



MINUTES

TOWN OF MIAMI

REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2020 AT 6:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Gonzales calls the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION:

Mayor Gonzales led the pledge of allegiance and Councilmember Medina led the invocation.

3. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

PRESENT: Mayor Gonzales, Vice Mayor Moat (telephonically), Councilmember Bringhurst, Councilmember Medina, Councilmember Reiman and Councilmember Sosh.

ABSENT: Councilmember Black.

STAFF PRESENT: Town Manager Heatherly, Town Attorney Goodwin (telephonically), Engineering Tech Derhammer, Finance Director Steele, and Town Clerk Norris (live stream).

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Consideration and possible action to approve Minutes of the June 8, 2020 Public Hearing & Regular meeting.
- B. Consideration and possible action to approve the Town Payroll for June 14, 2020.

Councilmember Reiman moved to approve the consent agenda as stated. Seconded by Councilmember Medina. Mayor Gonzales calls for the vote. Vote – Mayor Gonzales – aye, Vice Mayor Moat – aye, Councilmember Black – absent, Councilmember Bringhurst – aye, Councilmember Medina – aye, Councilmember Reiman – aye and Councilmember Sosh – aye. MOTION PASSED.

5. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS AND PRESENTATION OF BUDGET REPORTS:

- A. Consideration and possible action to approve the General Demands for June 5, 2020 to June 18, 2020.

Questions and comments regarding various demands in the report. Councilmember Reiman moved to approve the general demands for June 5, 2020 to June 18, 2020. Seconded by Councilmember Medina. Mayor Gonzales calls for the vote. Vote – Mayor Gonzales – aye, Vice Mayor Moat – aye, Councilmember Black – absent, Councilmember Bringhurst – aye, Councilmember Medina – aye, Councilmember Reiman – aye and Councilmember Sosh – aye. MOTION PASSED.

6. REPORTS / RECOGNITIONS:

A. Town Manager Reports.

Town Manager Heatherly states that staff is just about done with the Policy's and Procedures for Procurement, it should be ready for Council consideration at the next meeting. Staff is also working on the Business Licenses and the Police Department is working on their policies and procedures as well.

B. Mayor/Council Reports.

Councilmember Medina reports that the flags were lowered to half-staff on Saturday, June 20th to honor Navajo Police Officer, Michael Lee, who has passed away. Councilmember Medina reports on highways closures due to the wildfires.

Councilmember Bringhurst comments regarding working at one of the antique shops over the weekend, states there were a lot of people in town; most of them were from Tucson. Had no issues at all, everyone was masked up before they came in the store. The visitors coming into town seemed to be very respectful of the town. Councilmember Bringhurst states that they had quite a few visitors from Pinetop as well, trying to escape the crowds up there.

Mayor Gonzales comments regarding Governor Ducey's decision to leave it up to local municipalities on how they want to mandate, or not mandate, wearing masks. Mayor Gonzales states Council had a Special meeting last Friday to discuss what direction the Town Council would like to go with this. The Town will be mandating that masks be worn in public. He received the Proclamation that was drafted by the Town Attorney and it will take effect 24 hours after he signs it.

Town Attorney Goodwin clarifies that she sent the Mayor a Resolution but will send a new one changing it from a Resolution to a Proclamation.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

8. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Information and discussion only: Discussion regarding the rescheduling of the FY 2020/2021 Budget Public Hearing and Truth in Taxation Public Hearing.

Town Manager Heatherly explains that the second, of two required publications, for the Truth in Taxation Hearings did not get published in the local paper so we need to push the Budget

Public Hearing and Truth in Taxation Public Hearing back two more weeks. This allows for proper public notice of the Truth in Taxation hearings.

B. Information and discussion only: Presentation of Reviving Small Business.

Ms. Liza Noland, Director of Rural Programming, makes this presentation to Council. Ms. Noland states that in order to cut down on time for this meeting she is going to cut the presentation down to 2 core topics. Ms. Noland gives some background information on Local First Arizona and the grants and loans they have for small businesses. Ms. Noland explains the Small Business Relief Fund and small business support. Comments on building financial resilience for small businesses. Ms. Noland comments on and explains micro grants and micro loans. Open discussion and comments regarding the grants and loans as well as, the timeframe for applying and receiving the grants and loans.

