

RESOLUTION NO. 2315

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAYSON, ARIZONA, OPPOSING PROPOSED GILA COUNTY BALLOT INITIATIVES TO RAISE SALES TAXES AND ISSUE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR JUSTICE FACILITIES IN NORTHERN GILA COUNTY.

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Payson agrees with the Gila County Board of Supervisors that new County jail, courthouse, and other public office facilities are needed in northern Gila County; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Payson believes that there are many avenues to pursue for funding such facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Payson believes that the funding of justice facilities through a taxing authority which can establish a sales tax at the highest rate allowed by law is irresponsible, will result in an additional Gila County sales tax of at least .5 cents per dollar, and will put some area businesses at a distinct competitive disadvantage; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Payson believes that such an increase in sales taxes would also place an undue burden on its senior citizens who are on a fixed income and on as young families starting out; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Payson believes that Gila County should have a long term plan to replace aging facilities and should examine alternatives to raising taxes such as reducing other sales taxes or entering into public-private partnership financing,

NOW, THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAYSON, ARIZONA, DO HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Payson are strongly opposed to the current ballot initiatives proposed by Gila County which will result in increased sales taxes and to the issuance of general obligation bonds by Gila County as a means to pay for justice facilities.

Section 2. That the Town of Payson urges the Gila County Board of Supervisors to thoroughly research various alternatives to financing and operating costs for needed justice facilities, including a thorough review of public-private partnership possibilities and a thorough review of the Gila County budget.

Section 3. That the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Payson urge the Gila County Board of Supervisors to postpone any and all ballot initiatives regarding the development and

Prepared by Town of Payson Legal Department

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payment for new justice facilities until all other alternatives for financing the same have been completely explored.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAYSON, ARIZONA, this ____ day of _____, 2007, by the following vote:

AYES _____ NOES _____ ABSTENTIONS _____ ABSENT _____

F. Robert Edwards, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Silvia Smith, Town Clerk

Samuel I. Streichman, Town Attorney