multi-use path can also be extended from SR 69, as funds become available, as it was also a part of the application. Davis said the Stoneridge Dr. extending up to the north would be west of the access road. It would have to be designed which is no different from any other multi-use path. The new parking lot could be moved to the west side if or when there is a future extension of the Stoneridge Dr.

6. Presentation: Police Department ½ cent Sales Tax expenditures

Deputy Police Chief James Edelstein stated that the ½ cent sales tax will help with the restoration of police department services as the town grows. They will explain tonight how that funding will make Prescott Valley a safer place to live, work and play. Each of the three division representatives will talk about enhancements in their division.

Field Services Division - Officer Brad Penner - Enhancements to Traffic Section –

Penner stated that a standard non injury collision fender bender costs on average of \$3,000 not including loss time; \$18,000 with an injury; a fatality shoves that figure into the millions. The costs to the citizenry are gigantic in comparison to all criminal damage they might have to deal with. Their vision is 1. Relieve the patrol officers with additional staffing on the department, 2. Make a visceral impact into the collisions they experience especially on SR 69, and 3. Be available and active in the educational process with School Resource Officers and make a difference with the teen drivers beyond just issuing traffic tickets. They also want to have good positive interaction with the citizen community.

Support Services Division – Community Services Officer Traces Gordon - Community Outreach Efforts

The sales tax increase will increase their connection with the community with crime prevention. They hope to establish a business watch program modeled after a block watch program teaching business owners to watch out for themselves. This involves a newsletter, educational seminars, email blasts, security surveys and crime prevention environmental design. It teaches business owners how to protect their own businesses and network with each other. They will resurrect the Police Citizens Academy and Block Watch Program.

Criminal Investigation Division Family Violence Unit - Det. James Tobin – Serve Victims of Domestic Violence, Kidnapping, Sexual Assault and Stalking

In 2014/15 they received the only increase in STOP Grant funding in the state with the town providing matching funds. The program's reputation is growing across the country. Tobin works four or five days a week with patrolmen taking up the slack on other days. A second full-time detective would allow them to provide seven day coverage freeing up those other officers to take care of their own tasks – it would be a win-win for everyone. Domestic violence case numbers are increasing through rising awareness and educational efforts and as people become more comfortable reporting these crimes.

Edelstein said they will be staffing a flexible policing unit that can be deployed to address specific problems i.e. if we had a full-time residential college campus. They will staff a records technician, hire an administrative assistant, and convert two part-time evidence techs to full-time, plus add one additional lieutenant to the Field Services Division. Eight sworn officers and four non sworn positions will be added to the agency. He clarified that all of these positions and associated services they provide will go away if this tax is repealed.

Vice Mayor Anderson commented that there are those in the town who feel it was inappropriate for the council to have acted so quickly to pass this tax increase. He for one is grateful that they were able to act quickly enough to provide for this community the type of police services that we so badly need.

Council member Marshall commented that he recalls the Chief stating what they were going to get if the tax passed; body cameras was one. Town Manager Tarkowski responded that there will not be any body cameras in year one. The number one thing heard from the department was they need more officers. The second thing repeatedly heard was they are so understaffed that they are unable to take comp time and vacation time (General Leave time). The number one target is to work down those comp time and leave balances with a plan that will actually work them down. Then new services will be implemented, then if revenues maintain their balance and upward trend, next year we will start looking at cameras. The need for officers overrides the need for that technology today. Council member Marshall said he doesn't see why we don't do both.

Council member Grossman questioned if they know of any possibility of a 'no texting law'? He would like to see that. He complimented the department for the programs they are again resurrecting. The family violence unit is so much better and it is nice that we have all these ways to take care of the people with a family violence program with a dedicated officer and several support services personnel.

Edelstein said that just about every year there is an anti-texting law that is introduced, but it has not passed as yet. The Yavapai County Coordinated Community Response Team will be able to do things that have an effect on crime through prevention and education. Dollar for dollar that is more effective than just putting cops out on the streets to respond to calls.

Council member Whiting said at budget time we can solidify the things talked about both with the Public Works and Police Departments. We need to realize it takes time to accumulate the resources to direct to our priorities and recognize they are not available immediately.

Tarkowski said that as the Council members will be going to the League of Arizona Cities and Towns Conference that would be a good time to talk to the Legislators about anti-texting law legislation that has failed at that level. This will be a great opportunity to get this addressed at the state level.

Tarkowski stated that department presentations are scheduled for May 4 and 5 when each Department Head will present their proposed departmental budgets for the next fiscal year.

Council member Mallory said she wants to make sure people understand about the road and police staffing issues as they pertain to the 1/2 cent sales tax. To keep the town beautiful, we need to take care of our infrastructure and our police officers. She looks forward to when the residents recognize this. She said we are trying to get caught up and prepare for the future.

7. Adjournment

Mayor Skoog adjourned the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

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 Work Study Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Prescott Valley, held on Thursday, April 21, 2016.

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

Dated this April 22, 2016

Diane Russell, Town Clerk