

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PINETOP-LAKESIDE, ARIZONA, HELD NOVEMBER 19, 2009 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

Mayor Smith called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Roll call was taken as follows:

<u>ROLL CALL:</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>		<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Mayor Luke Smith	<u>X</u>	___	Stephanie Irwin	<u>X</u>	___
Vice Mayor Rich Crockett	<u>X</u>	___	Kim Webb	<u>X</u>	___
Woody Biscoe	<u>X</u>	___	Leslee Wessel	<u>X</u>	___
Norris Dodd	<u>X</u>	___			

STAFF PRESENT:

L. Kelly Udall, Town Manager; Rosemary Rosales, Town Attorney; Lu Anne Frost, Town Clerk; Susan Stein, Deputy Town Clerk; J. Kent Brooksby, Finance Director; Paul Esparza, Community Development Director; Mary French-Jones, Grant Coordinator; and Sherwood Eldredge, Chief of Police.

ITEM NO. 2, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION:

The Pledge of Allegiance was said, followed with an invocation by Councilman Webb.

ITEM NO. 3, CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Mayor Smith explained the rules for Call to the Public.

Jim Beck stated 13 volunteers showed up last Saturday for the Town cleanup. He said they cleaned from Porter Mountain Road to the Game and Fish Office. He said since the ski season lasts for several months, they would like to keep the Town sparkling with lights until March 1, with the Council’s permission. He said they hope this would be the beginning of an annual event that would gain momentum to help winter visitors remember Pinetop-Lakeside. He said they received additional donations of \$2,000 to purchase more lights and decorate up to 15 trees on Main Street. He said by turning these efforts into a contest between Pinetop-Lakeside and Show Low, their efforts could generate media interest from Tucson and the Valley. He requested Mayor Smith extend a personal invitation to Mayor Fernau and others to compete in a “Mountain-Wide” holiday lighting contest. He said this may encourage additional visitors to both communities. He said the goal is to join hands and create a winter wonderland to let everyone know they are more than a summertime destination. He added this is also an incentive to encourage participation in an in-Town holiday lighting competition for the best decorated businesses with awards of \$200, \$100, and \$50. He added the contest is open to all businesses, and said it would include residential areas with separate prizes of \$100 and \$50. He said this Saturday, Navopache Electric and other volunteers will hang lights and wreaths, and said they will meet at 8:00 a.m. at WME 8 Theatres. He announced that anyone interested in participating or donating should contact the Chamber of Commerce, Main Street or Jim Beck at [peoplesvisioncommittee@gmail.com](mailto:peoplesvisioncommittee@gmail.com).

Councilwoman Irwin stated the White Mountain Summer Homes Association donated \$1,000 and said she wanted to thank them. Mr. Beck thanked Councilman Dodd for his donation. Councilman Biscoe stated seven TRACKS members helped with the Saturday clean up.

Mayor Smith recognized the Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee members in attendance and introduced them. He acknowledged Chair Emily Yost, Vice Chair Bryce Pyper, Treasurer Emery Real Bird, and Historians Jenah Gilbert and Kelsey Ruggard. He acknowledged the other Committee members: Reid Dempsey, Ben West, and Tyler Lacy, and stated the Secretary, Desiree McKee, was unable to attend.

ITEM NO. 4, CONSENT AGENDA:

The consent agenda consisted of the Minutes of the Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of November 5, 2009; Resolution No. 09-1088 Agreeing to Act as Fiscal Agent for the Pinetop-Lakeside Senior Citizens Congregate Meal Program; and the October 2009 Check Register.

**COUNCILMAN DODD MOVED THE COUNCIL APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. VICE MAYOR CROCKETT SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ITEM NO. 5, PRESENTATION BY KEN STROBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR THE ARIZONA LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS ON THEIR ACTIVITIES AND NEXT YEAR'S LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Ken Strobeck gave a PowerPoint presentation and stated he appreciated the opportunity to speak to the Town Council. He explained their annual member survey brought suggestions that they make presentations at Council meetings, and said they are starting in northern Arizona. He said the League of Arizona Cities and Towns is a voluntary, non-profit, non-partisan association comprised of the 90 Arizona cities and towns, formed in 1937 as a result of the Legislature taking away local authority and the underfunding of transportation. He said they are still fighting some of the same battles at the Legislature today. He said they focus on home rule and the premise that local leaders should make decisions locally, not be taken away by the Legislature. He said the League is an effective voice representing the interest of all 90 incorporated municipalities. He said the State Legislature knows they are speaking on behalf of all 90 cities and towns. He stated they represent common interests generally applicable to all cities and towns in the State. He went over their core values. He stated policy is developed through a resolution process which takes place at the Annual League Conference, and said the results are contained in their Municipal Policy Statement. He said the issues the League tackles must be common to all of the cities and towns. He said two primary guiding principles are protecting shared revenue and local control. He said they would be happy to work on an individual basis with any municipality needing assistance with local issues. He added they produce a weekly legislative bulletin and host legislative days at the Capitol. He said the League also provides technical assistance with questions, helps with legal issues, and manages affiliate groups. He discussed the Model City Tax Code and the local government directory, which they publish once yearly and which can be found on their website, [www.azleague.org](http://www.azleague.org). He stated they coordinate the Annual League Conference and said they also conduct various classes.

