

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE HOLBROOK CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
June 25, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Young called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Merrill Young, Councilmembers Tim Dixon, Mark Jackson, Earl Kester, Adam Marsh and Mike Nilsson appeared in Council Chambers. Vice Mayor Francie Payne participated via conference call.

CITY STAFF: City Manager Ted Soltis and Deputy City Clerk Lisa Hunt.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Dixon. The Invocation was given by Kip Meyers of the Bread of Life Mission.

CONSENT AGENDA: June 11, 2020 meeting minutes.

MOTION: Councilmember Dixon

SECONDED: Councilmember Kester

MOTION CARRIED.

CALL TO THE AUDIENCE FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Navajo County Fairgrounds Annual Report – Mike Sample of the Navajo County Fair board shared the upcoming events that are scheduled at the Navajo County Fair Grounds. He stated that the Navajo County Fair board is a non-profit organization and that the events that they have are key to creating revenue for salaries, 4-H, and FHA. The next Navajo County Fair board meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on July 8, 2020, the public is invited to attend. Several questions from Councilmembers were answered by Mr. Sample.
- b. Chamber of Commerce Annual Report- Chamber Director Cindy Tafoya reviewed all the events that the Chamber of Commerce has hosted over the past year. She shared that the Chamber of Commerce is planning a Food Truck Social on August 8<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Tafoya shared the Chamber of Commerce’s budget and strategic plan and encouraged everyone to participate in the “Shop Local” campaign.
- c. APS Street Chip Seal Project Bid – This item was stricken from the agenda.
- d. Resolution 20-08 – A resolution pertaining to an AZCares grant expenditure – Mayor Young read Resolution 20-08 in full.

MOTION: Councilmember Dixon

SECONDED: Councilmember Jackson

Discussion held.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmember Dixon “Aye”, Councilmember Jackson “Aye”, Councilmember Kester “Aye”, Councilmember Marsh “Aye”, Councilmember Nilsson “Aye”, Vice Mayor Payne “Aye” and Mayor Young “Aye”

CALL TO THE PUBLIC FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None

SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS-MAYOR:

Mayor Young discussed a picture that was posted on Facebook, showing a residence that was overgrown with weeds. He stated that he appreciates the persons that defended the City of Holbrook and recognized Peggy and Thomas Sample for being good citizens and cleaning it up for the owner. He also recognized Randy Murph for hauling the weeds away. Mayor Young also spoke of the press conference that Governor Doug Ducey held in regard to face masks and shared that he believes that people should have a choice of wearing a mask or not. He feels that the Government does not have a right to infringe on people’s rights. Mayor Young thanked City Manager Soltis for creating such a well-organized budget.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS-COUNCILMEMBERS:

\*Councilmember Marsh stated that he attended the soft opening at the Holbrook Municipal Airport. He also announced that he will be requesting a Special Meeting to propose a temporary Resolution requiring that face masks must worn in public places.

\*Vice Mayor Payne stated that she also attended the “Fly in” at the Holbrook Municipal Airport and was very impressed with everything that City staff has done. Vice Mayor Payne also stated that she agrees with Councilmember Marsh that the City should adopt a temporary Resolution requiring face masks be worn in public places. She said that the Council was elected to find facts and do their best to protect the citizens.

\*Councilmember Jackson encouraged the community to call or email Councilmembers to state their opinion about having a temporary Resolution about wearing face masks in public places. He also sent prayers for the Navajo Nation for the recent deaths of officer Michael Lee and Officer Esther Charley. Councilmember Jackson feels that most people in Holbrook are taking COVID-19 seriously.

\*Councilmember Dixon was not able to attend the soft opening of the Holbrook Municipal airport because of work. Councilmember Dixon said that he thinks that the numbers regarding COVID-19 have been skewered, that deaths have been counted as COVID-19 when they are not. He said that all of the Councilmembers took the oath of office and he feels that the idea of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness has been lost. He said that being forced to wear masks is infringing on the Constitutional Rights and that people’s freedom needs to be taken into consideration.

\*Councilmember Nilsson is impressed with the repairs on the Navajo County Historic Courthouse. He also stated the “Fly by” at Holbrook Municipal Airport was very nice. Councilmember Nilsson also shared that he feels that wearing or not wearing a face mask is a personal liberty and that it should not be mandated. He said that it is beyond the scope of the City Council to mandate that face masks be worn in public places.

\*Councilmember Kester stated that he does not think that the City Council has the right to mandate that face masks be worn in public.

#### SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS-CITY MANAGER:

\*Mr. Soltis reported that maintenance work at the Recreation Center is nearly complete. Walls have been painted, the cracks in the flooring have been repaired, new LED lighting was installed, and the meeting room was expanded. The center will now be able to accommodate 80 people. The costs were minimized as staff did all the work. They really did a great job.

\*The City now has a cash register at the Swimming Pool. All transactions can now be tracked and recorded. The City is in the process of installing a computer and printer at the Transfer Station. A printer was added at the Golf Course providing print transactions.

\*The Splash Pad is now open. Unfortunately, the leak repairs did not work. The next leak repairs will require concrete work. The City is hopeful that we will be able to keep the Splash Pad open and complete the work at the end of the season.

\*The Fly in/fundraiser at the Airport this past Saturday went very well. Thank you to the contractors for sponsoring the event.

\*And, finally, Mr. Soltis thanked the Youth Conservation Corp from the Petrified Forest National Park. They assisted with trail maintenance. The City is fortunate to have volunteer assistance.

#### SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN PETITION FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA: None

#### ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Councilmember Kester

SECONDED: Councilmember Nilsson

MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

I hereby certify that the forgoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Holbrook City Council held on June 25, 2020. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

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Lisa Hunt, Deputy Clerk

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 9th<sup>th</sup> day of June 2020.

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J. Merrill Young, Mayor