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MINUTES

TOWN OF PARKER COMMON COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING/SPECIAL MEETING/REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1314 11th STREET
TUESDAY, July 6, 2021 5:30 P.M.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT: Please silence or mute your electronic devices during the Council Meetings

CALL THE PUBLIC HEARING TO ORDER: Vice Mayor Hooper called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL: Vice Mayor Hooper, Council Member De Leon, Council Member Savino, Absent Council Member Hartless, Absent Council Member Lucas, Absent Mayor Bonds, Absent Council Member Shontz

Staff Present: Town Manager Lori Wedmemeyer, Town Clerk Amy Putnam, Community Development Director Nora Yackley, Community Health Outreach Program Director Lee Ann Anderson, Chief of Police Micahel Bailey, Library Manager Tracy McConnell, Public Works Director Steve Ziegler, Payroll Specialist Jennifer Alcaida

Others Present: Ashley Stewart, Amber Stewart, Chelsea Cassanova, Frank Vidrine, Rita Cucci, Devanie Fernandez, Jeanne Hentzen, Mary Crayton, Phil Lara, Lydia Lara, Melissa Newton, John Gutekunst

PURPOSE:

1. Discussion
 - a. Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Budget

Town Manager Wedemeyer gives the council an overview of the tentative budget. She explains the different handouts. There are no questions.

b. Citizens Comments

There are no public comments.

Lori Wedemeyer, Town Manager

ADJOURN THE PUBLIC HEARING: 5:32 PM

CALL THE SPECIAL MEETING TO ORDER: Vice Mayor Hooper called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL: Vice Mayor Hooper, Council Member De Leon, Council Member Savino, Council Member Shontz, Absent Council Member Hartless, Absent Council Member Lucas, Absent Mayor Bonds

Staff Present: Town Manager Lori Wedemeyer, Town Clerk Amy Putnam, Community Development Director Nora Yackley, Community Health Outreach Program Director Lee Ann Anderson, Chief of Police Micahel Bailey, Library Manager Tracy McConnell, Public Works Director Steve Ziegler, Payroll Specialist Jennifer Alcaida

Others Present: Ashley Stewart, Amber Stewart, Chelsea Cassanova, Frank Vidrine, Rita Cucci, Devanie Fernandez, Jeanne Hentzen, Mary Crayton, Phil Lara, Lydia Lara, Melissa Newton, John Gutekunst

REGULAR AGENDA:

Discussion and possible action on the following item(s)

1. Discussion and Action to Approve/Deny Resolution 09-2021 Tentative Budget Adoption and setting Public Hearing for Adoption of Final Budget for FY 2021-2022

Lori Wedemeyer, Town Manager

Town Manager Wedemeyer notes that the council has all of the budget information in front of them. She notes the budget amount and capital funds. She provides the council the highlights of the budget. There are no questions.

MOTION: Move to Approve Resolution 09-2021 Tentative Budget Adoption and setting Public Hearing for Adoption of Final Budget for FY 2021-2022
BY: Council Member Savino
SECOND: Council Member De Leon
VOTE: With all others in favor, the motion passed;

ADJOURN THE SPECIAL MEETING: 5:38 PM

CALL THE REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER: Vice Mayor Hooper called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL: Vice Mayor Hooper, Council Member De Leon, Council Member Savino, Council Member Shontz, Absent Council Member Hartless, Absent Council Member Lucas, Absent Mayor Bonds

Staff Present: Town Manager Lori Wedmemeyer, Town Clerk Amy Putnam, Community Development Director Nora Yackley, Community Health Outreach Program Director Lee Ann Anderson, Chief of Police Micahel Bailey, Library Manager Tracy McConnell, Public Works Director Steve Ziegler, Payroll Specialist Jennifer Alcaida

Others Present: Ashley Stewart, Amber Stewart, Chelsea Cassanova, Frank Vidrine, Rita Cucci, Devanie Fernandez, Jeanne Hentzen, Mary Crayton, Phil Lara, Lydia Lara, Melissa Newton, John Gutekunst

INVOCATION: Given by John Gutekunst

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Given by all in attendance

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

If you wish to address the Council during this meeting, please read and fill in the information on the "Call to the Public" form and hand it to the Town Clerk. Please limit your comments to a maximum of **3-minutes**.

There were 5 calls to the public presented to the clerk.

