

**THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLCOX, COCHISE COUNTY, AZ
HELD ON THIS 15TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 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 Elwood "Woody" A. Johnson
Councilman Gerald "Sam" Lindsey
Councilman Robert A. Irvin
Councilman Timothy A. Bowlby
Councilwoman Rachel D. Garza

STAFF

City Manager Caleb Blaschke
Finance Director/City Clerk Crystal Hadfield
Interim Public Safety Director Dale Hadfield

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: Vice Mayor Rowden made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented.

SECONDED: Councilmember Bowlby seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 1, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Councilmember Garza made a motion to approve the November 1, 2018 Special meeting minutes as presented.

SECONDED: Councilmember Bowlby seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 1, 2018 WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to approve the November 1, 2018 Work Session meeting minutes as presented.

SECONDED: Vice Mayor Rowden seconded the motion.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 1, 2018 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Vice Mayor Rowden made a motion to approve the November 1, 2018 Regular Council meeting minutes as presented.

SECONDED: Councilmember Garza seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Garza had a question under City Manager report as to whether Mr. Gutierre is Gutierre or Gutierrez. Interim Public Safety Director Dale Hadfield replied, it is correct, Gutierre.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVE A STREET CLOSURE FOR THE CHRISTMAS PARADE TO BE HELD ON DECEMBER 8TH FROM 4:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

MOTION: Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to approve the street closure for the Christmas Parade.

SECONDED: Vice Mayor Rowden seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Vice Mayor Rowden said that on the Facilities Use Agreement it has the date, but it doesn't say the time. It has the time on the Petition for Street Closure Form but not on the Facilities Use Agreement. Finance Director/City Clerk Crystal Hadfield replied it is the same, December 8th from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Councilmember Bowlby asked about the streets to be closed on Railroad Ave. from Maley to Haskell and did we get it figured out. City Manager Caleb Blaschke replied that Haskell wraps around. Bowlby clarified that it goes Haskell, up Stewart then

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Railroad Avenue to Maley. Councilmember Garza said if I remember last year it doesn't say anything about the lighting of the trees. Is this inclusive of that? Are there plans to light the trees. Blaschke replied that the City will take care of the lighting. There was a discrepancy last year in which the Chamber of Commerce said they would pay for half of the lighting and the City ended up paying the entire bill. Garza asked about the Christmas decorations on Haskell. Hadfield replied that the plan is to put them up as usual. Vice Mayor Rowden said we purchased LED lights and commercial grade and the City crews did an excellent job of putting up the lights last year.

MOTION CARRIED

CENSUS UPDATE – CITY MANAGER CALEB BLASCHKE

City Manager Caleb Blaschke explained the importance of the census and why it is so important to local governments to include our community. He explained the breakdown in Arizona and how funds are distributed based on the counts. The average person missed is a loss of \$2,000 per year in our community. In our community, 25 -30% is missed. Citizens will have an opportunity to do the census online in 2020. The census will also try to reach people by telephone, by paper, and by representatives. Blaschke explained how this Census will differ from prior censuses and then he discussed challenges for Cochise County. We have a 25-30% rate of potential no-response in Willcox. The County, schools, and hospitals, faith-based organizations, etc. are creating a committee to increase awareness. Vice Mayor Rowden asked how quickly we get our count. Blaschke replied that it is a great question and he will follow up. Councilmember Garza asked if the information will be in Spanish as well. Blaschke replied yes it will. Blaschke said this meeting is more informational and if you have any other ideas to let him know. In Flagstaff, they had partnered with the County and they had a budget of about \$2 per body. We could go door to door and we could partner with McDonalds or Dairy Queen to get a free ice cream if you fill out the census. Blaschke then discussed the next steps as far as forming the committee and budgeting funds for outreach in the County. Blaschke then showed our State Share Revenue from the Department of Revenue. A lot of the formulas for revenue are based on our population. We want that population number to grow. Councilmember Lindsey said it is important since it will be done electronically. It is left up to the individual and it is important to get the information to them and that they report back. Rowden said it could affect their pocketbooks. We want to count whether they are a citizen or not. Blaschke said Flagstaff is one of the leaders and we can easily borrow their information. Mayor Laws said some of the information could go out through Google. Blaschke said we can put it on utility bills as well. Rowden said we need to keep repeating it and say it multiple times. Councilmember Bowlby said it could be the best count ever because it is being done electronically. We could purchase iPads with data and go door to door and help with other outlying communities. Councilmember Garza asked how big HUD housing in this community is. DES says we don't have as much need here, but we do. How could that affect our portion of the monies? Blaschke replied that if they correctly fill out wages and it affects the poverty level which would provide more monies. Councilmember Lindsey said SEAGO has been involved in those projects but nothing right now. There is very little as far as HUD right now. There is a need for housing here in Willcox. There are a number of Section 8 houses but not anyway publicly that you know. Blaschke said CDBG funds can also be in Section 8 funds. The next funding cycle in 2021, we get \$490k. CDBG fund is based on the census count.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager, Caleb Blaschke said the approval letter was received Monday from USDA for the new loan for the wastewater treatment plant. We are trying to expedite the process to pay PCL. The first step is to have Michael Cafiso, our bond attorney, to draft documents and then have a Municipal Property Corporation meeting Monday and have a Special Council Meeting Monday or Tuesday night. Then after the meeting, it takes about two weeks to close. PCL has been gracious, and we need to expedite things to get them paid. It takes a majority of 6 to approve the loan documents. Councilmember Lindsey asked if Blaschke has decided on Monday or Tuesday. Blaschke said realistically we are looking at next Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. Blaschke said we met with Dennis Williams and Eddie Browning at the rodeo grounds. Rex Allen Days has some funding to build additional bleachers next to the areas. It will be brought to council at a future date. Blaschke said he met with Cheryl Moss and Ron Applegate and they have areas that they would like to see outlets and plumbing. We could form a committee to help facilitate the improvements to the rodeo grounds. Vice Mayor Rowden said when they put in the new bleachers they eliminated the box seats. Would there be box seats? Blaschke said yes there will be. We checked with structural engineers and they are allowing mesh or a tarp to be put up as well. We had a Google training today on marketing and how to use analytics. 50% of communities don't reflect their business operational hours. Experts believe that there is a 33% loss of funding due to not advertising hours. They showed some cool things and we want to partner with the school and assign students each a project to help businesses showcase their businesses online. Mayor Laws said to include people from the County Fair in the rodeo grounds. Councilmember Bowlby asked how many people came to the seminar today. Blaschke replied zero but we received 700 likes on Facebook. Rowden said she didn't think very many people knew about it. Blaschke said we can look at different approaches to get people there in the future.

