



**TAYLOR TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday March 7, 2024 7:00 pm

Town Hall

425 Papermill Road

Taylor, Arizona

Mayor
Shawn Palmer
Vice-Mayor
Jason Brubaker
Council Members
Bill Baldwin
Lynn DeWitt
Sherry Cosper Duke
Dustin Hancock
Kris Neff

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order at 7:00pm
COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Shawn Palmer, Vice Mayor Jason Brubaker, and Council Members Bill Baldwin, Lynn DeWitt, Kris Neff (7:10) and Sherry Cosper Duke (7:18)
COUNCIL ABSENT: Councilman Dustin Hancock
STAFF PRESENT: Gus Lundberg, Allen Davis, Richard Troutman, Sara Ramsay, and Geri Judd
VISITORS: See list
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Richard Troutman
INVOCATION: Offered by Jack Babb

CALL TO THE PUBLIC: None

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve meeting minutes of February 1, 2024
- B. Approve February 2024 Check Register
- C. Approve Resolution R2024-01 Fair Housing Month

Motion by Vice Mayor Brubaker to approve the consent agenda as presented; seconded by Councilman DeWitt

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Public Hearing Regarding Zone Change Request of Parcel 202-23-095 from Non-Conforming AG-2 to PAD Multi-Family**

Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing; receiving no public comment the hearing was closed.

- 2. Discussion and Action Regarding Zone Change Request of Parcel 202-23-095 from AG-2 to PAD Multi-Family**

Allen said the Planning & Zoning Commission recommends approval of the zone change request; P&Z received no objection from the public; the developer wishes to build townhomes on the property with a wall surrounding the development; the most effected lot is Kris Neff's property next door.

Vice Mayor Brubaker asked about work being done in the area; Mayor Palmer replied that infrastructure work is being done for a nearby property.

Gus said work is being done is for access to a separate parcel, the developer has started road work on a nearby property already rezoned.

Mr. Brimhall added that the roadway to access the property adjacent was needed for a radius turn on the corner.

Mayor Palmer said the developer does a good job and this project will be the first seen in the area.

Motion by Councilman DeWitt to approve the zone change request for Parcel 202-23-095; seconded by Councilman Baldwin; motion carried 5-0 with Mayor Palmer, Vice Mayor Brubaker, and Council Members Baldwin, DeWitt, and Neff voting in favor.

- 3. Public Hearing Regarding Alternative Expenditure Limitation (Home Rule)**

Mayor Palmer opened the public hearing; receiving no public comment the hearing was closed.

Gus said every four years the town holds an election for the Home Rule option, if not approved by the voters the town budget would be bound to a 1978 amount of approximately \$2.2 million; last year the town spent \$12 million; when approved by the voters Home Rule gives council control to set the towns budget.

Mayor Palmer said people have voted no believing Home Rule was about spending; and that it is not a tax. Vice Mayor Brubaker said there is transparency with management as never before.

John Williams asked the town can get the word out to residents; Gus said the town sends out a publicity pamphlet to educate voters; the town cannot take a position or post its opinion; this has no bearing on spending or a tax increase; if not approved it would not allow the town to spend funds we have.

4. Discussion and Action Regarding Call of July 30, 2024, Primary Election and Approval of Navajo County Elections Office to Administer such Election, Consisting of 3 four-year Council Seats and Expenditure Limitation - Home Rule Option

Gus said the County has been helping the town administer elections; there are 3 seats up for election, Mayor Palmer, and Council Members Hancock, and Neff; candidates need at least 33 signatures to be on the ballot.

Motion by Vice Mayor Brubaker to the Call of Election of July 30, 2024, and approve Navajo County Elections Office to administer the election; seconded by Councilman Neff; motion carried 6-0 with Mayor Palmer, Vice Mayor Brubaker, and Council Members Baldwin, Cospir Duke, Neff and DeWitt voting in favor.

5. Taylor/Shumway Heritage Foundation Update

Bob Cole said there were over 500 visitors to the live nativity performance; there has been a few more visitors than last year; he thanked Council for funds contributed; the museum needs more publicity, a new sign; and would like an interactive center with activities for children.

Mayor Palmer asked if there are any tours of downstairs; Mr. Cole said not at this time but would like to have native artifacts downstairs. Mayor Palmer said a citizen asked about a Christmas display in the window. Mr. Cole said it would be nice to have someone willing to put displays in the window.

