

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN OF PARKER COMMON COUNCIL

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Town of Parker and to the general public that the Parker Common Council will hold a Regular Meeting, open to the public, at Parker Town Hall at 1314 11th Street on December 19, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Doors open to Council Chambers at 5:30 pm for public seating. As indicated on the agenda pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1), and (3), the Parker Common Council may vote to go into executive session in its regular meeting, which will not be open to the public, to discuss certain matters. The public may be asked to temporarily relocate if an executive session occurs. The public will be invited back into Council Chambers when the Council returns from executive session.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

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MINUTES

TOWN OF PARKER COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1314 11th STREET
TUESDAY, December 19, 2023, 6:00 P.M.

CALL THE REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER: Mayor Hartless called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Please silence or mute your electronic devices during the Council Meetings

ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL: Mayor Hartless, Vice Mayor Lucas, Council Member Shontz, Council Member Hooper, Council Member Woodell, Council Member Daniels (telephonically), Council Member De Leon (arrived at 7:01 pm)

Staff: Interim Town Manager/Community Development Director Nora Yackley, Town Clerk Amy Putnam, Chief of Police Michael Bailey, Public Works Director Steve Ziegler, Human Resource Director Jenaya Stringham

Others Present: Melissa Newton, John Gutekunst, Casey Heeker, Pastor Louie Marsh, Kylee Baldenegro, Kalee Page

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Hartless

INVOCATION: Pastor Louie Marsh, River Church

PRESENTATION: City Ball Field Feasibility Study, Steve Ziegler Public Works Director

Public Works Director Steve Ziegler spoke briefly about the City Ball Park Feasibility Study. Steve has been speaking with the Parks and Recreation Committee and they spoke about the process of how this will take place and the timing and amenities. There were items discussed to include in their scope of work. Steve felt it was a positive first meeting. Communication continues daily with questions and information being exchanged between the parties.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

If you wish to address the Council during this meeting, please read and fill in the information on the "Call to the Public" form and hand it to the Town Clerk. Please limit your comments to a maximum of **3 minutes**.

There was no Call to the Public presented to the clerk

CHAMBER DIRECTORS REPORT: Melissa Newton

Melissa spoke briefly about attending the Welcome Back Visitors Bash in Yuma and that there were a lot of people in attendance making it a good event. Melissa wished the Mayor and Council a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

CONSENT AGENDA:

All items in the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine or have been previously reviewed by the Council, and will be enacted by one motion. There will be a separate discussion of these items if a Council Member so requests. If requested, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion and action.

Approve the following:

- a. 2024 Parker Color Run request for street closure. January 20, 2024 8:00 am to 11:00 am see attached map.

MOTION: To Approve the 2024 Parker Color Run request for street closure.
January 20, 2024 8:00 am to 11:00 am see attached map.
BY: CM Hooper
SECOND: Vice Mayor Lucas
APPROVE: With CM Wooddell voting no and all others in favor, the motion passed.

- b. Adoption of chapters 54, 55, and 61 of the proposed Parker Police Department policy and procedures handbook

MOTION: To Approve the Adoption of chapters 54, 55, and 61 of the proposed Parker Police Department policy and procedures handbook
BY: CM Shontz
SECOND: CM Wooddell
APPROVE: With all others in favor, the motion passed.

REGULAR AGENDA:

Discussion and possible action on the following item(s)

1. Discussion and possible action to approve/deny program services agreement with the La Paz Economic Development Corporation for \$12,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Amy Putnam, Town Clerk

Town Clerk Amy Putnam respectfully requests Mayor and Council to approve of the annual services agreement between the Town of Parker and La Paz EDC. Town staff and La Paz EDC representatives have discussed the agreement and wish to move forward with re-establishing our partnership. The La Paz EDC has agreed to the terms and conditions of the agreement. Town staff feels this agreement will serve the Town favorably and focus on development that will attract new businesses and developers to our area.