Mr. Strobeck said the State is in the fourth Legislative session this year; and commented the Senate was one vote short today because one Senator withdrew his vote. He said they will reconvene on Monday. He said the State's budget deficit is \$2 billion out of balance. He said sales; income and property tax revenues and assessments continue to decline. He stated the State has to borrow money to keep operations going. He discussed some current House Bill provisions they are protesting at the Legislature. He said the League would file a special action lawsuit next week challenging some provisions in HB 208.

Mayor Smith thanked Mr. Strobeck for coming and said this was eye opening. He said this was the first year he had attended a League Conference, and said he appreciates the League's work.

ITEM NO. 6, PRESENTATION ON THE WOODLAND LAKE PARK FINANCIAL PLAN BY J. KENT BROOKSBY, TOWN FINANCE DIRECTOR:

Wes Alderson stated there is history on economic trends. He said Pinetop-Lakeside revenue is not nearly a victim to the nation's financial crisis and said they can be more proactive. He said there are methods to create new business as long as people have the willpower to "do" the methods.

Councilman Dodd thanked Kent Brooksby for putting the information together. He said it is very important information for the people to look at. Vice Mayor Crockett reiterated this financial analysis is posted to the Town's website.

ITEM NO. 7, PRESENTATION ON THE RE-ADOPTION AND RE-AUTHORIZATION OF THE LAKESIDE VILLAGE REDEVELOPMENT AREA DESIGNATION:

Paul Esparza stated the Town adopted the Lakeside Village Redevelopment Area ten years ago. He said the boundaries are defined by the Commerce Park, Creekside PUD, the Woodland Pines Townhome project and the Lakeside Townsite. He said they are proposing the same boundaries and plan. He said the idea is to create a mechanism for revitalization efforts. He defined the word "redevelopment," per the American Planning Association Policy Guide. He stated there are many reasons for redevelopment efforts for under-utilized properties. He said one of the mechanisms used in the past was Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding and said many businesses have taken advantage of it. He stated there would be a public hearing on December 3. He said one of the benefits is that it creates a sense of place and said there are many opportunities that benefit both property owners and the Town.

Mary French-Jones stated this is an opportunity to update the redevelopment district that has been poised for transition. She said the boundaries are the same as the last effort. She said two grant cycles for CDBG were devoted to commercial rehabilitation enhancing the aesthetics of the community and the relationship with White Mountain Blvd. She stated the Library fell into this redevelopment area and the parking lot was enlarged. Councilman Biscoe asked about the last time someone participated in the process. Ms. French-Jones stated there have been seven projects and said the Library was the last. Councilman Biscoe asked if anyone is interested in using the money. Ms. French-Jones stated that money has been spent, but said this is a new round if the Council decides to take action. Councilman Biscoe stated there are a number of businesses in Pinetop that would take advantage of the funds. Mr. Udall stated in establishing a redevelopment district there are slum/blight criteria, and said they have to meet a threshold of

those types of properties to qualify as a redevelopment area. He said there may be other opportunities. Ms. French-Jones said it is structured for more mature neighborhoods and commercial districts, possibly in some decline. Mr. Udall stated this is an opportunity to look at the Town to see if other areas qualify. Vice Mayor Crockett asked if the grants need to be matched. Ms. French-Jones stated in the past it was dollar for dollar, up to \$7,500. She stated the first public hearing is scheduled for November 20 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall. Vice Mayor Crockett said businesses may want to take advantage of the grants once ADOT begins the streetscape project.

Ms. French-Jones introduced Tiffany Ashworth, the new Grant Coordinator for Navajo County.

