

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CHINO VALLEY**

**TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023  
6:00 P.M.**

**CHINO VALLEY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
202 N. STATE ROUTE 89, CHINO VALLEY, AZ**

Present: Mayor Jack Miller; Vice-Mayor Eric Granillo; Councilmember Annie Perkins; Councilmember Tom Armstrong; Councilmember John McCafferty; Councilmember Sherri Phillips; Councilmember Robert Schacherer

Staff Present: Town Manager Cindy Blackmore; Town Attorney Andrew McGuire (remote); Assistant to the Town Manager Terri Denemy; Development Services Director Laurie Lineberry; Administrative Services Director Joe Duffy; Human Resources Director Laura Kyriakakis; Police Chief Chuck Wynn; Public Works Director/Town Engineer Frank Marbury; Senior Planner Will Dingee; Planner Bethan Heng; Community Services Director Scott Bruner; Audio Visual Technician Lawrence Digges; Town Clerk Erin N. Deskins

**1) CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE; ROLL CALL**

Mayor Miller called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2) INTRODUCTIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND PROCLAMATIONS**

- a)** Presentation from Gary Beverly, regarding the proposed Upper Verde Wild and Scenic River (UVWSR).

Gary Beverly, Citizens Water Advocacy Group and Sierra Club Board Member, presented the following:

- Mr. Beverly moved to Chino Valley in 1974.
- The Upper Verde River was a little known and underappreciated river, but was a major resource for the Southwest United States. While important to Chino Valley, its importance exceeded the local area and deserved national recognition.
- The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act was the highest form of Federal protection for rivers and required approval by the US Congress and President. This act protected free-flowing rivers that had outstandingly remarkable values (ORV). The National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act was passed in 1968 and there were 226 river segments in the US and over 13,000 river miles were protected.
- The act protected the free-flowing character by preventing large federal dam projects, would create a federal reserved water right, would ensure water quality was maintained or enhanced (the water quality was very good, and he wanted to keep it that way). The act also required that a comprehensive river management plan be developed to protect the ORVs (the scenery, geology, cultural values, botanic resources, etc.), and Prescott

National Forest would be the administering agency. The act required community participation.

- Coalition members included the Yavapai-Apache Nation, national conservation groups, and state-wide organizations, which had designated the Upper Verde River as one of the highest priority projects in the Southwest.
- Mr. Beverly was looking to continue building community support. He had already received letters of support from over 130 businesses in Flagstaff, the Verde Valley and West Yavapai County. The economic case for this designation was really important. Several cities had also signed letters of support, along with other government agencies, and he was asking for the same from the Chino Valley Council.
- This was presented to the Arizona Congressional Delegation in March, as well as Senators Sinema and Kelly, and Representative Eli Crane describing the project and getting feedback. They were all very interested.
- Mr. Beverly would be continuing community outreach by attending individual community meetings around Arizona and trying to introduce legislation in the fall.
- The designation would include 23,712 acres with a total of 74.1 river miles.
- Acquiring the designation would not restrict hunting, fishing, or other recreational activities, nor would it create a requirement to acquire, regulate, or zone private land, or constrain access to private land. There would also be no effect on existing water rights. The point of the designation was not to solve the water rights problem.
- The outstanding and remarkable values as identified by Prescott Forest included: scenic, recreational, cultural, wildlife, fisheries, and botanic.
- Council asked what the plans were to protect the river if this were to be approved at the Federal level.
  - Mr. Beverly stated that the act required Prescott Forest to complete a Management Plan within three years after designation, but they planned to have it done in 18 months. The Management Plan would reflect the priorities and concerns of the community. Mr. Beverly stated that he would like to see improved public access.
- Council asked how this designation would help the dropping water levels.
  - Mr. Beverly stated that it would not help that because the threat to the water was groundwater pumping, increasing temperatures, and drought. The designation was just one step on the way to protecting the river.

**3) CALL TO THE PUBLIC- Individuals requesting to speak, please complete a Speaker Comment Card and return to the Clerk.**

*Call to the Public is an opportunity for the public to address the Council on any issue within the jurisdiction of the Council that is not on the agenda. Public comment is at the discretion of the Council and not required by law. Individuals are limited to speak for three (3) minutes, yielding of time will not be permitted. The total time for Call to the Public may be up to 30 minutes per meeting. Council action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date, or responding to criticism. Disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated; this includes loud outbursts, profanity and disruptive discussions among our audience.*

John Garden presented the following:

- He wanted to address affordable housing within the Town. He was asking that in the future the board look at any projects coming into Town like low-income housing. It was not a new concept, and it was his experience that it didn't just affect that neighborhood, but the neighborhoods surrounding by diminishing the quality of life. The Coalition for Compassion & Justice were looking at building a project like that out here. Mr. Garden

asked the Council to do homework and research on the background of locations where affordable housing neighborhoods were brought in and the neighborhoods then declined.

#### 4) **CURRENT EVENT SUMMARIES AND REPORTS**

*This item is for information only. The Mayor, any Councilmember, or Town Manager may present a brief summary or report of current events. If listed below, there may also be a presentation on information requested by the Mayor and Council and questions may be answered. No action will be taken.*

##### a) Status reports by Mayor and Council regarding current events.

Councilmember Armstrong presented the following:

- He had attended the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Rough Riders at the Prescott square. Wreaths were laid and it was a nice ceremony attended by Supervisor Brown and Mayor Goode.
- The portion of HB2543 that applied to road improvements of 89 from Road 3 to Road 5 did not make it onto the tentative budget. It could make it onto the final budget, but chances were slim.