MOTION: To Approve program services agreement with the La Paz Economic Development Corporation for \$12,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2023-2024
BY: CM Hooper
SECOND: CM Shontz
APPROVE: With all others in favor, the motion passed

2. Discussion and possible action to approve/deny Resolution 18-2023 Rural Arizona Group Health Trust relating to the appointment of new trustee

Amy Putnam, Town Clerk

Town Clerk Amy Putnam respectfully requests Mayor and Council to approve Resolution 18-2023 Rural Arizona Group Health Trust relating to the appointment of a new trustee. There is no fiscal impact.

MOTION: To Approve Resolution 18-2023 Rural Arizona Group Health Trust relating to the appointment of new trustee
BY: CM Wooddell
SECOND: CM Lucas
APPROVE: With all others in favor, the motion passed

3. Discussion and possible action to approve/deny Parks and Recreation Advisory Board request for supplies purchase for the 2nd Annual Color Run not to exceed \$3,000.00

Steve Ziegler, Public Works Director

Public Works Director, Steve Ziegler respectfully requests Mayor and Council to authorize staff to purchase items for the Parks and Recreation Committee Color Run event for an amount not to exceed \$3,000.00. The Parks and Recreation Committee is planning the Color Run event which started in 2022. The committee is requesting the Town to pay for the fees associated with the Eventbrite website where participants sign up for the event. The Color Run Kits and Color Powder Blasters will be purchased with these funds. The fiscal impact is that the funds will come from the Special Recreational Activities Department budget where staff budgeted \$12,760.00 with a current unexpected amount remaining of \$11,860.00 for FY 23-24.

MOTION: To Approve Parks and Recreation Advisory Board request for supplies purchase for the 2nd Annual Color Run not to exceed \$3,000.00
BY: CM Shontz
SECOND: Mayor Hartless
APPROVE: With all others in favor, the motion passed

4. Discussion and possible action to approve/deny agreement with the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA) to accept grant funds in the amount of \$923,087.22 for the Aaron Hill Turf, Water Meter Replacement and Library Xeriscape projects
Steve Ziegler, Public Works Director

Public Works Director, Steve Ziegler respectfully requests Mayor and Council to approve the to agreement with the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA) Water Conservation Grant Fund to receive grant funds in the amount of \$923,087.72 for the Aaron Hill Field Artificial Turf, Water Meter Replacement and Library Xeriscape Projects. On July 18, 2023, Council approved the application submission to WIFA for these 3 projects. On August 23, 2023, at the WIFA Water Conservation Grant Fund Committee Meeting, Town staff presented the project and the committee approved it. On September 20, 2023, the WIFA Board of Directors officially approved the project. The Aaron Hill Field Artificial Turf project will conserve on average 150,000 gallons a month or 1.8 million gallons of water a year. The Water Meter Replacement project will help reduce water loss which on average is approximately 11 million gallons a year. There are 591 mechanical water meters still remaining in the system which are a source for the water loss because they are no longer accurate. The Library Xeriscape project will be removing the existing turf grass, planting low water use trees and plants with a new drip irrigation system, in addition there will be crushed granite and large rocks similar to Town Hall. This project will conserve on average 137,000 gallons a month or 1.6 million gallons a year. The Town has until June 30, 2026 to expend the funds and complete the projects. The fiscal impact is that the total project cost that was submitted in our application is \$1,230,783.63 and the Town is required to match 25% of this amount which will be \$307,695.91. Staff budgeted \$1,009,954.00 in the FY 23-24 Grants Budget for these projects which will cover our match amount. In August of 2023, staff submitted an application to the Bureau of Reclamation for the grant funds to pay for the match and we are now waiting for the award announcement. Mayor Hartless asked, "Who wrote the grant?" Steve replied, "myself and Jon Luther." Council Member Hooper asked, "How many meters will be replaced?" Steve replied, "All 591 will be replaced." Member Hooper then asked, "Is there going to be a mix of turf and grass on the field?" Steve replied, "Yes, that is an option that was included in the proposal and a decision has not been made and I will consult with the Little League."

