

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SHOW LOW CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 181 NORTH 9TH STREET, SHOW LOW, NAVAJO COUNTY, ARIZONA

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Leech called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Leech, Vice Mayor Kakavas, Councilman Adams, Councilman Allsop, Councilman Clark, Councilman Hatch, and Councilwoman Wilson.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Ed Muder, City Manager; Morgan Brown, City Attorney; Justin Johnson, Deputy City Manager; Brad Provost, Police Chief; Shane Hemesath, City Engineer; Jacob Allen, Airport Manager; and Rachael Hall, City Clerk.

GUESTS: Jeannie Amato, Tim Foley, Patricia Duran, and others.

3. Invocation.

Councilman Adams gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilwoman Wilson led the Council and audience in the pledge of allegiance.

5. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

Any citizen desiring to speak on a matter that is within the jurisdiction of the City Council may do so at this time. Comments may be limited to three minutes per person and shall be addressed to the City Council as a whole, and not to any individual member. Issues raised shall be limited to those within the jurisdiction of the City Council. Pursuant to the Arizona Open Meeting Law, the City Council cannot discuss or act on items presented at this time. At the conclusion of the call to the public, individual City Council members may (1) respond to criticism made by those who have spoken, (2) ask staff to review a matter, and (3) ask that a matter be put on a future agenda.

Tim Foley, 9th Drive, had an inquiry regarding the Old Pavilion at the City Park and asked if it was available for his recovery group to meet there. Mayor Leech said staff would reach out to him regarding his inquiry.

Jeannie Amato had an inquiry regarding the City's electrical grid and protection against electric and magnetic fields.

6. **SPECIAL EVENTS:**

- A. Introduction of Police Commander, Greg Westover.

Police Chief Provost introduced Greg Westover as the police department's new Operational Support Commander.

7. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

- A. Consideration of Acceptance of 1st Drive Waterline Replacement, City of Show Low Project No. W-0821. (Shane Hemesath)
- B. Consideration of Resolution No. R2022-05 Approving Intergovernmental Agreement with Town of Snowflake. (Lisa Lewis)
- C. Consideration of Minutes of Show Low City Council meetings:
(1) Regular Meeting of February 15, 2022.

COUNCILWOMAN WILSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR AS PRESENTED; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN ALLSOP; PASSED 7 TO 0 WITH MAYOR LEECH, VICE MAYOR KAKAVAS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS ADAMS, ALLSOP, CLARK, HATCH, AND WILSON VOTING IN FAVOR.

8. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Consideration of Award of Professional Services Contract for City of Show Low Arizona Department of Transportation Five-Year Transit Plan. (Justin Johnson)

Mr. Johnson said the City had a two-year contract with Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to administer the 5311 rural public transportation program that served Southern Navajo County. The City was in year two of the contract which ended September 30, 2022. ADOT approved a route planning study for the Five-Year Transit Plan in the second year of the contract in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 with a 20% local match, or \$3,333.00, charged to each transit partner which included Show Low, Town of Pinetop-Lakeside, Taylor and Snowflake, Northland Pioneer College and Navajo County.

Mr. Johnson said the route planning study was highly recommended by ADOT as part of the Federal Transportation Regional Coordination Plan in

each region of Arizona. The rural Council of Governments (COGs) were responsible for maintaining and updating Transportation Coordination Plans in each region that included all 5311 federally funded programs to evaluate their current transit services and how they met the needs of transit-dependent individuals, including clients of the various human services programs within their service area.

Mr. Johnson said a request for proposals for a route planning study for the Five-Year Transit Plan project was disseminated to ADOT approved consultants in accordance with federal statutory requirements with the following results:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Bid</u>
Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.	\$99,985.00
KFH Group, Inc.	\$99,919.00

Mr. Johnson said the Kimley-Horn proposal was superior in defining the merit criteria of the project, and the City selection committee unanimously recommended awarding the professional services contract to Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$99,985.00.

VICE MAYOR KAKAVAS MOVED TO AWARD A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT FOR THE CITY OF SHOW LOW ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FIVE-YEAR TRANSIT PLAN TO KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$99,985.00; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN ADAMS; PASSED 7 TO 0 WITH MAYOR LEECH, VICE MAYOR KAKAVAS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS ADAMS, ALLSOP, CLARK, HATCH, AND WILSON VOTING IN FAVOR.

- B. Consideration of Recommendation of Essential Air Service Carrier to U.S. Department of Transportation. (Jacob Allen)

Mr. Allen said the City of Show Low was granted eligibility under the Essential Air Service (EAS) program by a U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Executive Order beginning in 1999. The EAS contract, which provided a federal subsidy for airline services to rural areas, was administered by DOT. Show Low's current EAS subsidy expired June 30, 2022. In response to this pending expiration, DOT issued a Request for Proposals for air service for Show Low. The Show Low route received three proposals from Boutique Air, Southern Airways Express, and Advanced Air.

Mr. Allen said in selecting a carrier to provide air service, the DOT considered four criteria: 1) service reliability, 2) contractual and marketing

arrangements with larger carriers at the hub, 3) interline arrangements with larger carriers at the hub, and 4) community views.

Mr. Allen said in terms of how the EAS contract was awarded, DOT solicited the community's carrier preference after bids were received. DOT then designated the successful air carrier and specified the specific service pattern (routing, frequency, and aircraft type), subsidy rate, and effective period of the rate. DOT also had a vetting process to determine the air carrier's financial strength before it was qualified for an EAS subsidy.

