

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CAREFREE TOWN COUNCIL**

**WHEN:** TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2020

**WHERE:** CAREFREE TOWN COUNCIL CENTER  
33 EASY STREET, CAREFREE, AZ 85377

**TIME:** 5:00 P.M.

**Town Council Attending:**

Mayor Les Peterson  
Vice Mayor John Crane (*Telephonic*)  
Vince D'Aliesio  
Stephen Hatcher  
Michael Krahe  
Cheryl Kroyer  
Gene Orrico

**Town Council Absent:**

None

**Staff Present:**

Gary Neiss, Town Administrator; Stacey Bridge – Denzak, Planning Director; Michael Wright, Town Attorney; Kandace French, Town Clerk/Treasurer.

Mayor Peterson called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jim Shelley.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- ITEM #1** Approval of the January 7, 2020 Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes.
- ITEM #2** Approval of the January 7, 2020 Town Council Special Meeting Minutes.
- ITEM #3** Acceptance into the public record of the January, 2020 paid bills.
- ITEM #4** Acceptance of the cash receipts and disbursements report for December, 2019.
- ITEM #5** Approval of Resolution #2020-01 and authorizing the publication of the Call of Election.

Mayor Peterson announced the agenda items and notified the Council that Agenda Items #1, #2 and #4 were deferred to March as the agenda items were not ready for review.

Council Member Orrico asked to pull Agenda Item #3 for questions. He asked if the Town was in a legal situation with Villafane Studios.

Mayor Peterson responded.

Council Member Kroyer made a **motion** to approve the Consent Agenda items #3 and #5 as presented. There was a **second** by Council Member Krahe. The motion was **carried** unanimously.

## **REGULAR AGENDA:**

### **ITEM #6     Call to the Public.**

**Lisa Vella**, of Carefree, appeared and spoke regarding her difficulty parking at the post office during any event other than Thunderbird Artists. She suggested that parking attendants be a mandatory requirement of the promoters during special events. She cited the effectiveness of the parking attendants used by Thunderbird Artists and suggested that such staffing be required at any event.

**Jerry Sheridan**, of Fort McDowell, Arizona, appeared and spoke on his own behalf as a candidate for the Maricopa County Sheriff. He explained his history with MCSO and familiarity with Carefree, Cave Creek and Fountain Hills. He explained he was going to all the neighboring communities to introduce himself and ask for support in the upcoming election for Sheriff.

### **ITEM #7     Current Events.**

Mayor Peterson announced the agenda item and introduced Vice Mayor Crane.

Vice Mayor Crane provided an update regarding the creation of a Veteran's memorial in the Town of Carefree. He stated five veterans are involved in the development of the memorial, and that four of the five are citizens of Carefree and represents the five branches of the U.S. military. Led by Mike Ferrell there is a conceptual design ready and renderings are expected in the next week. The information and drawings will be posted on a website. The group expects to solicit donations in the near future.

Vice Mayor Crane explained that the Town's role is to provide a small piece of property for the memorial. A site has been selected within the Town's Desert Gardens near the playground but shielded by vegetation. The target is to dedicate it on May 25<sup>th</sup>, Memorial Day, 2020. Vice Mayor Crane is pleased to direct anyone to the group if there are any questions or offers to assist.

Mayor Peterson then introduced Council Member Stephen Hatcher. ? Why is this here?

Council Member D'Aliesio announced the next garden seminar taking place on Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup> entitled, *Garden Insects* at the Town Council center.

Mayor Peterson announced a cooperative effort to reduce speeders by MCSO. Mayor Peterson referenced that of 65 traffic stops, there were 60 citations issued. He reminded the public to

please slow down and be mindful of all traffic laws, particularly speeding and observing pedestrian walkways.

Mayor Peterson also announced that the engineering study for the four crosswalks on Tom Darlington and Cave Creek Road was progressing. A report is expected shortly.

Bike Week is scheduled for the end of March and beginning of April. He reminded the public that the roadways leading into Cave Creek run through Carefree. The roadways are public and everyone is welcome to travel the roads in a sober and safe condition. He stated that he and other members of the Town staff and Council continue to work with a local law enforcement agency taskforce to assure that the roadways remain safe during Bike Week.

Mayor Peterson then updated the public on the status of the Liberty Utilities/Black Mountain Sewer Rate Case as a result of the decommissioning of the Carefree treatment plant located in the Boulders and the installation of lines along Tom Darlington into the City of Scottsdale wastewater lines. The cost of the decommissioning is before the Arizona Corporation Commission and the Town has signed as an "Intervenor" and will continue to follow the case and the cost of depreciation, expenses and cost of capital. The Town has continued to encourage Liberty Utilities in reducing their requested increase and claimed costs. Local Homeowner's Association have reached out to participate and provide input.

**ITEM #8      Presentation by Sarah Byrne regarding an overview of their April 26-27, 2020 "Rock the District" event and approval of a Special Event application to include a partial street closure of Carefree Drive and Sundial Circle as shown on the application map.**

Mayor Peterson announced the agenda item and introduced Sarah Byrne, President of Cave Creek Unified Education Foundation. He reminded the Council and public that a new map was presented today which reduced the footprint of the event slightly. The original closure showed a street closure to include all of Carefree Drive along the east side of Town Hall. The current closure sets the stage at the intersection of Carefree Drive and Sundial Circle. The stage will go out towards the construction area and sundial and not be directed towards businesses. She referenced the need to have "sound checks" but they will be mindful of the level of the sound checks and the effect on local businesses.

