

TOWN OF JEROME

POST OFFICE BOX 335, JEROME, ARIZONA 86331 (928) 634-7943 www.jerome.az.gov

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE JEROME TOWN COUNCIL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, JEROME TOWN HALL 600 CLARK STREET, JEROME, ARIZONA

TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2022, AT 7:00 P.M.

ITEM #1: 7:00 (0:00)

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor/Chairperson to call meeting to order.

Mayor Jack Dillenberg called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Town Clerk to call and record the roll.

Town Manager/Clerk Brett Klein called the roll. Present were Mayor Jack Dillenberg, Vice Mayor Alex Barber, and Councilmembers Sage Harvey and Jane Moore.

Staff present included Brett Klein, former Town Manager/Clerk Candace Gallagher, Finance Manager Melanie Atkin, Zoning Administrator Will Blodgett, Deputy Town Clerk Kristen Muenz, and Police Officer Kerry Lee.

ITEM #2: 7:00 (0:50)

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Financial reports for June 2022

Councilmember Harvey asked why the amount listed for trash accounts was in the negative.

Finance Manager Melanie Atkin explained that a commercial accountholder had asked for the temporary Covid Pandemic relief offered by the Town after they had already paid the full utility rate for months while closed. The town had issued a refund for the difference, which is reflected in the totals.

Regarding parking revenue, Ms. Harvey commented the revenue was nearly \$100,000 more than budgeted. She also inquired about the credit card processing fees.

Ms. Atkin said that we raised the budgeted amount for the coming fiscal year because, initially, we did not know how much revenue to expect, and the amount of revenue affected the credit card processing fees.

Ms. Harvey asked for an update on the \$1,000 paid to Friends of Jerome, and the "Do Not Enter" signs for 2^{nd} and 5^{th} Streets. In response, Dr. Dillenberg said the money paid to Friends of Jerome was used to set it up and pay Federal fees.

Ms. Harvey thanked Dr. Dillenberg and said she was looking forward to more updates. She then asked if Public Works Director, Marty Boland, can be asked for an update on the signs because tourists going the wrong way on the numbered streets have made gouges in road.

Motion to approve June 2022 Financial Reports

COUNCILMEMBER	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
BARBER			X			
DILLENBERG			X			
HARVEY	Х		X			
MOORE		Х	X			

ITEM #3: 7:21 (20:17)

STAFF AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Reports by the Town Manager/Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk, Utilities Clerk, Accounting Clerk, Public Works Department, Building Inspector, Library, Municipal Court, Police Chief, Fire Chief, and Council members.

Dr. Dillenberg asked Mr. Klein if he would read the staff report, and Mr. Klein said the Ms. Gallagher will be reading them for the last time.

Ms. Gallagher welcomed new Town Manager/Clerk Brett Klein and said he has been a pleasure to work with so far. Ms. Gallagher began her report and congratulated Chief Muma on 23 years of service, and Officer Kerry Lee on 8 years of service. Dr. Dillenberg thanked Officer Lee and told him they are an incredible team.

Officer Lee said that is due to the Chief.

Ms. Gallagher continued her report, saying that tax revenues have been great again, with June slightly above what was budgeted, and the water flows are okay.

Vice Mayor Barber asked to point out that she met with Senator Sinema's staff with a page worth of items to discuss, and Sinema's staff had said they would go to bat for the town.

Dr. Dillenberg said, "you did great," and thanked Ms. Barber for taking the lead at the meeting.

Motion to accept June 2022 Staff and Council Reports

COUNCILMEMBER	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
BARBER	Х		X			
DILLENBERG			X			
HARVEY		Х	X			
MOORE			X			

ITEM #4: 7:25 (24:11)

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT/PLANNING & ZONING AND DESIGN REVIEW BOARD MINUTES

Minutes are provided for the information of Council and do not require action.

Zoning Administrator Will Blodgett read his report. He highlighted the Design Review Board's meeting, which included approvals with suggestions. Mr. Blodgett said there were no administrative approvals to report but he had been working on other items, such as STR recommendations, the Design Review Guidelines, and research on microbreweries.

ITEM #5:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

7:28 (27:26) M

May 31 special meeting; June 13 special meeting; June 14 regular meeting; June 27 special meeting

Motion to approve the May 31, 2022, June 13, 2022, and June 27, 2022 special Council meeting minutes and the June 14, 2022 regular Council meeting minutes

COUNCILMEMBER	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
BARBER		Х	X			
DILLENBERG			X			
HARVEY	Х		X			
MOODE			V			

ITEM #6: 7:28 (27:54)

PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no petitions from the public.

