

**TOWN OF PAYSON  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
March 1, 2011**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Mayor Hughes called the work study to order at approximately 6:21 p.m. at the Town Hall Council Chambers, 303 N. Beeline Highway, Payson, Arizona. Mayor Evans had excused himself briefly from the meeting and returned at approximately 6:25 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Kenny Evans, Vice-Mayor Michael Hughes, Council Member John Wilson, Council Member Mike Vogel, and Council Member Su Connell.

**ABSENT:** Council Member Ed Blair, and Council Member Rick Croy.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Debra Galbraith - Town Manager, Silvia Smith - Town Clerk, Tim Wright - Town Attorney, and LaRon Garrett - Public Works Director.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Gaye Stidham - Deputy Town Clerk, Hope Cribb - Finance Manager, Ray Erlandsen - Community Development Director, Colin P. Walker - Water Superintendent

**PURPOSE OF MEETING**

1. Discussion/possible direction to staff re: the Town's current regulation of animated signs, how other communities regulate animated signs and potential amendments to the Town Code and/or the Unified Development Code related to animated signs.

Mr. Erlandsen gave the background of how this subject came to Council. The UDC does not allow for animated signs although automated signs are allowed. Animated signs are becoming more popular and less expensive. Attorney Wright explained that we don't regulate the technology of the signs, but how they are used.

Vice-Mayor Hughes asked how other cities have addressed the issue. Mr. Erlandsen noted the summary that was included for the Council with his memo. The cursory survey indicated that most cities did not include regulations in their code but didn't prohibit them either. They may be calling them something else or not enforcing UDC regulations. Mr. Erlandsen asked the Council how they would like him to proceed with the issue.

Vice-Mayor Hughes said that safety was his greatest concern. He suggested only allowing them along the highway and perhaps some design criteria.

Council Member Connell voiced her concern about safety, clutter and night sky pollution.

Council Member Carpenter said they would need to address the spacing and the hours of operation.

Council Member Wilson agreed that positioning was important to keep from

distracting drivers. He believed they could be positioned so that they can only be seen when drivers are stopped.

Vice-Mayor Hughes asked if Mr. Erlandsen had looked at other codes within the general vicinity of the Valley. Mayor Evans said that the Town of Payson is actually one of the first to address this issue.

Mr. Erlandsen discussed with Mayor Evans links to Panasonic signs around the country.

Council, by consensus, directed Mr. Erlandsen to keep researching with their concerns in mind.

Attorney Wright asked what the next step would be. Mayor Evans said more research needed done and the Council needed to get further along in their thought process before giving staff direction. Attorney Wright said the Community Development Department would bring more information to the Council as the next step.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Evans adjourned the work study at approximately 6:58 p.m.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Kenny J. Evans, 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 1 of March, 2011. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

DATED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.

\_\_\_\_\_

Gaye Stidham, Deputy Town Clerk