

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PINETOP-LAKESIDE, ARIZONA, AND THE 2020 VISION COMMITTEE, HELD AUGUST 3, 2009, AT THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LAKESIDE, ARIZONA.

The Special Meeting was convened at 6:04 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>	<u> </u>	Stephanie Irwin	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Vice Mayor Rich Crockett	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	Kim Webb	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
Woody Biscoe	<u> </u>	<u>X</u>	Leslee Wessel	<u> </u>	<u>X</u>
Norris Dodd	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>			

STAFF PRESENT:

Kelly Udall, Town Manager; Rosemary Rosales, Town Attorney; Lu Anne Frost, Town Clerk; and Susan Stein, Deputy Town Clerk.

2020 VISION COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Lasonder, Beverly Stepp, Vice Chairman Rich Munroe, Mark Jacobs, Jim Beck, Tom Cavanagh, Tyler Lacy, and Chairman Wayne Morton.

ITEM NO. 1, WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Opening remarks and introductions were made.

ITEM NO. 2, THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE 2020 VISION COMMITTEE WITH THE TOWN COUNCIL, ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, VISION, MISSION AND GOALS OF THE 2020 VISION COMMITTEE. THE TOWN COUNCIL WILL CONSIDER CONTINUATION OF COMMITTEE OPERATIONS, REFORMATION OF THE COMMITTEE, OR DISSOLUTION:

Mayor Smith stated this item is slated for legal action by the Town Council. He stated the packet contained a copy of the 2020 Vision Plan, the proposed Strategic Vision Working Group procedures, minutes from the 1996 Town Council Meeting when the Committee was created, and the November 20, 2008 Council Minutes approving the procedures for the 2020 Vision Committee. He stated the Council has also received a copy of a letter from Larry Vicario. He stated this is the third meeting to discuss this topic. He stated at the last regular session, several ideas were suggested. Wayne Morton agreed this is an accurate description of where they are.

Mr. Morton read a letter from Tom Jernigan, who was not able to attend. He suggested they retain the 2020 Vision Committee as a standing committee with their primary purpose to be a conduit between government and citizens; respect and not disparage the Town plans and governance; seek and respect projects given by the Town Council as the number one priority; designate three-year membership terms with one-third being replaced at a time; consult with the

Council when a problem arises; and the Committee size should be comprised to have a quorum of six.

Mayor Smith stated Councilwoman Wessel apologized for not being able to attend. Mayor Smith read the letter from Larry Vicario. He stated several comments and ideas have been brought up, but said his goal at the end of this meeting would be to make a decision. Councilman Dodd stated two Council meetings have been held recently with considerable discussion, including a presentation made by Mr. Morton; but said he is not sure if the entire 2020 Vision Committee is aware of the emancipation notion. Councilman Dodd asked if that is still on the table and if this is something the members of the 2020 Vision Committee want to pursue.

Mr. Morton stated he spoke with some Committee members and suggested the money spent by the Town was a concern; and said they have been unmanageable, unruly, and not functioning as expected. He suggested a solution would be to legally do something to enable them to “leave home.” He said this would not stop them from meeting as a group and “conducting” with the Council; but said this may be a solution to the Council’s problems and concerns. Tom Cavanagh stated he is new to the Committee and asked if there is a problem. Councilman Dodd stated the perception about administrative costs to the Town was recognized and said the bottom line is that nothing has been done for over a year. Bill Lasonder stated he is also a new member on the Committee and said he agrees output has been minimal. He said they are a fractured group, and said they seem to get issues on the table that have nothing to do with 2020; and said he would go on record in agreement with Councilman Dodd. He stated they argue about the questions to ask people who are interested in joining the Committee; and said they need direction. He stated they need to know what to do, and said arguing for two hours per month is not progress. Jim Beck stated if they are fractured they should read the Vision Plan and those who do not agree should not be on the Committee. He added as far as not getting anything done, most of the things that bogged them down came from staff or the Council. He said they had to change the way they voted and their Code of Conduct. Mayor Smith stated the Council did not ask for anything new; and said the procedures were approved in November. Mr. Beck stated they voted unanimously to have special meetings to discuss internal procedural items.