Mayor Miller thanked Councilmember Armstrong for his efforts on HB2543.

Councilmember Perkins presented the following:

- The Trust for Public Land \$7 million was put in the budget for a State Park at Del Rio Springs to preserve the Verde River Waterway. It would be a great drive of revenue for the area and Senator Sinema's office had committed \$2 million.
- May was Law Enforcement Appreciation Month. She encouraged everyone to thank the law enforcement officials in the community.
- It was the end of the school year; graduation was in two weeks. She asked everyone to watch out for kids who would be out for the summer.

##### b) Status report by Town Manager Cindy Blackmore regarding Town accomplishments, and current or upcoming projects.

- The PD vs 8<sup>th</sup> Grader Dodgeball game would be held on Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- The Golden age and Glamour Senior Prom would be at the Senior Center on May 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- She thanked Councilmember Armstrong for the work he did on trying to get funding for State Hwy 89. She was hopeful that work would pay off in the future. She also thanked Senator Bliss who sent her apologies, she had also worked really hard to get it in the budget.
- The elevator arrived at the new PD today. It would take a couple of weeks to get it in and they were looking at moving in sometime in June.

5) **CONSENT AGENDA**

*All those items listed below are considered to be routine and may be enacted by one motion. Any Councilmember may request to remove an item from the Consent Agenda to be considered and discussed separately.*

Councilmember Perkins requested to pull item 5(d).

MOVED by Councilmember Tom Armstrong, seconded by Councilmember John McCafferty to approve Consent Agenda Items a, b, c, e, f, and g as written.

AYE: Mayor Jack Miller, Vice-Mayor Eric Granillo, Councilmember Annie Perkins, Councilmember Tom Armstrong, Councilmember John McCafferty, Councilmember Sherri Phillips, Councilmember Robert Schacherer

**7 - 0 PASSED - Unanimously**

- a) Consideration and possible action to grant a 10' utility easement to T-Mobile West LLC for the existing cell tower at the Town's North Campus.
- b) Consideration and possible action to approve the Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Arizona Truck Center, LLC, dba Vanguard Truck Center of Phoenix, for the purchase of one 10-wheel dump truck for an amount not to exceed \$221,717.02.
- c) Consideration and possible action to approve the Financial Report for the nine-month period ending March 31, 2023.
- d) Consideration and possible action to authorize the Town Manager to sign the written authorization for Ichor Airsoft, LLC to erect additional buildings on site as required in the Lease Agreement.

Council and Ichor Owner, Crystal Patton, discussed the following:

- Councilmember Perkins mentioned that there had been complaints about the weeds along the roadways and asked if that could be cleaned up.
  - Ms. Patton stated that she would make sure that was taken care of.
- Councilmember Perkins also asked if it would be possible to paint the trailer.
  - Ms. Patton stated that she could make that happen.

MOVED by Councilmember Annie Perkins, seconded by Councilmember Tom Armstrong to approve Consent Agenda Item d.

AYE: Mayor Jack Miller, Vice-Mayor Eric Granillo, Councilmember Annie Perkins, Councilmember Tom Armstrong, Councilmember John McCafferty, Councilmember Sherri Phillips, Councilmember Robert Schacherer

**7 - 0 PASSED - Unanimously**

- e) Consideration and possible action to approve a revised Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Dahill Office Technology Corporation dba Xerox Business Solution Southwest to provide copiers, supplies, equipment, and service for 60 months for \$96,989.40.
- f) Consideration and possible action to approve the March 15, 2023, joint meeting study session minutes.
- g) Consideration and possible action to approve the April 11, 2023, regular meeting minutes.

**6) ACTION ITEMS**

*The Council may vote to recess the public meeting and hold an Executive Session on any item on this agenda pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) for the purpose of discussion or consultation for legal advice with the Town Attorney. Executive sessions are not open to the public and no action may be taken in executive session.*

**7) ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Councilmember John McCafferty, seconded by Councilmember Tom Armstrong to enter into Executive Session.

AYE: Mayor Jack Miller, Vice-Mayor Eric Granillo, Councilmember Annie Perkins, Councilmember Tom Armstrong, Councilmember John McCafferty, Councilmember Sherri Phillips, Councilmember Robert Schacherer

**7 - 0 PASSED - Unanimously**

MOVED by Councilmember Sherri Phillips, seconded by Mayor Jack Miller to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 6:31 p.m.

AYE: Mayor Jack Miller, Vice-Mayor Eric Granillo, Councilmember Annie Perkins, Councilmember Tom Armstrong, Councilmember John McCafferty, Councilmember Sherri Phillips, Councilmember Robert Schacherer

**7 - 0 PASSED - Unanimously**

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION  
TUESDAY, May 9, 2023  
6:30 P.M.**

**Council Chambers  
202 N. State Route 89  
Chino Valley, Arizona**

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**AGENDA**

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL**
- 2) An executive session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1) for discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, or salary of Cindy Blackmore, Town Manager.
- 3) **ADJOURNMENT**



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Jack W. Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:



*Erin N. Deskins*

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Erin N. Deskins, 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 Chino Valley, Arizona held on the 9th day of May, 2023. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 13th day of June, 2023.

*Erin N. Deskins*

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Erin N. Deskins, Town Clerk