ITEM #7:

2022-23 BUDGET

7:08 (7:43)

ITEM #7A: APPROVAL OF TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR 2022-23

Council will review and may approve a tentative budget for the Town of Jerome for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. If approved, the public hearing on the budget and tax levy and final adoption of the budget would take place at a special meeting to be held on July 25, 2022.

Dr. Dillenberg invited members of public, who may have questions or concerns, the opportunity to speak because he felt it was important to have full disclosure of the fiscal year 2022-2023 budget.

(8:14) Member of the public, Laura Smith said people don't understand the funds transfers, which they didn't see until the parking came about. She said Ms. Gallagher said it's put into the budget at the beginning of the year, whether there is money there or not, which she doesn't understand, and asked when it is reconciled.

Finance Manager Melanie Atkin explained that transfers are made every month. The parking revenue is transferred to different departments to support infrastructure, Water, Sewer, the Police Department and Streets, and every month the parking revenue is more than the expenses.

Dr. Dillenberg commented that the revenue was more than they expected.

Ms. Smith commented that it seemed as if Councilmember Moore did not understand the transfers in a conversation on an online social media forum.

Ms. Moore replied that she did understand, and had asked for clarification because it had come up as public comment. She felt it was unclear to the public how much expense was related to the parking kiosks, and how much money was being made beyond those expenses.

Ms. Smith said that her other question was why the credit card fees were so high.

Ms. Harvey replied that the credit processors charge based on the dollar amount, so the more money that is made, the more fees that are charged.

Ms. Atkin explained that every processing company is different, depending on what is in the contract.

Ms. Smith suggested they find a processor who charges 3 percent.

(11:52) Ms. Barber said she would like to make a statement regarding the transfers from parking to public safety and infrastructure. She said that council had decided to use the funds for infrastructure before we started using the parking system. Instead of increasing taxes for the 416 residents, we ask some of the 1.5 million tourists who visit to pay to park. This pays to repair the roads that are being degraded by the heavy traffic, helps the community, and boosts the economy. She said while tourism is not bad because the town relies on it, it can seem a little much for the residents. She asked for the public to participate in council meetings to be more informed.

There was some discussion on using social media forums to discuss matters and Councilmember Moore suggested that we concentrate on the budget as it was the current agenda item.

Dr. Dillenberg thanked Ms. Smith for her comments. He said that we hadn't anticipated that parking would generate so much revenue, which was positive, and it has really helped with infrastructure resources. Also, Chief Muma has said he is working on upgrades to the systems to make them more efficient and profitable.

Ms. Moore said that she also appreciated Ms. Smith asking questions because she wants the budget to be transparent and clear. Ms. Harvey agreed that it is helpful if people ask questions and attend meetings; there are reasons why things are done and facts to explain everything we do.

Dr. Dillenberg asked if there were any comments on the budget.

Ms. Harvey commented that every other department has had their fuel budget almost doubled, but the large sanitation truck had not, so she thinks it should be increased.

Ms. Atkin asked what the budgeted number was.

7:17 (17:18) Ms. Harvey referred to the prior year's sanitation budget and said they are \$522 over the budgeted \$6,500, so she thinks they should be somewhere between \$10,000 to \$12,000.

Ms. Moore agreed that it should be increased.

Ms. Harvey said she would feel comfortable with an increase to \$10,500 for fuel.

Ms. Gallagher asked for clarification if they were voting to approve the tentative budget with the modification of the sanitation fuel budget and Dr. Dillenberg confirmed that they were.

Motion to approve the Tentative Budget for 2022-2023 with minor modification

COUNCILMEMBER	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
BARBER			X			
DILLENBERG			X			
HARVEY	х		X			
MOORE		Y	X			

ITEM #8:

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

7:28 (28:04)

ITEM #8A: SECOND READING AND POSSIBLE ADOPTION – ORDINANCE NO. 483, AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF JEROME, YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA, AMENDING ARTICLE 12-1, "TRAFFIC CODE," OF THE JEROME TOWN CODE

Council may conduct the second reading of, and may adopt, Ordinance No. 483.

Dr. Dillenberg read Ordinance No. 483 in title only.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 483

COUNCILMEMBER	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
BARBER		Х	X			
DILLENBERG			X			
HARVEY	Х		X			
MOORE			X			

7:29 (28:53)

ITEM #8B: RESOLUTION NO. 642, A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF JEROME, ARIZONA, RELATING TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE; DECLARING MAYOR AND COUNCIL'S OPPOSITION TO THE U.S. SUPREME COURT'S OVERTURNING OF ROE V. WADE; DENOUNCING SENATE BILL 1164 AND OTHER PROVISIONS OF ARIZONA LAW CRIMINALIZING ABORTION; AND SUPPORTING THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF PREGNANT PERSONS INCLUDING THEIR ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE AND ABORTIONS

Council may approve Resolution No. 642.

