



TOWN OF HUACHUCA CITY

The Sunset City

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE
HUACHUCA CITY TOWN COUNCIL
June 8, 2023 AT 6:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
500 N. GONZALES BLVD.
HUACHUCA CITY, AZ 85616**

A. Call to Order – Mayor

- a. Pledge of Allegiance
- b. Roll Call and Ascertain Quorum

B. Roll Call.

Roll Call.

Present: Johann Wallace, Christy Hirshberg, Jeffrey Ferro, Cynthia Butterworth, Debra Trate, Jean Smelt, Town Manager Suzanne Harvey (Not voting), Town Clerk Brandye Thorpe (Not voting), Town Attorney Thomas Benavidez (Not voting).

Absent:

- a. Invocation

Any prayer/invocation that may be offered before the start of regular Council business shall be the voluntary offering of a private citizen, for the benefit of the Council and the citizens present. The views or beliefs expressed by the prayer/invocation speaker have not been previously reviewed or approved by the Council, and the Council does not endorse the religious beliefs or views of this, or any other speaker. A list of volunteers is maintained by the Town Clerk's Office and interested persons should contact the Town Clerk's Office for further information.

C. Call to the Public – Mayor

A.R.S. 38-431.01 states the Public Body may make an open call to the public during a public meeting, subject to reasonable time, place and manner restrictions, to allow individuals to address the public body on any issue within the jurisdiction of the Public Body. At the conclusion of an open call to the public, individual members of the Public Body may respond to criticism made by those who have addressed the Public Body, may ask staff to review a matter or may ask that a matter be put on a future agenda. However, members of the Public Body shall not discuss or take legal action on matters raised during an open call to the public unless the matters are properly noticed for discussion and legal action.

D. Consent Agenda - Mayor

All items listed in the Consent Agenda are considered routine matters and will be enacted by one motion of the Council. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Member of the Town Council requests that an item or items be removed for discussion. Council Members may ask questions without removal of the item from the Consent Agenda. Items removed from the Consent Agenda are considered in their normal sequence as listed on the agenda, unless called out of sequence.

C.1 Consider approval of the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting, including the executive session, held on May 25, 2023.

C.2 Consider approval of the Payment Approval Report.

Motion: Approval of the items on the Consent Agenda, **Action:** Open for Discussion and/or Action, **Moved by** Johann Wallace, **Seconded by** Christy Hirshberg.

Motion: Approve Items on the Consent Agenda., **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Johann Wallace, **Seconded by** Christy Hirshberg.
Motion passed unanimously.

E. Unfinished Business before the Council – Mayor

Public comment will be taken at the beginning of each agenda item, after the subject has been announced by the Mayor and explained by staff. Any citizen, who wishes, may speak one time for five minutes on each agenda item before or after Council discussion. Questions from Council Members, however, may be directed to staff or a member of the public through the Mayor at any time.

E. New Business Before Council - Mayor

Public comment will be taken at the beginning of each agenda item, after the subject has been announced by the Mayor and explained by staff. Any citizen, who wishes, may speak one time for five minutes on each agenda item before or after Council discussion. Questions from Council Members, however, may be directed to staff or a member of the public through the Mayor at any time.

E.1 Discussion and/or Action [Mayor Wallace]: Resolution 2023-08 - DESIGNATING BRANDYE THORPE AS THE CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER FOR OFFICIALLY SUBMITTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 EXPENDITURE LIMITATION REPORT TO THE ARIZONA AUDITOR GENERAL.

Motion: Resolution 023-08 – Designating Brandye Thorpe as the Chief Fiscal Officer for officially submitting the Fiscal Year 2024 Expenditure Limitation Report to the Arizona Auditor General, **Action:** Open for Discussion and/or Action, **Moved by** Johann Wallace, **Seconded by** Christy Hirshberg.

Council had no questions.

Motion: Approve Resolution 2023-08, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Johann Wallace, **Seconded by** Christy Hirshberg.

Motion passed unanimously.

E.2 Discussion and/or Action [Chief Thies]: Approval of road closures for the Town's 4th of July event.

Motion: Approval of road closures for the Town's 4th of July event, **Action:** Open for Discussion and/or Action, **Moved by** Johann Wallace, **Seconded by** Christy Hirshberg.

Chief Thies tells the Council it's much the same thing as last year. preparing with the Arizona Rangers for the four (4) main intersections. He plans to work and plan directly with the Fireworks Personnel. The plan so far is to mainly use Controlled Access until they're on scene for the Fireworks then closing roads.

Mayor Wallace requests that they make sure people aren't parking on the new walking path at the park. He predicts that a lot of people will try to park there and wants to have them do their best to keep it clear. Stating he believes an event is going to need/use that path.

Chief Thies says they will drop some cones along it to remind people not to park there.

Council had no questions about the road closures.

Motion: Approve purposed road closures for the 4th of July, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Johann Wallace, **Seconded by** Debra Trate.

Motion passed unanimously.

E.3 Discussion and/or Action [Chief Thies]: Update on grant funded School Resource Officer collaboration with Tombstone School District.

Motion: Update on grant funded School Resource Officer collaboration with Tombstone School District, **Action:** Discussion and/or Action **Moved by** Johann Wallace, **Seconded by** Debra Trate.

Chief Thies gave the Council a brief synopsis of what is going on. In the beginning of May he was contacted by Sarah Cox informing him that the Tombstone School District had gotten a grant for S.R.O. and had received it for both Tombstone Highschool and Huachuca City School. Sarah is going to be coming before the Council with more information later about how the IGA will be done, but Chief Thies knows that they would need a Sworn Peace Officer and not someone from the academy. This person's primary responsibilities will be the school and its activities during the schools' sessions.

