



**CITY OF SAFFORD • CITY COUNCIL MEETING • MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**  
**MEETING LOCATION: SAFFORD LIBRARY PROGRAM ROOM • 808 S. 7<sup>TH</sup> 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:** Mayor Kouts called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
- 2. ROLL CALL:** A quorum of the Council was present (7)

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Jason Kouts, Mayor; Richard Ortega, Vice Mayor; Councilmembers Gene Seale; Steve McGaughey; Arnold Lopez; Michael Andazola; and Brad Hemphill

**STAFF PRESENT:** John Cassella, City Manager; Douglas Hill, Assistant City Manager; Brian Avila, Police Captain; Lance Henrie, Public Works Director/City Engineer; Susan Anderson, Planning and Community Development Director; Alma Valles, Finance Officer; Kabrina Romero, Accounting Administrator; Victoria Silva, Library Director; Sam Napier, IT Director; Tamara Webster, City Clerk; Lydia Newkirk, Human Resources Officer; Matthew Hoshal, Executive Assistant to the City Manager; Morgan Seale, Water Division Supervisor; Raymond Osornio, Gas Division Supervisor; Dan Braatz, Electric Division Supervisor; and Matt Platt, IT Specialist.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Deborah Hernandez, Robert Hernandez, Dr. Ja Phelps, Rondal Gonzales, Brian Hemmerle, Pele P. Fisher, Thomas Sanchez, Kathy Sanchez, Kyle F. Baughman, and others that did not sign in.

- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Councilman Andazola led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 4. OPENING PRAYER:** Pastor Ronald Gonzales offered the opening prayer.
- 5. CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: None**
- 6. CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** Kyle F. Baughman addressed council.
- 7. Oath of Office of Elected and Council Member:**  
Councilman Michael R. Andazola, Sr. - Oath of Office administered by the Bob Rivera
- 8. SELECTION OF VICE MAYOR:** Richard Ortega was nominated and voted to remain Vice Mayor with a vote of 4-3.
- 9. SELECTION OF OFFICERS TO ACT AS LIAISON TO COMMUNITY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:**
  - 1. BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB** (Councilman Andazola)
  - 2. ~~LIBRARY BOARD~~** (Currently, Councilman Seale) No longer exists
  - 3. MT. GRAHAM SAFE HOUSE** (Councilman Lopez)
  - 4. PRIDE OF SAFFORD** (Councilman Andazola)
  - 5. SEAGO EXECUTIVE BOARD** (Vice Mayor Ortega)
  - 6. DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION** (Councilman Seale)
  - 7. GILA WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP** (Councilman McGaughey)
  - 8. ARIZONA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION/GILA VALLEY** (Councilman Hemphill)
  - 9. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** (Councilman Hemphill)
  - 10. PUBLIC SAFETY RETIREMENT** (Mayor Kouts)
  - 11. LEAGUE OF ARIZONA CITIES AND TOWNS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** (Mayor Kouts)
  - 12. LEAGUE OF ARIZONA CITIES AND TOWNS RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE** (Councilman Seale)

**10. PRESENTATION:**

1. **HENRY & HORNE:** Provide Mayor and City Council with an Independent Auditors report. Henry & Horne completed the City of Safford's fiscal year 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and will be providing a summary. (Staff, Alma Valles)  
**INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**

**11. PUBLIC HEARING:** A Public Hearing will be opened in compliance with Arizona Revised Statutes §38.431.02 to hear public comments regarding:

1. Request Mayor and Council to hold a public hearing on a text amendment of Zoning Ordinance Chapter 17.68, Section 17.68.010 Summary of zoning regulations pertaining to maximum lot coverage and rear setbacks for single family, duplex and multifamily residential properties. (Staff, Susan Anderson) **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**
  - No Public Comments were made
2. Request Mayor and Council to hold a public hearing on a text amendment of Zoning Ordinance Chapter 17.24 Zoning Districts Designated, Sections 17.40.020, 17.44.030 and 17.46.020 Permitted Uses pertaining to the age of manufactured homes allowed to be placed within the City of Safford city limits or moved from one location to another location within the City of Safford. (Staff, Susan Anderson) **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**
  - Robert Hernandez addressed the council regarding item 11.2
3. Request Mayor and Council to hold a public hearing on a text amendment of the following Zoning Ordinance Chapters pertaining to Vietnamese pot-bellied pigs and customary household pets in certain districts: Chapter 17.28 R-10 Single-Family Residential, Section 17.28.020 - Use Requirements; Chapter 17.40 A-R Agricultural Residential, Section 17.40.020 - Use Requirements – Permitted Uses Chapter 17.44 C-MH Conventional Manufactured Home, Section 17.44.030 - Use Requirements; and Chapter 17.46 MHD Manufactured Home Development, Section 17.46.020 - Use Requirements. (Staff, Susan Anderson) **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**
  - Leishae Bruckner and William Bruckner addressed council regarding item 11.3
4. Request Mayor and Council to hold a public hearing on a text amendment of Zoning Ordinance Chapter 17.08 - Definitions, Section 17.08.040 - Definitions, Chapter 17.40 A-R Agricultural Residential District, Section 17.40.020 - Use requirements - Permitted uses, and Chapter 17.52 - C-2 Highway Commercial District, Section 17.52.020 - Use requirements - Permitted uses pertaining to hospitals and clinics for large and small animals, kennels and stables. (Staff, Susan Anderson) **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**
  - No Public Comments were made

