

These minutes are subject to approval and/or correction on January 18, 2023.

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Winslow Agriculture Commission held on October 19, 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, City Manager
Suzy Wetzel, City Clerk
Ashley Salyers, Recording Secretary

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 Thompson, 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 – August 17, 2022

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Chambers, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, to approve the meeting minutes of August 17, 2022. Motion passed unanimously with Vice Chairperson Mansfield and Commissioners Beall, Chambers and Thompson voting yes.

STATUS REPORTS

A. Update Regarding APS' Tree Donation Program

The City Manager reported that he had met with APS while attending the League Conference in August and contact information, including an APS link, for the Tree Program was forwarded to members of the Commission. The City Manager briefly discussed the city's Tree Planting Program stating that the city recently received eight trees from APS that will be planted in designated areas.

The City Manager responded to questions and comments from the Commission and Manager stated that he will invite the Public Works Director to a future meeting to provide additional information regarding this program. Since some members did not recall receiving the email that was originally sent, the City Clerk stated that she will resend it.

COMMISSION CONSIDERATION AND ACTION

A. Discussion and/or Action Regarding Rescheduling of City Farm Tour

After receiving information from the commission members regarding if a certain day and time work better for them, the City Clerk stated that she will work with Gene Hancock to reschedule the tour for a future date after 4:00 p.m.

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 continued discussions with NPC and it the plan is to hold five classes at the Community Garden during the Spring semester, most likely in March. Commissioner Chambers also discussed proposed topics for the classes.

C. Discussion and/or Action Regarding Recommendation to the City Council to Change City Code Language Pertaining to Chickens

After stating that the reason she requested that this item be included on the agenda is due to the cost of chickens and eggs and the shortage of eggs at the supermarket, Vice Chairperson Mansfield asked for feedback from the Commission. Commissioner Chambers stated that she likes the current language in the code and believes that if individuals are allowed to have more chickens that it would result in them not caring for them as is the case with people who do not take care of their dogs. Vice Chairperson Mansfield commented on the \$250 fee to apply for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) which is required if you want to have chickens.

Clarification was provided that, per the City Code, one chicken is allowed per 300 square feet of roaming area with no more than 25 on any lot regardless of the lot size. There was discussion regarding the 30-foot setback requirement for chicken coops or other structures designed for the keeping of chickens and how staff handles complaints and enforces the Code. There was also discussion regarding the CUP process that is now heard by the Zoning Hearing Office since the Planning & Zoning Commission was recently dissolved.

After discussion regarding the possibility of either lowering or waiving the \$250 CUP fee wherein clarification was provided that this is not a viable option due to the fact that there are other reasons when CUP's are required, it was the consensus of the Commission that they would not make a recommendation to the City Council to make changes to the code at this time.

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commission Chambers, to leave the code as-is. Motion passed unanimously with Vice Chairperson Mansfield and Commissioners Beall, Chambers and Thompson voting yes.

D. Discussion and/or Action Regarding November and December Meeting Schedule

After the City Clerk discussed the November and December meeting dates and requested that the Commission make a decision on whether they would like to cancel one or both of the meetings, the following motion was made:

Motion: Moved by Commissioner Chambers, seconded by Commission Beall, to cancel the December 21st meeting. Motion passed unanimously with Vice Chairperson Mansfield and Commissioners Beall, Chambers and Thompson voting yes.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no specific future agenda items except 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