

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

WHEN: TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2021

WHERE: ZOOM WEB <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3229729660>
MEETING ID: 322 972 9660

TIME: 5:00 P.M.

Town Council Attending:

Mayor Les Peterson
Vice Mayor John Crane
Vince D'Aliesio
Tony Geiger
Stephen Hatcher
Michael Krahe
Cheryl Kroyer

Town Council Absent:

Staff Present:

Gary Neiss, Town Administrator; Michael Wright, Town Attorney; Stephen Prokopek, Economic Development Director; Kandace French, Town Clerk/Treasurer.

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

Stephen Hatcher led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA

ITEM #1 Approval of the December 1, 2020 Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes.

ITEM #2 Acceptance into the public record of the December, 2020 paid bills.

ITEM #3 Acceptance of the cash receipts and disbursements report for October, 2020.

ITEM #4 Acceptance of the cash receipts and disbursements report for November, 2020.
Deferred

Mayor Peterson announced the agenda item and asked if there were any questions.

Town Administrator, Gary Neiss, requested that the Council Members defer item #4 as it was not ready to be presented to the Council Members. It was agreed to defer Agenda Item #4.

Vice Mayor Crane **moved** to approve Agenda Items #1, #2 and #3. There was a **second** by Council Member Krahe. The motion **carried** unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA:

(Taken out of order)

ITEM #7 **Appointment of Vice Mayor to service from January, 2021 through December, 2022 in accordance with Section 2-2-2 of the Town Code of the Town of Carefree.**

Mayor Peterson announced the agenda and explained the process for appointing a Vice Mayor. He described the prior service of the Vice Mayor and recommended that Vice Mayor Crane be reappointed in the position of Vice Mayor for the next two-year term.

Council Member Krahe **moved** to appoint John Crane as Vice Mayor for the term of January, 2021 through December, 2022. There was a **second** by Council Member Kroyer. The motion **carried** unanimously.

Council Member/Vice Mayor John Crane was appointed for another two year term.

ITEM #8 **Review, discussion and possible action to approve a Wholesale Liquor License application for Stephen Gold and Mosel Wines, located at 7202 East Cave Creek Road, Unit 5B, Carefree, AZ.**

Mayor Peterson announced the agenda item and introduced Town Clerk/Treasurer Kandace French Contreras.

Ms. French Contreras explained the application of Stephen Gold and the location of Mosel Wines. Mr. Gold appeared and also spoke as to the location and to clarify that the location was for wholesale liquor only and no retail would take place.

Council Member Kroyer **moved** to approve the wholesale liquor license application for Stephen Gold and Mosel Wines. There was a **second** by Vice Mayor Crane. The motion **carried** unanimously.

ITEM #9 **Recognition of the outgoing Planning and Zoning Commission members.**

Mayor Peterson announced the agenda item and spoke regarding the long and esteemed service of Planning and Zoning commission members Scott Sperl and Dick Tatlow. He also recognized Al Mascha as the Chairman of Planning and Zoning and his extensive and valued service.

Mayor Peterson expressed his disappointment in being unable to thank them each personally due to the requirement of the Zoom forum due to COVID-19 but wished each of them well in their future endeavors.

ITEM #10 Introductions and appointment of Planning and Zoning Commission applicants to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Mayor Peterson announced the agenda item and explained the process for selecting the successful candidates for the three empty seats.

Candidates, Peter Burns, Phil Corso, Ralph Ferro and Susie Dymoke were introduced and were given a moment to speak about themselves.

The Council Members submitted their selections to the Town Clerk via the "Chat" feature on the Zoom online platform to the Town Clerk, Kandace French Contreras. Ms. French Contreras tallied the votes.

Mayor Peterson announced the new members of the Planning and Zoning Commission, Peter Burns, Phil Corso and Ralph Ferro. Each member was congratulated and welcomed. Mayor Peterson discussed the difficulties in making the selection as all of the candidates were qualified and valued for their service to the community.

ITEM #11 Introduction and Appointment of the Technical Advisory Committee for the development of Economic Development.

Mayor Peterson announced the agenda item and introduced the Director of Economic Development, Steven Prokopek.

Mr. Prokopek described the purpose of the Economic Development Technical Advisory Committee ("EDTAC") and the goals envisioned for that group. He presented information and the professional background on each member of the group, which included members Bruce Raskin, Michelle Rutkowski, David Jarand and Brian Kocour. These members were vetted and selected by Mr. Prokopek for the value they could bring to the advancement of economic development in Carefree. No action by the Council was necessary.

ITEM #12 Update regarding the January 15-17, 2021 Thunderbird Artists' 28th Annual Winter Carefree Fine Art & Wine Festival.

Mayor Peterson announced the agenda item and re-introduced Steve Prokopek.

Mr. Prokopek presented the latest information regarding the Thunderbird Artists' COVID Mitigation Plan. He described the steps taken for general mitigation such as the removal of alcoholic beverages from the event to enable mask wearing at all times and all food areas to be socially distanced in addition to encouraging patrons to frequent local area restaurants and patios that already adhere to the state's guidelines.

He provided further information regarding steps to be taken by volunteers, security personnel, staff, artists and patrons. The food vendors would work under the Maricopa County Health Department guidelines and announcements of the COVID rules would be made every half hour from the Sanderson Lincoln Pavilion speakers. Event fencing was eliminated to avoid the

necessity for patrons to congregate in tight areas. Sanitation measures, social distancing and signage would be utilized.