1. *Jeanne Hentzen- "I was working at the senior center my work there for 3 years but I'm retired and actually I started working there because my sister volunteered there for 15 years and decided I needed something to do. I called the people of the county, Meals on Wheels people, and I talked to them every day for three years. Those people were so grateful for everything we did. Getting the meals on time. Both of our drivers Miriam and Marty here congratulated every day of the week about how good they were and how quickly they got there. They intermingled with our people which made them happy and some of them had problems, which I would hear, like the air conditioner went off or they needed help or they needed heat in their buildings or whatever. I would get a call and then I would have to go back and talk to either Lydia or Darla and we always made sure that somebody welfare checked and got them the air conditioner, got them whatever they needed and they were happy people and it's kind of sad to see them upset. I talked to some of them since I left. I never saw any bullying going on there. I was probably accused of it because they called me the drill sergeant out front. When you had to get in and out of there Darla would come out and calmly tell them we have to follow the rules of the road. Some of the seniors just didn't feel like they wanted to do that and I really feel bad because all of the bad feelings are going on in the community about that place. I mean I'm 77 years old. I was probably the oldest one actually working, there not volunteering and I really enjoy talking to the people. I just didn't really appreciate that I was referred to as unrealistic and dysfunctional. I don't think any of this is easy. And we didn't want to come back if we were considered unrealistic and dysfunctional. Why would you want to come back and volunteer? And that's all I have to say, but I feel really bad for the community because what's hearing out there isn't what is actually going on there because I'm getting calls at home. And they didn't appreciate the meals, they were getting 5 cold meals for the week, when they were getting a meal every day. They like it because they like to see the people.*

And that's all I have to say. Darla was always there to help and give me help and assistance and working the front desk was no piece of cake some days and that's all I have to say."

2. Frank Vidrine- "I happened to know Darla for a long time when all this stuff happened. I never ever heard anybody say anything derogatory. I've known Lori for a long time and I've told anyone that would want to listen that if you wanted a person that did you a A plus plus plus job from what I observed I would hire her in a heartbeat. So since all this crap started happening about why she is the HR Director and the Town Manager obviously it was working okay until somebody dropped the ball over there. The problems that they were having I have no idea. I'm here, maybe some people do but I don't. I know one thing: the only person that I've seen over there is Rey and he's been over there a couple days. Occasionally I see Frank. Now you all show yourself when there's a holiday. I am retired military, I was a drill instructor for 10 years. I know what management leadership is. There's a little adage I used to use, those do best by who the boss checks. Everyone should go over there and talk to Leanne. She's doing a superb job. If you're not having the \$3 lunch you're missing out today it was awesome. You're all missing out by not going over there. I'm telling you that right now the best meal in town can't beat it. All I hear about the city council is narcissist pessimism and everybody's bitching about something but nobody is going out there checking to see what's going on. Thank you very much"
3. Amber Stewart- "I was speaking on behalf of my mom Marlene Stewart (Marty). I grew up with that Senior Center. I was 6 years old when she started. I will be speaking on behalf of my mother Marlene Stewart. I will be giving her testimony about Darla Tilleys resignation due to a family emergency, I could not be here tonight. Here are the accounts of Darla Tilly's resignation...(Inaudible)...There are a few accounts from those that were never involved. Today I would like to speak on my own accounts of staff members regarding the incidents between April and May when Darla was forced to resign. I was working at the senior center for 13 years, before my own resignation due to change caused by these events. You may take nothing more than what you hear as nothing more than a story but this is what I witness myself. The change in leadership was sudden and drastic. The staff was unaware of changes or anything going on. One day I was locking up the senior center before leaving. I had noticed a woman standing outside. She was sitting in her car, she was waiting for the staff to leave before entering the senior center. This had happened two more times. Later that same week a man came to the senior center and began to change the locks. The staff had not been informed nor do we have any more access to the building. All of these actions have been conducted while Darla was on sick leave. In a last cunning move Darla was escorted into the building with a police officer dressed in Kevlar to retrieve her belongings and no way was the staff informed of the changes in leadership nor why each change was done so secretively. In my time at the senior center I had come to learn that the job was always done to the satisfaction of the seniors that we served. It took consideration patience to bring awareness and joy to those we work with. In the time that new management did take over these ideals were not met. Each new decision came without the staff's knowledge. The way in which we served was changed unexpectedly and done with expectations with staff...inaudible...The aspects of service had changed. Food was no longer to be about quality but quantity. Public services were to be less about customer service but more about the business aspect. Saving money, time and resources. Our job would be changed and the staff were asked uncomfortable questions about our hours and wages. Some meetings included some staff but not all staff. We were ignored when staff brought up concerns. Yes the pay raise was brought up as a means to keep the staff from quitting. From what I understood and now see it was a bribe after what was such a hostile takeover. My own resignation was in response to this hostile incident and the unrealistic expectations placed upon my new job position."
4. Lydia Lara- "Recently I have been attending these Council meetings and listening to the sugar coating that's been reported to this Council about the senior center. Of course the food is good, it's the same cook. The broccoli salad that they raved about, it's not the first time that they've made it for lunch. Some of you have come for the meals to go even before the pandemic and acknowledged that the meals were great. Darla tested everything that was prepared in that

