

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Winslow City Council held on February 25, 2025 at 6:30 P.M. in the main hall of the Winslow Visitor's Center, 523 West Second Street, Winslow, Arizona.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Cano (via Zoom), Vice Mayor MacLean, Councilmember Cake, Councilmember Crisp, Councilmember McKee, Councilmember Salazar, Councilmember Tafoya

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF:

David Coolidge City Manager, Trish Stuhan City Attorney, Suzy Wetzel City Clerk, Daniel Hendrix Finance Director, Tim Westover Public Works Director, Jack Fitchett Economic Development Director, Sandra Knight Recreation Manager

Vice Mayor MacLean called the meeting to order. The Pledge was given and the Invocation was offered by Bishop Casey Hancock from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Roll call was taken and all members were present.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Laurie LaShomb congratulated the city on the new library and, as Farmers Market Manager, spoke in support of the Incubator Feasibility Study conducted by White Mountain Economic Development. Ms. LaShomb also encouraged support of local small businesses.

Brandy Price provided information regarding the DES Vocational Rehabilitation Services pilot project.

Raymond Lucero referred to the housing development on Mahoney and Gilmore and inquired about drainage for the project.

Blake Miller, speaking on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce, extended an invitation to Good Morning Winslow on March 5th where he will be presenting on how to keep our drinking water safe.

Marian Fields, owner of Person 2 Pet LLC and also a Mother Road Farmers Market vendor, spoke in support of the business incubator.

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS REPORTS

A. Current Events and Announcements

The following events and announcements were made under this item:

Councilmember Crisp

- Police & Fire Department basketball game on March 1st
- Rotary/St. Mary's Food Distribution event on February 27th
- ADOT underpass work scheduled to begin on February 26th
- Navajo County Assessor will be available at Senior Center on February 26th
- Classic Film Friday on March 7th
- Information regarding Borderland distribution event held on February 22nd

B. Future Agenda Items

Councilmember Crisp requested that a presentation regarding the city's emergency plan be provided at an upcoming meeting.

SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

A. Presentation from White Mountain Economic Development Regarding Feasibility Study for Incubation Services

The Economic Development Director introduced White Mountain Economic Development Executive Director Russ Yelton and President & CEO Donald Laughlin, who were responsible for conducting the Incubator Feasibility Study.

Mr. Yelton and Mr. Laughlin provided a PowerPoint Presentation that outlined the history of the project, including information regarding their research and data gathering for the study. The presentation also included detailed information regarding the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for a city operated incubator. Next steps in the process include possible funding from Local First for food entrepreneurship trainings, a proposed GAP Program and other funding options.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Mr. Yelton and Mr. Laughlin responded to questions and comments from the Council.

B. Presentation from GLD Partners Regarding Tradeport Activities and Accomplishments

Lois Yates of Global Logistics Development Partners introduced Joel Pentz, who was attending in person, and Adam Wasserman, who was attending via Zoom.

Ms. Yates referred to previous meetings that GLD Partners have attended and stated that since those meetings were mainly to discuss the I-40 TradePort Corridor project, her and her colleagues are attending tonight to provide information regarding their company that was formed in 2009.

A PowerPoint Presentation was provided that detailed information regarding GLD Partners and their project partners throughout 13 states in North America and 11 international countries. GLD's team expertise consists of the following:

- Economic Development
- Ports Management
- Rail Management
- Corporate Supply Chain Management
- Clean Energy
- Automation/Automotive Technology
- Project Finance
- Legal
- Public Policy

The presentation highlighted information regarding the I-40 TradePort Corridor, the I-10 TradePort Corridor and TradePort California. Ms. Yates also provided detailed information related to the status of the TradePort Winslow Project.

After discussing the Federal Legislative Investment Plan to secure investment in the I-40 TradePort Corridor and its hubs, Ms. Yates, as well as Mr. Pentz, provided an update on the investment status. Mr. Wasserman provided additional information regarding the direct economic development benefits to Winslow from corridor-wide and hub-specific investments.

In conclusion, Mayor Cano thanked Ms. Yates and her team for being in Winslow and presenting information about GLD Partners.

STATUS REPORTS

A. Verbal Status Report on Current City Activities by City Manager Which May Include Project and Legislative Update

The City Manager's legislative update included information regarding the following proposed bills:

- HCR2021: municipal food tax
- HB 2221/HB2943: police & fire budgets
- SB 1318/SCR1014: income tax rate; reduction; surplus
- HB2118: transaction privilege tax rules on retail sales
- HB2371/SB1229: starter home restrictions

After stating that the pause on federal funding is having an impact on the Farmers Market and Incubator Feasibility Study grants, the City Manager reported that \$2 million in airport projects and the \$3 million water tank appropriation are also being impacted.

The City Manager then provided updates regarding the ramada project, the pocket parks & 9/11 park renovations and the Tom Harris Field accessibility upgrades.

In response to a comment made under Call to the Public, the City Manager provided information regarding the drainage for the proposed development on East Gilmore & East Mahoney Streets. The City Manager also responded to a question from Vice Mayor MacLean regarding the ramada project.