ITEM NO. 8, RESOLUTION NO. 09-1085 ADOPTING AN ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION STRATEGY THAT COMPLIES WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S REQUIREMENTS:

Ms. French-Jones stated this resolution is required by the Department of Energy to put forth a strategy on how the Town intends to use the formula funds. She stated they exhausted quite a few venues and said they will retrofit the ball field lights at Woodland Park, which will improve the quality of the lights and decrease energy expense. She added there is no cost to the Town for this application.

**VICE MAYOR CROCKETT MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 09-1085 ADOPTING AN ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION STRATEGY THAT COMPLIES WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S REQUIREMENTS. COUNCILWOMAN WESSEL SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ITEM NO. 9, RESOLUTION NO. 09-1086 ADOPTING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TOWN OF PINETOP-LAKESIDE AND THE WHITE MOUNTAIN WILDLIFE AND NATURE CENTER, INC. PERTAINING TO AN ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT HERITAGE GRANT FOR A WHITE MOUNTAIN WILDLIFE VIEWING GUIDE WEB PAGE:

Councilman Dodd and Councilwoman Irwin excused themselves due to conflicts of interest on agenda items 9 and 10.

John Jarchow stated they are requesting approval of a resolution to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Nature Center. He said the application deadline is November 30. He said agenda items 9 and 10 are parallel. He explained the applications call for non-profit agencies to apply for grants under a fiscal agent. Councilwoman Wessel asked if the money from other sources would be the Town's responsibility. Mr. Udall stated the Town is not assuming any financial responsibility. He said the only match the Town is responsible for would be minimal staff time. He stated the Town's involvement is acting as the organization qualifying them to receive grant money as fiscal agent. Councilwoman Wessel asked about the likelihood of success. Mr. Jarchow stated he has been told to be optimistic. Councilwoman Wessel asked where the other dollars are coming from. Mr. Jarchow stated the Nature Center has a revenue stream and received a sizeable endowment.

**COUNCILWOMAN WESSEL MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 09-1086 ADOPTING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TOWN OF PINETOP-LAKESIDE AND THE WHITE MOUNTAIN WILDLIFE AND NATURE CENTER, INC. PERTAINING TO AN ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT HERITAGE GRANT FOR A WHITE MOUNTAIN WILDLIFE VIEWING GUIDE WEB PAGE. COUNCILMAN BISCOE SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ITEM NO. 10, RESOLUTION NO. 09-1087 ADOPTING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TOWN OF PINETOP-LAKESIDE AND THE WHITE MOUNTAIN WILDLIFE AND NATURE CENTER, INC. PERTAINING TO AN ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT HERITAGE GRANT FOR A WHITE MOUNTAIN NATURE DISCOVERY PROGRAM:

Mr. Jarchow stated everything said under Item 9 applies here. He said the partnerships they have formed are very important to them. He said this would help them increase the discovery program and create more economic development opportunities. Councilwoman Wessel commended the group for making great strides in a very short period of time.

**COUNCILWOMAN WESSEL MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 09-1087 ADOPTING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TOWN OF PINETOP-LAKESIDE AND THE WHITE MOUNTAIN WILDLIFE AND NATURE CENTER, INC. PERTAINING TO AN ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT HERITAGE GRANT FOR A WHITE MOUNTAIN NATURE DISCOVERY PROGRAM. VICE MAYOR CROCKETT SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Jarchow distributed a copy of the Field Guide to Woodland Lake Park to the Council. Councilman Dodd and Councilwoman Irwin returned to the meeting.

ITEM NO. 11, CURRENT EVENTS BY TOWN MANAGER:

Mr. Udall stated the Christmas Tree Lighting would be held on December 5 from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m. at Woodland Lake Park. He added it is a great event with music, door prizes, and an opportunity to bring canned goods to help the less fortunate. He said the tree has been placed and is being decorated. He thanked the White Mountain Apache Tribe for donating the tree and Navopache Electric for helping to place and decorate the tree. He said the youth basketball program is starting up. He stated Lu Anne Frost has achieved the prestigious designation of Master Municipal Clerk. He said the second General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) meeting was held with good attendance. Councilman Dodd stated the next meeting would be held in March. Mr. Udall said Navopache Electric is moving forward with their site plan and said the Sierra Blanca Nursing facility is progressing on schedule. He said these two facilities will greatly benefit the community. He added Navopache Electric is asking bidders how they would utilize local contractors, as they want 50% to 70% of the contractors to be local.

