

**THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLCOX, COCHISE COUNTY, AZ
HELD ON THIS 20TH DAY OF APRIL 2017**

CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Michael Laws called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL - City Clerk Crystal Hadfield called the roll.

PRESENT

Mayor Michael J. Laws
Vice Mayor Terry Rowden
Councilman Gerald "Sam" Lindsey
Councilman Robert A. Irvin
Councilman Elwood A. Johnson
Councilman Timothy A. Bowlby
Councilwoman Rachel D. Garza

STAFF

City Manager Ted Soltis
City Attorney Ann Roberts
Finance Director/City Clerk Crystal Hadfield
Public Safety Director Jose Rios
Development Services Director Jeff Stoddard

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG - Led by Mayor Laws

CALL TO THE PUBLIC - None

DECLARATION ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST - None

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Vice Mayor Rowden made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented.

SECONDED: Councilmember Garza seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVE THE APRIL 6, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Councilmember Lindsey made a motion to approve the April 6, 2017 Council meeting minutes.

SECONDED: Councilmember Irvin seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE – ALAN BAKER

Chamber of Commerce Director Alan Baker gave an update on the Chamber of Commerce. He spoke about recent advertising, events coming up, and businesses coming to Willcox, Three sample advertisement videos were shown that described the agriculture, birding, and the wine industry in Willcox and Cochise County.

APPROVE WILLCOX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND AGRICULTURE APPLICATION FOR A SPECIAL EVENT LICENSE FOR MAY 20TH, 6:00 PM TO 10:30 PM FOR AN EVENT AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER

MOTION: Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to approve Willcox Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture application for a special event license.

SECONDED: Councilmember Garza seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Chamber of Commerce Director Alan Baker said that the event will be held to raise funds for the hospital. Rod Keeling from Willcox Wine Country spoke on the event at the Community Center and the wine festival. Keeling said that this is the third dinner to be held and they decided on the Community Center to accommodate the growth of the event. They will sell 150 – 175 tickets for the dinner and at this point have sold 1/3 of the available tickets. Keeling explained that the Chamber is in partnership with Willcox Wine Country. Ten members, that have tasting rooms, will participate in the event. Councilmember Lindsey asked how the wine vendors are chosen. Keeling replied that it is up to the individual wineries as to whether they want to participate. Keeling stated that a ticket is \$45 and it is a casual buffet dinner. Councilmember Garza asked if tickets were still available. Keeling said that yes and tickets can be purchased through the Chamber or Eventbrite.com. The dinner and festival is being promoted on Facebook as well. Councilmember Lindsey asked if the Arizona Rangers would be providing security for the event. Keeling stated that the Arizona Rangers and Willcox Police Department will provide security. Keeling gave a brief history of the festival. He anticipates 5,000 – 6,000 people will attend this year's event, as it is the largest wine festival in Arizona. Councilmember Garza asked how the festival compares to the Sonoita festival. Keeling replied that Willcox's event is larger. There will also be 40 non-wine vendors at the festival. Keeling stated that Willcox's festival was rated as one of the top ten wine festivals in North America.

MOTION CARRIED

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APPROVE WILLCOX WINE COUNTRY FESTIVAL WINE VENDOR LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS FOR MAY 20TH AND 21ST FOR AN EVENT AT RAILROAD PARK

MOTION: Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to approve Willcox Wine Country Festival wine vendor liquor license applications.

SECONDED: Vice Mayor Rowden seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVE WILLCOX WINE COUNTRY FESTIVAL REQUEST FOR STREET CLOSURE FOR RAILROAD AVE BETWEEN STEWART ST AND MALEY ST FROM MAY 20TH, 12:00 AM TO MAY 21ST, 8:00 PM

MOTION: Vice Mayor Rowden made a motion to approve Willcox Wine Country Festival request for street closure.

SECONDED: Councilmember Bowlby seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVE WILLCOX WINE COUNTRY FESTIVAL REQUEST FOR A GLASS CONTAINER WAIVER FOR RAILROAD PARK

MOTION: Councilmember Garza made a motion to approve Willcox Wine Country Festival request for a glass container waiver.

SECONDED: Vice Mayor Rowden seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Vice Mayor Rowden asked if there has been any problem using glass containers in the past. Rod Keeling replied that glass has been broken in the past; however, it hasn't been an issue. Commemorative glasses are given with the tasting and if it is broken the glass is cleaned up and another glass is given to the customer.

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2017-07 – A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BID FOR PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY ADJOINING 700 NORTH VIRGINIA AVENUE

MOTION: Vice Mayor Rowden made a motion to approve the resolution.

SECONDED: Councilmember Lindsey seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

CITY MANAGER REPORT

- City Manager Soltis gave an update on the wastewater treatment plant. A pre-construction meeting will be held on April 26th at which time a Notice to Proceed will be given.
- Soltis said that the new playground equipment has been ordered and he thanked everyone for their hard work and their donations.
- Soltis said that we have not yet heard back on the grant for Keiller Park's trail renovation.
- Soltis said that staff applied for a grant for additional skate park equipment.

COMMENTS NOT FOR DISCUSSION FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilmember Lindsey reminded everyone that Councilmember Bowlby will be anchoring WASA's golf tournament a week from Saturday and that he may be looking for volunteers to help with the event.

Councilmember Bowlby reiterated that the golf tournament is next week. He said that there will be raffles, prizes, lunch, and trophies for the winners. Bowlby mentioned that there will also be a banquet at the community center from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. the same night with a silent auction. They will be giving out scholarships and awards to students. Tickets are available for \$25 each.

Councilmember Garza showed a picture of the playground equipment that was ordered. She remarked on the large size and variety of equipment for the kids. Garza said that the plan is to have a community picnic when the equipment is in, hopefully by Memorial Day. She thanked everyone that helped: the community, Range News, and the ad-hoc committee. Garza encouraged everyone to attend this Saturday's clean-up day. Garza mentioned that this is the last year that Rex Jr. will be here for Rex Allen Days. The Rex Allen Day's Committee is looking at bringing back some traditional events.

Vice Mayor Rowden encouraged everyone to stop in to see the new NAPA store. Rowden is pleased to see a lot of things happening in Willcox. Rowden thanked Councilmember Garza for all the work on the playground equipment. Mayor Laws mentioned that NAPA is opening Monday, however, it isn't a grand opening yet. A grand opening is forthcoming with coordination with the Chamber. Laws thanked Council, the City Manager, and Councilmember Garza for getting the playground equipment ordered. Laws stated that people are voicing their opinion of Willcox and it is generating positive interest.

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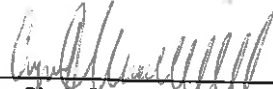
ADJOURN

With no further business before the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m. by Mayor Laws.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Willcox held on the 20th day of April 2017. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 20th day of April 2017



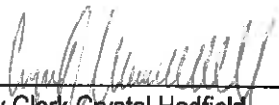
City Clerk Crystal L. Hadfield

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 4th day of May 2017.



Mayor Michael J. Laws

ATTEST:



City Clerk Crystal Hadfield

