

**TOWN OF PAYSON
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
April 17, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Edwards called the special meeting to order in the Council Chambers at approximately 4:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENT: Mayor Bob Edwards, Vice-Mayor Tim Fruth, Council Member Ed Blair, Council Member Su Connell, Council Member Andy Romance, Council Member Mike Vogel, and Council Member John Wilson.

STAFF PRESENT: Debra Galbraith - Town Manager, Sam Streichman - Town Attorney, Silvia Smith - Town Clerk, Jerry Owen - Community Development Director, Rick Manchester - Parks & Recreation Director, and Cameron Davis - OTEV Manager.

OTHERS PRESENT: Tim Wright, Deputy Town Attorney; Diane Stoyer, Legal Department Office Manager; Marci Huffman, Chief Deputy Town Clerk.

PURPOSE OF MEETING

1. Presentation by Gila County Facility Find Committee.

After the November election when the proposed justice facilities question was voted down by the voters, Leon Keddington talked to friends to try and attack the problem and an ad hoc committee was formed to study the issues to come up with some recommendations. His PowerPoint presentation identified the team of "Gila County Facilities Forward," guests and visitors involved, objectives, project phasing, criminal justice needs in Payson and in Globe, and possible sites for the facility in Payson. They had recently made the presentation to the Gila County Board of Supervisors. The goal is to get these justice facilities without raising taxes.

Rex Hinshaw, Architect, said the committee came up with three potential sites for the Payson facility using specific criteria; property size, asking price, buildability, infrastructure, location, distance from Payson Police station, eminent domain, acquisition issues, other. Fourteen sites had been originally looked at, but the three they ended with were considered the best. Site 1 is south of Main Street with the Messinger property add-on. Site 2 is behind Payson Town Hall. Site 3 is the southeast corner of Beeline Highway & Tyler Parkway.

Dr. Gary Gibbons is the Finance Consultant. One of the objectives was to carefully study all financing options and possibilities and make recommendations.

Neighborhood issues were discussed with regard to each site. Site 1 would have the least issues it was felt. Mr. Messinger was very interested in Site 1. There would be extra parking for Main Street.

John Waitland felt it would help with the parking issues on Main Street.

Sue McIntyre said the jail would not look like a jail.

Rod McKinnon of Phoenix said he had followed the project for a long time and offered his help. He presented an idea regarding a lease/purchase arrangement that would have the significance of a municipal bond, but simpler. At the end of the lease, the County would own the property. Another benefit would be that the project costs would be borne by the owner of the lease. He discussed a team approach and a public/private partnership.

There was considerable discussion concerning the Industrial Development Authority involvement and how to go about getting the project going with a joint effort. Site No. 1 was considered the best. Consensus was to move forward quickly with a group that was small and focused and that the County would make the ultimate decision.

2. Discussion/possible action re: presentation and potential justice facilities in Payson and/or Globe.

Mayor Edwards asked that two council members serve on the committee and that a resolution be brought back to the second regular meeting in May for the Town to adopt. Clmn. Blair moved to have council make a resolution to the Board of Supervisors of Gila County supporting a site in the Town of Payson, including two council persons to work with the ad hoc committee and our staff (legal) and communicate with the County in that process, and then bring it back to Council at the May 17, 2008, meeting. Clmn. Connell seconded the motion. Motion carried, 7-0.

There was discussion regarding the three sites and how Site No. 1 would be an economic engine for Payson. The Green Valley Redevelopment Area Committee agreed with this. Again, the Gila County Board of Supervisors will make the ultimate decision.

Those involved in the ad hoc committee were Larry and Sue McIntyre, Al Poskanzer, Bob McQueen (advisor), Cathy Baas (logic), and Susan Campbell kept records of the meetings. Mr. Keddington thanked everyone for their attention.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Date: _____

Bob Edwards, Mayor

ATTEST:

Silvia Smith, Town Clerk

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the special meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Payson held on this day the 17 of April, 2008. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

DATED this ___ day of _____, 2008.

Marcia F. Huffman, Chief Deputy Town Clerk