

**THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLCOX, COCHISE COUNTY, AZ  
HELD ON THIS 5<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER** - Mayor Michael Laws called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** - City Clerk Crystal Hadfield called the roll.

**PRESENT**

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

**STAFF**

City Attorney Ann Roberts  
Finance Director/City Clerk Crystal Hadfield  
Public Safety Director Jose Rios  
Library Director Tom Miner  
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:** Councilmember Garza made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented.

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

**DISCUSSION:** Councilmember Bowlby pointed out a correction on agenda item #17; it should say from May 18, 2018 from 3:00 p.m. to May 20, 2018 to 6:00 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVE THE MARCH 1, 2018 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lindsey made a motion to approve the March 1, 2018 Council meeting minutes.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVE THE MARCH 27, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Rowden made a motion to approve the March 27, 2018 Special meeting minutes.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION FOR STAFF TO BE APPOINTED AS INTERIM CITY MANAGER**

**MOTION:** Mayor Laws made a motion to appoint Crystal Hadfield as Interim City Manager.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE - ALAN BAKER**

Alan Baker, the Director of the Chamber of Commerce gave his quarterly update to the Councilmembers. Baker discussed the success of Wings Over Willcox and the Miniature Art Show. Baker then discussed advertising for Willcox that has recently taken place. The Chamber is starting an assessment study with University of Arizona. SEAGO is doing one as well. Baker reported that two new local businesses are going to start up. Robbs Road will also be paved which will help the wine industry. The Chamber Board wants to accomplish the cleanup of the historic cemetery and see the continuation of Agriculture "Ag" Days. Baker mentioned that we have two major events coming up: Willcox West Fest and the Willcox Wine Festival. Councilmember Lindsey said that he understood that there would not be an Ag Days going forward. Baker said that the Board decided that they want Ag Days to stay and will be involved with whomever picks it up. Councilmember Garza inquired about the cleanup day schedule. Baker replied that it is typically scheduled on Earth Day and the weekend before Rex Allen Days.

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**PUBLIC HEARING: APPROVE AN APPLICATION FOR AGENT CHANGE – ACQUISITION OF CONTROL FOR JOE'S PUB LLC LOCATED AT 116 E. MALEY ST.**

**PUBLIC HEARING OPENED AT:** 6:39 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT:** 6:40 p.m. with no comments or discussion.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to approve an Application for Acquisition of Control for Joe's Pub.

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

**DISCUSSION:** Councilmember Garza asked if the name will stay the same. Council replied that the name of the business will stay the same.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVE AN APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL EVENT LICENSE FOR AN ART SHOW TO BE HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER ON APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup> FROM 3:00 PM TO 8:00 PM**

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Rowden made a motion to approve an application for a Special Event License for an Art Show.

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

**DISCUSSION:** Councilmember Lindsey noted that he is not sure if a wine tasting is necessary for this type of event.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVE A FAIR/FESTIVAL LICENSE APPLICATION FOR ARIDUS WINE COMPANY FOR AN ART SHOW TO BE HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER ON APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup> FROM 4:00 PM TO 7:00 PM**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to approve a Fair/Festival License Application for Aridus Wine.

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

**DISCUSSION:** Councilmember Garza asked if glass containers are an issue to which the Council replied that it is not because it is not outside.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVE A FAIR/FESTIVAL LICENSE APPLICATION GOLDEN RULE VINEYARDS FOR AN EVENT TO BE HELD AT THE ELKS CLUB ON MAY 19<sup>TH</sup> FROM 5:00 PM TO 10:00 PM**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to approve a Fair/Festival License Application for Golden Rule Vineyards.

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

**DISCUSSION:** Vice Mayor Rowden wanted to clarify that the event is to be held immediately after the wine festival. Jim Graham, owner of Golden Rule Vineyards, replied that yes it will follow after the wine festival and be held in the little park by the Elk's Club. Councilmember Lindsey stated that he is confused on security. Public Safety Director Jose Rios stated that the Arizona Rangers will be there as well as barriers. Councilmember Garza asked if it is a public or private event. Graham replied that it is a public event.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVE AN APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL EVENT LICENSE FOR AN EVENT TO BE HELD AT RAILROAD PARK ON MAY 19<sup>TH</sup> FROM 10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM AND MAY 20<sup>TH</sup> 10:00 AM TO 4:00 PM**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve a Special Event License for an event at Railroad Park.

