

**WINKELMAN TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2022, 7:00 P.M.  
TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
206 GIFFIN AVENUE**

**MINUTES**

1. Call Meeting to Order  
Mayor Bracamonte called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Salute the Flag
3. Roll Call  
Present: Mayor Louis C. Bracamonte  
Vice-Mayor Anita Hinojos  
Council Member Joe Marin  
Council Member Emilia Rutledge, tardy  
Council Member Angela Skillings  
  
Staff: Attorney J. Dee Flake  
Town Clerk Sylvia Kerlock  
Deputy Town Clerk Gloria Ruiz  
Animal Control Officer Rafael Flores  
  
Audience: Kevin Heaslip, Hayden Police Sergeant  
Jose Hernandez, Winkelman Volunteer Fire Captain  
Woody Cline, Gila County Supervisor  
Cathy Melvin, Gila County Assistant to the Supervisor  
Fred Ruiz, Winkelman Resident  
Alonzo Ruiz-Lopez, Summer Youth Worker
4. Approval of Minutes
  - a) *Regular Council Meeting, Monday, March 14, 2022*  
Council Member Marin made the motion to approve the minutes as recorded.  
Council Member Skillings seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Mayor Bracamonte:	Yes
Vice-Mayor Hinojos:	Yes
Council Member Marin:	Yes
Council Member Rutledge:	Yes
Council Member Skillings:	Yes
5. Communications and Petitions
  - a) *Don Newquist to request to purchase or lease property at 123 Thorne Ave for a potential business*  
Mr. Newquist was not in attendance.
  - b) *Gila County Elections Department to request placing a Ballot Box permanently at Winkelman Town Hall location*  
Deputy Clerk Ruiz explained that Gila County Elections Department will be placing twelve ballot boxes throughout the County and would like one location to be at the Winkelman Town Hall. The box would be locked, so no one could place trash in it. Per the Department, it would be the only ballot box for this area. Vice-Mayor Hinojos made the motion to have a permanent ballot box at the Town Hall. Council Member Marin seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Mayor Bracamonte:	Yes
Vice-Mayor Hinojos:	Yes
Council Member Marin:	Yes
Council Member Rutledge:	Yes
Council Member Skillings:	Yes

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c) *Gila County Supervisor Woody Cline to address the Council*

Supervisor Cline said now that COVID-19 and the fires are over, he can visit the Towns in his District.

- Flooding has become an issue because of the fires. Gila County received ten million dollars from the State to replace fences and pipeline and to clear burned structures. The Legislature is allocating more money for the summer. The Federal Government thinking if there is a fire to just let it burn has changed because then many acres burn.
- Census 2020 showed there was only growth in Payson and Tonto Basin for Gila County. Redistricting has occurred. Supervisor Cline is in District 3, and it now covers all three Reservations.
- Summer Youth Program will be employing extra kids.
- Assessments from ASARCO are low, and this is adversely affecting Hayden-Winkelman Unified School District and the Town of Hayden. When this occurred three years ago, Supervisor Cline, Winkelman Mayor Bracamonte and Hayden Mayor Hetrick went to the Capitol to speak to representatives. They may have to do this again.
- Blight Buster Grant: last year \$600,000 was allocated. The contract starts in May or June.
- Money was allocated for Tonto Bridge.
- Hayden Senior Center will be receiving \$150,000.

Mayor Bracamonte thanked Supervisor Cline for visiting and updating Winkelman.

6. Old Business

a) *Discussion and possible approval of disbursement of COVID-19 Funds*

Mayor Bracamonte said that the first disbursement \$58,613.52 of this money needs to be spent. After approving \$20,200.00 for supplies for the wastewater treatment plant there is still a balance of \$38,413.52. Mayor Bracamonte recommended giving a stipend to the employees:

- Full time employees: \$4,000.00
- Part time employees \$2,000.00
- Firefighters: \$ 500.00

Council Member Rutledge asked if any of this money could be used in the fire department. Deputy Clerk Ruiz said it could only be used for water, sewer and broadband infrastructure. Council Member Marin asked if Council Members are to be included in receiving a stipend because they conducted business during the pandemic. Attorney Flake said that was not legal. Vice-Mayor Hinojos made the motion to pay a stipend to the full-time, part-time employees and firefighters, as recommended by Mayor Bracamonte. Council Member Rutledge seconded it, and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Bracamonte:	Yes
Vice-Mayor Hinojos:	Yes
Council Member Marin:	Yes
Council Member Rutledge:	Yes
Council Member Skillings:	Yes

b) *Employee Health Insurance Reimbursement—Discussion and Possible Approval of Quarterly Amount for Taxes*

Deputy Clerk Ruiz reminded the Council that Auditor Scott Graff said that in order to quarterly reimburse three staff members for insurance coverage, it had to be taxed. To offset the taxes, the Town can give them an extra \$30-\$50 a month. Reimbursing these three employees has saved the Town a great deal of money. Vice-Mayor Hinojos made the motion to pay the three employees an extra \$50.00 a month to offset taxes for their medical reimbursement. Council Member Skillings seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

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Mayor Bracamonte:	Yes
Vice-Mayor Hinojos:	Yes
Council Member Marin:	Yes
Council Member Rutledge:	Yes
Council Member Skillings:	Yes

**7. Legal**

**a) *Intergovernmental Agreement between Gila County and Town of Winkelman for Gila County Summer Work Program***

The Summer Youth Work Program is great for the teens in our area, giving them interview and job skills. There will be five young men working in the Public Works Department. Vice-Mayor Hinojos made the motion to accept the Intergovernmental Agreement between Gila County and the Town of Winkelman. Council Member Skillings seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Bracamonte:	Yes
Vice-Mayor Hinojos:	Yes
Council Member Marin:	Yes
Council Member Rutledge:	Yes
Council Member Skillings:	Yes

