



**CITY OF SAFFORD • CITY COUNCIL MEETING • MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 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; Lance Henrie, Public Works Director/City Engineer; Susan Anderson, Planning and Community Development Director; Victoria Silva, Library Director; Jenny Taylor, Human Resource Officer; Tamara Webster, City Clerk; Matthew Hoshal, Executive Assistant to the City Manager; Jonathan Driver, Water Division; Raymond Osornio, Gas Division Supervisor; Kabrina Romero, Finance Officer; Pam Frost, Administrative Events Liaison; and Mohamed Abdelmottelb, IT Support Specialist.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Isidro Isais, R. Tuttle, Keith Payne, Jeff White, Dennis Delaney, 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 Andazola offered the opening prayer.
5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None
6. **CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** Isidro Isais addressed Council regarding Jetcrafters Aviation, LLC FBO operations.
7. **PRESENTATIONS:**
  1. **GRAHAM COUNTY STARS:** Presented the Mayor and City Council with information regarding the attendance of the Graham County Stars at the LACT 2021 Annual Conference.
8. **PUBLIC HEARING:** A Public Hearing was opened in compliance with Arizona Revised Statutes §38.431.02 to hear public comments regarding:
  1. **PAYNE REZONE:** Request Mayor and Council hold a public hearing for a proposed rezoning of Graham County Parcel #'s 101-21-051J and 101-21-087.  
**Mr. Payne addressed the City Council regarding the property use.**
9. **CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING AND RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING**
10. **ORDINANCES:**
  1. **ORDINANCE 021-010 PAYNE REZONE:** First reading of Ordinance Number O21-010, an Ordinance of the City of Safford, Graham County, Arizona, rezoning Graham County Assessor's

Parcel #'s 101-21-087 and 101-21-051J, located directly to the north of El Paso Park and fronting on S. 14th Avenue, from A-R Agricultural Residential to R1-10 Single-Family Residential.

Ordinance O21-010 was read into the minutes by Tamara Webster, City Clerk.

2. **ORDINANCE O21-012 MOBILE FOOD VENDORS:** A request for the Mayor and City Council to approve and adopt 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. **MOTION ADOPTED 6-1 Councilman Lopez Opposed**

Ordinance O21-012 was read into the minutes by Tamara Webster, City Clerk.

3. **ORDINANCE O21-013 WATER/SEWER CAPACITY FEES:** Request for the Mayor and City Council to approve and adopt 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. **MOTION ADOPTED**

Ordinance O21-013 was read into the minutes by Tamara Webster, City Clerk.

11. **RESOLUTIONS:**

1. **RESOLUTION R21-021 Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee:** Request for Mayor and Council to adopt Resolution No. R21-021, a resolution establishing a Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee for the City of Safford. **MOTION ADOPTED**

12. **NEW/OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **GILA VALLEY FOOD COALITION FARMERS MARKET:** Request for the Mayor and Council to approve a Special Event Application for the Gila Valley Food Coalition Farmers Market for two events to occur on September 11, 2021 and November 6, 2021 and to waive the special event application fee of \$25.00 and all City of Safford fees that apply to the event. **MOTION ADOPTED 6-1 Vice Mayor Ortega Opposed (motion adopted with amendment to approve September 11<sup>th</sup> event only without the fee waiver)**

2. **SALSA FEST EVENT:** Request for the Mayor and Council to recommend and approval of the amended 2021 Special Event Application for Salsa Fest. **MOTION ADOPTED**

3. **SALSA FEST SPECIAL EVENT LIQUOR LICENSE:** Request for the Mayor and Council to make a recommendation to the Department of Liquor Licenses and Control regarding two Special Event Liquor License Applications received from the Chamber of Commerce for the Salas Fest. The first of the two events will be held at the Quality Inn & Suites, 420 E US Hwy 70, Safford on September 23, 2021 from 5pm to 10pm and the second will be held at City Hall Lawn, 717 W. Main St., Safford on September 24, 2021 from 5pm to 10pm and September 25, 2021 from 8am to 10pm. **MOTION ADOPTED**

4. **DIRECTIONAL BORING MACHINE AND VACUUM EXCAVATOR:** request for Mayor and City Council to approve the purchase of a Directional Boring Machine and Vacuum Excavator from Vermeer Southwest. This is a Sourcewell contract price. **MOTION ADOPTED**

13. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF CURRENT EVENTS:** The Mayor or any member of Council may at this time present a 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. **CLOSE REGULAR MEETING AND RECONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:**
  1. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes §38-431.03(A)(3)(7) the Mayor and City Council entered Executive Session to discuss with the City Manager SPAA – Updated Safford Load and Resource Analysis.
15. **ADJOURN:** It was moved by Vice Mayor Ortega, seconded by Councilman Andazola, and carried unanimously to adjourn City Council Meeting at 8:14 pm. **MOTION ADOPTED**