6. Discussion and Action Regarding Change Order for the Bleacher Project to Address ADA Seating and Ingress/Egress of the Existing Large Bleacher

Gus said the bleacher project is moving forward, the large structure is in production and should be ready to install in May and completed in June. The new Northeast corner section was proposed to install 8 handicap accessible spaces; would like to take those out; and recommends removing bottom row on the existing large bleacher, extend the existing concrete so the bottom row will allow for 80 ADA accessible spaces.

Gus said the new bleacher section will have two access points underneath, low-cost solution would be removing some seats and have a 6 foot walkway with fencing to protect from falling off; power will be available under the new bleacher; electrician recommends bringing power from the existing large panel, install new subpanel by the new bleachers providing vendors power and lighting underneath.

Council discussed number of ingress/egress areas, 3-5 would work well. Gus said the ingress/egress will not be symmetrical; Council would like 5 access openings. Gus said the change order is for \$80,483; Gus recommended to transfer from contingency to parks budget for \$85,000.

Motion by Vice Mayor Brubaker to approve the change order of \$85,000 and transfer from the Contingency budget to the Parks budget; seconded by Councilwoman Cospir Duke; motion carried 6-0 with Mayor Palmer, Vice Mayor Brubaker, and Council Members Baldwin, Cospir Duke, Neff and DeWitt voting in favor.

7. Presentation on Freeman Park Upgrades

Gus said there have been inquiries of updates on Freeman Park; parking will be expanded; digging out for pond with new grass installed; existing well will be used to fill pond; installing new water lines; and an area for pickleball.

Councilman Baldwin asked about the parking areas and if there will be a walkway across the water flow area; Gus said staff is looking into bridges or a walking path.

Councilman DeWitt said the pond could be a maintenance issue. Kirk Brimhall said Snowflake had an issue with a pond because reeds will take over; Snowflake ended up putting a liner in that works for keeping reeds out. Gus said Eagar has a pond that staff plans to visit to get advice.

8. Discussion and Action Regarding Stacked Graves in the Cemetery

Vice Mayor Brubaker said this item was discussed at the last meeting; due to water issues when digging deeper, the town would like to not offer stacked graves; and will honor ones already purchased. The new section is having an issue with rock at 8 feet; doing away with stacked graves will eliminate the need for steel plates that are becoming costly. Vice Mayor Brubaker said Taylor is the only cemetery in the area that allows stacked graves.

Council discussed allowing stacked plots to be sold through the end of March.

Motion by Councilwoman Cosper Duke to end selling stacked graves effective April 1, 2024, and honor any already purchased stacked graves; seconded by Councilman Baldwin; motion carried 6-0 with Mayor Palmer, Vice Mayor Brubaker, and Council Members Baldwin, Cosper Duke, Neff and DeWitt voting in favor.

9. Discussion and Action Regarding Establishing a Budget for Replacement of Decorative Lights on Main Street

Gus said there is concern with the existing lights on Main Street. Richard Troutman said the current lights are easily blown over by the high winds; Richard is requesting to replace existing with a 4” steel pole that can be attached to existing base. Gus said there are 58 lights that can be easily replaced for \$1,000 each; and is requesting an \$80,000 budget.

Motion by Councilman DeWitt to approve transfer of \$80,000 from Contingency for replacement of decorative lights on Main Street; seconded by Councilman Neff; motion carried 6-0 with Mayor Palmer, Vice Mayor Brubaker, and Council Members Baldwin, Cosper Duke, Neff and DeWitt voting in favor.

10. Summary of Current Events:

A. Mayor: March 12th Special meeting

B. Council Members: Councilman Neff agenda item regarding dumpsters

C. Town Manager: Daddy Daughter Dance was success; Mommy Son Dance September. Willow Lane culvert Project.

Sara announced summer hours beginning the week after school; more open swim; Easter scavenger hunt; Swim Nights; Easter Egg Hunt March 30th

11. Adjournment: There being no further business Mayor Palmer adjourned the meeting 8:50pm

Certification of Minutes:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Taylor Town Council meeting held on the 7th day of March 2024. I further certify that the meeting was duly called to order and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 7th day of March 2024

Geri Judd-Town Clerk