**b) *Intergovernmental Agreement between Gila County and Town of Winkelman for Election Services***

Gila County provides election services for the Town of Winkelman. Vice-Mayor Hinojos made the motion to accept the Intergovernmental Agreement between Gila County and the Town of Winkelman. Council Member Skillings seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Bracamonte:	Yes
Vice-Mayor Hinojos:	Yes
Council Member Marin:	Yes
Council Member Rutledge:	Yes
Council Member Skillings:	Yes

**c) *Intergovernmental Agreement No. 02242022 between Town of Winkelman and Gila County for Criminal Misdemeanor and Criminal Traffic Case Management***

Gila County provides criminal misdemeanor and criminal traffic case management for the Town of Winkelman. Council Member Marin made the motion to accept the Intergovernmental Agreement between Gila County and the Town of Winkelman. Council Member Rutledge seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Mayor Bracamonte:	Yes
Vice-Mayor Hinojos:	Yes
Council Member Marin:	Yes
Council Member Rutledge:	Yes
Council Member Skillings:	Yes

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8. Departmental Reports

a) *Administration Report*

- > Discussion and possible approval of a monetary donation to Linda Loroña Smith
  - Mrs. Smith's house burned, and she and her family are homeless. She used to provide janitorial services for the Town. Deputy Clerk Ruiz asked if a monetary donation could be made on behalf of the Town. Vice-Mayor Hinojos made the motion to give Mrs. Smith a \$250.00 donation. Council Member Rutledge seconded it, and the motion carried. Council Member Marin abstained, due to being related to Mrs. Smith.

Mayor Bracamonte:	Yes
Vice-Mayor Hinojos:	Yes
Council Member Rutledge:	Yes
Council Member Skillings:	Yes
Council Member Marin:	Abstained

b) *Police Department Report*

- Sgt. Heaslip distributed the monthly report for Winkelman and Hayden.
- For Easter, there will be adequate coverage at the Winkelman Flats Public Park. There will be 5 officers on duty on Friday and 8 officers on Saturday night. Arizona Rangers will also be patrolling. Mayor Bracamonte asked if they could please enforce the Park's No ATVs and No Bottles policy. Mayor Bracamonte thanked Sgt. Heaslip for his help.

c) *Fire Department Report*

- Jose Hernandez reported that there is a shortage of firefighters in the department. People work out of Town. No Winkelman Volunteer Firefighters will be available for patrolling the Winkelman Flats Public Park during Easter weekend.
- Jose Hernandez will be temporarily leaving for four months to fight wildland fires in New Mexico, then to California.
- Fire departments in Oracle, San Manuel, Golder Ranch, Superior, Hayden and Winkelman are considering forming a District to help each other's communities during fires. Currently, Winkelman, Hayden, Kearny, Dudleyville and Mammoth are providing mutual aid.
- There is a resident in Town who is burning trash. It is illegal to have open fires in Winkelman.

d) *Municipal Report* – There were two (2) citations for the month of March 2022 from the Hayden Police Department.

e) *Animal Control Report*

- Winkelman Animal Control Officer Flores reported that he issued 1 citation, gave 2 warnings and removed a dead dog, a dead cat and a skunk.
- Officer Flores informed the Council that vicious dogs were living at the Winkelman Flats Public Park. Staff will inform the owner they cannot be down there, especially during Easter weekend with so many people in attendance.

f) *Parks & Recreation Report*

- *Report on Easter Community Event* – The band member who was injured during the microburst during the Easter Community Event at the Park is fine. The child, who broke his leg, had to have surgery.
- *Easter Weekend* – Everything is being finalized for Easter weekend. We should be fine.

g) *Sanitation Division* – Residents are paying on their accounts.

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h) *Street Division*

- Hayden-Winkelman Unified School District Staff are parking their vehicles on Giffin Avenue. This is a potential hazard because the street is so narrow at that point. Once school is out, the summer youth will paint the curbing red and stencil "No Parking" on the curb.
- There is a complaint about a family parking their vehicles on the sidewalk on 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

i) *Wastewater Treatment Plant*

- New pumps need to be ordered for the plant.
- Council Member Marin said he wants Operator Art Monterde to start attending the meetings to give his report to the Town Council.

9. Call to the Public – Deputy Clerk Ruiz said Mayor Bracamonte had asked if the meeting times could be changed to 6:00pm. Council Members would like to consider this.

10. Claim No. 010, April Bills

Vice-Mayor Hinojos made the motion to pay Claim No. 010, April Bills. Council Member Skillings seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Bracamonte:	Yes
Vice-Mayor Hinojos:	Yes
Council Member Marin:	Yes
Council Member Rutledge:	Yes
Council Member Skillings:	Yes

11. Adjournment

With no other business at hand, Council Member Skillings made the motion to adjourn this meeting at 8:27 p.m. Council Member Rutledge seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Mayor Bracamonte:	Yes
Vice-Mayor Hinojos:	Yes
Council Member Marin:	Yes
Council Member Rutledge:	Yes
Council Member Skillings:	Yes

MINUTES RECORDED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

*Gloria Ruiz, Deputy Town Clerk*

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Minutes are a correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of the Town of Winkelman, Arizona, held on Monday, April 11, 2022. I further certify that this meeting was duly called and that a quorum was present.

*Gloria Ruiz*  
Deputy Town Clerk

*April 19, 2022*  
Date