

**THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLCOX, COCHISE COUNTY, AZ
HELD ON THIS 21ST DAY OF DECEMBER 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
Finance Director/City Clerk Crystal Hadfield
Public Safety Director Jose Rios
Development Services Director Jeff Stoddard

ABSENT

Councilman Timothy A. Bowlby - Excused

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

SECONDED: Vice Mayor Rowden seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 16, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Vice Mayor Rowden made a motion to approve the November 16, 2017 Council meeting minutes.

SECONDED: Councilmember Irvin seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVE THE QUARTERBACK CLUB SPECIAL EVENT LICENSE APPLICATION FOR AN EVENT TO BE HELD ON DECEMBER 31ST AT THE COUNTRY SPUR LOCATED AT 115 S. HASKELL AVENUE

MOTION: Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve a special event license application for an event to be held on December 31st.

SECONDED: Vice Mayor Rowden seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Vice Mayor Rowden asked who the licensed vendor is. Public Safety Director Rios said that Jeff Willey owns the Country Spur. Councilmember Garza asked why the application says the Quarterback Club. Rios explained that they are a non-profit only doing the serving of alcohol. Councilmember Garza mentioned that there was a typo on the council action form: it says the 21st instead of the 31st. Councilmember Lindsey read there were two security personnel on the action form and three on the application. Rios explained that the application requires two security personnel if there are 200 or more people. There will be two Arizona Rangers present and the application should read two rather than three.

MOTION CARRIED

ANNUAL NATURAL GAS PRESENTATION: MARIO LUNA

Mario Luna presented the annual natural gas presentation. He discussed examples of natural gas emergencies and what can be done to prevent them. Chuck Broeder, from the audience, had a question regarding the recent gas leak and evacuation of students at the middle school and the notification of the press. Luna explained that we are required to inform the state and the feds and follow federal mandates. Councilmember Garza mentioned that the recent gas leak was a learning experience and procedures have now been improved. Luna also explained that if there is a danger in an area, then the police and fire departments evacuate those affected. Broeder then asked about gas service at a new business where the heat hasn't been turned on yet. Luna explained that we are governed by federal laws and we

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are trying to create a safe system. Councilmember Garza inquired about the gas explosion in Phoenix and Luna replied that the incident is still under investigation. Garza asked if Phoenix has the same kind of inspector and requirements that we have. Luna replied that yes, gas is always governed by the federal government.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

- City Manager Soltis said that the Christmas lighted parade was great this year and staff did a fantastic job of setting up the lights. Soltis said that the lights were possible due to generous donations: SSVEC donated \$800, VTC donated \$750, Western Bank donated \$500, and the Chamber of Commerce donated \$3,500. The City matched the donations. Next year we will finish replacing the garland and lights on the Haskell Avenue fixtures.
- Soltis said that the lighting project for the police department is under way and will hopefully be done soon. If funding allows, we will replace the exterior building lighting with LED fixtures.
- Soltis, along with the Mayor, recently went to southern Arizona and had a get together with Governor Ducey. It was a good meeting.
- Soltis said that there will be an update on the waste water treatment plant on the January 18 meeting. Srikanth, from Wilson Engineers, will give a presentation.
- The new fire truck is in production and is expected to be here in February.
- Soltis said that the animal shelter renovation is coming along. Jeff Stoddard described the refurb that is taking place. Soltis stated that we are working in conjunction with the County and the interior is being paid for with the generous donations received.
- Soltis stated that the Keiller Park trail grant was approved and once we receive the official okay on funding, work will begin.
- Soltis said that there is no new information on the ADOT sidewalk grant at this time.

COMMENTS NOT FOR DISCUSSION FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilmember Johnson wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Councilmember Irvin wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. A lot has taken place and he appreciates everyone's hard work.

Councilmember Lindsey is sorry he missed the City Christmas party and he wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Vice Mayor Rowden gave compliments to Public Works for the Christmas decorations. Rowden gave kudos to the City Manager for making the new lighting happen. Rowden is optimistic about the future of Willcox and she hopes that next year is even better. Rowden then complimented the city for all of their clean-up efforts. Rowden complimented the efforts at the humane shelter and said that it is looking so much better. Rowden said that the Christmas party for the City was great and it was a fun time to share with employees. Rowden then wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Councilmember Garza wished everyone a Merry Christmas and hopes everyone has a prosperous New Year. Garza said that a lot has been accomplished and we need to push forward next year as well.

Mayor Laws said that the Christmas party was great. He gave kudos to Jeff Stoddard for his work with the Salvation Army. Laws encouraged everyone to go to the waste water treatment plant to see the progress that is taking place. He congratulated Council and said that they are a Council of growth and the accomplishments achieved couldn't have been done without them. Laws thanked the City employees for their efforts. Laws congratulated Cheryl Moss for being awarded Citizen of the Year. Laws wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Laws then showed the AZ League publication, Cities and Towns Magazine, in which Willcox's City Hall was featured in a full page ad.

ADJOURN

MOTION: Vice Mayor Rowden made a motion to adjourn the meeting with no further business at 7:11 p.m.

SECONDED: Councilmember Garza seconded the motion.

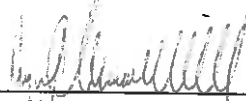
MOTION CARRIED

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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 21st day of December 2017. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 21st day of December 2017




City Clerk Crystal L. Hadfield

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 4th day of January 2018.



Mayor Michael J. Laws

ATTEST:



City Clerk Crystal L. Hadfield