

CITY OF SAFFORD • CITY COUNCIL MEETING • MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
MEETING LOCATION: SAFFORD LIBRARY PROGRAM ROOM • 808 S. 7TH AVE SAFFORD, ARIZONA
“The mission of the City of Safford is to make Safford a great place to live, work, and visit”

1. **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Kouts called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
2. **ROLL CALL:** A quorum of the Council was present (6)
COUNCIL PRESENT: Jason Kouts, Mayor; Richard Ortega, Vice Mayor; Councilmembers’ Arnold Lopez, Gene Seale, Steve McGaughey, and Michael Andazola.

STAFF PRESENT: Horatio Skeete, City Manager; John Cassella, Assistant City Manager; Glen Orr, Police Capitan(Interm Chief); Susan Anderson, Planning and Community Development Director; Alma Flores Valles, Finance Officer; Victoria Silva, Library Director; Sam Napier, IT Director; Tamara Webster, City Clerk; Lydia Newkirk, Human Resources Officer; Dan Braatz, Electric Division Supervisor; Morgan Seale, Wastewater Division Supervisor; and Raymond Osornio, Gas Division Supervisor.

OTHERS PRESENT: Nathan Estes, Paul David and others who did not sign in.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Councilman Andazola led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **OPENING PRAYER:** Mayor Kouts offered the opening prayer.
5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** Mary Bingham addressed Mayor and Council regarding item 12.
6. **CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** None
7. **PUBLIC HEARING:**
Mayor Kouts opened a Public Hearing in compliance with Arizona Revised Statutes §38.431.02 to hear public comments regarding:

1. An application from Addisigns for proposed text amendments relating to the City of Safford Municipal Code Title 17, amending Chapter 17.82 Sign Regulations, Section 17.82.070 - Signs allowed by permit in commercial and/or industrial zones, relating to freestanding directory signs. (Staff, Susan Anderson) **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**

8. **MAYOR KOUTS CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING AND RECONVENED THE REGULAR MEETING**

9. **ORDINANCES:**

1. **ORDINANCE O20-005: First reading of Ordinance Number O20-005, an Ordinance of the City of Safford, Graham County, Arizona, amending Title 17, Zoning, Chapter 17.82 Sign Regulations of the City of Safford Municipal Code relating to freestanding directory signs.** Susan Anderson, Planning and Community Development Director, presented Ordinance Number O20-005 for a first reading.

10. **NEW/OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **SPECIAL EVENT LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION: Request for the Mayor and City Council to recommend an approval to the Department of Liquor Licenses and Control for a Special Event License from Margarita D. Wulftange of the St. Rose of Lima Parish.** Susan Anderson, Planning and Community Development Director, presented a Special Event Liquor License for approval. **MOTION ADOPTED**
2. **BENEFIT RENEWALS: Discuss with the Mayor and City Council the benefit renewals for fiscal year 2020-2021 and the impact on staff pay increases.** Lydia Newkirk, Human Resources Officer, presented the benefit renewals for fiscal year 2020-2021 and the impact on staff pay increases.
3. **VACTION POLICY: Discuss with the Mayor and City Council an amended Vacations Policy for fiscal year 2020-2021 budget.** Lydia Newkirk, Human Resources Officer, presented an amended Vacation Policy.
4. **COUNCIL VACANCY: Discuss with the Mayor and City Council the process to fill a vacant position on the City Council.** Horatio Skeete, City Manager, discussed with Mayor and Council the process of filling a vacancy within the City Council.

11. **RESOLUTIONS:**

1. **RESOLUTION R20-004: Request for the Mayor and City Council to approve and adopt Resolution R20-004, a resolution of the City of Safford designating Primary Election date, purpose of election, voter registration deadline, and designating date and place to file candidate nomination form.** Tamara Webster, City Clerk, request Resolution R20-004 be approved and adopted. **MOTION ADOPTED**

12. **CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS/BIDS:**

1. **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT: Request for the Mayor and City Council to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City of Safford and the Safford Unified School District.** Susan Anderson, Planning and Community Development Director, requested an IGA between the City of Safford and Safford Unified School District be approved. **MOTION ADOPTED (5-1 Councilman McGaughey Opposed)**

13. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF CURRENT EVENTS:** The Mayor or any member of Council may at this time present a brief summary of current events and provide future agenda items. However, no discussion shall take place on such items except for clarifying comments related to substance, time and location.

14. **REPORT ON OPERATIONAL ITEMS:** The city manager, members of city staff or those individuals designated by the manager may present information pertinent to items under consideration or information related to the operation of the City. There shall however be no discussion at this time except for clarification inquiries. (If not listed below)
- Glen Orr, Interm Chief/Police Capitan, gave an update on the Police Department.
 - Alma Valles, Finance Officer, gave an update on the City of Safford fuel tank installation.
15. **ADJOURN:** It was moved by Vice Mayor Ortega, seconded by Councilman Andazola and carried unanimously to adjourn council work session at 7:44 p.m. **MOTION ADOPTED**