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

**DISCUSSION:** Vice Mayor Rowden said it may be an oversight but the application says that there isn't going to be any fencing or barriers put up. Alan Baker replied that yes there will be.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVE WILLCOX WINE COUNTRY FESTIVAL WINE VENDOR LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS FOR MAY 19<sup>TH</sup> FROM 10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM AND MAY 20<sup>TH</sup> 10:00 AM TO 4:00 PM**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve Willcox Wine Country Festival Wine Vendor Liquor License Applications.

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

**DISCUSSION:** Councilmember Lindsey asked if they are the same vendors as last year. Rod Keeling said that there are 15 wineries that participate in which 9 of the 15 are partners and 6 are selected by committee. Keeling mentioned that the Department of Liquor wants it done in which there is a stacking of two licenses. The Chamber covers with a license and the other wineries have a fair/festival license. Mayor Laws asked if it is the same set up as far as trash and everything as last year. Keeling said that they are turning the setup around so that patrons now will be able to circulate store fronts. Mayor Laws told Keeling that last year they were busy. Keeling replied that they work with Public Works. Mayor Laws asked Keeling if they need more cans. Keeling replied, "Yes, sir." Vice Mayor Rowden asked if someone comes into Keeling Schaeffer, they cannot go into the winery with an open container. Keeling said that yes, it would be considered a broken package; however, they can go into other businesses. The biggest flaw of this event is that their

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backs are turned to store fronts but with the new setup, this will be solved. Councilmember Garza mentioned that she would like to make sure that the Rex Allen Days stones are well marked because last year a person tripped on it. Keeling stated that it has been coned in the past and has been addressed. Keeling said that this is the fourth dinner at the Community Center from which has gone from about 50 to 245 people. Keeling said that they are looking at ways to add RV accommodations and any ideas as to how to house more people. Mayor Laws asked if staging area is too small. Keeling replied that the staging area is authentic and has its own set of magic; we just don't have enough hotel rooms. Keeling mentioned that the primary geographic advertising is in El Paso, Tucson, and Phoenix. Mayor Laws asked if they were bringing restrooms in to which Keeling replied that they are bringing in a trailer with restrooms. Mayor Laws mentioned that we can leave the City Hall restrooms open as well. Councilmember Garza asked Mr. Baker how we can lure hotels here. Baker replied that there is some interest from corporations in Scottsdale. Vice Mayor Rowden asked if the numbers of the wine festival are up to which Keeling replied that they have plateaued.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVE WILLCOX WINE COUNTRY FESTIVAL REQUEST FOR STREET CLOSURE FOR RAILROAD AVE BETWEEN STEWART ST AND MALEY ST FROM MAY 20<sup>TH</sup>, 12:00 AM TO MAY 21<sup>ST</sup>, 6:00 PM**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to approve the street closure.

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

**DISCUSSION:** Vice Mayor Rowden asked where we are going to close Stewart St. Baker replied that the road will be closed from the railroad to where people park. Rowden said that we won't be able to cross the tracks at Stewart Street to which Baker replied that was correct. Rowden asked if that is where the restrooms will be located. Baker replied that was correct.

**MOTION CARRIED**

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

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Rowden made a motion to approve the glass container waiver.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVE AN APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL EVENT LICENSE FOR AN EVENT TO BE HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER ON MAY 19<sup>TH</sup> FROM 6:00 PM TO 10:00 PM**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to approve a Special Event License for an event at the Community Center.

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

**DISCUSSION:** Vice Mayor Rowden asked if this was for the dinner event in which Council replied yes.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PROCLAMATION – FAIR HOUSING MONTH**

The Fair Housing Proclamation was read by Councilmember Garza and Mayor Laws.

**PROCLAMATION – NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK**

The National Library Week Proclamation was read by Vice Mayor Rowden and Mayor Laws and presented to Library Director Tom Miner.

**PROCLAMATION – NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK**

The National Volunteer Week Proclamation was read by Councilmember Lindsey and Mayor Laws and presented to John Cropper.

**PROCLAMATION – ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER WEEK**

The Animal Control Officer Week Proclamation was read by Councilmember Johnson and Mayor Laws and presented to Kelly Colbert.

**PROCLAMATION – PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUTERS WEEK**

The Public Safety Telecommuters Week Proclamation was read by Councilmember Bowlby and Mayor Laws and presented to Patti Ackerson.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT**

- Interim City Manager Crystal Hadfield thanked the Mayor and Council for their confidence in her. Hadfield said that she will do what is necessary to ensure that this is a smooth transition and to move forward.

