

**THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLCOX, COCHISE COUNTY, AZ
HELD ON THIS 7TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 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 "Woody" 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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG - Led by Mayor Laws

CALL TO THE PUBLIC – Ralph Score announced that Valley Telecommunications (VTC) and the Quarterback Club will be providing free hotdogs and prizes at the Morenci/Willcox game.

Rob Jones thanked Council and the City Manager for what they do. Jones said that the City has made some amazing accomplishments. Jones said that we are all here to serve and build the great City of Willcox.

DECLARATION ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST – None.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented.

SECONDED: Councilmember Lindsey seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVE THE AUGUST 17, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Councilmember Lindsey made a motion to approve the August 17, 2017 Council meeting minutes.

SECONDED: Councilmember Garza seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARING: APPROVE AN "ACQUISITION OF CONTROL" FOR TORTILLERIA LA UNICA LOCATED AT 142 N. HASKELL AVENUE

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED AT: 6:34 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT: 6:34 p.m. with no comments.

MOTION: Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to approve an "Acquisition of Control" for Tortilleria La Unica.

SECONDED: Vice Mayor Rowden seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Bowlby pointed out that on the application under "State" it says Cochise and not Arizona.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVE REX ALLEN DAYS, INC. REQUEST FOR SUN VALLEY RIDES (CARNIVAL) TO USE KEILLER PARK FROM SEPTEMBER 29TH THROUGH OCTOBER 1ST

MOTION: Councilmember Garza made a motion to approve Rex Allen Days, Inc. request for Sun Valley Rides to use Keiller Park from September 29th through October 1st.

SECONDED: Councilmember Bowlby seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Lindsey stated that he is disappointed that the carnival will not happen during Rex Allen Days. He stated that on the application's last page it asks for the fee for the park be waived and it needed to be addressed. Councilmember Garza noted that the fee for the carnival had been paid for by Rex Allen Days for the weekend of Rex Allen Days which is why the application says there is a fee waiver. Mayor Laws asked if this is the same carnival that gave money to the park. City Manager Soltis said that it is and the fee that they are talking about is the refundable fee for the reservation and cleaning deposits. Vice Mayor Rowden doesn't mind waiving the reservation fee but not the cleaning fees. Soltis said that if there isn't any damage then the fee would be refunded. Councilmember Johnson stated that we would've waived fees because Rex Allen Days assumes liability and as long as there is no damage its fine. Garza mentioned that the carnival is bringing their own restrooms to facilitate

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employees. Councilmember Lindsey said that we still have extra expenses as far as the City is involved. Councilmember Bowlby noted that Rex Allen Days rather than the carnival are paying fees. Vice Mayor Rowden said that the carnival event is in conjunction with Rex Allen Days which is why they are asking for a waiver for the carnival.
MOTION CARRIED (Six Ayes – Laws, Rowden, Johnson, Irvin, Bowlby, and Garza; one Nay – Lindsey)

RESOLUTION 2017-19: A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE COCHISE COUNTY MULTIJURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – AUGUST 2017

MOTION: Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to approve the resolution.

SECONDED: Councilmember Lindsey seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Garza asked if there is a particular disaster or type of disaster that they are looking at. City Manager Soltis explained that the plan is for all disasters that require communities' involvement.

MOTION CARRIED

PROCLAMATION: CONSTITUTION WEEK

Mayor Laws read the Proclamation for Constitution Week and presented it to Vice Mayor Rowden, the President of the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DOR).

PROCLAMATION: REX ALLEN DAYS

Vice Mayor Rowden read the Proclamation for Rex Allen Days and presented it to Rachel Garza, a board member of Rex Allen Days. Councilmember Lindsey stated that he is disappointed that Rex Allen Jr. was not mentioned in the proclamation. Councilmember Garza said that there is a separate proclamation by the State and it is not too late to make it known. City Manager Soltis said that the Chamber is going to do something for him at the Cowboy Hall of Fame.