Councilwoman Irwin stated she believes the problems go back even farther. She said the Tejido Town Halls were held in November of 2007, and said there was no report to the Council until June of 2008. She said the minutes of the 1996 meeting indicate Council support of the 2020 Vision Plan, and she suggested the Council act as the 2020 Vision Committee until such time as the Vision Plan can be incorporated into the General Plan. Councilman Dodd stated the Council has taken the lead by adopting the Code of Conduct, and said they asked the Planning and Zoning Commission to also adopt a Code of Conduct, which has been done. He stated the behavior of certain individuals has been disruptive and said people were not treated with respect. He said instead of having a diverse committee, there seems to be a notion of “camps.” He stated they conducted inappropriate questioning of prospective Committee members and said they have to get back to the business of public involvement and act as the conduit for the Town. He added there was no intent of the Council to divert them from their important work. Mr. Morton stated the first question they asked was devised to determine if they were involved with a political

committee, as they did not want a member forcing their personal agenda on the 2020 Vision Committee agenda. He said their direction is to support the Vision Plan they are to “steward.”

Tyler Lacy stated he joined the Committee in 2007. He stated he was at first excited and enthusiastic, but said nothing has happened since the Nodal Town Halls ended. He said since that time, they have been unproductive and never get anything accomplished. He said if the 2020 Vision Committee could be focused it could be an asset to the community, but said he does not see a purpose for the Committee. Vice Mayor Crockett asked for clarification from Mr. Beck’s statement that if the Committee is fractured, is the reason because they do not all follow the Vision Plan. Mr. Lasonder stated he disagreed with Mr. Beck as some Committee Members think another group has influence when they do not. He said part of the group thinks they should talk about ASAP or other groups that have nothing to do with the 2020 Vision Committee. Mayor Smith stated they need to focus on the direction they are taking tonight. Mark Jacobs stated they were told that ASAP was putting “plants” on the Committee to disrupt and to get them to this point where they would be ineffective or irrelevant. He said this paranoia, coupled with the Wes Alderson affair, crippled them. He said the Vision Plan is their agenda. Mayor Smith stated the Council appoints the Committee Members and said they are accountable when there are problems. He asked why they did not come to the Council with their issues. Councilman Dodd stated the role of the Committee is to take the issues to the citizens and said they have to put their heads down, do the job and remain focused.

Rich Munroe stated there has been a time when they were unproductive, but it is over. He said when he first joined the Committee, they were a group of concerned citizens who wanted to see the best for the Town; and did not have those types of people on the Committee, but said he feels they do now. He stated he would like to look ahead, but said it is disturbing as when he left the last joint meeting it was with the clear idea they were to help with the General Plan to incorporate the Vision Plan. He said they had no direction and no follow-up and then got embroiled in other matters. He asked if the Council wants them to proceed in the way they did prior or if not in that role, then something else. He said the Strategic Working Vision Group proposal proposes a Council Member as the Chair which will not work because they are a conduit to the citizens. He stated it took a long time to get the nodal report done because Mr. Udall asked them for an opinion. He stated they have something to do, if they could do it, and said to forget the past. Vice Mayor Crockett asked if they are against the “vision” or if they are interpreting the “vision.” Mr. Jacobs stated the ASAP “plants” are there to destroy the Committee as they simply do not want the Committee. Vice Mayor Crockett asked if the Committee should be dissolved as it is today. He questioned the statement made that the Committee should not be dissolved, but should be changed. Mr. Jacobs questioned how to facilitate the relationship between the Council and the 2020 Vision Committee. Vice Mayor Crockett asked if there are Committee Members who are not following the vision and if it needs to be dissolved. The Committee Members present agreed that it does not need to be dissolved, but needs to be changed. Mr. Munroe stated they were told to send up several prospective Committee members to the Council for appointment at a time rather than one, which caused them a problem. He said another problem was the 2020 Vision Committee procedures which he said they have not received back from staff. Mr. Udall and Vice Mayor Crockett confirmed the procedures were approved at the November 2008 Council meeting. Councilman Dodd said there

is a desire for the Council to become more involved as there are issues they would like put forth to the public.

Rosemary Rosales provided information on the different types of committees. She discussed the similarities of advisory and standing committees and stated they are both required to follow the Open Meeting Law. She added the Committee quorum is currently based on the thirteen-member committee and said if there is no quorum; no legal action can be taken.