C. Information, discussion and possible action: Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding how to conduct "Call to the Public" and Public Hearings to allow for public comments and input at Council meetings.

Mayor Gonzales explains that he put this item on the agenda because he has been receiving a lot of comments from the public regarding not being able to make comments at Council meetings and Public Hearings. Open to suggestions or ideas to make this easier for the public to make comments at meetings. Does not feel the way we have to do meetings now is not going to go away anytime soon. Brief discussion regarding the air conditioning in the Chambers and when it is on the public can't hear what is being said. Town Manager Heatherly states that he has had discussions with Engineering Tech Derhammer about possibly getting some better mics for Council. Discussion regarding what platform Council meetings are currently streaming on and how people can listen to the meetings through Zoom. It is through Facebook live. You do not need a Facebook account to watch the live streams. Discussion regarding investigating other technologies; some people do not use Facebook at all. Brief discussion regarding different issues people have had while watching the live streaming videos of Council meetings. Mr. Derhammer explains that we post the meetings with a notice that they can be viewed live through Facebook and we also post the link to the Town of Miami's live stream. Mayor Gonzales suggests that the Town Manager designate someone to monitor the questions coming in through the Facebook stream, write out the questions along with the person's name and address and hand it to Council to read during the meeting. Mayor Gonzales also suggests checking with other municipalities to find out what procedures they are using. Town Manager Heatherly states he discussed this with the Town Clerk last week and if someone has a comment, question or statement they can email it himself or the Town Clerk and it can be given to Council. If they want to engage in the conversation, they can participate in the way Mayor Gonzales just mentioned. They can also give their statement to a Councilmember or drop it off at Townhall to be read at the Council meeting. Town Manager comments regarding having a cut off time for submission of comments so that they can be given to Council prior to the meeting. Councilmember Medina suggest also submission of comments via text message. Councilmember Reiman comments regarding having the ability to respond to the public in real time. Direction is given to the Town Manager to look into this issue and make improvements to the procedure as well as look into updating the Council Chambers microphones.

D. Information, discussion and possible action: To approve closure of Sullivan Street to traffic, starting at Bullion Plaza and ending at Miami Avenue, for The Eight Annual Cobre Valley Independence Day Parade on Saturday, July 4, 2020, 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., with the Town to provide traffic control and barricades as deemed necessary by the Miami Police Department.

Mr. Chuck Broeder, presents this item to Council. Mr. Broeder comments on the 4th of July Parade Committee and explains that the Committee has been working on this event for a year now. They have discussed many ways to move forward with the event and keep within the designated social distancing guidelines. Mr. Broeder comments that people are continuing with rallies and protests and that is allowed because of our independence. The 4th of July is celebrating our independence. Mr. Broeder explains that in recent times, the past few days, there have been some recent incidents that has him concerned and he does not want spikes in numbers blamed on the 4th of July Parade and for that reason he has cancelled the event. Mayor Gonzales tells Mr. Broeder that he appreciates his hard work and dedication to this event, especially for it to be held in the Town of Miami. Councilmember Sosh comments that he was looking forward to putting his car in the parade but respects Mr. Broeder's decision regarding cancelling the parade.

E. Information, discussion and possible action: Consideration and possible approval of renewal of EUSI, LLC agreement for professional consulting services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant operation support services, for the second of two possible 3 year period – extending the contract term from March 1, 2020 to February 28, 2023.