POLICE DEPARTMENT YEAR-IN-REVIEW: JOSE RIOS

Jose Rios, the Director of Public Safety, presented the year-in-review. Rios discussed the history of the Willcox Police Department and the duties of the different departments within Public Safety and presented statistics. Rios introduced our new officer, Marsha Callahan-English. Rios paid tribute to our former K9, Max, who recently passed away. Throughout the presentation, Rios answered questions from Councilmembers.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

- City Manager Soltis reported that the City signs on Haskell Avenue have been painted and solar lights have been ordered. He thanked Vice Mayor Rowden for her assistance in locating the sign.
- Soltis said that two new lights were installed at the community center on either side of the walkway. Soltis thanked Councilmember Lindsey for pointing out the need for the additional lighting.
- Soltis said that we are in the planning stages of installing lights in the council chamber building parking lot. The parking lot is very dark and the lighting is a necessity.
- Soltis said that lighting is being evaluated City-wide and we will eventually be switching to LED lights in the parks.
- Soltis said that a new concrete basketball pad is being installed in Gonzales Park. A company in Safford provided low bid for the project. Soltis thanked Councilmember Bowlby for his assistance.
- An anonymous donor is giving \$2,000 for planting and replacing trees throughout the city.
- The Showcase of Cities and Towns at the League event was a success. Next year, we will showcase wines, grapes, and pistachios and take fewer tomatoes. Soltis thanked Vice Mayor Rowden for offering to help with next year's display. Soltis also thanked Councilmember Lindsey for sticking up for Willcox grapes during one of the meetings.
- Soltis said that the City crews are currently working on weed control.
- The October 5th meeting will be cancelled due to the Cowboy Hall of Fame.

COMMENTS NOT FOR DISCUSSION FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilmember Irvin wished Councilmember Lindsey a Happy Birthday and everyone sang to him.

Vice Mayor Rowden thanked the Police Department. Rowden said that the League of Arizona Cities and Towns was a fantastic event. She learned a lot and networked with other communities. It was good to compare other cities with how well we are doing. Rowden stated that we are doing great things here.

Councilmember Garza congratulated Soltis and staff on the positive comments about the parks. Garza said the Police Department has helped as far as people slowing down on the crosswalks at the schools. The cemetery has been

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attended to recently and there is less flooding. Garza echoed Vice Mayor Rowden as far as League's value. Garza said that things are happening and things are turning around for the City.

Councilmember Lindsey said that he enjoyed the League this year. Lindsey thanked Chief Rios for his presentation. Lindsey said he is looking forward to the end of the month and Rex Allen Days activities.

Councilmember Bowlby said that the bike race was a good event last weekend. Bowlby told a story about his experience with the SRO officer when he was in school.

Councilmember Johnson said the League is always good to go to and he likes Councilmember Garza's idea of coming back and sharing. Johnson commended the Police Department for their work. Johnson wanted to set the record straight and put rumors to rest regarding a recent stop that was made in which he received a DUI. There wasn't an accident and no one was hurt and he cooperated in a calm demeanor. Johnson took the opportunity to tell everyone that they should not drink and drive. Though he is a public official, he is still human but is sorry for what happened. He takes full responsibility for what happened and will make sure it never happens again. Johnson then apologized to Council if they were embarrassed by what had happened.

Mayor Laws thanked the City Manager for everything that has been accomplished recently. The waste water treatment plant is looking good. A new store, Amarillo by Morning, has opened. Mayor Laws enjoyed the League of Cities and commended Councilmember Lindsey for sticking up for Willcox. Laws thanked City Clerk Hadfield, Jeff Stoddard, and City Manager Soltis for bringing everything together at the Showcase of Cities event.

ADJOURN

MOTION: Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to adjourn the meeting with no further business at 7:54 p.m.

SECONDED: Councilmember Garza seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

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 7th day of September 2017. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 7th day of September 2017



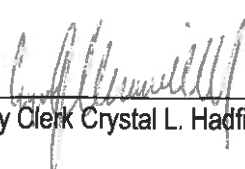
City Clerk Crystal L. Hadfield

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 21st day of September 2017.



Mayor Michael J. Laws

ATTEST:



City Clerk Crystal L. Hadfield