

DRAFT MINUTES

TUSAYAN TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

PURSUANT TO A.R.S. § 38-431.02 & §38-431.03

October 13, 2011 @ 4:00 P.M.

Best Western Squire Inn, Zuni Conference Room
74 State Route 64, Tusayan Arizona

TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bryan called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. ROLL CALL

On Roll Call the following were present:

MAYOR BRYAN
VICE MAYOR MANIACI

COUNCILMEMBER MONTOYA
COUNCILMEMBER RUETER

Also present: Town Manager Ochoa
Town Clerk Sutton
Office Assistant Garver

Council Member Montoya recused himself due to his relationship with one of the applicants.

3. CALL TO THE PUBLIC FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

No Public Comments were made.

8. INTERVIEWS OF APPLICANTS FOR TOWN COUNCIL VACANCY

Mayor Bryan stated that the purpose of the meeting was to give the Town Council a chance to get to know the skills of the applicants before making a decision.

Town Manager Ochoa said that a third application came in on October 12, 2011, Robert Gossard. He would be unable to interview with the council this evening, but was available on Monday, October 17, 2011 at 4:30pm.

Mr. Bill Fitzgerald

Mr. Fitzgerald has lived in the area for 20 years. He had been through the process of the previous developer as well as this one. He has attended most of the Council meetings and the budget process. As he has spoken to people, asking them to run for the open Council seat, they declined, but encouraged him to apply. His employers have not pressured him and he would consider himself an independent.

His focus would be to get a 5 and 10 year general plan in place, continue talks with the Forest Service in the Township Act, and get the Fire Department and Sanitary District involved in the P&Z Committee meetings. Mr. Fitzgerald said that he did not know in which direction that he would vote in reference to the developers but his main concern was water planning. He stated that he would be less vocal in his criticisms of the Council and wanted to work together with them

for the best of Tusayan, as well as the recall efforts which would be a moot point. He also stated that he would like to look into the gas and utility companies and felt that they were a high priority, though the internet was also important.

Vice Mayor Maniaci asked Mr. Fitzgerald what projects he would like to see happen Tusayan. He said that he would like to see the community park completed, some social services brought in (i.e. immunizations, Head Start, immigration services, passport, a day care center and Housing Authority). He felt that he would be a good candidate as people talk to him – they feel comfortable with him and he had lots of support of friends. He stated that he would make decisions that would be best for the Town of Tusayan. Mr. Fitzgerald said that he supported the incorporation, but had some concerns with some of the confusion in the meetings, the mudslinging and the developers changing affordable housing to low cost housing.

Council Member Rueter welcomed Mr. Fitzgerald to politics and thanked him for stepping up. Council Member Rueter asked him if he could work with this Council despite the differences and whether he supported the Town of Tusayan remaining a town. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that he could work with the Council and that he supported the Town as there was much that the Town needed.

Mayor Bryan thanked Mr. Fitzgerald for stepping up and asked him if he was a registered voter and was a current resident of Tusayan. Mr. Fitzgerald said that he was registered to vote and lived within the Town boundaries. He also stated that he was for the Town Incorporation and that he believed that the Town benefited from being out from under the control of the County who did not give Tusayan the attention it needed. Mr. Fitzgerald said that he wanted to work with the Chamber to promote the Town of Tusayan and the need for the Town to self-determine its outcome. When asked what he saw as the top issue, Mr. Fitzgerald said that the developer's plans to expand the town's limits were not done through the Township Act and the promotion of Tusayan. He thought the developer could come back with a smaller project that could be done in stages over a number of years and thanked Town Manager Ochoa for suggesting inviting the public for P&Z training. Mr. Fitzgerald has had no development or P&Z training but would be available for training. He understood and felt he would have no issues with confidentiality and that he would be able to make decisions best for the Town that he would not readily be able to explain due to those constraints.

Ms. Cheryl Morris-Montoya

Ms. Montoya introduced herself as a resident of Tusayan for fifteen years, a mom of two young boys and stated that she would like the Town to remain small and not over developed. She wanted to see the schools improved and some county clinics brought in. She wanted the town to move forward united and not divided. Ms. Montoya said that she did not foresee her that her husband being on the Council would be an issue as she made her own decisions – he had not influenced her to apply. She understood that growth was inevitable but wanted to go forward together.

Vice Mayor Maniaci asked Ms. Montoya if she would be able to serve a full term and what services she would like to see. Ms. Montoya state that she would be able to serve full term and she would like to see a local police force, a clinic, a full service post office, and to keep the town as small as possible and a source of water for the future. As she did not read the newspaper due to the mudslinging, she kept up on the news by talking to individuals and friends. She would have no problem working with her spouse and her long term goals were to create a place where the kids would want to stay.

Council Member Rueter thanked her for stepping up, and welcomed her to politics. He asked her if she could work with the current Council and if she wanted the Town to stay as a town. She stated yes to both.

Mayor Bryan asked if she was a registered voter, lived in town and what she thought the challenges were. Ms. Montoya said yes to both questions and thought that water for the future (where we are going to get it, through the park services or obtain our own), affordable housing (so it is not combined with jobs and able to pay for it without going into debt) and a police force were important. She felt that her strengths would be that she is an independent thinker, stubborn, open minded and fair. She would be able to make an unpopular decision, understood that there would be confidentiality on issues, be available for training and there would be no time commitment issues. Ms. Montoya wanted to see Tusayan to not grow as large as Flagstaff as well as not have a huge parking garage blocking the views. She wanted it to grow in order for it to succeed but put limitations on its growth.

9. TOWN MANAGER'S AND STAFF'S REPORTS

No reports were given.

10. COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORTS

No reports were given.

11. MAYOR'S REPORT

No reports were given.

13. MOTION TO ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION for the following purpose:

Council did not adjourn into executive session.

The Council may wish to go into Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431.03.A.3 in order to receive legal advice concerning items on the agenda.

14. ADJOURNMENT OF SPECIAL MEETING

Council Member Montoya returned to the meeting at 4:54pm.

Vice Mayor Maniaci moved to adjourn the special meeting.

Council Member Rueter seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Meeting concluded at 4:55pm.