

**THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLCOX, COCHISE COUNTY, AZ
HELD ON THIS 16th DAY OF NOVEMBER 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 – Gayle Caulton invited the Council to see Arvel Bird perform on Friday, December 1st at 7:00 p.m. at the Willcox Historic Theater. Ms. Caulton gave a brief history of Arvel Bird and handed out an invitation to Council.

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 Bowlby seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVE THE OCTOBER 19, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to approve the October 19, 2017 Council meeting minutes.

SECONDED: Councilmember Lindsey seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

**APPROVE STREET CLOSURE REQUEST FOR THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTED PARADE TO BE HELD ON
DECEMBER 2ND**

MOTION: Vice Mayor Rowden made a motion to approve a street closure request for the Christmas Lighted Parade to be held on December 2nd.

SECONDED: Councilmember Bowlby seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE: ALAN BAKER

Alan Baker reported to Council on recent and upcoming events in Willcox. Baker reported on recent advertising showcasing Willcox. Baker gave a brief financial report which was handed out to Councilmembers. Baker answered several questions from Council regarding financials and advertising.

1ST QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT: CRYSTAL HADFIELD

Crystal Hadfield gave the 1st quarter financial report by fund and answered questions from Councilmembers. Hadfield discussed how old debt is being paid off and how it is exciting to see the financial progress that is being made.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

- The Wine Festival was very successful. City Manager Soltis thanked everyone involved in making it a success.
- Soltis recently attended his first International City/County Management Association (ICMA) conference in San Antonio. It was a great conference with great networking. Soltis thanked Council for making it possible for him to attend.
- Soltis went to a Next Generation Leadership conference and participated as a coach.

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- Last week was our audit. We have not set a date for the report; however, it will probably be sometime in February. This is our last contracted year with our auditors so we will be going out to bid soon for an audit contract.
- The Veteran's Day parade was successful. Soltis thanked Connie Dunham and those involved for making it a success. The F-16 fly-over was great.
- We will have Wilson Engineers come and give a detailed update on the wastewater treatment plant soon.
- Recently, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) recommended some adjustments that we need to treat the wastewater. Those adjustments have been made and are working.
- We should be hearing something from the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) soon about the Keiller Park Trail grant.
- We installed two new picnic tables at Gonzales Park. We are picking up the basketball hoop tomorrow and it will be installed sometime next week. A ribbon cutting ceremony is forthcoming.
- The Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) approved a grant for a new speed trailer. It can be used for a variety of things and is much more advanced than the old trailer. It has the capability to display different messages and hold historical data.
- ADOT is still reviewing a grant for sidewalk work along Rex Allen Drive, Haskell Ave., and Maley St. The funding is federal, therefore it takes time.
- The new light poles are in for the Police Department parking lot. The work will begin after Thanksgiving.
- The new fire truck was ordered. Soltis thanked the Fire Department for finding it at a great price. We have written many grants for the fire truck and have been unsuccessful. The new truck will replace much dated trucks in our inventory from 1986 and 1989.
- The animal shelter is going through a much needed refurb and deep clean. We are removing tiles and painting the floor, adding concrete to surround the building, and replacing furnishings. We are working in conjunction with the County. We will be using donations to complete the project. A ribbon cutting ceremony is forthcoming.
- We are in the process of refurbing the Christmas lights that are displayed on Haskell Ave. We are adding new garland and LED lights. We are also upgrading the lights in Railroad Park with LED commercial grade lights.
- We are developing a plan for the next phase of City cleanup. City property and commercial property have been cleaned up and next we will move on to private property. Soltis has discussed plans with the City Attorney, the Judge, and the Development Services department. Standard documents will be put in place. Code Enforcement has been in place; however, we are taking it up a notch to clean up the City for the greater good.

COMMENTS NOT FOR DISCUSSION FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilmember Johnson said that the Veteran's Day parade gets bigger every year and it is neat to see how the community pulls together to recognize those that have fallen. Johnson recommended that we have a work session or general item to invite the public to discuss Code Enforcement procedures.

Councilmember Lindsey has missed a lot of activities going on. WASA is also putting together an opportunity for youth court for their community service sentences. They are implementing a group that will do work around town for people who cannot physically do it themselves. Lindsey mentioned that there is a SEAGO meeting tomorrow and if anyone has anything of interest, he will be happy to bring up.

Councilmember Bowlby mentioned that Saturday night is Cowboy/Cowgirl Madness which will have different competitions for the students to partake in. Bowlby mentioned that the number one priority in the community is cleanup and he is excited to see it happening and the work leading up to it has been outstanding.

Councilmember Garza said that Veteran's Day was a huge success. She is happy with the City cleanup and agrees that a work session is needed. Garza thanked the City for the gas leak work at the school. Earlier today there was a gas leak at the Middle School and the City took care of it quickly. Garza mentioned the traffic on Bisbee and is excited to see signage and the speed trailer in the works.

Vice Mayor Rowden reminded everyone that tomorrow night is Holiday House. Scholarships are awarded from the funds raised. Rowden thanked Carol and the Range News for the recent lighting article. Though Rowden missed the Veteran's Day Parade, she heard it was a great success. Connie Dunham had to contact the Pentagon to get the fly-over approved. Rowden gave kudos to the City for the cleanup and mentioned that the Economic Development

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Committee is concerned with cleanup as well. Rowden is looking forward to the Christmas Parade. Rowden then wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mayor Laws said that a Veteran Marine stated that the fly-over was the sound of freedom. Laws is glad we are getting the new fire truck and at a significant savings. The shelter needs a facelift. Mayor Laws recently had family visit and they couldn't believe how good the City looks. Laws is glad that we are using quality lights for Christmas. As far as Code Enforcement, the code is in place and has been for some time. City Attorney Roberts mentioned that recently, the penalty provision was updated and that has opened the door for us to start putting in a consistent process in place. Soltis stated that the code has been in place, we just need to be more proactive.

ADJOURN

MOTION: Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to adjourn the meeting with no further business at 7:23 p.m.

SECONDED: Councilmember Lindsey 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 16th day of November 2017. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 16th day of November 2017




City Clerk Crystal L. Hadfield

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



Mayor Michael J. Laws

ATTEST:



City Clerk Crystal L. Hadfield