

**THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLCOX, COCHISE COUNTY, AZ  
HELD ON THIS 3<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF MAY 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  
Interim City Manager Crystal Hadfield  
Public Safety Director Jose Rios

**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 Bowlby made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVE THE APRIL 19, 2018 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Irvin made a motion to approve the April 19, 2018 Council meeting minutes.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT - CRYSTAL HADFIELD**

Crystal Hadfield gave a brief breakdown of the financials by fund for the third quarter of fiscal year 17/18. Councilmember Garza asked if the administrative fund has been adjusted for the additional compensation given to Interim City Manager Hadfield. Hadfield explained that the fund will go over slightly for this year but next year's budget has been adjusted for the additional compensation and for the severance pay. Councilmember Lindsey is happy to see that the golf course is holding its own. Hadfield agreed and said that we are bringing in more than what we would have been paying had it been subsidized.

**RESOLUTION 2018-05 - A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A NOTICE OF INTENT TO MODIFY WASTEWATER RATES**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-05.

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

**DISCUSSION:** Councilmember Johnson asked if the increase is for active meter usage or connected meter usage. Hadfield explained that it is both and by looking at the spreadsheet provided it is about 1,019 meters for residential meters based on the last several months and the same goes for commercial based on the size of the meter. Johnson asked if that was accounts being billed to which Hadfield replied yes. Johnson asked if the septic sewage is part of the calculations. Hadfield replied that it isn't because we don't know if we are going to make any money on that in the first year. Johnson asked if it is based on the actual meter usage. Hadfield replied that was correct. Councilmember Lindsey asked if Hadfield had the average rate for residential customers. Hadfield said that it will be an average of \$3.24 extra monthly for residential and \$8.50 for commercial. Lindsey said that he believes everyone understands that we have to do this to receive the additional \$1.2 million in funding. Councilmember Bowlby said that we have to come up with the additional funding in the amount of \$65,000 annually and with the 8% increase on the fixed and the metered we hit right at the \$65,000 annually. Bowlby then stated that if things change, that can be reduced and we were looking at higher before. Hadfield stated that originally we were looking at about 16%; however, through calculations we were able to lower it to 8% on the fixed and 8% on the variable. Bowlby said that this is so we can show USDA that we are increasing our revenues. Mayor Laws said that we have to qualify for the loan and to answer Councilmember Johnson's question on the septic, we cannot use that in the calculations. We have to prove that we can pay it back. Hadfield said that it is just intent tonight and we have to post it for 60 days on the website and then

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have a public hearing in July and vote that night. Mayor Laws said we are still working on the \$1.2 million and it may not be that much.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PROCLAMATION – NATIONAL POLICE OFFICER'S WEEK**

Mayor Laws read the proclamation and presented it to the Willcox Police Department. Chief Rios and Sergeant Hadfield presented awards to the Police Department. Detective Jericho Valle is the Cochise County 2018 Top Cop for Willcox. Sergeant Hadfield and Councilmember Irvin presented a Meritorious Service Medal to Officer Marsha Callahan-English for her exemplary duties. Sergeant Hadfield, Councilmember Garza, and Councilmember Bowlby presented the Combat Cross awards to Officer Nicholas Williams and Officer Jose Villa for a shooting incident that they were involved in on September 29, 2016. Chief Jose Rios, Mayor Laws, Vice Mayor Rowden, Councilmember Johnson, and Interim City Manager Hadfield presented the Combat Cross awards to Officers Chief Jose Rios, Sergeant Dale Hadfield, Sergeant David Reno, Officer Jose Villa, Officer Richard Majewski, and Officer Nicholas Williams for a shooting incident that they were involved in on February 15, 2018.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT**

