

Town Council Meeting Minutes



REGULAR & STUDY SESSION MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

The Mayor and Council of the Town of Sahuarita met in the Sahuarita Council Chambers, 375 West Sahuarita Center Way, Sahuarita, AZ 85629 on Monday, September 25, 2017.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM by Mayor Tom Murphy.

2. Invocation

The Invocation was given by President Thayne Hardy from the Sahuarita Arizona Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Payton Powell, a fifth grade student at Sahuarita Intermediate School.

4. Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Tom Murphy	Mayor	Present	
Melissa Hicks	Vice Mayor	Present	
Duane Blumberg	Town Council Member	Present	
Bill Bracco	Town Council Member	Present	
Kara Egbert	Town Council Member	Present	
Gil Lusk	Town Council Member	Present	
Lynne Skelton	Town Council Member	Present	

Also in attendance were Town Manager L. Kelly Udall, Town Attorney Dan Hochuli and Town Clerk Lisa Cole.

5. Approval of Agenda

***MOTION:** was made to approve the agenda.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Duane Blumberg, Town Council Member
SECONDER:	Kara Egbert, Town Council Member
AYES:	Murphy, Hicks, Blumberg, Bracco, Egbert, Lusk, Skelton

*Scrivener's Error: **MOTION** results box added.

Lisa Cole, MMC, Town Clerk

10/11/17

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Bill Bracco	Town Council Member	Present	
Kara Egbert	Town Council Member	Present	
Gil Lusk	Town Council Member	Present	
Lynne Skelton	Town Council Member	Present	

Also in attendance were Town Manager L. Kelly Udall, Town Attorney Dan Hochuli and Town Clerk Lisa Cole.

5. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: was made to approve the agenda.

6. Call to the Public

Chuck Wunder, Fire Chief, Green Valley Fire Department, informed the Council of upcoming community events and thanked the Police department for lending the use of drones to assist with a fire investigation.

Mary Jane Goodrick, Executive Director of the Green Valley | Amado Community Food Bank, updated Council on the annual distribution of food to Sahuarita residents and highlighted the Food Plus program targeted toward seniors.

Penny Pestle, Executive Director, Sahuarita Food Bank, briefed Council on various food programs, including the backpack program, fresh produce program and the community garden.

John Matuskra, CEO, Green Valley Hospital, updated the Council on the hospital reorganization and new services available.

Judy Burgard, January 8th Memorial Foundation Board Member, expressed appreciation for the Council's consideration for support of a permanent memorial to honor those who perished or were injured during the January 8, 2011 "Congress on Your Corner" event.

7. Consent Agenda

MOTION was made to approve the consent agenda recommendations.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kara Egbert, Town Council Member
SECONDER:	Bill Bracco, Town Council Member
AYES:	Murphy, Hicks, Blumberg, Bracco, Egbert, Lusk, Skelton

- A. Approval of the August 28, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes.**
- B. Adoption of Resolution No. 2017-0522, in support of a memorial in honor of those killed and injured at the January 8, 2011 "Congress On Your Corner" event.**
- C. Verification and approval of the Town of Sahuarita Designated Management Area for an update to the 2006 Regional Areawide Water Quality Management Plan (Section 208).**
- D. Recommendation to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control regarding a special event liquor license application by Sahuarita Parks Foundation, for an event at the Rancho Sahuarita Club House, on Friday, November 3, 2017, from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m., at 15455 S Camino Largo Azul, Sahuarita, Arizona.**
- E. Recommendation to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control regarding a special event liquor license application submitted by the Tucson Independent Restaurant Alliance, for the Sahuarita Pecan Festival, on Saturday, November 11, 2017 at Farmers Investment Company/Green Valley Pecan Company, 1625 East Sahuarita Road, Sahuarita, Arizona.**

8. **Adoption of Resolution No. 2017-0523, authorizing the Town to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Sahuarita Unified School District No. 30, Sahuarita Contract No. 180030, for the joint use of a new park owned by the School District and located on Rancho Sahuarita Boulevard south of Sahuarita Road, and for the allocation of town funds for the construction of the park, in the amounts of \$600,000 to assist with the cost of the design and construction of the sports fields, and \$650,000 to fund the design and construction of field lighting.**

L. Kelly Udall, Town Manager, briefed the Council about the joint partnership between the Sahuarita School District and the Town to bring additional park amenities to residents and outlined the provisions of the proposed intergovernmental agreement. Mr. Udall responded to questions from the Council.

