

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE HOLBROOK CITY COUNCIL HELD ON
April 22, 2021

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

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

CITY STAFF: City Manager Ted Soltis

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Nilsson. The Invocation was given by Reverend Randolph Hollingsworth from St. John Missionary Baptist Church.

CONSENT AGENDA:

April 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Councilmember Marsh

SECONDED: Vice Mayor Payne

DISCUSSION: Vice Mayor Payne noted a correction; Councilmember Dixon lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION CARRIED

CALL TO THE AUDIENCE FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:

The following people spoke against the election ordinance: Kathleen Smith, Richard Peterson, Kent Darris, Phil Cobb, David Shumway, Randy Murph, and Gerald Hancock.

The following people spoke against the business license ordinance: David Shumway, Randy Murph, Cindy Tafoya, Gerald Hancock, and David Smith.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Ordinance 21-02 - 2nd reading: An ordinance regarding business licenses.

MOTION: Councilmember Dixon

SECONDED: Councilmember Marsh

DISCUSSION: Vice Mayor Payne said that she initiated the business license due to complaints she received from businesses, but after hearing concerns about the proposed business license requirement, she is not prepared to support it at this time.

Councilmember Marsh said he appreciates businesses and noted that this ordinance did not originate with City Hall staff. The intent of the ordinance is to legitimize business, not to discriminate. He said the proposed fee is reasonable. He also noted a business license would be beneficial for record-keeping, and will ensure that businesses operate within preexisting laws.

Councilmember Woolford thanked everyone for turning out. He noted that the timing wasn't right and more investigation was necessary.

Councilmember Dixon also thanked everyone for coming out. He concurred with Councilmember Marsh's response, and added that some of the issues brought up were under the purview of administration not Council. He also noted that as a business owner he did not have an issue with it.

Councilmember Nilsson expressed appreciation for all who came to express their opinion. He understands both sides of the issue and recommended starting with a business registry.

Councilmember Kester thanked all who came out.

Mayor Young noted that this was not a penalty or punishment.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmember Dixon "Aye", Councilmember Kester "Nay", Councilmember Marsh "Aye", Councilmember Nilsson "Nay", Vice Mayor Payne "Nay", Councilmember Woolford "Nay", Mayor Young "Aye"

MOTION FAILED

- b. Ordinance 21-03 - 2nd reading: An ordinance regarding consolidated elections.

MOTION: Councilmember Marsh

SECONDED: Councilmember Dixon

DISCUSSION: Mayor Young noted that there was a conflict in the Charter. He also cited A.R.S. 16-211 - "On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of every even-numbered year, a general election shall be held for the election of representatives in Congress, members of the legislature, and state, county and precinct officers whose terms expire at the end of the year in which the election is being held or in the following year."

Vice Mayor Payne said that we are not obligated to follow state law as a result of the Tucson ruling. She felt that even year elections are a good idea, however, she is against extending terms. Therefore, she does not support this ordinance.

Councilmember Dixon stated that there is no question that the City is to conform to state election laws. He added that we are not Tucson, as the respective Charters are different.

Councilmember March said there are beneficial reasons for doing this.

Councilmember Nilsson said we were following law, that no one wanted to extend terms. He also noted the need to clean-up the Charter.

Councilmember Kester said the Charter says we have four-year terms. We should go by the Charter and have an election.

Councilmember Woolford said we need to figure out the Charter. He noted the chaos of the recent state and federal elections.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmember Dixon "Aye", Councilmember Kester "Nay", Councilmember Marsh "Aye", Councilmember Nilsson "Aye", Vice Mayor Payne "Nay", Councilmember Woolford "Nay", Mayor Young "Aye"

MOTION CARRIED

- c. Ordinance 21-04 - 2nd reading: An ordinance regarding recreational marijuana.

MOTION: Councilmember Payne

SECONDED: Councilmember Kester

DISCUSSION: Vice Mayor Payne noted that this was a model ordinance provided by the League. She added that people should be able to buy marijuana.

Councilmember Nilsson noted that marijuana is harmful and doesn't want to see kids buying and using it. He is against this ordinance.

Councilmember Woolford would like to see more business input.

Mayor Young noted that this is a model ordinance provided by the League of Arizona Cities and Towns.

Councilmember Dixon gave a presentation which provided information against marijuana.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmember Dixon "Nay", Councilmember Kester "Aye", Councilmember Marsh "Aye", Councilmember Nilsson "Nay", Vice Mayor Payne "Aye", Councilmember Woolford "Aye", Mayor Young "Aye"

MOTION CARRIED

- d. Ordinance 21-05 - 2nd reading: An ordinance regarding the sale of real property.

MOTION: Councilmember Dixon

SECONDED: Councilmember Marsh

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmember Dixon "Aye", Councilmember Kester "Aye", Councilmember Marsh "Aye", Councilmember Nilsson "Aye", Vice Mayor Payne "Aye", Councilmember Woolford "Aye", Mayor Young "Aye"

MOTION CARRIED

CALL TO THE PUBLIC FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Kim Belknap presented recommendations for the golf course. Cindy Tafoya noted that there will be a round table discussion on April 28th from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Old Court House discussing Petrified Forest National Park issues.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS-MAYOR:

*Mayor Young thanked everyone for coming out. He mentioned recent activities at the Fair grounds and encouraged those wishing to help to contact Mike Sample.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS-COUNCILMEMBERS:

*Councilmember Nilsson thanked the Reid family for their work with Little League. He expressed gratitude that things were getting back to normal at the High School. He attended a NACOG meeting where the Sun Valley grant was approved. He noted that revenues were available for infrastructure and transportation projects.

*Vice Mayor Payne noted that there were over 500 kids at the recent event at the fairgrounds. She hoped that events like this would be better advertised.

*Councilmember Marsh said that the area around the animal shelter was looking much better. He thanked City staff for their assistance. He also noted that a grant was received from Safeway.

*Councilmember Woolford thanked everyone who came to the meeting. He also mentioned the recent event at the fairgrounds.

*Councilmember Kester mentioned that he was out of town. He noted that he supported the use of funds for several projects.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS-CITY MANAGER:

He attended the Hashknife parade and swearing-in ceremony. He thanked the dedicated group that has volunteered for many years to help make this important event happen.

He provided an update on facility preparation for Memorial Day weekend:

The splash pad has been repaired and is ready for opening.

The batting box equipment has been repaired.

The mini golf carpet is on order.

The hot water system for the pool has been ordered.

Heward Park Dog Park will be closed for re-seeding.

The concession stands at Hunt Park and Lisitzky park are schedule for repair and painting.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Councilmember Nilsson

SECONDED: Councilmember Payne

MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 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 April 22, 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.



Ted Soltis, City Manager

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of May 2021.



J. Merrill Young, Mayor