COMMENTS NOT FOR DISCUSSION FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Councilmember Johnson said other than next week's meeting, he wants to congratulate and say thank you to Bob and Sam. He wanted to personally thank them for their service they did to the City and it has been a pleasure to serve with them on the Council.

Councilmember Lindsey wanted to add that it has been a long run and there have been good and bad times. He enjoyed serving on the council and he looks forward to giving them a hard time in the future. Lindsey appreciate the time that he put in and the core that has taken place in the Council.

Councilmember Garza wanted to reconfirm the swearing in will be Monday the 3rd at 6:30. City Manager Blaschke said yes and we are planning a ceremony. We will be getting that out shortly. Garza asked if it will be put it in the paper. Blaschke said not traditionally but yes, we can. Garza said that after the Veteran's Day Parade there were still questions about the Veteran's board. There used to be one, but it was removed and put in storage never to be found. Community members have shown interest in remaking the board and installing that at the park. Blaschke said that they found something that may be there, but it was difficult to identify, and he will follow up. Garza said it's wood with names of Veterans. It was removed partly because people were taking plaques off the board. Garza was recently contacted by Nell Worden from the Food Pantry. Their goal is to get 30,000 pounds of food. Nell is asking for bell ringers and if Council would like to participate to contact her. Maid Rite is having their drive to feed kids. Kids are given shoes, toys, and coats. Blaschke said that our Police Department is doing the same thing, so we have reached out to them to partner. Garza also announced that there will be a blood drive on December 7th at Valley Telecom.

Councilmember Bowlby said to Sam and Bob, it has been a pleasure to serve with you these past four years. He appreciates their input and guidance on issues and wishes them well. Saturday night is the school basketball program called Cowboy Madness. Bring a canned good for admission. Have a good Happy Thanksgiving.

Vice Mayor Rowden said thank you to Bob and Sam for being good examples. Bob was the first one to sign her petition. Rowden said she can't say how enjoyable the Red-Carpet Shindig was. The City Manager made a wonderful Rex Allen Jr. Those that missed it missed a fun time. Rowden invited everyone to tomorrow's Holiday House. The proceeds go towards scholarships and support things like coats for kids and the Food Pantry. Rowden talked to the City Manager about reinstating Council positions on commissions. It is my understanding that the comments for Council are for serving on those commissions. Blaschke said we will look at that and it will be on a future agenda.

Mayor Laws said, Sam and Bob we are going to miss you, you taught us a lot and you have kept us in line. Thank you to Sam and we had to step up in front of the Council let them know something that was going on and you stuck with it. The City Manager and I had a tour with the Dairy at 6:00 in the morning and showed them property and it was very interesting, and we will talk about it in the future. The City is going in such a good direction. When we go to the Mayor/Manager meetings, we are positive and everyone else is negative. We are doing well and have an awesome Council. We are on the map. Laws wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and he looks forward to Becky and Paul coming to the next meeting.

ADJOURN

MOTION: Councilmember Bowlby made a motion to adjourn the meeting with no further business at 7:27 p.m.

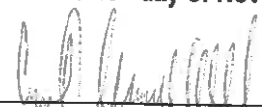
SECONDED: Vice Mayor Rowden seconded the motion.

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 15th day of November 2018. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 15th day of November 2018



City Clerk Crystal L. Hadfield

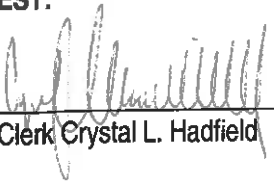
PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 20th day of December 2018.



Mayor Michael J. Laws

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ATTEST:



City Clerk Crystal L. Hadfield