

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON
COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF STAR VALLEY**

**Tuesday, October 18, 2011 @ 6:30 pm
3675 East Highway 260, Star Valley, AZ
(Star Valley Town Hall)**

The Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- CALL TO ORDER
- Prayer was offered by Pastor Duane Ayres of Ponderosa Bible Church
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- ROLL CALL:

Mayor Rappaport X , Vice-Mayor Newland X , Council Member Hartwell X , Council Member Binney X , Council Member Coon X , Council Member Leis X , Council Member Henderson X .

- **GILA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER, 2011**

Lt. Tim Scott of the Gila County Sheriff's Office gave the Sheriff's Report for September, 2011.

- **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

All items listed under the Consent Agenda will be voted on with one motion. If discussion is desired regarding any Consent Agenda item, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and voted on separately.

1. **Approval of the minutes from the Regular Council meeting held on October 4, 2011.**
2. **Approval of Claims Payable from October 1, 2011 through October 15, 2011.**

A motion to approve consent agenda items A and B was made by Council Member Hartwell, and was seconded by Council Member Binney.

A roll call was taken:

Mayor Rappaport X , Vice-Mayor Newland X , Council Member Hartwell X , Council Member Binney X , Council Member Coon X , Council Member Leis X , Council Member Henderson X .

The motion was voted on and passed 7-0.

- **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. **Presentation by Payson Advisory Youth Council.**

Dillon Walker, Chairman, Austin Shannon, Vice-Chairman, and Lauren Best, Council Member, were present representing the Payson Advisory Youth Council. Mr. Walker, who is the current chairman of the Youth Council, explained they are an active group of 11 teenagers in the community whose hope is to inform Payson and Star Valley Town Councils on issues that impact or concern youth. Council Member Paty Henderson has joined the Youth Council as the Star Valley liaison for Star Valley. Mr. Walker gave an abbreviated report on the fund raising efforts of the Youth Council. Mr. Walker

stated the Council's plan for the coming year is to generate study materials and official reports on behalf of the Council which will set forth the Council's opinion and stand on certain issues. The Council's first project will be an ASU study.

Council Member Leis asked where the Council receives its financial support from. Mr. Shannon explained the Council raises all its funds on its own, primarily through fund raisers; and that the Council is economically independent.

Mr. Walker stated whenever they have a report or study findings they will contact the Star Valley Council to be put on its agenda to make a presentation. Town Manager Grier expressed an interest in having the Youth Council becoming involved in some of the issues that impact Star Valley, and Mr. Walker said this could be accomplished by Star Valley contacting the Youth Council and having it put on the agenda. Mr. Walker stated contact and communication could easily be done through Council Member Henderson.

2. Update on Town Budget. Chancy Nutt, Town Finance Administrator, to make presentation.

Chancy Nutt, Town Finance Administrator, stated in the Council's books was a packet of documents which sets forth the year to date budget information for the Town (packet included with Agenda). Contained in this packet is an analysis of several previous years' cash position and other financial data information for the Town.

Ms. Nutt stated the focus at this meeting would be on making decisions based on financial data. Ms. Nutt stated she and the Town Manager work together to develop analysis reports to assist the Council. Ms. Nutt pointed out the combined effort of the Town Manager, the Finance Administrator and the Town Council in providing services to the community. Ms. Nutt stated when she and the Town Manager meet on a weekly basis to prepare report for the Council, they look at historical data and trending, not just the current figures. This historical data trending enables them to prepare the Town budget. Ms. Nutt pointed out the historical analysis has enabled them to accurately predict the decline in Photo Enforcement Revenue, as well as understand the decline in city's sales tax. Understanding these declines has led to an adjustment in the Town's spending habits.

Ms. Nutt pointed out there is a continued decline in Town revenue, including State Shared Revenues. In fiscal 2010 there was an increase in State Shared Revenue due to the 2010 Census, but this Revenue will continue to decline until there is an "overall economic shift." Due to good management and wise purchasing and spending habits, despite declines in revenue the Town has been able to increase a monthly surplus. The Town currently has a \$2.9 million cash reserve. However, Ms. Nutt pointed out "there is no more fat to be trimmed." It is still the goal of Town staff to work jointly with the Council to provide the best services it can to the community.

3. Discussion and possible action to adjourn into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-341.03.A.3 (Discussion or consultation for legal advice with the attorney or attorneys of the public body.) and pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-341.03.A.7 (Discussions or consultations with designated representatives of the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations for the purchase, sale or lease of real property.)

Discussion regarding acquisition of the Payson Water Company – Star Valley water utility system, including the facilities and customers, by initiating the appropriate proceedings pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-1116.

**A motion that the Council adjourn into Executive Session was made by Council Member Leis, and was seconded by Council Member Coon.
The motion was voted on and passed 7-0.**

- **ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.**
- **CALL REGULAR MEETING BACK TO ORDER.**

- 4. Discussion and possible action regarding acquisition of the Payson Water Company – Star Valley water utility system, including the facilities and customers, and instructing the Town Attorney to initiate the appropriate proceedings pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-1116.**

A motion that the Town of Star Valley purchase the Payson Water Company – Star Valley water utility system, including the facilities and customers, at a fair market value of \$775,000.00, and that the Town Attorney be directed to initiate the appropriate proceedings pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-1116 to accomplish this purchase, and also that the Town Manager/Attorney be authorized to spend the necessary funds to complete this transaction was made by Council Member Hartwell, and was seconded by Council Member Leis.

The motion was voted on and passed 7-0.

Council Member Coon stated that next to the formation of the Town, this was the most important move the Town has made to determine its future.

Mayor Rappaport stated that the Town of Star Valley was formed because of water, and the purchase of the water company fulfilled that obligation, although "this is the first step."

Council Member Leis stated this action "identifies Star Valley as a real town."

- **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

During this portion of the meeting, members of the public may address the Town Council on items that are not on the printed agenda. Any remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a whole and not to any individual member. Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes per person unless additional time is granted by the Mayor. The Council may not discuss or act upon matters raised during public comments.

Gary Rolf, resident of Star Valley, expressed his concern with thinning the forest. Mr. Rolf stated there are monies becoming available and the Town will not be considered in awarding of these monies unless the Town "becomes active in seeking them." It is his understanding most of the money available will go to the area where logging is desirable. Mr. Rolf encouraged the Council to take action to ascertain if Star Valley would be considered for a portion of the monies available.

Ray Lyons, resident of Star Valley, stated he is "happy" to see the Town move forward with water.

- **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Leis, and was seconded by Vice-Mayor Newland.

The motion was voted on and passed 7-0.

APPROVED:

William S. Rappaport, Mayor

Date: _____

ATTEST:

Lois V. Johnson, Town Clerk

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 Star Valley held on the 18th day of October, 2011. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 28th day of October, 2011.

Lois V. Johnson, Town Clerk