kitchen. Staff waited for her approval or addressed if needed before continuing to prepare for the clients. The senior committee oversees the nutritional program. The clients like the food. Per WACOG at the beginning of every fiscal year a survey is handed out to all homebound and congregate clients. Darla would review and make adjustments if needed. Surveys are filed and reviewed by WACOG at the time of monitoring. The senior committee members often ask clients in the center or out in the community about the meals. They say great, at the senior center responses were awesome meals, great meals, delicious meals. There were letters sent to Darla thanking her for delivering delicious meals, great job. So the meals have always been great. The Parker Senior Center has always been recognized by other seniors centers as the one to be like. These changes to the homebound clients who live in Parker and now receive frozen meals once a week instead of a hot meal every day because it's more efficient, yeah it is but that puts the senior center in violation of the WACOG contract. WACOG contract states Parker residents must receive hot meals. So why is the senior center not following the contract anymore? It is stated that there are no complaints from the Parker for homebound clients of course not, they are so thankful to get a meal. If they're looking to be more efficient, why not deliver meals once a month?"

5. Devanie Fernandez- "I am reading on behalf of my grandma Mary Crayton. I resigned from the Parker senior center for the following reasons. I was very disappointed in the article in the Parker Pioneer on June 23, 2021. The article stated that Darla Tilley had alleged bullying accusations. I have worked for her in the center for 9 years. Never did I hear or see any bullying. This is such a strong accusation. The fact that the article wants to portray that because of the Darla Tilley bullying accusation was the reason why these 5 employees quit. It was the lies that were being told about Darla and how she was forced to resign under duress and that's a reason why I choose to resign because of these articles. And lies that were put out into our community about a lady that cared so much about it. Another thing I don't understand in that article is why the staff was not interviewed or questioned in the investigation process? We spent more time with Darla than anyone and on a daily basis. It seems it has been another rigged investigation which is typical for the town of Parker. And the city council members now coming into the center have been making the statement how good the food is. This has been the same that it's been for the last two years because John, Sherry and I have been doing the cooking. Maybe if those same people would come in to visit the center as often as they should be they would know that nothing had changed. This was being done under Darla's direction. Again people are speaking on situations as they have no clue which is going on in the center day to day. In the article it seems someone is insinuating that jobs weren't being done. The work that was being done under Darla's direction was done with love, dedication and with the seniors in mind always. In the beginning of the month the bulletin is given out. It has all of the activities and the food that is being prepped for the month. The meals on wheels also get this flyer when they have their meals delivered to them so that they are always aware of what is going on. Flyers are placed on tables as well. There was an incident where one of the clients didn't get their meals. They called to notify us recently. Leanne said that if they wanted their meals they'd have to come in and get them. Mind you meals are 7 days and the majority of the clients are home bound at the end of the day I didn't know if those clients ever received their meals. I feel like the seniors center don't matter to the new management. My final remark is a couple of incidents where Lee Ann has been caught in a lie where she has been claiming people have been saying things about work hours and decisions around the center. I have no problem believing the accusations made towards Darla are false. Myself and our family volunteered many times at the center donating not only time but money when we are short-staffed. No dishwasher, my grandchildren would come in to help the center, my granddaughter who was invested in what was going to happen to the center after the pandemic hit since the center couldn't do any fundraising due to covid."

CONSENT AGENDA:

All items in the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine or have been previously reviewed by the Council, and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member so requests. If requested, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion and action.

Approve the following:

No Items submitted for approval

REGULAR AGENDA:

Discussion and possible action on the following item(s)

- 2. Discussion and Action to Approve/Deny Republic Services 1 Year Extension
Steve Ziegler, Director of Public Works

Public Works Director, Steve Zeigler, requests Mayor and Council to approve a one-year service agreement extension with Republic Services to provide solid waste collection services for the town from August 1st 2021 to August 1st 2022. Republic Services currently provides solid waste collections for the town. The agreement was signed in 2014 and has remained in full effect until the initial term expired on August 1st 2019. In the 2014 agreement it states if Republic Services wishes to continue with the contract and the town is agreeable, that Republic Services must send a written letter 30 days prior to the expiration date requesting a one-year extension pursuant to section 1 of the agreement. In the contract it also states that Republic Services can request a one-year extension up to a maximum of three consecutive years. This will be the third and final year in which a one-year extension request can be made in the plan moving forward will be to get the new contract in place by the end of this third extension. We received the written letter from Republic Services requesting the one-year extension to the agreement. The current rates, terms and conditions of the agreement will remain in effect if the extension is approved. There is no additional fiscal impact for approving this extension. The current rates will remain in effect. There are no questions regarding this item.

