MINUTES[1]

TUSAYAN TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

PURSUANT TO A.R.S. § 38-431.02 & § 38-431.03
Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.
TUSAYAN TOWN HALL BUILDING
845 Mustang Drive, Tusayan, Arizona

TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES[2]

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

As Mayor Vail attended by Zoom, Vice Mayor Brush called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and led the Council and public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

MAYOR CLARINDA VAIL – Present via Zoom ***COUNCIL MEMBER JOSH COLLET*** – Present

VICE MAYOR GREG BRUSH – Present ***COUNCIL MEMBER ANDREW ALDAZ*** – Present

COUNCIL MEMBER KATHRYN KANALLAKAN – Present via Zoom

3. ***ADOPT THE AGENDA***

Council Member Collet moved that we adopt the Agenda, and Vice Mayor Brush seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Aye: Mayor Vail, Vice Mayor Brush, Council Member Collet, Council Member Aldaz, Council Member Kanallakan

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

Members of the public may address the Council on items not on the printed agenda. The Council may not discuss, consider or act upon any matter raised during public comment. Members of the audience who wish to speak to the Council on an Item listed as Public Hearing should complete a Request to Speak Card and turn it into the Town Clerk. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person.

No one spoke.

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[1] *For economy of space and ease of reading the minutes have been organized according to the agenda language. Items as they appear on the agenda have been italicized with the actual minute entries entered in plain type for reader convenience.*

[2] *Minutes are organized by agenda item in the order in which they were discussed.*

5. CEREMONIAL AND/OR INFORMATIONAL MATTERS

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the consent agenda are routine in nature and will be acted on with one motion and one vote. Members of the council or staff may ask the Mayor to remove any item from the consent agenda to be discussed and acted upon separately.

A. Ratification of payable accounts
B. Ratification of Electronic and Automatic Payable Accounts and Spending Limit Pre-authorization
C. Minutes of Council Meeting held on January 14, 2025

Vice Mayor Brush moved to approve the Consent Agenda minus 6.C, and Council Member Collet seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Aye: Mayor Vail, Vice Mayor Brush, Council Member Collet, Council Member Aldaz, Council Member Kanallakan

7. ACTION ITEMS - STAFF REPORTS

A. Consideration, discussion, and possible action regarding Tusayan Grand Canyon Community Veterans Memorial Proposal - John Davison, Veterans Liaison (representing Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 793)

Town Manager Hendrix prefaced the presentation to be given by John Davison by explaining that she received a call from Ben Gomez who arranged for our special visitors today.

Ben Gomez, a Veteran, invited John Davison to the lectern. Mr. Gomez explained that Mr. Davison had contacted him a few months ago about getting Tusayan more involved with the Veterans' community and organizations.

Mr. Davison began his presentation stating that Tusayan has a legacy of honoring and respecting their Veterans. His presentation was titled Tusayan Grand Canyon Community Veterans Memorial & Monument Proposal for Consideration – February 11, 2025. The presentation included the following highlights: Grand Canyon Military and Veterans' History; American Legion Post 42; Honoring Those Who Have Served; a list of examples of memorials and monuments recognizing Grand Canyon Veterans; and photos of existing monuments and kiosks.

Mr. Davison asked the Council to consider having an area with flags and a digital kiosk that could be added to - as we learn of new Veteran's from the Grand Canyon. He also spoke about creating a Havasupai Scouts Memorial. Mr. Davison introduced Don Watahomigie as a long-time Grand Canyon resident and Havasupai Tribal Chairman for many, many years. Mr. Davison shared that he would like to see the Town Council draft a letter to the Tribe saying they would like to create a Havasupai Scout Warrior Memorial up in Tusayan.

Mr. Davison next introduced Rodger Ely, the Commander of the Order of the Purple Heart Dale E. Crick Chapter 793.

Commander Ely spoke to the Council about becoming a Purple Heart Community. He commented that just about all the counties, many cities, and many universities in Arizona are Purple Heart affiliated. He explained that they would like to propose a proclamation from Tusayan to become one of the Purple Heart communities, and there is no cost. He commented

that it would be something to be proud of, and something for the Veterans in this town to be proud of.