Mayor Wallace commented to the Council that this is great for the community, not only for the school, but when school is not in session this is another officer for the Town.

Chief Thies told Council that would mainly be during the summer when school is out.

Councilmember Smelt commented that that's really when you need another officer because the kids are all out.

E.4 Discussion and/or Action [Brandye Thorpe]: Update on applicants for the vacant Council Member position.

Motion: Update on applicants for the vacant Council Member position, **Action:** Open for Discussion and/or Action, **Moved by** Johann Wallace, **Seconded by** Christy Hirshberg.

Town Clerk Thorpe included three (3) applicants in the Councils packets. She asks the Council if they want to continue leaving the position open and if/when they want to schedule interviews with the applications they have now.

Mayor Wallace briefly goes over the meeting schedule they have now and asks if they have any special meetings on the 29th?

Manager Harvey answers that yes, they do have something scheduled for that day. She reminds the Council that the last time they just did interviews during a regular council meeting. Mayor Wallace asks the Council if they have any thoughts or if they just want to do the interviews as part of the regular meeting on the 22nd?

The Council agrees to doing it at the meeting on the 22nd.

Councilmember Smelt asks if they must ask the same questions or can they update them?

Mayor Wallace answered they can update the questions and asked Town Clerk Thorpe to pull up the set of questions they used last time and send them to the council so any changes can be made. He reminds the Council that they must ask everyone the same questions. He asks Town Clerk Thorpe to notify the applicants about the meeting on the 22nd and asks that they get a copy of the Open Meeting Laws that they can review.

Town Clerk Thorpe asks if she should add any applicants that apply before the meeting on the 22nd.

Mayor Wallace replied yes.

Motion: Schedule interviews for the vacant council position for any applicants from now until the 22nd **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Johann Wallace, **Seconded by** Cynthia Butterworth. Motion passed unanimously.

E.5 Discussion and/or Action [Suzanne Harvey]: Partnership with Borderlands Restoration Network to install additional rainwater harvesting systems at the Library.

Motion: Partnership with Borderlands Restoration Network to install additional rainwater harvesting systems at the Library, **Action:** Open for Discussion and/or Action, **Moved by** Johann Wallace, **Seconded by** Christy Hirshberg.

Manager Harvey informs the Council that Caleb from Borderlands Restoration has approached the Town with an offer to put three 2,600-gallon rainwater harvesting tanks on the northwest corner of the library. They have a grant and are getting the tanks. They will do the installation. For the installation they have a youth group that they teach how to do this so they will install them. There will be a slight cost to the Town if we need bedding sand and a plumber to hook the tanks up to the main line that goes to the garden. Then we wouldn't be using our ground water for the garden. Manager Harvey states that this is a fantastic opportunity, and she is very excited for it. She mentions that Steph has some great ideas to have kids paint the

tanks since they'll be black. Manager Harvey is also very happy about the water conservation this will give the Town.

The Council voices many happy agreements about this development and water conservation.

F. Reports of Current Events by Council

Councilmember Smelt mentions that due to her health she hasn't been able to go to a lot. She did go to the Nomi Mental Health Walk last Saturday. She didn't know that there was a Cochise County Garden Center so it was really cool. She talked to Mayor Cle from Sierra Vista and thought it was a good fundraiser.

Councilmember Butterworth toured the garden earlier this week and talked to Ann. Right now they are growing sugar snap peas, all sorts of peppers, various beans, tomatoes, onions, and more. They believe they'll be able to start distribution in June. Clinton Grey from Rays Garden of Eden in Palamedes donated seeds to the garden and worked with the kids to get plants growing. That was the first time we've had a winter garden. The children's discovery garden is in progress; the raise beds will be built, and they will be built for each class grade. At the pavilion they have bins in there that they are going to use for various gardening experiments. The rainwater collectors will be installed. They are hoping to get the green house solar. Clifford from Tailor Made has, at no cost, installed gutters on the pavilion and is donating a table and bench that has granite insects on it. He did this just because he's a great guy. They are also looking to build an earthworm farm. The US Department of Agriculture has designated the garden here as the People's Garden. In the entirety of Cochise County there is only one and it's ours. There's going to be one more tank installed at the pavilion that will water the Children's Garden. The Food Distribution will be on June 16th and Healthy Huachuca City isn't meeting this week but will meet next Wednesday and anyone is invited to come. It will be at the Senior Center. Everyone is invited to come walk with us on Sunday morning at the town park, doing how ever many laps they'd like.

Mayor Pro Tem Hirshberg on July 15th she talked to Stephine and today she got permission from Suzanne to do a Family Fun Day at the Pool to get people to come to the pool. She asked if anyone on the council was interested in coming out to help. She wants to be able to offer free food, games, and prizes.

Mayor Wallace says that a lot of things are happening, but these things aren't coming through meetings they're coming through e-mails. He's mostly keeping an eye on what's happening through these e-mails. He's gotten an update about the E-rate swap over and everything is almost in place. Cox has gotten the fiber for the library spliced and they are just waiting on a permit from ADOT to finish on that side.

G. Adjournment

Motion: To Adjourn, **Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Johann Wallace, **Seconded by** Christy Hirshberg.

Motion passed unanimously.

Approved by Mayor Johann R. Wallace on June 11, 2023.

Mr. Johann R. Wallace
Mayor

Attest: _____
Ms. Brandye Thorpe,
Town Clerk

Seal:

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Meeting for the Huachuca City Town Council held on April 27, 2023. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Ms. Brandye Thorpe,
Town Clerk