MOTION was made to adopt Resolution No. 2017-0523.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bill Bracco, Town Council Member
SECONDER:	Gil Lusk, Town Council Member
AYES:	Murphy, Hicks, Blumberg, Bracco, Egbert, Lusk, Skelton

9. **Discussion regarding the direct election of Mayor.**

Council Member Blumberg provided the Council with an analysis of the pros and cons of a direct election of the mayor by qualified voters versus council selection of mayor from amongst its members. Council Member Blumberg provided a brief history, explained the current system and outlined the mayor’s duties and responsibilities. In addition, Council Member Blumberg presented arguments for both direct election of mayor and selection of mayor by council members and shared some of the potential changes that may result from a direct election of mayor. Council Member Blumberg concluded that it may be time to pose the question of the direct election of mayor to voters based on local growth, development and the increased differences between mayoral responsibilities and the duties of other council members.

Council Member Lusk expressed strong opposition to the direct election of mayor in the near future, due to the effectiveness of nonpartisan council representation within the community. Council Member Lusk clarified he was not opposed to the concept of a direct elect mayor system, only that he preferred that the Town were in a good economic situation before moving forward in a new direction.

Council Members Bracco, Egbert and Vice Mayor Hicks were in agreement that it was not the time to propose the direct election of mayor to voters due to limited staff resources and the potential to lose experienced elected officials. Council Member Skelton stated support for either side of the issue and that there would come a time in the future that would warrant the direct election of mayor.

Mayor Murphy, Vice Mayor Hicks and Council Members Egbert and Bracco requested staff provide additional information on the topic and seek input from the community in the future.

In response to an inquiry from Connie Halkowitz, Sahuarita resident, Council Member Blumberg confirmed there was no statutory requirement to pursue the direct election of mayor if the population of the town met a certain threshold.

Vice Mayor Hicks left at 7:08 PM and returned at 7:09 PM.

No action was taken on this item.

10. Council and Town Manager Reports and Requests

The Mayor, Town Council and Town Manager reported on current events.

STUDY SESSION

11. Presentation and discussion regarding a zoning code text amendment to Sahuarita Town Code Chapter 18.79 (Sign Standards), the primary purpose of which amendment is to create a user-friendly and content-neutral set of sign standards (Case No. SA8-16-00002).

Sarah More, Planning and Building Director, introduced Anna Casadei, Planning and Zoning Manager. Ms. Casadei presented an overview of the proposed changes to Sahuarita Town Code Chapter 18.79 - Sign Standards. Ms. Casadei reviewed general changes to the code including the purpose statement; removal of content-based sign types; new measurement standards; and illumination. She further reviewed comprehensive sign plans for a specific development and a new program that allows for temporary off-site signage. Ms. Casadei presented the various sign types (attached, freestanding and temporary) included in the proposed development standards by sign and informed Council of the public outreach used to compose the draft amendment.

Council Member Bracco asked staff to make adjustments to [Chapter 18.79.020 A.] Prohibited Signs, 5 and 6 to include more flexibility. Council Member Lusk requested a simplification of code language; a more restrictive purpose statement; and more detailed sign allowances.

Ms. Casadei clarified illumination standards at the request of Connie Halkowitz, Sahuarita resident.

Tim Campbell, Project Manager for FICO, spoke in support of the proposed changes to the Sign Standards.

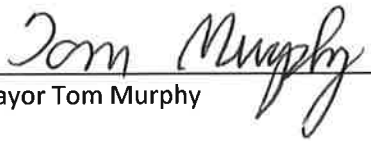
Ms. More, Ms. Casadei and Dan Hochuli, Town Attorney, responded to questions.

L. Kelly Udall, Town Manager, confirmed staff would return to Council with an updated code amendment in the future.

12. Adjournment

Mayor Tom Murphy adjourned the meeting at 8:38 PM.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES



Mayor Tom Murphy

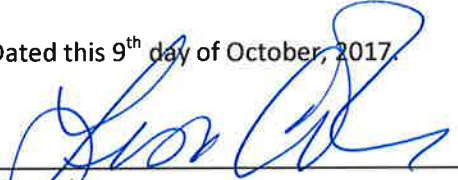
ATTEST: 

Lisa Cole, MMC
Town Clerk



CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Sahuarita held on the 25th day of September 2017. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 9th day of October, 2017.


Lisa Cole, MMC
Town Clerk