Mr. Davison told the Council he was looking forward to working with them.

Council Member Collet asked if the Council would need a resolution to adopt the Purple Heart status.

Town Manager Hendrix responded that was correct, and she would talk to the gentlemen and bring it to the Council Designees.

Council Member Aldaz commented that he came to Tusayan in 1975, and the Legion Hut has always been very involved in our community. He noted there have been a lot of kids who went to school here and went on into the service.

Town Manager Hendrix commented that for the next generation, the work they do is important to help the next generation to appreciate things they would not have otherwise appreciated because of a lack of exposure.

Don Watahomigie reminisced about the American Legion in Town before the Town came to be.

John Davison asked everyone to start collecting names of Veterans as they are out and about.

Mayor Vail, on Zoom, thanked them for coming and let them know the Council will definitely be in touch about all the things discussed.

Vice Mayor Brush suggested that some of the presentation slides would be good for the historical part of the new Town Hall.

Ben Gomez commented about getting something going with the School. He explained they could have something for the graduates from Grand Canyon High School who have gone to the military in recognition for everyone to see.

Council Member Aldaz spoke about awards through the American Legion.

B. Consideration, discussion, and possible action regarding Explore Tusayan Initiative, Designated Marketing Organization (DMO), and possible related projects.

Town Manager Hendrix encouraged the Council to look at the Report regarding this Item.

Town Manager Hendrix commented that the evidence seems to be suggesting that since the Town took over the DMO, there has been some success. She noted the Town's sales tax has been climbing since we have fully implemented some of our strategies. She referenced a report from Clear Channel noting the impressions are performing better than expected. She spoke of building some synergy with the Spring Training in March.

Town Manager Hendrix announced that our travel shows will start this weekend in Phoenix, and we will have a presence next weekend in Los Angeles. In March, they will be in Dallas. She advised that all the businesses in Town were offered space. She asked that she be contacted if anyone did not get the opportunity to participate, and they will try to get them in.

Town Manager Hendrix commented that in February, the Town participated with the travel tours when participants came to Tusayan. She noted that the Mayor and Vice Mayor participated in those.

Vice Mayor Brush commented that those two events went great; it was a nice set-up. He asked if the travel show in Phoenix would be at the Civic Center.

Town Manager Hendrix answered yes.

Vice Mayor Brush commented that the artwork for the booth was slick.

Council Member Aldaz asked if there was still time if any of the businesses wanted to participate, and if so, if there was a timeline.

Town Manager Hendrix responded that she would just need to know right away.

C. Consideration, discussion, and possible action regarding Cinco de Mayo, Astronomy Events, July 4th Celebration, marketing, and other Town Events.

Town Manager Hendrix explained that as part of the tour, the drone show folks made a little bit of a mistake at Astronomy Night. They have offered to re-run the stellar drone show for free at the Cinco de Mayo because of the error.

Town Manager Hendrix announced that we currently have a staff member who is taking a certification course so that the Town can have stargazing nights. She noted that our Marketer is calling them Astro Adventure Nights in the spring and summer. Town Manager Hendrix explained that she was seeking approval to offer these events four times a month. She noted they are proposing to do them in the second and fourth weeks on Thursday and Sunday nights. She explained the reasoning for the choice of the days.

In response to a question, Town Manager Hendrix explained that right now, they are looking at this spring and summer as a trial. She further explained that they are still working with the Forest Service to get permission to hold the stargazing nights at the Cookout site, and wherever they do them, it would be seasonal.

In response to a question about fees, Town Manager Hendrix explained that the Town has to assign fees by ordinance – a fee ordinance. She noted that would be brought to the Council for review and that the Town has a fee schedule, but these types of things are not included.

Council Member Collet asked if for tonight, the Town Manager was just looking to initiate the program, then they will come back with the ordinance.

Town Manager Hendrix replied that we will have to come back and update some of our fees anyway.

Vice Mayor Brush commented positively regarding staff taking the effort to get trained.