Finance Director Steele explains to Council that this item is to renew the contract with EUSI, LLC, for professional consulting services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Ms. Steele explain that the contract expired in October of last year. They are asking for their monthly fee of \$2,500.00 to go up to \$3,000.00. Mayor Gonzales thanks Ms. Steele for reviewing the current contracts and finding that this one needed to be updated. Mayor Gonzales comments that EUSI has not raised their rates up in 6 years and feels this is a reasonable request. Councilmember Medina moved to approve renewal of EUSI, LLC agreement for professional consulting services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant operation support services, for the second of two possible 3 year period – extending the contract term from March 1, 2020 to February 28, 2023. Seconded by Councilmember Sosh. Mayor Gonzales calls for the vote. Vote – Mayor Gonzales – aye, Vice Mayor Moat – aye, Councilmember Black – absent, Councilmember Bringham – aye, Councilmember Medina – aye, Councilmember Reiman – aye and Councilmember Sosh – aye. MOTION PASSED.

F. Information, discussion and possible action: To approve Resolution No. 1241, approving the Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Guidelines for the Town of Miami Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Engineering Tech Derhammer presents this Resolution to Council explaining that this is to approve the Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Guidelines for the Town of Miami Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program Grant we are applying for. These guideline can also be used for other grants that the Town may apply for. Mayor Gonzales asks for clarification of the statement on page 5 regarding the specifics of the lien and what happens if the owner of a

home passes away. Discussion regarding the criteria that allows the Town Manager to release the lien if the owner passes away. The criteria are detailed in the guidelines. Councilmember Bringhurst moved to approve Resolution No. 1241, approving the Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Guidelines for the Town of Miami Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program. Seconded by Councilmember Reiman. Mayor Gonzales calls for the vote. Vote – Mayor Gonzales – aye, Vice Mayor Moat – nay, Councilmember Black – absent, Councilmember Bringhurst – aye, Councilmember Medina – aye, Councilmember Reiman – aye and Councilmember Sosh – aye. MOTION PASSED.

G. Information and discussion only: Review and discussion regarding the Operating and Financial report for the month of May 2020.

Town Manager Heatherly presents the report to Council stating that this is for 11 months of activity. Phase 2 Project is complete but there will be a few more invoices that come through for payment approval. There is a little bit of money left over and staff is going to get with USDA to see about acquiring a couple pieces of equipment. Reports that the initial phase of the CDBG – Street Improvement Project is completed and will be presented and discussed at the next Council meeting. Review of the revenues report, right now we are at 104.1 percent. Town Manager Heatherly states we have been ahead of the budget for awhile due to the additional HURF money from the State. We are a little short of the balance of the revenue; the biggest part has to do with the grant carryover. On the expense side, we are at 2.9 million vs. a budget of 3.9 million, so we are at 76.5%. We are over budget in the Parks and Recreation Department because of the issues with the swimming pool. Overall the expenses are matching up good. We have not seen a reduction yet due to the COVID. Town Manager Heatherly did explain that the State has reduced the revenues for the Town by approximately \$44,000. Brief discussion regarding the HURF influx funds.

H. Information and discussion only: Report to Council and discussion regarding the buildings damaged in the Sullivan Street fire.

Engineering Tech Derhammer presents the report regarding the Sullivan Street Fire. Mr. Derhammer reviews the test results for the buildings located at 415 Sullivan Street, 417 Sullivan Street, 419-423 Sullivan Street and 131 Keystone Avenue. Mr. Derhammer explains that we are now just waiting on the estimated costs for the cleanup of the buildings from the Wood Group; hopefully will get that this week. Then we can go out to bid and get some contractors here to do a walk through and get some bids. We will be working with ADEQ at the same time to get a grant for the cleanup. Brief discussion regarding the timeline for this process. Mr. Derhammer states that we are hoping to have it all cleaned up by the end of the year.

I. Information and discussion only: Update on the Coronavirus-19, including discussion regarding the financial impact on the Town.