**12. CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING AND RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING:**

### 13. ORDINANCES:

1. **ORDINANCE O20-011:** Request for the Mayor and City Council to approve and adopt Ordinance Number O20-011, an ordinance annexing Graham County Assessor's Parcel Number 101-14-003E, located directly to the south of 1615 South First Avenue. (Staff, Susan Anderson) **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION – MOTION ADOPTED**
2. **ORDINANCE O20-012:** Request for the Mayor and City Council to approve and adopt Ordinance Number O20-012, and ordinance rezoning Graham County Assessor's Parcel Number 101-14-003E, located directly to the south of 1615 South First Avenue, from Graham County General A Land Use to City of Safford A-R Agricultural Residential. (Staff, Susan Anderson) **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION – MOTION ADOPTED**
3. **ORDINANCE O21-001:** First reading of Ordinance Number O21-001, an Ordinance of the City of Safford, Graham County, Arizona, amending Title 17, Zoning, Chapter 17.68 Size and Setback Regulations, Section 17.68.010 Summary of Zoning Regulations pertaining to maximum lot coverage for single family, duplex and multifamily residential properties. (Staff, Susan Anderson) **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**
4. **ORDINANCE O21-002:** First reading of Ordinance Number O21-002, an Ordinance of the City of Safford, Graham County, Arizona, amending Title 17, Zoning, Chapter 17.24 Zoning Districts Designated, Sections 17.40.020 Agricultural Residential District Use Requirements – Permitted Uses and 17.44.030 C-MH Conventional Manufactured Home District Use Requirements relating to the age of manufactured homes. (Staff, Susan Anderson) **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION – TABLED TO BE DISCUSSED AT FUTURE WORK SESSION**
5. **ORDINANCE O21-003:** First reading of Ordinance Number O21-003, an Ordinance of the City of Safford, Graham County, Arizona, amending Title 17, Zoning, Chapter R1-10 Single-Family Residential District and Chapter 17.40 A-R Agricultural Residential District relating to Vietnamese pot-bellied pigs and customary household pets in certain districts. (Staff, Susan Anderson) **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION - TABLED TO BE DISCUSSED AT FUTURE WORK SESSION**
6. **ORDINANCE O2-004:** First reading of Ordinance Number O21-004, an Ordinance of the City of Safford, Graham County, Arizona, amending Title 17, Zoning, Chapter 17.08 Definitions, Chapter 17.40 A-R Agricultural Residential District and Chapter 17.52 C-2 Highway Commercial District, relating to hospitals and clinics for animals, kennels, and stables. (Staff, Susan Anderson) **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**

### 14. NEW/OLD BUSINESS:

1. **MINUTES:** Request for Mayor and City Council to review and approve December 14, 2020 City Council Meeting Minutes. (Staff, Tamara Webster) **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION – MOTION ADOPTED**
2. **LANDFILL DEBRIS MANAGEMENT:** Discussion with Mayor and City Council regarding debris management at the City of Safford Landfill. (Mayor Kouts) **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**

**15. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS/BIDS:**

**1. GILA VALLEY CONSOLIDATED MUNICIPAL COURT:** Request for Mayor and City Council to extend the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City of Safford and the Town of Thatcher for municipal court services. This agreement may also include the Town of Pima. (Staff, John Cassella) **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION – MOTION ADOPTED**

**16. 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.

- City manager cassella reminded council of the training workshop on January 15, 2021.

**17. 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)

- Local Sales Tax Revenue Report (Staff, Doug Hill)
- Update on Department Monthly Reports (Staff, Doug Hill)

**18. CLOSE REGULAR MEETING AND RECONVENE INTO A COUNCIL WORK SESSION:**

**19. WORK SESSION:** The Mayor and City Council will enter into a work session to discuss the following items:

**1. RECREATIONAL ADULT USE MARIJUANA:** Discuss with Mayor and City Council regarding regulations that allow the City of Safford to regulate marijuana establishments and marijuana testing facilities (Staff, Susan Anderson) **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**

- Pele Fisher addressed the Council regarding item 19.1

**2. PARKLETS:** Discuss with Mayor and City Council regarding a Sidewalk Café and Outdoor Seating Policy that will allow for the installation of “parklets” within the City of Safford City limits. (Staff, John Cassella) **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**

**20. ADJOURN:** It was moved by Vice Mayor Ortega, seconded by Councilman Andazola and carried unanimously to adjourn City Council Meeting at 9:34 pm. **MOTION ADOPTED**