

These minutes are subject to approval and/or correction on September 21, 2022.

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Winslow Agriculture Commission held on August 17, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room, 21 Williamson Avenue, Winslow, Arizona.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Vice Chairperson Mansfield
Commissioner Beall
Commissioner Chambers
Commissioner Thompson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Commissioner Wood

STAFF

David Coolidge, Interim City Manager
Suzy Wetzel, City Clerk
Ashley Salyers, Recording Secretary
Una Wirkebau, Econ Dev Director

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson Mansfield at 4:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll was called with Commissioner Wood being absent. Motion: Moved by Commissioner Beall, seconded by Commissioner Chamber, to excuse Commissioner Wood. Motion passed unanimously with Vice Chairperson Mansfield and Commissioners Beall, Chambers and Thompson voting yes.

DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES – JULY 20, 2022

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Beall, to approve the meeting minutes of July 20, 2022. Motion passed unanimously with Vice Chairperson Mansfield and Commissioners Beall, Chambers and Thompson voting yes.

STATUS REPORTS

A. Report from Interim City Manager Regarding Farmers Market Operations

The Interim City Manager informed the Commission that the City Council recently made the decision to resume operation of the Farmers Market and explained that one of the reasons this decision was made is so that the Council can look at different options moving forward. The Interim City Manager stated that the Council also made the decision that Councilwoman Crisp will oversee operations of the Farmers Market through the end of this season.

The Interim City Manager stated that there may be several options available for future operations of the Farmers Market that will be discussed in more detail by the Economic Development Director later in the meeting. In response to a question from Vice Chairperson Mansfield, the Interim City Manager stated that he would speak with the City Council regarding possible appointment of an alternate if Councilwoman Crisp is unable to be at Farmers Market. Commissioner Thompson discussed an issue that she experienced with a vendor last Saturday but stated that Councilwoman Crisp was available to provide a resolution.

B. Report from Economic Development Director Regarding Status of USDA Grant Application

After introducing herself and expressing appreciation for the work that the Commission has done related to the Farmers Market, the Economic Development Director stated that the USDA grant application submitted by the city has been selected to move on to the second phase of the application process. The Economic Development Director discussed various uses for the grant funds including hiring a full-time Farmers Market Coordinator,

permanent stalls for the Farmers Market, additional advertising, and increased education for farmers. The anticipated grant award date is September or October.

The Economic Development Director briefly discussed other grants that she has been working on and there was discussion regarding the proposed use of the commercial kitchen at the Senior Center. The Economic Development Director also commented on the possible use of tokens and acceptance of food stamps at the Farmers Market. The Interim City Manager stated that since this topic was not on the agenda, it should not be discussed to avoid an Open Meeting Law violation.

COMMISSION CONSIDERATION AND ACTION

A. Discussion and/or Action Regarding Winslow Garden Tour

Commissioner Chambers stated that the tour has been cancelled due to lack of individuals who were willing to participate, however there will be a Community Garden Open House in lieu of the tour.

B. Discussion and/or Action Regarding Education Programs/Workshops Which May Include Gardening Classes at Northland Pioneer College (NPC)

Commissioner Chambers stated that she has been in discussions with NPC regarding the possibility of scheduling a two-day workshop instead of an entire gardening course. It was the consensus of the Commission to discuss this item at the next meeting. Commissioner Beall stated that she is willing to teach if instructors are needed.

C. Discussion and/or Action Regarding City Code Requirements Related to Chickens

Vice Chairperson Mansfield stated that she would like to see the ordinance changed but referred to the fact that there is a process that involves a recommendation to the City Council from the Commission. There was discussion regarding the code language and requirements for chickens wherein the Interim City Manager clarified that the Agriculture Commission is an advisory board and can make recommendations to change the code if they desire to do so. Commissioner Beall referred to the \$250 required for a Conditional Use Permit to have chickens and stated that she would like to see the cost lowered or waived. After further discussion, staff was directed to include an item to develop a recommendation to the City Council on the next agenda after members of the Commission have had an opportunity to review the code language in further detail.

D. Discussion and/or Action Regarding the City Farm

After Commission members expressed their interest in taking a tour of the City Farm, the Interim City Manager stated that he will contact the current lessee to schedule a site visit. The City Clerk stated that the tour would be scheduled outside of the regular meeting date and a possible quorum notice would be posted to avoid an Open Meeting Law violation.

With regard to the current lease, the Interim City Manager explained that it would be up to the lessee if he is interested in allowing the Agriculture Commission to use a portion of the property for certain uses. Vice Chairperson Mansfield requested that staff arrange a tour of the City Farm.

E. Discussion and/or Action Regarding Tree Planting Campaign Which May Include Donations

In response to a comment from Commissioner Thompson regarding the fact that she has been unable to get in touch with APS concerning tree donations, the Interim City Manager stated that he has an APS contact and will try to get additional information regarding the program. Commissioner Thompson stated that after various aspects of the donation is confirmed, the Commission can then decide how best to proceed.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no other future agenda items except for the ones discussed during the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Chambers, seconded by Commissioner Beall, to adjourn at 5:05 p.m. Motion passed unanimously with Vice Chairperson Mansfield and Commissioners Beall, Chambers and Thompson voting yes.

Vice Chairperson Linda Mansfield

ATTEST:

Ashley Salyers, Recording Secretary