ITEM NO. 12, TOWN COUNCIL CURRENT EVENT REPORTS ON ALL COUNCIL APPOINTED COMMITTEES, COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND AFFILIATES:

Councilman Dodd stated the Forest Health Committee is making a lot of progress. He said they are looking at the Fire Risk Reduction Code and what can be done for compliance. He said the Town may take over the Lakeside Fire assistance grant and would expand both fire districts. He said they would like to conduct a thinning project on the Town's property across from the Library. He said they are identifying priority neighborhoods in the Town. He said they would be suggesting changes to the Town Code. He said he was not able to attend the TRACKS meeting; but said they provided more than half of the labor for the volunteer clean up, and said they are active with the General Plan Advisory Committee. He stated the White Mountain Land Trust is coordinating the Save Our Park Fund and creating awareness. He said they are updating both web pages to generate interest and funding, and said they are monitoring conservation easements. He said the Woodland Lake Park Acquisition Task Force is focusing on the Walnut Creek Node potential for a public/private partnership. He said a Town Hall would be held by the People's Vision Committee (PVC) on December 10 at Shepherd of the Mountain Lutheran Church to focus on the citizens' initiative for acquisition of Woodland Lake Park.

Councilwoman Irwin stated there were about 40 attendees at the night out held at the Yellow Jacket Youth Center. She said they received generous donations from Northeastern Arizona Fine Arts Association to purchase art supplies, and from the Phoenix Suns. She commented they are progressing and may add a second staff person.

Vice Mayor Crockett thanked the volunteers for participating in the Saturday clean up. He said the Chamber of Commerce would be hosting their annual Christmas Dinner on December 10 at Hon-Dah from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. He said last Perk-Up of the year would be held on December 4 at Hon-Dah. He added the Pinetop Lakeside Active Networking (PLAN) group would hold their luncheon on January 12.

Councilwoman Wessel stated the Municipal Property Corporation held their annual meeting on November 9. She stated the Pinetop-Lakeside Historical Society is closed for the winter but said they would be holding meetings on the first Wednesday of the month at 4:30 p.m. to enable more to attend. She said their Board meetings will change to the third Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. She stated they continue to work on improvements at the Museum. She stated the Show Low Creek Watershed Enhancement Partnership has found an intriguing way to get the weeds out of Rainbow Lake. She said they received a suggestion to follow the weed eater and pull the weeds out of the water; which will be more successful. She commented they will continue meetings throughout the winter and said they may become a non-profit. She stated the General Plan Advisory Committee met this week and targeted some issues to come up with a clear vision statement. She stated they would like the new General Plan to be more user-friendly.

Councilman Webb stated the Senior Citizens Center received some funding, which the Town would be monitoring, for their meals. He said the Humane Society is a well organized group and things are running smoothly there.

Councilman Biscoe stated Main Street has been busy with the holiday lighting project. He said they want to have a seasonal event every season. He said the Advertising and Promotion

Committee provided \$1,000 for lights and some of the prize money. He said they would like the news media to come up and do the judging. He said this is a win/win for everyone in the Town. He said everyone they have talked to has been positive. Mr. Beck stated they would like to know from Mayor Smith when he has issued the challenge to Mayor Fernau. Councilman Biscoe commented it is nice to see these groups working together on one project.

Mayor Smith stated the Northern Arizona Council of Governments (NACOG) met a few weeks ago and said the most important discussion was the CDBG funding. He said the Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee held their first official meeting on November 18 and said he was encouraged with their energy. He said the Blue Ridge School Board is facing the reality of a mid-year budget cut. He said the next Transit Advisory Committee Meeting would be after the holiday.

**ITEM NO. 13, CONSULTATION WITH TOWN ATTORNEY FOR LEGAL ADVICE ON ATTORNEY GENERAL INVESTIGATION OF TOWN BIDDING PROCEDURES:**

**COUNCILMAN DODD MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:43 P.M. VICE MAYOR CROCKETT SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Councilman Webb excused himself due to a conflict of interest.

Mayor Smith reconvened the regular meeting at 9:41 p.m.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Dated this 24th day of November 2009.

PINETOP-LAKESIDE TOWN COUNCIL

/s/ Lu Anne Frost, Town Clerk

**CERTIFICATION:**

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Pinetop-Lakeside, Arizona, held on the 19th day of November 2009. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 24th day of November 2009.

/s/ Lu Anne Frost, Town Clerk