Dr. Dillenberg read Resolution No. 642 in title only and asked if there was any discussion.

Ms. Barber asked to speak and said the overturn of Roe v. Wade is not just about abortion, it is also about contraception. Referencing A.R.S. 13-3603 through 13-3605, she said the only exception is if a procedure is necessary to save a life. There is no incest exemption and violations could bring two to five years in prison. "To stand up for the women in our state, this is something we must do."

Ms. Moore said that section 4 mentions a person by name, Police Chief Allen Muma, and asked if he was okay with that. Ms. Gallagher confirmed that he was.

Ms. Barber said that the resolution had been reviewed by the Police Chief and legal. She explained that the document had been put together by Regina Romero of Tucson and, while our situation was different because we do not have clinics, it had been altered slightly to fit Jerome.

Dr. Dillenberg said he feels the Resolution is an important step because we are already seeing the impact of the overturn across the country.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 642

COUNCILMEMBER	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN	
BARBER	Х		X				
DILLENBERG			X				
HARVEY		Х	X				
MOORE			X				

ITEM #9:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7:32 (31:55)

ITEM #9A: ANNEXATION

Council will continue discussing the process of annexation and consider whether to begin that process and for which areas.

Dr. Dillenberg said the topic will be an ongoing discussion and involve various collaborations. He feels it will benefit the town but take some time, and he appreciates that the topic was raised because it may allow Jerome the opportunity to improve and grow.

Ms. Moore said that, somewhere between 2004 and 2007, we had talked about annexation and had drawn up a map of the area we were considering.

Dr. Dillenberg said there may also be new properties that we might want to include.

Ms. Barber asked if Ms. Moore wanted to revisit the original map.

Ms. Moore replied that we may want to start with that map, and perhaps go from there. We would definitely want to include the built-up areas and sewer treatment plant, but may or may not want to go as far down the hill. She asked if someone could find that map.

Ms. Barber mentioned that there was an opponent the last time they discussed annexation, and her major point was that a whole road located in the area was owned by the county; we would be taking on ownership and maintenance of the road.

Ms. Harvey said the county currently does improvements to half of the road.

Ms. Barber said she would like to think about preservation of open space and creating a buffer zone to prevent becoming a suburb of Clarkdale. She would also like to have the National Historic Park, that people already think is incorporated into the town, a part of the Town of Jerome.

(35:25) Ms. Moore said we will see who the largest property owners are, because they are the ones we will need to talk to, and Ms. Barber added they are also the ones with the largest stake.

Ms. Harvey said we need to consider that when we decide to annex, we will have to provide utilities, infrastructure, and roads, so we must be careful not to take on too much.

Dr. Dillenberg suggested trying to locate that map and continue the discussion.

7:37 (36:14)

ITEM #9B: MICROBREWERY REGULATIONS

Council will continue discussions regarding regulations for microbreweries and may direct staff regarding preparation of an ordinance to amend the Jerome Town Code in that regard.

Dr. Dillenberg asked Zoning Administrator Blodgett for updates on his research.

Mr. Blodgett said that he's had several discussions with Councilmember Harvey on the topic. He is of the opinion that, in terms of breweries, wineries or anything that is active in fermentation, we need to look very carefully at any discharge that could affect our systems. He doesn't suggest outright prohibition because there are some good green methods available, and he would like to leave some space to possibly discuss those options in future. However, he is not sure our system is equipped to handle it at this time.

Ms. Harvey added that she is still waiting to hear from Town Attorney Bill Simms on the legal stance, so hopefully we will have more information by the next meeting to see what we can do.

ITEM #10:

NEW BUSINESS

7:38 (38:00)

ITEM #10A: AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES – DESIGN OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS

Council may approve an agreement with PACE Engineering for the design of wastewater treatment plant improvements, contingent upon USDA concurrence.

Dr. Dillenberg asked how everyone felt about the agreement with Pace Engineering so far and whether they wanted to move forward.

Mr. Klein requested that no action be taken at this time. He is waiting on the Attorney's review, which should be done shortly, and the contents also must be federally approved.

Ms. Harvey asked if there is a time limit.

Mr. Klein confirmed there was a time limit, and he will get all comments no later than the coming Friday.

Dr. Dillenberg said we will table the item and wait for input from Attorney Bill Simms.

7:39 (39:08)

ITEM #10B: AUCTION OF SURPLUS ITEMS

Council may approve the sale at auction of various surplus items.

The Councilmembers asked for more information on the items listed.

Officer Lee explained that many of the items on the list are found items that no one claimed and various items in storage. Mr. Blodgett said that some of the things are stored in Town Hall and include out-of-date BDU's.

Dr. Dillenberg said that what they don't sell, they will donate.