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- Hadfield thanked Sulphur Springs Valley Electric (SSVEC) for the donation of moving two lights in Keiller Park to the skate park. The poles are marked and ready to be moved. Hadfield said that the goal is to install new lighting once the skate park is complete. We are currently looking for grants to complete the project.
- Hadfield said that we are expanding the golf course cart barns. Before, it was set up in rooms; by taking down the walls it will allow more space for the carts for easier accessibility. The project is about 90% complete to date.
- We are in the process of adding some additional electrical sockets at Keiller Park by the ball fields to allow for higher electric usage in that part of the park. Rex Allen Days is paying for this to be done so thank you to them. It is a 50 amp circuit being installed.
- Work on the trail is on track to be completed the week before Memorial Day. We plan to have a ribbon cutting ceremony or a community picnic to celebrate the completion. The contractor, K E & G will be out to do the trail paving next week.
- Election packets are ready. Hadfield asked that anyone interested in running please make an appointment with her to go over the changes that have been made. They are due back to her office by May 30, 2018 by 5:00 p.m.
- The repaving of Fremont and Soto is scheduled to take place on June 6-7. The advertisement for the bid will be in the upcoming issues of the Range News.
- The new fire truck is scheduled to be here within the next few weeks. They are currently working on the graphics. Hadfield said that she would keep Council up to date on the delivery date.
- Officer Rick Majewski has retired and Officer Nick Williams has taken his place as the SRO Officer to finish out the year. If funded again, this will become a permanent position for Officer Williams. We should know about the funding within a month or so.
- We have started the advertising for a permanent City Manager. The ads are posted on ICMA, the League, and will be in the Range News. As of today, we have already received two applications. We will keep you posted as we receive more applications. Councilmember Johnson asked when the closing date is. Hadfield responded that it is May 18<sup>th</sup>.

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

Councilmember Johnson asked that everyone take a moment of silence for former Councilmember Rodriguez who passed away recently.

Councilmember Lindsey wanted to pay recognition to Rodriguez who was also his neighbor. Lindsey told Council that services are tomorrow at 10:00 am. We owe him a debt of gratitude. Lindsey thanked the council for the unpleasant process that they had to go through last week. It was necessary and would like to offer admiration for the job that Soltis did while he was here. Lindsey said he is looking forward to the Council moving forward.

Councilmember Garza said that recently on social media there was concern about Quail Park. We need to inform our citizens or re-inform citizens about the procedure in the use of Quail Park.

Councilmember Bowlby said congratulations to Hadfield on being voted as Interim City Manager. He stated that Hadfield will have the backing of the council to help. Bowlby looks forward to us moving forward and finding a City Manager. With Wine Country and with the Chamber, a lot is going on. Bowlby hopes we can continue the growth and excitement.

Vice Mayor Rowden wanted to recognize everything that Soltis accomplished. Rowden thanked Hadfield for her willingness to take on Interim City Manager. Rowden stated that she has confidence in her and City Directors. Rowden also gave kudos to our Mayor for stepping up because there is more that goes on behind the scenes than people realize. Rowden then mentioned that we need to educate our citizens of the liability that the city has for opening up that arena at Quail Park. Rowden said that she is excited and encouraged with what is going on in Willcox.

Mayor Laws said that he feels bad for Phil Rodriguez's family. Laws thanked Hadfield for accepting the Interim City Manager position. Laws then thanked the City Attorney since she has stepped up while this has been going on. Laws thanked Chief Rios, Jeff Stoddard, and Galo Galovale for their stepping up. We recently have had a lot of meetings to include ADEQ and USDA. The staff has never been able to communicate with each other, management, Council, and the City Attorney. Laws said that this has changed. Laws said that this is the best council we have had in a long time and Council has really stepped up to the plate. Laws stated that it was a difficult decision that was recently made. Lastly Laws stated that we love the wine industry.

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**ADJOURN**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to adjourn the meeting with no further business at 7:30 p.m.

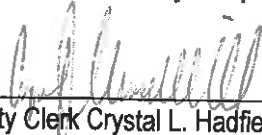
**SECONDED:** Vice Mayor Rowden seconded the motion.

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

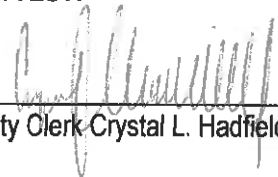
**Dated this 5th day of April 2018**

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

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 19<sup>th</sup> day of April 2018.

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

**ATTEST:**

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