Council Member Collet moved that we authorize the staff to create the Tusayan Stargazing Nights Program, and Council Member Kanallakan seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Aye: Mayor Vail, Vice Mayor Brush, Council Member Collet, Council Member Aldaz, Council Member Kanallakan

Town Manager Hendrix announced that for Cinco de Mayo staff has retained the Mariachi band, and we have now received the quotes for the event itself. She referenced these quotes, in the Agenda Packet, noting the two quotes were so close and offered different things, so she brought them to the Council to make the final determination.

Council Member Aldaz commented that he preferred the Squire because of the space, especially if there is bad weather.

Council Member Collet commented that each time the Squire hosts this, they get better and better.

Vice Mayor Brush commented they have done a great job. He noted that when the quotes get to $25,000, there will need to be a more intense bidding process. He expressed that he was happy with the Squire, and he mentioned the lottery. He advised that the lottery may be questionable because the money should go to the Town.

Town Manager Hendrix commented that with the Council's permission, she will investigate to make sure they are not intending to make a profit on that; any event funds should come to the Town.

The Council indicated their permission.

Mayor Vail, on Zoom, commented that she was in favor of the Squire as well.

Vice Mayor Brush moved to go with the Squire for the Cinco de Mayo event, and Council Member Collet seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Aye: Mayor Vail, Vice Mayor Brush, Council Member Collet, Council Member Aldaz, Council Member Kanallakan

Town Manager Hendrix made the Council aware that we have solicited additional quotes for Fourth of July, and we are receiving them. She noted that we anticipate the Council reviewing them in March. She asked the Council to let her know if there was anything they wanted to see in the quotes ahead of time to lock those contractors in quickly after the March meeting.

Mayor Vail asked if the replacement drone show would be in addition to the Cinco de Mayo themed show.

Town Manager Hendrix replied yes, as long as it does not snow.

D. Consideration, discussion, and possible action regarding local community programming including Town of Tusayan (TOT) Pass Healthy Living Library Check-out Program, After-School Program, and Community Health Nurse.

Town Manager Hendrix commented there was nothing new for this item, and next month the Council should have a draft copy of the General Plan.

Council Member Aldaz suggested that at the next Community Awareness Meeting, we try to get the nurse to attend to see if there are any questions for him.

Town Manager Hendrix replied that was a good idea.

E. Consideration, discussion, and possible action regarding Tusayan Trail Project Permit FS-2700-4b

Town Manager Hendrix referenced a picture in the Agenda Packet that is an update of where we are on the construction of the trails. She shared some details of the map. She advised that our team has walked all the publicly accessible portions, taken pictures, and made sure that they are truly publicly accessible. You can now walk from the Campground into Town.

Vice Mayor Brush commented that with all the logistics and all the planning that went into that huge project, he was really impressed. He noted that it is beautiful.

Town Manager Hendrix advised that we are working with the Forest Service on signage; the next piece is making sure the other parts that have been dug out get filled in and then finish the parts that have not been done yet. She further advised there is a second grant that we were approved for; we now need to go back and finalize the application and hopefully get those funds.

Town Manager Hendrix commented that since it has been a while, we are confirming that we can go ahead and put that application in.

Council Member Aldaz shared his concern that where the trails are located, there is a lot of hunting that goes on in those areas. He commented that he was wondering if there is a way that the Forest Service could possibly use signage to make sure people are aware that this is a walking trail – a designated area so people can be aware that there will be more human traffic.

Council Member Collet commented that it would go a long way, too, for signage on the trails themselves notifying people of hunting season – a warning type of sign.

Town Manager Hendrix replied that she will talk to the Forest Service about it.

Town Manager Hendrix commented that she is taking direction that the Council wants to move forward with the grant.

No one was opposed.

F. Consideration, discussion and possible action regarding Development of Town Owned Parcels of Real Property.

Town Manager Hendrix showed photos of what 7 Mile Lodge looked like that morning, and what it looked like by the afternoon – it was totally demolished.

Town Manager Hendrix noted that the Council had pictures of a sign at their seats. She commented that we still need to get a permit for the sign. She explained that the people listed on the sign were there because our Sign Ordinance states that it is permissible to place a sign on that site as long as we are announcing the principals. She asked for the Council's opinion and input.

In response to a question, Town Manager Hendrix stated the sign was eight feet tall as prescribed by the ordinance.