MOTION: Move to Approve Republic Services 1 Year Extension
BY: Council Member Savino
SECOND: Council Member De Leon
VOTE: With all others in favor, the motion passed;

- 3. Discussion and Action to Approve/Deny Mold Remediation in the Library Restroom FY 20/21 Capital Project
Steve Ziegler, Director of Public Works

Public Works director Steve Sidler respectfully requests the Mayor and Council to authorize staff to hire Spray Systems Environmental for \$2,850 to perform mold remediation in the public restroom at the library. On September 14th 2020 George Bryant Construction, a certified mold inspector, performed an inspection of the restroom for mold due to the water damage from roof leaks. They took a cavity sample of the drywall, a tape sample and an air sample inside the restroom. The laboratory results came back high for mold inside the wall cavity. The copy of the test results are included in your packet along with the recommended remediation. In order to

remediate the restroom we had to first fix the roof leaks which I'm happy to report have been completed and we can move forward with this remediation. I contacted Spray Systems Environmental which is a member of the 1 GPA purchasing cooperative, Contract #17-15P-05 this is the same contractor that we used to perform the asbestos abatement at the magistrate court building and in Sergeant Thompson's office. They provided a proposal of \$2,850 to perform the abatement. Although we can hire Spray Systems without the additional proposals I asked George Bryant Construction for a remediation proposal and their estimate was \$4,635. The funding for this project will come from the approved FY 20/21 capital budget where \$10,000 was budgeted and approved for the library building needs. Council Member Savino asks who will complete after the remediation and when will the work be scheduled? Public Works staff will complete some work, Steve is working with the contractor to get on their schedule. There are no other question regarding this item.

MOTION: Move to Approve Mold Remediation in the Library Restroom FY 20/21 Capital Project
BY: Council Member De Leon
SECOND: Council Member Shontz
VOTE: With all others in favor, the motion passed;

4. Discussion and Action to Approve/Deny HPHC Intergovernmental Agreement #CTR055355

Lee Ann Andeson, TOP Community Health Outreach Program Director

Director of the Community Health Outreach Program Lee Ann Anderson requests Council to approve the renewal of the Healthy People Healthy Communities Grant in which the Town of Parker first contracted with the Arizona Department of Health Services back in November of 2018. This multi-year IGA uses the amendment process annually to update the scope of work and price sheets associated with the service contract. This IGA price sheet comes to a total fixed price of \$341,274.00 which is billed to ADHS quarterly. The Healthy People Healthy Communities IGA is an ADHS service agreement that supports the use of evidence-based health prevention strategies to Arizona communities. These activities are to be applied where we live, learn, work and play. The community-based approach to health and wellness allows our strategies to align perfectly with the needs of our local schools, senior/community centers, libraries, community parks, food banks, daycares, healthcare agencies, hospitals and after-school programs. The IGA is funded through multiple bureau's within ADHS. These funding sources include the Health In Arizona Policy Initiative with the following strategies: Alzheimer's, chronic pulmonary disease, hypertension, chronic disease self-management, healthy community design, school health, worksite wellness and children and youth with special healthcare needs. The Tobacco Grant with the following strategies: prevention, cessation, secondhand smoke and enforcement. The Teen Pregnancy Prevention Grant and the Preventive Health Block Grant. The Healthy People Healthy Choices IGA is entirely grant-funded bearing no cost to the town of Parker. The IGA brings a total of \$341,274 to Parker, Quartzsite and the other unincorporated community of La Paz County to provide services using ADHS approved health prevention, promotion and policy strategies. The town of Parker receives 5% of the IGA for personnel/ere totals for administration of this IGA. Lee Ann notes that any changes to the contract have been noted in red. She notes a 6k increase to the grant. Council Member Savino asks about certifications. Lee Ann notes that there are many certifications that her staff is required to have, including sexual health education, tai chi etc. Council Member De Leon asks where these programs take place? Programs take place throughout the county including most of the schools. There are no other questions regarding this item.