MOTION: To Approve the agreement with the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA) to accept grant funds in the amount of \$923,087.22 for the Aaron Hill Turf, Water Meter Replacement and Library Xeriscape projects
BY: CM Hooper
SECOND: CM Lucas
APPROVE: With all others in favor; the motion passed

5. Discussion and possible action to approve/deny recruitment services for the town manager. The council may provide direction to staff on this item
Nora Yackley, Interim Town Manager/Community Development Director

There is brief discussion on recruitment services.

MOTION: To approve recruitment services for the town manager
BY: CM Woodell
SECOND:
APPROVE: With lack of a second the motion dies.

MOTION: To table item 5 and revisit after item 6 is discussed
BY: Vice Mayor Lucas

SECOND: CM Shontz
APPROVE: With CM Wooddell voting no and all others in favor; the motion passed.

The council returned from executive session at 7:13 pm and discussed this item further. Mayor Hartless suggests opening up the Town Manager position and recruiting ourselves. He noted that he felt kike SGR did not work well for us. CM Daniels agrees. It is noted now that we have hired an Human Resources Manager and they can handle the recruitment services for the town. Vice Mayor Lucas notes that this is a waste of money. Chief of Police Michael Bailey notes that we need stability, CM Daniels agrees. Public Works Director Steve Zielger also agreed and notes that we need someone who is willing to take the time to get to know staff. CM Wooddell noted that he never saw any postings regarding the recruitment for the last town manager.

MOTION: To instruct Human Resources to immediately open the Town Manager position and accept applications until February 1, 2024 using all available resources
BY: Mayor Hartless
SECOND: CM DeLeon
APPROVE: With CM Shontz, Hooper and Lucas voting no, and all others in favor; the motion passed.

6. Discussion and possible action for the purpose of discussion or consideration of the employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of the Interim Town Manager/Community Development Director Nora Yackley. The Council may vote to discuss this matter in Executive Session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03 (A)(1), and (3).

MOTION: To move into executive session
BY: CM Hooper
SECOND: Mayor Hartless
APPROVE: With all others in favor the motion passed.

MOTION: To approve the appointment of Nora Yackley to Town Manger
BY: Vice Mayor Lucas
SECOND: CM Hooper
APPROVE: With CM Daniels, DeLeon, Wooddell and Mayor Hartless voting no, all others in favor the motion failed.

COUNCIL MEMBER/LIAISONS REPORTS WITH POSSIBLE TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

Chamber of Commerce and Tourism-VM Lucas + CM DeLeon
Joint Venture-CM Hooper + CM Shontz *Tribal Committee-Mayor Hartless + CM Daniels* *Parks & Recreation-VM Lucas + CM Daniels* *Senior Center-CM De Leon + CM Shontz* *Streets & Traffic-CM Hooper + CM Wooddell* *Library Board-CM Shontz + CM Wooddell* *WACOG-Mayor Hartless + CM Daniels*

CM Daniels attended the Christmas in the park event and thanks everyone for their help
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Wednesday	December 20, 2023	Parker Public Library Teen Advisory Board Christmas Caroling	4:30 @ Parker Public Library
Monday-Tuesday	December 25-26, 2023	Christmas	All Town offices closed
Monday	January 1, 2024	New Year's Day	All Town offices closed
Tuesday	January 2, 2024	Next Regular Council Meeting	6:00 PM

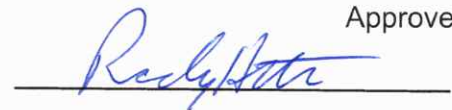
Unless so noted, all meetings are held in the Council Chambers located at 1314 11th Street.

ADJOURN: Mayor Hartless adjourned the meeting at 7:32 PM

Some members of the council or the town attorney may attend the meeting either in person or by telephone conference call. Persons with a disability may request reasonable accommodation by contacting, the town clerk, (928) 669-9265, at least (72) hours before the scheduled meeting. Facilities are handicapped accessible

The council may vote to recess into an executive session which will not be open to the public, for the purpose of obtaining legal advice regarding any of the agenda items, pursuant to a.r.s. §38-431.03(a)(3).

Approve



Randy Hartless, Mayor