Town Manager Heatherly comments that he sent an email out to Council on Sunday to let them know on Saturday he received notice that a Town of Miami employee has tested positive for the Coronavirus. He has had lengthy conversations with Gila County Health Department as to what needed to be done. They started an investigation to determine who could have been in direct

contact with this employee. The positive individual will be off work until he can test negative for the virus. Six individuals have been identified and will be quarantined for 14 days. The employee who tested positive works in the Public Works Department and 5 of the 6 in direct contact with the positive employee also work in the Public Works Department. There are only 3 employees left in the Public Works Department. We will just see how things go over the next few days. If we have to, we can get one or two of the employees who are on quarantine as long as they can be isolated. Town Manager Heatherly states that the Police Chief and the Mayor have volunteered to help in the Public Works Department if needed. Town Manager Heatherly outlines some additional procedures that will be taking place in Townhall to keep it clean and sanitized. Office staff is wearing masks and specific procedures for the public to be entering the lobby have been established as well. Finance Director Steele reports on the financial coding and statistics for the Town of Miami due to COVID. Reports that Transit is at 100% for funding. Comments on applying for the DEMA and FEMA money; she believes there is no maximum amount we can submit for but we do have to meet the minimum expense amount before we can submit for the funds. Brief discussion regarding the CARES package. Discussion regarding covered expenses and lost revenue. Open discussion and comments regarding the long term loss due to the loss of DOC (Department of Corrections) labor. Councilmember Bringhurst asks if quarantined employees have to go on unemployment now or are they being paid under COVID. Town Manager Heatherly states they will get paid and it won't come out of their benefit time.

J. Information and discussion only: Discussion regarding Town of Miami Ballot Measure for the Alternative Expenditure Limitation (Home Rule).

Town Manager Heatherly explains that Town cannot promote Home Rule, cannot put out anything for or against Home Rule. We can give out factual information but cannot use Town resources to promote it. We can have Council or interested parties take this up and talk about this. It is extremely important that we do something to educate the public on this issue. Town Manager Heatherly states he would like to get started with this in the next 2 weeks. Would like to let the public know what we have been spending and why we need this to pass. He states that if this does not pass, we will not have to worry about the Coronavirus, we will have lots of other problems. Discussion and comments regarding what the Council can do to educate the public on Home Rule. Town Manager Heatherly states in the past Council has gone on the radio to discuss Home Rule. Town Attorney Goodwin explains that it is very important to express that the Council itself not use any Town resources to influence the election. Town Attorney states the Council can promote Home Rule as a Councilmember if it is their own statement and not at a Council meeting, they cannot do any campaigning from the dais. Town Manager Heatherly explains that staff will put together some factual reports showing that if Home Rule is approved this is what the financial status of the Town will look like and if you do not approve it, this is what it will look like. Councilmember's can use that information to educate the public. Town Manager Heatherly explains that the Auditor General has reviewed the Town's financial information pertaining to Home Rule. Town Manager Heatherly states he can get in contact with local radio stations to set it up for a Councilmember to go in and talk about the Home Rule ballot measure.

9. CALL TO THE COUNCIL:

Mayor Gonzales reminds everyone that filling out the Census is very important and if you have not done it yet, you can go online and do it. If you need help the Townhall and Police Department have computers set up for doing the Census. We need our numbers to go up, we are just at 36%.

Councilmember Medina states that they are pushing the Census hard out at Tonto Basin, they have one heck of a campaign going on out there. He is not sure what their number are though.

Councilmember Moat comments that the meeting sounds pretty good telephonically but we do need to get some new microphones. Wishes he could have attended tonight's meeting

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Medina moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Reiman. Mayor Gonzales calls for the vote. Vote – Mayor Gonzales – yea, Vice Mayor Moat – yea, Councilmember Black – absent, Councilmember Bringham – yea, Councilmember Medina – yea, Councilmember Reiman – yea and Councilmember Sosh - yea. MOTION PASSED.

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

CERTIFICATION:

I 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 Miami, AZ held on the 22nd day of June, 2020.

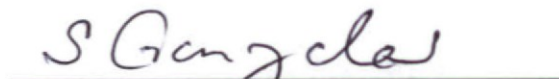
I further certify that the meeting was duly called and that a quorum was present.

DATED this 13th day of July 2020.



Karen Norris, Town Clerk

APPROVED:


Sammy Gonzales, Mayor