Ms. Byrne introduced herself and her role as president and member of *Rock the District*. She provided a short history of Rock the District and clarified that the event was a one day event to be held on April 18<sup>th</sup> and NOT April 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> as shown on the agenda item. She described the set up and tear down times and asked if there were any questions.

There were concerns last year regarding loud music but it was believed that sound actually came from Cave Creek. Ms. Byrne assured the Council that the music will be concluded by 9:00 p.m. and she will personally speak to the owners of Sundial Café to assure there are no problems.

Vice Mayor Crane reminded the Council that the event earned over \$20,000.00 for *Rock the District* last year. He said he was a great program and a small effort by the Town to provide a great deal of help for the students and program.

There were additional comments by the council.

Council Member Orrico made a **motion** to approve the agenda item with the corrected performance date of April 18, 2020. There was a **second** by Council Member D'Aliesio. The motion **carried** unanimously.

**ITEM #9**      **Presentation by Les Hardie regarding the Carefree Classic Wheels & Wings Show at SkyRanch at Carefree, Saturday, March 7, 2020 and approval of a Special Event application to include a partial street of Cave Creek Road from Mule Train to Pima Road from 6:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for event parking.**

Mayor Peterson announced the agenda item.

Mr. Hardie was not available to present but Vice Mayor Crane was available and he provided information to the Council regarding the event. He gave detailed information regarding the cars and planes lined up for viewing from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. He provided their website address and reminded the public that one lane of Cave Creek Road from Pima to Mule Train Road will be closed for parking with supervision by the Arizona Rangers. Foothills Caring Corp will provide a shuttle service. There is no fee for parking or entrance. He also gave a history of the development of the event.

Mayor Peterson reminded the Council that the Arizona Rangers require supervision by an AZ POST certified peace officer. As such, he recommended that the approval of the Special Event application be conditional upon the notification of the hiring of an acceptable law enforcement officer to supervise the Arizona Rangers.

There were additional comments by the Council.

Vince D'Aliesio also announced that JV Sports Radio will broadcast from the event.

Council Member Orrico made a **motion** to approve the Special Event Application and road closures conditional upon the notification of the hiring of an acceptable law enforcement officer to supervise the Arizona Rangers. There was a **second** by Council Member Kroyer. The motion **carried** unanimously.

**ITEM #10**      **Review discussion and possible action to address a request to temporarily close Easy Street between the Hampton Inn and the View Carefree Condominiums developments until September 1, 2020.**

Mayor Peterson announced the agenda item and introduced Planning Director Stacey Bridge-Denzak.

Ms. Bridge-Denzak reminded the Council that there are two signature projects in the building phase along Easy Street; The Hampton Inn and the View Carefree Condominiums. She stated that the projects are working together in a sustainable and cohesive manner and do so together for the request to temporarily close the section of Easy Street between the projects. Ms. Bridge – Denzak stated that, in this regard the core of this request goes to safety, both vehicular and pedestrian.

She summarized the temporary closure until September, 2020 of Easy Street from Nonchalant and Carefree Drive (at the roundabout). There is a lot of cross access between the two projects, including heavy and construction equipment. She stressed it was in the best interest of the safety of those traveling the area to close the street on a temporary basis. She provided a map to highlight the traffic changes and easy of construction.

There were questions and comments by the Council.

Vice Mayor Crane concurred with the concerns for safety. However, he expressed worry for the challenge created by closing the road during the Thunderbird Artist event from February 28<sup>th</sup> through March 1<sup>st</sup>. He asked if it was possible to open the road during the Thunderbird Artist event to prevent challenges to visitors and make the experience more pleasant.

Jim Shelley, owner of the View Carefree site, and Terri Wieland, project manager Profab Construction, responded that safety is the ultimate concern by both projects. He described the activity that is anticipated and their desire to be proactive. However, neither project anticipates any problem with opening the road temporarily for the event. The construction gates can be opened and the street cleaned and debris free for the Thunderbird event.

There were additional questions by the Council.

Mr. Shelley and Derri responded.

Council Member Krahe made a **motion** to approve the agenda item with the opening of the road area during the dates of the Thunderbird Artists event and proper signage in place. There was a **second** by Council Member D'Aliesio. The motion **carried** unanimously.

**ITEM #11**    **Discussion and possible action to go into Executive Session in accordance with A.R.S. §§ 38-431.03(A)(3) and (4) for discussion and consultation for legal advice with the attorney of the public body and to discuss its position regarding contracts that are subject of negotiations, pending or contemplated litigation or in settlement discussions in order to avoid or resolve litigation.**

Council Member Orrico made a **motion** to go into Executive Session. There was a **second** by Council Member Hatcher. The motion **carried** unanimously.

**Entered Executive Session: 5:39 p.m.**

**Returned from Executive Session: 5:57 p.m.**

**ITEM #10**    **Adjournment**

Mayor Peterson announced the agenda item and asked for a motion.

Council Member Orrico **moved** to adjourn. There was a **second** by Council Member Krahe. The motion **carried** unanimously.

Meeting ended at 5:58 p.m.

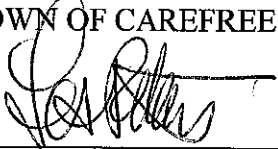
DATED this 25<sup>th</sup> of February, 2020.

TOWN OF CAREFREE

BY:

  
Kandace French Contreras, Town Clerk

TOWN OF CAREFREE

  
Les Peterson, Mayor

Attest:

  
Kandace French Contreras, Town Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the meeting of the Town of Carefree held February 4, 2020. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

  
Kandace French Contreras, Town Clerk