

**TOWN COUNCIL SUMMARIZED MINUTES**

**TUSAYAN TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

PURSUANT TO A.R.S. § 38-431.02 & §38-431.03

Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 6:00pm

TUSAYAN TOWN HALL BUILDING

845 Mustang Drive, Tusayan Arizona

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Tusayan Town Council and to the public that the Tusayan Town Council will hold a meeting open to the public on Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at the Tusayan Town Hall Building. If authorized by a majority vote of the Tusayan Town Council, an executive session may be held immediately after the vote and will not be open to the public. The Council may vote to go into executive session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03.A.3 for legal advice concerning any matter on the agenda, including those items set forth in the consent and regular agenda sections. The Town Council may change, in its discussion, the order in which any agenda items are discussed during the course of the meeting.

Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation by contacting the Town Manager at (928) 638-9909 as soon as possible.

*As a reminder, if you are carrying a cell phone, electronic pager, computer, two-way radio, or other sound device, we ask that you silence it at this time to minimize disruption of today's meeting.*

**TOWN COUNCIL SUMMARIZED MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Sanderson called the meeting to order and led the Pledge at 6:05 pm.

**2. MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Mayor Sanderson called for a moment of silence.

**3. ROLL CALL** *One or two Council Members may attend by telephone*

**MAYOR CRAIG SANDERSON  
VICE MAYOR BECKY WIRTH  
COUNCILOR DAVID CHAVEZ  
COUNCILOR AL MONTOYA  
COUNCILOR JOHN SCHOPPMANN – excused**

Also present was: Eric Duthie, Town Manager

**4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None

**5. CEREMONIAL AND/OR INFORMATIONAL MATTERS**

None

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Accounts Payable Billings**

Councilmember Montoya made a motion to approve Item 6A.  
Vice Mayor Wirth seconded the motion and Council unanimously approved

**B. Minutes of the Town Council Meeting on 3/1/17**

Item 6B was withdrawn by staff, report not completed

## **7. ACTION ITEMS**

None

## **8. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **A. Discussion of USFS denial of ground lease permit**

Town Manager Duthie explained the Town purchased an existing housing structure in place at the "Forest Service Compound" in January 2017. The structure belonged to a long-time US Forest Service employee and had been in place for more than a decade. The Town subsequently submitted a ground lease permit request to the Kaibab Forest Supervisor Heather Provencio. Supervisor Provencio delegated the application to Tusayan District Ranger Danelle Harrison, who sent an email to the Town Manager denying the request. During a subsequent telephone conversation between District Ranger Harrison and Town Manager Duthie it was determined that Ranger Harrison took responsibility for a decision to establish a "moratorium" on lease requests in the Compound. The Town request was the first request denied. When pressed about the Tusayan Fire District being granted a 10-year ground lease in the same location, only months earlier, as well as the Arizona Department of Public Safety having a long-term lease in the same location, Ranger Harrison responded that she had not been the District Ranger at that time and those leases would not be vacated. Town Manager Duthie provided information to Ranger Harrison concerning an informal discussion of the potential Town purchase with Forest Supervisor Provencio, months earlier, in which Provencio expressed her opinion that the lease "would not be a problem"; additionally, Manager Duthie explained the housing issues faced in the area and the inability of the Town to resettle the structure on town owned land, due to Housing Authority restrictions; and overviewed the pattern of USFS denial of requests by the Town of Tusayan, without valid grounds.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Ranger Harrison said she was not aware of the additional information provided and that she would discuss the issues with Supervisor Provencio and provide the Town a response in a week or two.

Council expressed frustration with the pattern of conduct within the USFS, extending into the hierarchy in Washington, D.C. The Council directed Manager Duthie to prepare contingency actions for the issue, should the USFS affirm the denial of the permit for the long term, existing structure.

### **B. Discussion of broadband and internet access improvement and development options**

Town Manager Duthie provided an overview of the application made by town authorized agent Team Fishel, to the Arizona Department of Transportation for the installation of conduit and fiber along both sides of Highway 64, through town. ADOT confirmed receipt and was reviewing the plans submitted by Fishel.

Manager Duthie discussed recent developments in the broadband improvement efforts which included attending and supporting the Arizona Corporation Commission's vote to amend their funding rules to provide millions of additional dollars from the Universal Service Fund to match Federal funding to provide improved internet access to rural schools and libraries.

Council discussed the potential options for Town involvement in the process, which has identified Tusayan as a primary opportunity for funding.

**C. Discussion of Sports Complex and Work Group**

Manager Duthie identified samples of artificial turf to the Council and discussed a meeting held with a sole-source provider, on-site, two weeks prior. The meeting was attended by Councilmember Chavez, as well. Staff is awaiting a contract submission from the provider. Councilmember Chavez also discussed his impressions from the on-site meeting.

**D. Discussion of Community Wellness meeting issues**

No meetings have been held

**9. REPORTS**

**A. Town Manager**

**i. Update on the Planning and Zoning Commission**

Manager Duthie identified the P&Z Commission will meet on April 18, 2017 to review a Conditional Use Permit renewal application and consider an amendment to the Zoning Code to increase allowable structure height throughout all Zones. Councilmember Montoya expressed concern about the aesthetics of cellular towers and his desire to have the Town address the issue in the future.

Manager Duthie reported the P&Z Commission also met concerning a Design Review for the Big E Restaurant and Starbucks.

**ii. Update of Administrative actions and issues**

Manager Duthie provided a written report.

**B. Council Members**

No reports

**C. Mayor**

Mayor expressed appreciation for Town Manager Duthie moving town work forward and keeping the Council informed with good communication.

**10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

No items submitted.

**11. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Councilmember Montoya made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice Mayor Wirth seconded the motion to adjourn. Council unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Craig Sanderson, Mayor                      04-05-17  
Date

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa M. Drake, Town Clerk

**CERTIFICATION**

State of Arizona            )  
  ) ss.  
Coconino County            )

I, Eric Duthie, do hereby certify that I am the Town Manager of the Town of Tusayan, County of Coconino, State of Arizona, and that the above minutes are a true and correct summary of the meeting of the Council of the Town of Tusayan held on March 22, 2017. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

DATED this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2017

  
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Town Manager