Mr. Morton stated they all agree Town Halls are helpful and productive. He asked the Council if they would be interested in discussing issues outside of the Strategic Management Plan topics. Mr. Beck stated the acquisition of open space was removed from the Strategic Management Plan and said in his opinion; they are just as responsible to the public as the Town Council. Councilman Dodd and Mayor Smith explained the Strategic Management Plan to those present. Mayor Smith stated the Council supports the Vision Plan and said that is why most of it was incorporated into the Strategic Management Plan. Mr. Udall stated the Strategic Management Plan is a method and process being adopted everywhere; and he reminded the attendees that all of the Plans have received input from the public and the Council. He stated the Strategic Management Plan is an administrative tool compiled from the components and priorities of the other Plans and the community.

Mr. Beck asked why they cannot have a website or e-mail address. Mayor Smith stated no other Town entity has a separate website, as the focus of authority would be taken away. He added no other committees have independent e-mail addresses, which would foster division in working together with the Town. He said the 2020 Vision Committee currently has a Town web page. Mr. Beck stated they wanted to offer this as a way to promote contact with the public. He said people do not come to the meetings. Mayor Smith stated people are watching it on television. He suggested holding an annual open forum. He said the public expects the Town Council and Town-affiliated committees to be effective.

Councilman Dodd asked what they perceive as the role of Council and staff. He asked if they thought it was integral and important, or if they thought someone was spying on them. Mr. Cavanagh said people will say what they think no matter who is on the Committee, and said they need more support. Mayor Smith said the Town Council is held accountable to the voters and there is pressure to perform, while the Committee does not have that pressure. He added it will not fix things, but it will be more accountable if there is a Council Chair or liaison. Mr. Lasonder stated he does not believe having a Council Chair would be a problem and said he believes if people are going to say something they will find a way. Mr. Udall stated meetings do not need to be held every month and said Town Halls could be planned as needed. He said the General Plan process has not started yet and said the Town will hire a professional facilitator to be the lead. Mayor Smith said his proposal is focused on adhering to the Strategic Management Plan, but said it needs to be an independent operation of the government and a working partnership. Mr. Udall said the bottom line is the public needs to be engaged in the General Plan as they will be voting on it. Mr. Cavanagh said they need to have goals to become effective and have a focus. Mr. Jacobs asked if there needs to be a meeting schedule. Mr. Morton stated this is in their procedures. Mr. Udall said he will explore how staff could be more effective in interacting with the Committee. He said staff does not feel welcome. Mayor Smith said he wants to come

to a resolution tonight with a direction of where it is going. Mr. Cavanagh said he would like to reduce the number of Committee members to help facilitate a quorum, and said people are not applying. Mayor Smith asked the Council what they are looking to do.

COUNCILWOMAN IRWIN MOVED TO DISSOLVE THE EXISTING 2020 VISION COMMITTEE AND EXPLORE THE STRATEGIC VISION WORKING GROUP PROPOSED BY MAYOR SMITH. VICE MAYOR CROCKETT SECONDED THE MOTION. Councilman Dodd stated the Vision Plan is a living document until it is rolled into another document or plan. Councilman Webb stated he would hate to see these people get upset and not be involved any longer, but said it could work if they can regroup, restructure and get their focus back to working together. He said if they cannot work together as a committee, then they cannot work together as a community. He stated they need to work together and build unity. Beverly Stepp stated she thinks a Council Member should be on the Committee, but not as Chair. Councilman Dodd suggested they reduce the membership to nine. **MAYOR SMITH CALLED FOR THE VOTE AND THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MAYOR SMITH MOVED TO RESCIND THE PREVIOUS MOTION AND INSTEAD OF DISSOLVING THE 2020 VISION COMMITTEE TO REFORM THE COMMITTEE. COUNCILMAN DODD SECONDED THE MOTION. Councilwoman Irwin asked if they would reform the Committee tonight. **MAYOR SMITH CALLED FOR THE VOTE AND THE MOTION FAILED WITH TWO IN FAVOR. COUNCILWOMAN IRWIN, COUNCILMAN WEBB AND VICE MAYOR CROCKETT WERE OPPOSED.** Mayor Smith requested staff agenda the Strategic Vision Working Group proposal for the August 20, 2009 Town Council meeting. Councilman Dodd requested a full transcript of the motions and discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Dated this 5th day of August 2009.

PINETOP-LAKESIDE TOWN COUNCIL

Lu Anne Frost, Town Clerk