



CITY OF SAFFORD • CITY COUNCIL MEETING • MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.
MEETING LOCATION: SAFFORD LIBRARY PROGRAM ROOM • 808 S. 7TH AVE SAFFORD, ARIZONA
“The mission of the City of Safford is to make Safford a great place to live, work, and visit”

1. **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:** (Reminder: Please turn off cell phones)
2. **ROLL CALL:** A quorum of the Council was present (7).
COUNCIL PRESENT: Jason Kouts, Mayor; Vice Mayor, Richard Ortega; Councilmembers’ Gene Seale, Arnold Lopez, Steve McGaughey, Chris Taylor and Michael Andazola.

STAFF PRESENT: Horatio Skeete, City Manager; John Cassella, Assistant City Manager; Glen Orr, Police Captain; Lance Henrie, Public Works Director/Assistant City Engineer; Susan Anderson, Planning and Community Development Director; Alma Flores Valles, Finance Officer; Victoria Silva, Library Director; Sam Napier, IT Director; Tamara Webster, Deputy City Clerk; Gale Hedges, Water Division Supervisor; Raymond Osornio, Gas Division Supervisor; and Morgan Seale, Wastewater Division Supervisor; and Dan Braatz, Electric Division Supervisor.

OTHERS PRESENT: David Sowders, Paul R. David, Vance Bryce, Heather VanHouten, Bri Morris, Jeanette Aston, Karen Ferber, Connor Emery, Sandy Garza, George Pickle, Shirley Turner and, others who did not sign in.
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Councilman Lopez led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
4. **OPENING PRAYER:** Councilman Andazola offered the opening prayer.
5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None
6. **CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** Heather VanHouten addressed Mayor and Council for the need of a community recreation center within the Gila Valley.
7. **PRESENTATION:**
 1. **YOUTH GROUP PRESENTATION: Connor Emery provided Mayor and Council with an overview of the Youth Group attendance at the League of Arizona Cities and Towns Annual Conference.**
8. **BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**
 1. **PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT: Request for the Mayor to recommend a Planning and Zoning Commission appointment to the City Council and for the City Council to approve the recommendation of appointing Ed Ragland to the Planning and Zoning Commission.**
MOTION ADOPTED
9. **NEW/OLD BUSINESS:**
 1. **MINUTES: Request for the Mayor and City Council to review and approve August 12, 2019 City Council Meeting Minutes.** MOTION ADOPTED
 2. **SPECIAL EVENT LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION: Request for the Mayor and City Council to recommend and approval to the Department of Liquor Licenses and Control for the following Fair/Festival License Applications for Graham County Chamber of Commerce, Elgin Winery, Elgin Distillery and Sonoita Vineyards, LTD.** MOTION ADOPTED

10. RESOLUTIONS:

1. **RESOLUTION NUMBER R19-036: Recommend the Mayor and City Council approve and adopt Resolution Number R19-036, appointing John Cassella, Assistant City Manager, to be the City of Safford's representative as a member of the Southwest Public Power Agency, Inc. (SPPA) Board of Directors; and appoint Jason Y. Moyes, of the law firm Moyes Sellers and Hendricks, to serve as alternate when necessary. MOTION ADOPTED**
2. **RESOLUTION NUMBER R19-037: Request for the Mayor and City Council to approve and adopt Resolution Number R19-037, a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a property lease agreement with the Mt. Graham Safe House Lease. MOTION ADOPTED 6-1 Councilman Lopez Opposed**

11. ORDINANCES:

1. **ORDINANCE NUMBER 019-003: Second Reading of Ordinance Number 019-003, amending Sections 2.12.00-Officers, 2.40.20 – Officers, and 2.40.050 Powers and Duties of the Fire Chief of the city of Safford Municipal Code. MOTION ADOPTED**

12. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS/BIDS:

1. **POLICE BUILDING DEMO CONTRACT: Request for the Mayor and Council to award a demolition contract and authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with Breinholt Contracting Company of Gilbert, Arizona for the Demolition of the Old Jail and Sheriff's office on 10th Avenue. MOTION ADOPTED**
2. **LOCAL FIRST ARIZONA FOUNDATION MOU: Request for the Mayor and City Council to approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Safford and Local First Arizona Foundation ("Foundation"). The MOU defines the criteria by which the "Foundation" will manage \$100,000 of economic development funding, provided by the City, to be made available to City of Safford businesses through the existing Graham County Micro Loan Program. MOTION ADOPTED**

13. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CURRENT EVENTS: The Mayor or any member of Council may at this time present a brief summary of current events and provide future agenda items. However, no discussion shall take place on such items except for clarifying comments related to substance, time and location.

- Mayor Kouts encouraged financial assistance from the Council for the Graham County Hispanic Heritage and Scholarship Fund Event

14. REPORT ON OPERATIONAL ITEMS: The city manager, members of city staff or those individuals designated by the manager may present information pertinent to items under consideration or information related to the operation of the City. There shall however be no discussion at this time except for clarification inquiries. (If not listed below)

- Dan Braatz updated Mayor and Council on Gila Cutout's Progress
- City Manager Skeete informed Mayor and Council that Mt. Graham Safe House will be putting up Purple Ribbons on Main Street for Domestic Violence Awareness for the month of October

15. **ADJOURN:** It was moved by Vice Mayor Ortega, seconded by Councilman Andazola and carried unanimously to adjourn regular council meeting at 6:49 p.m. **MOTION ADOPTED**