



**CITY OF SAFFORD • CITY COUNCIL MEETING • MONDAY, JULY 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**  
**MEETING LOCATION: SAFFORD LIBRARY PROGRAM ROOM • 808 S. 7<sup>TH</sup> 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 (7)

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Jason Kouts, Mayor; Richard Ortega, Vice Mayor; Councilmembers Gene Seale; Arnold Lopez; Steve McGaughey; Michael Andazola; and Brad Hemphill.

**STAFF PRESENT:** John Cassella, City Manager; Glen Orr, Police Chief; Brian Avila, Police Captain; Lance Henrie, Public Works Director/City Engineer; Susan Anderson, Planning and Community Development Director; Alma Valles, Finance Officer; Victoria Silva, Library Director; Sam Napier, IT Officer; Jenny Taylor, Human Resources Officer; Tamara Webster, City Clerk; Matthew Hoshal, Executive Assistant to the City Manager; Jonathan Driver, Water Division; Raymond Osornio, Gas Division Supervisor; Kabrina Romero, Accounting Administrator; and Mohamed Abdelmottelb, IT Support Specialist.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Paul R. David, and others that did not sign in.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Vice Mayor Ortega led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **OPENING PRAYER:** Councilman Lopez offered the opening prayer.
5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None
6. **CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** Paul Allen, Isidro Isais, David Whipple, Rex Bryce, and Paul R. David addressed Council regarding airport operations.
7. **PRESENTATIONS:**
  1. **CANCER AWARENESS:** Present the Mayor and City Council with information regarding Cancer Awareness.
8. **PUBLIC HEARING:** A Public Hearing will be opened in compliance with Arizona Revised Statutes §38.431.02 to hear public comments regarding:
  1. **MOBILE FOOD VENDORS:** A text amendment of Zoning Ordinance Chapter 17.12 – Supplementary Requirements and Procedures, Section 17.12.170 – Temporary Uses and Structures to modify the provisions for mobile food vendors.  
**No public Comments were made.**
  2. **LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION:** An Acquisition of Control submitted by Western Refining Retail, LLC for Speedway #2961 located at 1780 W. Hwy 70, Safford, Arizona, Speedway #2990 located at 300 E. Hwy 70, Safford, Arizona, Speedway #2984 located at 750 S. 8th Ave, Safford, Arizona, and Speedway #2982 located at 105 E. Hwy 70, Safford, Arizona.

No public Comments were made.

9. **CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING AND RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING**

10. **ORDINANCES:**

1. **ORDINANCE 021-012 MOBILE FOOD VENDORS:** First reading of Ordinance Number O21-012, an Ordinance of the City of Safford, Graham County, Arizona, amending Title 17, Zoning, Chapter 17.12 – Supplementary Requirements and Procedures, relating to mobile food vendors.

**Ordinance 021-012 was read into the minutes by Tamara Webster, City Clerk.**

2. **ORDINANCE 021-013 WATER/SEWER CAPACITY FEES:** First reading of Ordinance Number O21-013, an Ordinance of the City of Safford, Graham County, Arizona Municipal Code Title 13, Public Services, Section 13.24.040 as it pertains to when payment is required to connect to the City of Safford Water and Sewer infrastructure.

**Ordinance 021-013 was read into the minutes by Tamara Webster, City Clerk.**

11. **RESOLUTIONS:**

1. **RESOLUTION R21-020 FEE WAIVER/ASSISTANCE:** Request of the Mayor and City Council to adopt and approve Resolution R21-020, authorizing the City of Safford to waive new single home construction building permit fees, and compensate 50% of water capacity fees and water meter fees for one year beginning July 1, 2021 ending June 30, 2022.

**MOTION ADOPTED 6-1 Mayor Kouts Opposed**

12. **NEW/OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **LIQUOR LICENSE FOR SPEEDWAYS:** Request for the Mayor and City Council to make a recommendation relating to a Liquor License recommendation to the state liquor board regarding Acquisition of Control submitted by Western Refining Retail, LLC for Speedway #2961 located at 1780 W. Hwy 70, Safford, Arizona, Speedway #2990 located at 300 E. Hwy 70, Safford, Arizona, Speedway #2984 located at 750 8th Ave, Safford, Arizona, and Speedway #2982 located at 150 E. Hwy 70, Safford, Arizona. **MOTION ADOPTED**

2. **MINUTES:** Request for Mayor and City Council to approve June 28, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes. **MOTION ADOPTED**

3. **EXTENSION OF POOL SEASON:** Request for the Mayor and City Council to approve the recommendation to extend the pool season through October 2, 2021 at an estimated cost of \$10,143.00. **MOTION ADOPTED**

4. **GILA RIVER WALK LINEAR PARK EASEMENTS:** Discussion with the Mayor and City Council regarding easements for the Gila River Walk Linear Park.

13. **REPORTS:**

1. **P-CARD REPORT**
2. **OVER \$5000 REVENUES**
3. **OVER \$5000 EXPENSES**

14. **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.
- Councilman Seale requested a future agenda item regarding façade grants
  - Councilman Lopez announced the first Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee July 27, 2021
  - Chief Orr announced the Police Station Ribbon Cutting/Open House July 28, 2021
  - Mayor Kouts recognized Alma Valles
  - City Manager Cassella introduced Jenny Taylor, Human Resources Officer
15. **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)
- Update on 20<sup>th</sup> Ave and 14<sup>th</sup> Ave Projects (Staff, Lance Henrie)
15. **ADJOURN:** It was moved by Vice Mayor Ortega, seconded by Councilman Andazola, and carried unanimously to adjourn City Council Meeting at 7:20 pm. **MOTION ADOPTED**