

**THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLCOX, COCHISE COUNTY, AZ  
HELD ON THIS 15<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2018**

**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 Timothy A. Bowlby  
Councilwoman Rachel D. Garza  
Councilman Robert A. Irvin  
Councilman Elwood "Woody" A. Johnson  
Councilman Gerald "Sam" Lindsey

**STAFF**

City Manager Ted Soltis  
City Attorney Ann Roberts  
Finance Director/City Clerk Crystal Hadfield

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG** - Led by Mayor Laws.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC** – Rob Jones addressed the Council regarding great things happening around the City. Jones thanked the Mayor, Council, and City employees. Jones reminded everyone that this coming Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration for Northern Cochise Community Hospital. Jones then suggested capitalizing on the wonderful sunsets in Willcox as a way to promote the City.

**DECLARATION ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST** - None

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

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

**SECONDED:** Councilmember Bowlby seconded the motion.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVE THE JANUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2018 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lindsey made a motion to approve the January 18, 2018 Council meeting minutes.

**SECONDED:** Vice Mayor Rowden seconded the motion.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**FISCAL YEAR 2017 AUDIT REPORT: STEVE PALMER**

Steve Palmer, from Hinton Burdick, presented the fiscal year 2017 audited financials. Palmer said that the City has an unmodified or "clean" opinion. Palmer went over the fund balances in the general fund and enterprise funds. Palmer answered questions and commented that it was his pleasure to oversee the City's audit and that the City has a great staff to work with. Councilmember Garza asked if they will get a copy of the audit. Finance Director Hadfield responded that it will be available online tomorrow.

**2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT: CRYSTAL HADFIELD**

Crystal Hadfield presented the second quarter financials for fiscal year 2018 by fund. Hadfield stated that by paying off debt, as reflected in her report, that we are putting the City in a good financial standing for the future. Hadfield commented that while it is not possible to create a report comparing financials to prior years, by looking at the audit and budget graphs, you can get an overall picture of the years prior compared to where we stand now. Hadfield answered questions from Council.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT YEAR-IN-REVIEW: JOHN CROPPER**

John Cropper gave the year-in-review for the Fire Department. He presented a PowerPoint with statistics. The PowerPoint showed pictures of fire responses for wildland, structure fires, and vehicle incidents. Cropper discussed community activities such as water days, open house, etc. Cropper showed progress pictures of the construction of the new fire truck. Cropper then answered questions from Council.

**RESOLUTION 2018-01: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT BY THE COCHISE COUNTY FIRE ASSOCIATION**

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**MOTION:** Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-01.

**SECONDED:** Councilmember Garza seconded the motion.

**DISCUSSION:** Councilmember Lindsey asked if there was any cost involved. City Manager Soltis replied that it is paid for by wildland revenue, so no, there is no cost to us. Councilmember Bowlby asked for clarification that it is a grant for radios. Soltis replied that that is correct.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CITY MANAGER REPORT**

- Soltis gave a brief update on the shooting that occurred earlier in the day. Soltis stated that there were no injuries; however, one of the vehicles sustained some damage.
- Soltis gave an update on the Keiller Park trail progress. We have a tentative completion date of May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018. We plan to have a party the Friday of completion similar to the last community/employee picnic. Due to donations/partnerships with Northern Cochise Community Hospital, Sulphur Springs Valley Electric, and Valley Telecom, of \$5,000.00 each, we are able to add an additional trail and exercise equipment. Soltis said that pull-up bars and stairs will be added. We will also be upgrading the restrooms to be handicap accessible adding a paved path to restrooms and mark handicap parking adjacent to the restrooms. Soltis thanked the donors for their generous contributions.
- Soltis said that the animal shelter is near completion. We are currently working on the venting. Upon completion, there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony. Soltis said that with donations and our partnership with the County, this project was made possible. The County assisted by putting in concrete padding and two new water coolers.
- Soltis reminded everyone that the Northern Cochise Community Hospital's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration is Monday.

**COMMENTS NOT FOR DISCUSSION FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Councilmember Lindsey congratulated Hadfield and the City for the audit report. Lindsey is happy to see the figures and is pleased to see the golf course is close to breaking even. Lindsey stated that it is great to be able to purchase capital to improve the City and it is a relief to be able to pay off debt.

Councilmember Irvin congratulated the police department for a job well done during the shooting incident.

Councilmember Bowlby reiterated Councilmember Irvin's congratulations to the police department.

Councilmember Garza attended a seminar this past weekend on tourism in Arizona. Garza congratulated the police department.

Vice Mayor Rowden said that she received a call from City Manager Soltis regarding the shooting incident and it was nice to be able to say that the police department had everything under control. Rowden said that the Economic Development Committee is doing a feasibility study on businesses in Willcox. Rowden said that it makes Council's job easier to say that the City is in a good position financially.

Mayor Laws congratulated staff on the audit. Laws said that the City has people wanting to come here and invest in the community and others who want to participate and partner in various ventures. Laws said that he recently had a tour of the park with City Manager Soltis and he is excited about the work being done. Laws said that he is glad to see the new fire truck coming. Laws thanked Simflo for sandblasting some equipment for the animal shelter. Laws said that he feels so lucky to live here in Willcox.

**ADJOURN**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to adjourn the meeting with no further business at 7:26 p.m.

**SECONDED:** Councilmember Garza seconded the motion.

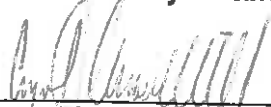
**MOTION CARRIED**

**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 15<sup>th</sup> day of February 2018. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

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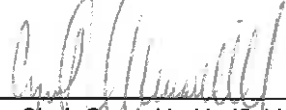
Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February 2018

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk Crystal L. Hadfield

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March 2018.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Michael J. Laws

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk Crystal L. Hadfield