- Interim City Manager Hadfield said that if you haven't been out to Keiller Park yet, you should, it looks fantastic. The trails will be done tomorrow and they were paving all day today and were paving faster than the material could be delivered. We are planning on having a ribbon cutting ceremony on the Friday before Memorial Day on the 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:30.
- At Keiller Park, three large live big oak trees have been planted to replace the trees that had to be removed because they had passed their life expectancy. They are on the top of the mounds between the baseball fields and the restrooms along the west side.
- The chip sealing project for Fremont and Soto has been pushed back a week due to a scheduling conflict with the contractor, Western Emulsions. Our City crews have already begun removing the old asphalt from Fremont.
- The new fire truck is tentatively scheduled to be here on May the 15<sup>th</sup> for Run for the Wall on the 17<sup>th</sup>.
- The first draft of the budget is almost complete. The last thing that Hadfield is waiting on is the health insurance rates. She should have that any day. It looks like we may have to change carriers. The initial rate that they came back with was 17%; we are now looking at about a 4% or 5% increase. She would like to have our first work session on the 17<sup>th</sup> of May.
- House Bill 2078 has been signed and is currently waiting for the Legislature to adjourn so that we know the effective date. This legislation lowers the candidate committee threshold from \$1,100 back to \$500. This will most likely take place before the primary so for those that have picked up a packet or are planning to pick up a packet, if you expend or receive any monies for your campaign in the combination of \$500 or more, then you will be required to fill out a Statement of Organization.
- We are getting a new camera system installed in City Hall for the protection of the building and employees. We have received the cameras and equipment; we are just waiting on the cords which will be here any day.
- The League is hosting the 2018 Annual League Conference on August 21-24 this year in Phoenix at the Phoenician. Please let me know by the 15<sup>th</sup> of this month if you will be attending so that I can book our rooms as quickly as possible to try to be in the same hotel as the conference.
- Lastly, NDBK awarded us an extra \$80,028 for work at the wastewater treatment plant and we should be receiving that soon.

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

Councilmember Johnson congratulated all of the officers. The line of duty is tough and you put your life at risk. Johnson mentioned that West Fest was a big success. We need to continue to work on keeping Willcox moving forward.

Councilmember Lindsey offered congratulations to our public service officers.

Councilmember Irvin said congratulations to all the recipients.

Councilmember Bowlby said congratulations to the police officers. Interesting things that have happened and they have come away with no loss of life. It says a lot about them and their character. A survey for economic development is out online and in paper in English and in Spanish. To take the survey, contact himself, Vice Mayor Rowden, and Heather Floyd.

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Councilmember Garza echoed congratulations to our police dept. They have demonstrated their professionalism and their skills.

Vice Mayor Rowden echoed the other Councilmembers. She said she can't tell you how proud she is of our police force. We have one of the best police forces in Arizona. She wanted to mention the economic development survey. Rowden said to contact her if you want to do it online to get a number that is assigned. Rowden would like to see over 270 surveys responded to. You don't have to live in Willcox; you can live in surrounding areas as well to participate. Rowden is looking forward to walking on the new trail.

Mayor Laws said congratulations to the police department. Laws appreciates the long hours and dedicated service. He commends them for going into battle for us every day. Congratulations to our new trails that will be done tomorrow. Laws had a meeting with Kinder Morgan today and he met with Allen Fore and they will donate \$5,000 to the trails to help us finish. Laws took it upon himself to see NCCH, VTC, and SSVEC to inform them that we will not put weight equipment in Keiller Park. He offered them the money back that they had donated and they all turned us down and said that they did not know what we were talking about; that the money they donated was for the trails. Laws is glad to still have the \$15,000 to use towards the trails. Laws thanked Interim City Manager for a hard job; it's been a tough month. The budget is coming along. The Council has about 14 candidates to review Monday. Councilmember Lindsey wanted to remind everyone that we lost an officer in Nogales over the weekend. Lindsey said he is proud of the people that work in this area.

**ADJOURN**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to adjourn the meeting with no further business at 7:11 p.m.

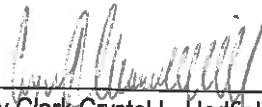
**SECONDED:** Vice Mayor Rowden seconded the motion.

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

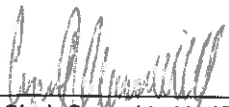
**Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May 2018**

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

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 24<sup>th</sup> day of May 2018.

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

**ATTEST:**

  
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City Clerk Crystal L. Hadfield