Council Member Collet advised that it would take another three solid days to get the rest of the material out, and then they would start on the earthwork.

G. Consideration, discussion, and possible action regarding Community Development Block Grant Project

Town Manager Hendrix commented that this Item has been on our agenda for quite a while. Staff has been working toward a compromise, and we have reached a bit of an impasse. She noted that we learned from NACOG this week, that we have the option to utilize our own project administrator if we would like to, but there are some hurdles that will be very difficult for us to overcome. One of those hurdles is the site; the other hurdle is that the federal government has taken a different stance with grants, and there is less of a guarantee that we will get these monies.

Vice Mayor Brush commented that from prior experience, he has had some of these same kinds of things rhyme with the situation. He asked for Council Member Aldaz's take on it as the Designee.

Council Member Aldaz noted that we are looking at 7 Mile Lodge, and we talked about moving the Community Garden there. He explained he does not want this grant to hold up the process of 7 Mile Lodge.

Council Member Collet asked that with the finite amount of resources that we have, how much we would want to dedicate towards a project for which we do not necessarily have all the pieces that we need to see it come to fruition. He commented that maybe it is time to let that project go for the time being and see if we want to repurpose that design somewhere else. He thought we need to consolidate our efforts toward the goals we are able to accomplish.

Vice Mayor Brush commented that he would tend to agree.

Town Manager Hendrix commented that we are asking for direction. She will go back to NACOG and tell them what the Council has decided and then have them prepare the paperwork which will be on the Consent Agenda next time. She clarified that she is taking direction that the Council wants to get out of the grant.

There was a discussion concerning pulling out of the grant process as graciously as possible.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

If authorized by a majority vote of the Town Council, an executive session may be held immediately after the vote and will not be open to the public. The Town Council may vote to go into executive session.

A. Pursuant to A.R.S. 38.431.03 A.3, A.4, and A.7, Discussion and legal advice regarding the Community Development Block Grant Project.

Vice Mayor Brush announced that the Council would not be going into Executive Session unless anyone had an objection. No one objected.

9. TOWN REPORTS

A. Town Manager and Department Reports

Town Manager Hendrix commented that in February, the Council traditionally has a second meeting. She asked that this month, it be scheduled to directly follow the Community Awareness Meeting.

The Council agreed to hold the second February meeting on February 25, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. following the Community Awareness Meeting.

At 6:05 p.m., Mayor Vail announced that she had to leave the meeting.

Town Manager Hendrix reminded everyone to apply for the Planning and Zoning Commission vacancy.

Town Manager Hendrix asked the Council not to forget about the Emergency Management Training and to let her know who would be attending.

Town Manager Hendrix announced there are updated Temporary Use Permit and Sign Permit Applications that will be placed on the website.

1. *Notices*

2. *Finance*

3. *Strategic Planning Updates*

4. *Parks and Recreation*

   a. *Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni Grand Canyon National Monument Status Update*

   Town Manager Hendrix asked the Council to take a look at the article concerning how the administration is reevaluating monuments nationwide.

5. *Engineering*

B. 2025 Meeting Schedule

1. *Annual Town Calendar*

2. *Annual Budget Calendar*

C. Council Members

D. Mayor

E. Tusayan Fire District

Chief Brush thanked everyone and shared his appreciation for the support. He thanked Council Member Collet for his help with the 7 Mile Lodge training project.

F. Tusayan Sanitary District

G. Tusayan Justice Court

Town Manager Hendrix announced that April 30th is Law Day.

H. NACOG – Northern Arizona Council of Governments

I. Grand Canyon National Park Airport, Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

11. MOTION TO ADJOURN

At 6:09 p.m., Council Member Collet moved to adjourn, and Vice Mayor Brush seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Aye: Vice Mayor Brush, Council Member Collet, Council Member Aldaz, Council Member Kanallakan; Absent: Mayor Vail

Clarinda Vail, Mayor 4/8/25 Date

ATTEST:

Tina M. Abriani, Town Clerk

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF ARIZONA §
§
COCONINO COUNTY §

I, TINA M. ABRIANI, do hereby certify that I am the Town clerk of 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 held on FEBRUARY 11, 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Town Clerk 04-09-25 Date