ITEM #13 **Review, discussion and possible action to approve the extension of the Friday morning Special Event Permit street closure of Ho-Hum Road (behind the amphitheater) for the Farmer's Market.**

Mayor Peterson announced the agenda item and re-introduced Steve Prokopek.

Mr. Prokopek explained the reason for the application to extend the expiration date of the street closure of Ho-Hum Road on Friday morning for the Farmer's Market and the safety benefits of having the street closed during that time. Additionally, the closure provides for an improved layout of the Farmer's Market and smooth flow of customers while being social distanced. Mr. Prokopek spoke with neighboring businesses and did not see any negative impact created by the closure of the small length of street.

Council Member Kroyer **moved** to approve the extension of the Friday morning Special Event Permit street closure of Ho-Hum Road (behind the amphitheater) for the Farmer's Market There was a **second** by Vice Mayor Crane. The motion **carried** unanimously.

TEM #5 **Call to the Public:**
Mayor Peterson announced the agenda item.

Mayor Peterson announced the agenda item.

Town Clerk, Kandace French Contreras, Economic Development Director, Steve Prokopek and Communications Coordinator, Alex Orozco read public comments into the record from the following individuals*:

- Altschuld, Kedda and Ken
- Altschuld, Nedda
- Antle, Mike and Cass
- Argo, David
- Barbour, Stephanie
- Barbour, Stephanie and Ian
- Benedetto, Rocco and Maureen
- Binder, Robert MD and Deborah Francesconi-Binder RN
- Brassill, Patrick
- Burke, Stephen
- Butler, Brian
- Butler, Carolyn Lazar
- Carr, Randal and Deborah
- Carson, Bill and Laurie
- Christie, David and Susan
- Conklin, Thomas and Mary

Crowley, Thomas
Denton, Terry
Dugan, Robert C. and Kathleen A.
Gauss, Cal
Glaspie - Mase, Conie
Grogan, James and Lynn
Harrill, Connie Dr. and Mr. Greg Myers
Harris, Allen
Haxer, Charlotte
Haxer, Douglas and Charlotte
Helfand, Patti
Hencel, Nancy
Jackson, Ellen and Frank
KcKeown, Dave and Moddy
Little, Arlene
Lucia, Charleen
McIsaac, Les
McKernan, Mararet
McKrill, Paul and Bonnie
Michaelis, Larry and Eleanor
Miller, Martenea D.
Miller, Robert and Tena
Morrill, Barbara
Murray, Terry
Nuber, Bob and Judy
Numata, Steve and Catherine
O'Brien, Barbara
O'Brien, Bob and Linda
Oliver, Kate
Pagnucco, Judith
Pistillo, Bernie
Renfroe, Abby
Ringelberg, Gail
Schwarzkopf, David S.
Schwarzkopf, Margaret O'Neil
Senterfitt, John and Carolyn
Smith, Ed and Linda
Smucker, John
Sobieski, David and Jan
Stearns, Kathleen
Talty, Joe and Eileen
Taylor, Donna
Thomas, Gabrielle

Thomas, Gabrielle
Tsoutsoulas, Lisa Star and Nikola
Wainwright, Ronnie
Williams, David and Nancy

**Listed in alphabetical order. Not the order read into the record.*

Mayor Peterson explained that specific matters could not be addressed without being on the agenda and noticed to the public. However, Council could respond to criticism. As such, he was compelled to respond to some of the criticism and misinformation stated in the Public Comment. Mayor Peterson clarified that the potential water storage unit would be underground and the area re-vegetated and restored to the natural desert. He highlighted corrected information regarding the selection process of the placement of the underground unit and the current utility easement at that location.

Mayor Peterson also explained that the Town Council members, while the same individuals as the members of the Board of the UCFD, did not address the same issues or make decisions for the other entity. He explained that the Town Council was expected to meet on February 2, 2021 and the UCFD would meet on February 9, 2021 to address issues related to the water storage facility and the Boulders.

ITEM #6 Current Events.

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

Vice Mayor Crane announced that, due to the continued COVID crisis, the Desert Garden seminars have been cancelled for 2021. However, the Master Gardeners will provide links in COINS and on the Town website to informative articles in the place of the seminars.

ITEM #14 Adjournment.

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

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

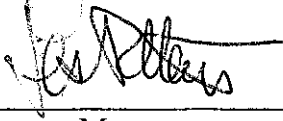
The meeting ended at 7:06 p.m.

DATED this 12th day of January, 2021.

TOWN OF CAREFREE

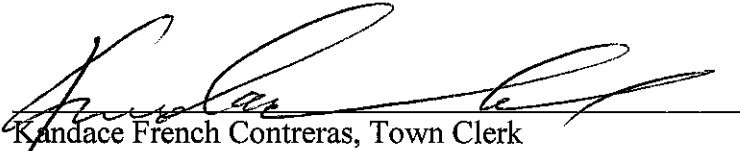
BY 
Kandace French Contreras, Town Clerk

TOWN OF CAREFREE



Les Peterson, Mayor

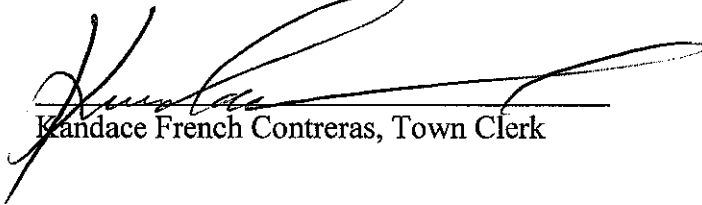
Attest:



Kandace French Contreras, Town Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Regular Meeting of the Town of Carefree held January 5, 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.



Kandace French Contreras, Town Clerk