MOTION: Move to Approve HPHC Intergovernmental Agreement #CTR055355
BY: Council Member Savino
SECOND: Council Member De Leon
VOTE: With all others in favor, the motion passed;

5. Discussion and Action to Approve/Deny BLM Right-of-Way AZA23193
Nora Yackley, Community Development Director

The Director of Community Development, Nora yackley, respectfully requests the Council to approve the Bureau of Land Management Grant of right-of-way AZA 23193 and allow Vice Mayor Hooper to sign the forms. On October 28th 1998 the Bureau of Land Management granted right away AZA to 3193 for a well site affecting public lands Described as followed Gila and Salt River Meridian, Arizona Township 8 North, range 19 West, Section 34, Northwest ¼, containing approximately 10 acres. This right away authorization expired on October 28th 2018. Nora notes she is working closely with BLM for the continual use of this right away and to renew this authorization. Normally all right-of-way renewals and authorizations would fall under the public works department however, the town has gone through some of the changes in the last few years and BLM Recreation and Public Purpose Lease has fallen through the system. The Recreation And Public Purpose Lease will be coming before you within the next 30 days. There is no fiscal impact to the town for submitting the renewal application and working with the BLM. There are no questions regarding this item.

MOTION: Move to Approve BLM Right-of-Way AZA23193
BY: Council Member Savino
SECOND: Council Member De Leon
VOTE: With all others in favor, the motion passed;

6. Discussion and Action to Approve/Deny Program Services Agreement-Parker Regional Chamber of Commerce and Tourism
Lori Wedemeyer, Town Manager

Town Manager, Lori Wedemeyer, requests Council to approve the FY 21-22 chamber Services agreement this is a budgeted item that was discussed in various work sessions when adopting the budget. The fiscal impact to the Town will be \$48,000 for the year. There is discussion of the marketing materials and where the Town of Parker will be represented. Additional funding assistance is discussed. Melissa discusses different expos and events that the chamber is hoping to attend.

MOTION: Move to Approve Program Services Agreement-Parker Regional Chamber of Commerce and Tourism
BY: Council Member De Leon
SECOND: Council Member Shontz
VOTE: With all others in favor, the motion passed;

COUNCIL MEMBER/LIAISONS REPORTS WITH POSSIBLE TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

- *Chamber of Commerce-CM Savino + Manager Wedemeyer*
* Tourism-CM Hartless * Joint Venture-VM Hooper + CM Savino* PAACE-CM Lucas*
*Tribal Committee -Mayor Bonds + CM Savino *
Parks & Recreation- CM Lucas + VM Hooper Senior Center-CM De Leon+ CM Savino *

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

| | | | |
|----------|---------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Thursday | July 8, 2021 | Teen Book Club | 5:30 @ Parker Public Library |
| Monday | July 12, 2021 | Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting | 4:00 PM |
| Monday | July 12 and July 19, 2021 | Baby and Me Story Time | 6:00 PM @ Parker Public Library |
| Thursday | July 15, 2021 | Parker Regional Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Monthly Business Mixer @ Havasu Springs | 5:30 PM |
| Tuesday | July 20, 2021 | Next Regular Council Meeting | 6:00 PM |

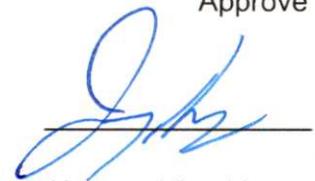
Unless so noted, all meetings are held in the Council Chambers located at 1314 11th Street.

ADJOURN: Vice Mayor Hooper adjourns the meeting at 6:48 PM

Some members of the council or the town attorney may attend the meeting either in person or by telephone conference call. Persons with a disability may request reasonable accommodation by contacting, the town clerk, (928) 669-9265, at least (72) hours before the scheduled meeting. Facilities are handicapped accessible

The council may vote to recess into an executive session which will not be open to the public, for the purpose of obtaining legal advice regarding any of the agenda items, pursuant to a.r.s. §38-431.03(a)(3).

Approve



Jerry Hooper, Vice Mayor

ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION

SPECIAL BUDGET WORK SESSION/REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
July 6, 2021 5:30 PM Arizona

Join the Zoom Meeting from your computer with the address below. Follow the instructions on the Zoom website.
(Available for Audio and Video)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89925600741?pwd=WWttdjJCNDkrTFJJYXJHS3VRY1BPZz09>

Meeting ID: 899 2560 0741
Passcode: 275874

Or

Dial one the numbers below. If one is busy, try the next. Once you're connected follow the prompts.

346-248-7799
669-900-6833
253-215-8782
312-626-6799
646-558-8656
301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 899 2560 0741
Passcode: 275874