



**“The mission of the City of Safford is to make Safford
a great place to live, work, and visit”**

**CITY OF SAFFORD
COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY
Monday, March 9, 2015 @ 6:00 PM
Safford Library Program Room, 808 S. 7th Avenue, Safford, Arizona**

PRESENT: Wyn “Chris” Gibbs, Mayor; Council Member’s, Arnold A. Lopez, Kenneth Malloque, Gene Seale, and Richard Ortega.

ABSENT: Mary Bingham, Vice Mayor (participated in executive session by phone); James D. Howes, Councilman.

STAFF PRESENT: Horatio Skeete, City Manager; Leslie Norton, Executive Secretary; Joe Brugman, Chief of Police; Randy Petty, City Engineer; Dustin Welker, Planning and Community Development Director; Terry Quest, Finance Director; Leanne McElroy, Library Director; Cliff Davis, Human Resources Officer; and Georgia Luster, City Clerk. Dale Clark assisted with the audio recording of the meeting.

OTHERS PRESENT: James Bryce, Phillip Tutor, Larry Seymor, Ken Showers (Eastern Arizona Courier)

1. **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Gibbs called the meeting to order at 5:59:46 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** A quorum of the Council was present (5-2).
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:** Mayor Gibbs led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
4. **OPENING PRAYER:** Pastor Larry Seymore offered the Opening Prayer.
5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** Rex Bryce, regarding FBO.
6. **PUBLIC HEARING:**

Mayor Gibbs opened the Public Hearing at 6:02:15 p.m. in compliance with *Arizona Revised Statutes* §38.431.02 to hear public comments regarding items 6.1 and 6.2:

- 1) **A rezone from R1-6 (Single Family Residential) to C-MH (Conventional and Manufactured Home) on Graham County Parcel # 101-19-043, 1213 9th Avenue, Safford, Arizona. (Staff, Dustin Welker)**

- 2) **Amendment to Title 17.16.020 of City of Safford Municipal Code, Nonconforming Buildings and Uses, eliminating restrictions to the use of properties in the event of a fire, flood, or other calamity or act of nature. (Staff, Dustin Welker)** Dustin Welker, Community Development Director, introduced a rezone request regarding property located at 1213 9th Avenue. The case was presented to the Planning and Zoning Commission and they unanimously made a recommendation to the City Council to approve the rezone of the property to C-MH as requested. There has been no opposition from the neighbors. He noted that the owner will remove the house and place a manufactured home on a permanent foundation on the property. Secondly, Mr. Welker explained the proposed amendment to Title 17.16.020 of the Municipal Code. Section 17.06.020B was added to the Code to encourage nonconforming buildings to conform to the zoning code they lie within if a structure was destroyed beyond repair. The issue that has arisen over the past couple of months is that property owners are not able to sell their properties because lenders will not assume a loan on properties that are applicable to the new section. The intention of the new language was not to prevent the sale of the properties and has taken an undesirable effect on the property owners. It is recommended to strike Section 17.16.020(B) of the Municipal Code.

Public comments will be accepted at this time. There were no comments from members of the public. Mayor Gibb closed the Public Hearing and convened the Regular Council Meeting at 6:07:43 p.m.

7. NEW/OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Approve February 9 and February 23, 2015, Council Meeting Minutes. (Staff, Georgia Luster)** MOTION ADOPTED

8. CONSENT RESOLUTIONS:

1. **Request for the Mayor and City Council to consider approving and adopting Resolution Number 15-009 pertaining to the submission of projects for consideration in Arizona's 2016 AzGOHS Highway Safety Plan. (Staff, Joe Brugman)** MOTION ADOPTED

9. ORDINANCES:

1. First Reading of Ordinance Number 15-001, a rezone from R1-6 (Single Family Residential) to C-MH(Conventional and Manufactured Home) on Graham County Parcel # 101-19-043, 1213 9th Avenue, Safford, Arizona. (Staff, Dustin Welker)

2. First Reading of Ordinance Number 15-002, an amendment to Title 17.16.020 of *City of Safford Municipal Code*, Nonconforming Buildings and Uses, eliminating restrictions to the use of properties in the event of a fire, flood, or other calamity or act of nature. (Staff, Dustin Welker)

City Clerk, Georgia Luster read the Title and Number of Ordinance Number 15-001 and 15-002 into the record. Both ordinances will be presented at the next council meeting for adoption.

10. MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES HELD OR TO BE HELD BY COUNCIL OR CITY STAFF:

- Monday, March 23 – Work Session – Budget: Revenue and Grant Projections.
- Monday, March 23 – Purple Heart Proclamation – Graham County Board of Supervisor’s Meeting
- Monday, April 13 – Regular Council Meeting – Budget: Department Presentations
- Monday, April 27 – Work Session – Budget: Department Presentations

11. COUNCIL OR STAFF REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS:

Rex Bryce addressed the Council at this time regarding the FBO Agreement. Mayor Gibbs that the Council could not discuss the item with Mr. Bryce because it will be discussed in executive session.

12. CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to *Arizona Revised Statutes* §38-431.03 the City Council will enter executive session to:

- 1) Discuss and provide guidance to the City Manager regarding contract negotiations on the Fixed Base Operator. (Pursuant to *Arizona Revised Statutes* §38.431.03(A) (4).
- 2) Performance evaluation of City Manager, Horatio Skeete. (Pursuant to *Arizona Revised Statutes* §38.431.03(A)(1).

The Council adjourned executive session at 7:39 p.m. and convened regular session. There was no action taken regarding Items 13.1 and 13.2.

14. ADJOURN: It was moved by Councilman Malloque, seconded by Councilman Howes, and carried unanimously to adjourn regular session at 7:40:55 p.m. **MOTION ADOPTED**