B. Monthly Financial Report by Finance Director Which May Include Balances, Expenditures and Revenues in All Funds

The Finance Director highlighted information from his written report for the month of January including city wide revenues and expenditures and General Fund, HURF Fund and Enterprise Funds revenues and expenditures.

The Finance Director addressed the issue previously discussed relating to being over budget in the Wastewater Fund and explained that it was the result of an extra payment being made on one of the wastewater debts. The Finance Director also thanked the City Manager for assisting him with analyzing the wastewater budget to determine the cause of the issue.

C. Quarterly Report by Recreation Manager Which May Include Information from Past Events and Announcements for Upcoming Events

The Recreation Manager reported that Youth Basketball, which ends on March 1st, had a great season and a total of ten teams have signed up for Men's Basketball with play starting on March 3rd. The Recreation Manager also thanked Recreation Supervisor Jessica Lewis for her efforts with implementing the new Frequency Float Program that is already proving to be a huge success.

The Recreation Manager provided information regarding the 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament that is scheduled for April 12th and a Pickleball Clinic scheduled for April 29th.

Councilmember McKee stated that she has heard nothing but rave reviews about the Frequency Float Program.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Moved by Councilmember Cake, seconded by Councilmember Tafoya, to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Motion passed unanimously with Mayor Cano, Vice Mayor MacLean and Councilmembers Cake, Crisp, McKee, Salazar and Tafoya voting yes.

- A. Discussion and/or Action to Approve the Check Register**
- B. Discussion and/or Action to Approve Minutes of the City Council Regular Meeting of February 11, 2025**
- C. Discussion and/or Action to Approve Agreement Between City of Winslow and Winslow Hot Shots for Use of City Owned Baseball Fields**
- D. Discussion and/or Action to Approve Professional Services Agreement with GLD Partners for Consulting Services Related to the I-40 TradePort Corridor**

COUNCIL CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- A. Discussion and/or Action Regarding Request for Sponsorship for the Little Colorado River Valley Astronomy Club First Annual Astro Pageant**

Bill Wood, President of the Astronomy Club, provided background information regarding the club that was formed in 2010. Information included the donation of an observatory dome in 2016 that was subsequently placed on a building constructed two years later near the Homolovi Ruins Visitor's Center in conjunction with a partnership with both the city and Arizona State Parks.

After explaining that the club would like to expand their public outreach, Mr. Wood provided information regarding their Astro Pageant event and their request for sponsorship. Board Treasurer Cheri Sahmie provided additional information regarding the event that will demonstrate contestants' knowledge and creativity during three rounds of competition.

Vice Mayor MacLean discussed remaining funds in the Mayor & Council's Special Events Account and Councilmember McKee made a motion to donate \$100 to the Astronomy Club. The motion was amended to increase the donation to \$250 which was seconded by Councilmember Cake and passed unanimously with Mayor Cano, Vice Mayor MacLean and Councilmembers Cake, Crisp, McKee, Tafoya and Salazar voting yes.

B. Discussion and/or Action Regarding Request for Assistance for the Soroptimist International Club's "Winslow Goes Bonco's" Event

Vice Mayor MacLean referred to the request included in the packet and there was a brief discussion regarding the community efforts of the Soroptimist Club to promote education.

Motion: Moved by Councilmember Crisp, seconded by Councilmember McKee, to appropriate \$250. Motion passed unanimously with Mayor Cano, Vice Mayor MacLean and Councilmembers Cake, Crisp, McKee, Salazar and Tafoya voting yes.

MOTION TO ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: Moved by Councilmember Cake, seconded by Councilmember McKee, to adjourn to executive session. Motion passed unanimously with Mayor Cano, Vice Mayor MacLean and Councilmembers Cake, Crisp, McKee, Salazar and Tafoya voting yes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Under authority of A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1) and A(3), the City Council may hold an executive session for annual performance evaluation of the City Manager and discussion or consultation for legal advice with the City Attorney and contract negotiations with the City Manager

Motion: Moved by Councilmember Cake, seconded by Councilmember Crisp, to return to regular session. Motion passed unanimously with Mayor Cano, Vice Mayor MacLean and Councilmembers Cake, Crisp, McKee, Salazar and Tafoya voting yes.

**DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO APPROVE CITY MANAGER
EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT**

Motion: Moved by Councilmember Tafoya, seconded by Councilmember Cake, to approve the City Manager Employment Agreement. Motion passed unanimously with Mayor Cano, Vice Mayor MacLean and Councilmembers Cake, Crisp, McKee, Salazar and Tafoya voting yes.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Moved by Councilmember Cake, seconded by Councilmember McKee, to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Motion passed unanimously with Mayor Cano, Vice Mayor MacLean and Councilmembers Cake, Crisp, McKee, Salazar and Tafoya voting yes.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Winslow City Council held on February 25, 2025 at 6:30 P.M. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 25th day of *March*, 2025.

Suzy Wetzel
City Clerk