Motion to approve Auction of Surplus Items

COUNCILMEMBER	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
BARBER		х	X			
DILLENBERG			X			
HARVEY	Х		X			
MOORE			X			

7:41 (41:03)

ITEM #10C: PROCLAMATION: CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS MONTH

Council may approve a proclamation declaring the month of August 2022 as Child Support Awareness Month.

Dr. Dillenberg read the proclamation in title only. He asked if there were any comments or questions.

Ms. Harvey thanked the mayor for sponsoring the item.

Ms. Barber asked if she could read the body of the proclamation.

Dr. Dillenberg then read the final line, proclaiming that August, 2022, would be recognized as Child Support Awareness Month if the proclamation was approved.

Motion to approve the Proclamation: Child Support Awareness Month

COUNCILMEMBER	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
BARBER		Х	X			
DILLENBERG			X			
HARVEY	Х		X			
MOORE			Y			

7:44 (43:32)

ITEM #10D: PAINTING OF CROSSWALK

Council will discuss the possibility of painting a crosswalk in Pride colors

Dr. Dillenberg said that he has tried to get a crosswalk painted white for safety in the past, but ADOT (Arizona Department of Transportation) was not interested.

Ms. Barber said there is a crosswalk by the Museum on Main Street. She showed an example of a rainbow crosswalk in another city, and said, "make it pretty, make it Jerome." She added that she has not contacted ADOT to see whether it is possible yet.

Officer Lee was asked his opinion and he responded that it is not about his opinion, but crosswalks are generally standard. Ms. Barber asked how the rest of the council feel.

Dr. Dillenberg said that painting a rainbow is novel idea, but not realistic considering we would be dealing with ADOT. Ms. Harvey said she would like the crosswalk painted in something visible, she added that the directional arrows also can't be seen because they are worn.

Officer Lee commented that the arrows are less than a year old.

Ms. Moore asked if we could arrange to meet with someone from ADOT, and maybe involve the Police Department and see what we can do about the crossings.

Dr. Dillenberg said he had tried before, but he was willing to try again, and Ms. Barber volunteered to work with ADOT.

Ms. Moore asked Dr. Dillenberg what had happened when he tried before, he replied they would not allow it.

Ms. Gallagher said that, to her recollection, their reasoning was that crosswalks create a false sense of security.

Ms. Barber said it's the only crosswalk in Jerome and asked if council were willing to set up a meeting with ADOT.

Officer Lee suggested they also speak with someone from the City of Cottonwood about fatalities related to crosswalks on their Main Street.

Dr. Dillenberg said we can contact the Mayor of Cottonwood, and it doesn't hurt to have a discussion with ADOT.

ITEM #11: 7:49 (48:15)

TO AND FROM THE COUNCIL

Council may direct staff regarding items to be placed on a future agenda.

Ms. Barber asked to speak about the Meet the Candidates meeting she recently attended. She expressed disappointment that there were technical difficulties with the sound, both for herself and several other candidates, and said that she has been told she was inaudible. Ms. Barber wanted to relay her comments to the public. "I stated that I am running again for the betterment of my community. I am not anti-growth, I am about growing responsibly and maintaining our natural resources, and I appreciate everyone's vote.".

Dr. Dillenberg asked if we should reach out to the meeting coordinators and see if they will do another meeting.

Ms. Harvey suggested they attempt to adjust the sound of the recording as people should be able to hear all the candidates.

Dr. Dillenberg asked Mr. Klein if he could please reach out to the moderator and see what they can do, preferably before

August 2nd. He said he had tried to watch the video and it was also difficult to see because it was very dark.

Ms. Barber wanted to share that she had heard that two ladies that worked for the Yavapai County Recorder's Office for

Ms. Barber wanted to share that she had heard that two ladies that worked for the Yavapai County Recorder's Office for some time, Leslie Hoffman and Lynn Constable, were stepping down due to harassment during the last election. She referenced a news article in the Verde Independent and said they were not provided enough protection. "Our democracy is at stake," and we need to have clean, solid votes.

Dr. Dillenberg said it's a national problem, not just and Arizona issue, and we are going through a very difficult time in our country. He said it will be a challenge to us all to maintain integrity and the importance of our democracy.

Ms. Moore said that, after the topic of the credit card fees came up, she did the math and came up with a total of 16 percent. Ms. Harvey said she got 13.4 percent, so we need to check into that because it's excessive.

Ms. Barber thanked Chuck Romberger for pointing out the amount of the fees.

Mr. Romberger replied that he likes to look at budgets.

ITEM #12:

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:56 p.m.

COUNCILMEMBER	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
BARBER		Х	X			
DILLENBERG			X			
HARVEY	Х		X			
MOORE			X			

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

Dr. Jack Dillenberg, Mayor

Brett Klein, Town Manager/Cler

Date:

819/2022