Mr. Allen said Boutique Air, Southern Airways Express, and Advanced Air were invited to present their proposals to the Show Low City Council. Boutique Air was interviewed by the Council on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, and Southern Airways and Advanced Air were interviewed earlier today. Based on their proposals and ensuing discussion, staff was requesting that the Council make a recommendation so a response could be prepared for submittal to the DOT. The Council had three options:

1. Send a letter supporting whatever decision the DOT would make
2. Send a letter of support for one of the three proposing air carriers
3. Offer no response to the DOT

Mayor Leech asked for each Councilmember's recommendation. All Councilmembers shared an appreciation for all three of the EAS proposers and their efforts and presentations.

Councilman Hatch said he preferred Advanced Air based on them having a multi-engine aircraft.

Councilman Adams supported Southern Airways.

Vice Mayor Kakavas said Boutique Air has been under the EAS contract for several years and had been continually inconsistent. She liked both Southern Airways and Advanced Air but preferred Southern Airways due to their wide range of routes and potential connections for passengers.

Mayor Leech supported Southern Airways due to more connecting flights they could provide for passengers and lower ticket rates.

Councilman Clark said there wasn't a high level of satisfaction from Boutique Air and he believed there were two other viable candidates. He appreciated that both Southern Airways and Advanced Air wanted to participate in the community. He said Advanced Air had a different business model than Southern Airways and that could be better for the

future, but he mentioned Southern Airways seemed to be more established with a proven track record of success.

Councilwoman Wilson was impressed with Southern Airways ticket price points and range of connecting routes across the country. She said she was impressed with the aircraft that Advanced Air flew but believed Southern Airways was more established.

Councilman Allsop shared frustration with Boutique Air's performance and hoped the air carrier that was recommended by the Council this time would perform better for the community.

Councilman Clark asked if a letter of recommendation from the Council would guarantee a specific carrier would be chosen. Mr. Muder said ultimately the DOT would select the carrier, but they would listen to the Council's recommendation when making the selection.

Mr. Muder said if the Council wanted to recommend Southern Airways, staff would first make sure that their aircraft had air conditioning. He said that would be important when the aircraft was sitting on the runway in Phoenix with passengers.

COUNCILMAN CLARK MOVED TO SEND A LETTER TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SUPPORTING SOUTHERN AIRWAYS EXPRESS AS THE PREFERRED ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICE CARRIER FOR SHOW LOW FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN SAID LETTER; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN ADAMS; PASSED 7 TO 0 WITH MAYOR LEECH, VICE MAYOR KAKAVAS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS ADAMS, ALLSOP, CLARK, HATCH, AND WILSON VOTING IN FAVOR.

9. **SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS:**

A. Council Members

Councilman Allsop congratulated Show Low High School Varsity Cheer and Junior High School Cheer for winning state championships.

Councilwoman Wilson said the Show Low Senior Center would be hosting "Famous Pat's Place St. Patrick Special" luncheon on March 17 at the Senior Center. Tickets could be purchased at the Senior Center, Show Low Public Library, and Show Low City Hall.

B. Mayor

None.

C. City Manager

Mr. Muder said the recreation department was making plans for the upcoming Spring Play Days, which would be held during spring break, March 14 through 17, for kids ages 5 to 12.

Mr. Muder said excess trash pickup would be next week.

10. **SCHEDULING OF MEETINGS:**

Scheduling of meetings, which may be brought up at this time.

None.

VICE MAYOR KAKAVAS MOVED TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS ANNUAL EVALUATION OF CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN HATCH; PASSED 7 TO 0 WITH MAYOR LEECH, VICE MAYOR KAKAVAS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS ADAMS, ALLSOP, CLARK, HATCH, AND WILSON VOTING IN FAVOR.

The Show Low City Council recessed into Executive Session at 7:32 p.m.

11. **EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

A. Confidentiality Statement.

B. Discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of a public officer, appointee, or employee of any public body. Pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431.03(A)(1).

(1) Annual Evaluation of City Manager.

(2) Annual Evaluation of City Attorney.

C. Discussion or consideration of records exempt by law from public inspection, including the receipt and discussion of information or testimony that is specifically required to be maintained as confidential by state or federal law. Pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431.03(A)(2).

(1) Executive Session Minutes of February 1, 2022.

12. **POST EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

Consideration of any item on the Executive Session portion of this agenda, which the Council may wish to take action upon in Open Session.

The Show Low City Council reconvened into Open Session at 8:21 p.m.

VICE MAYOR KAKAVAS MOVED TO APPROVE THE SAME INCREASE FOR THE CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY AS WOULD BE RECEIVED BY OTHER CITY EMPLOYEES ON THE FIRST PAY PERIOD OF FISCAL YEAR 2022-23; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN ALLSOP; PASSED 7 TO 0 WITH MAYOR LEECH, VICE MAYOR KAKAVAS, AND COUNCIL MEMBERS ADAMS, ALLSOP, CLARK, HATCH, AND WILSON VOTING IN FAVOR.

- A. Consideration of Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Session of the Show Low City Council Held on February 1, 2022.

COUNCILMAN HATCH MOVED TO APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 1, 2022; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN ADAMS; PASSED 7 TO 0 WITH MAYOR LEECH, VICE MAYOR KAKAVAS, AND COUNCIL MEMBERS ADAMS, ALLSOP, CLARK, HATCH, AND WILSON VOTING IN FAVOR.

13. **ADJOURNMENT.**

There being no further business to be brought before the Council, **MAYOR LEECH ADJOURNED THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SHOW LOW CITY COUNCIL OF MARCH 1, 2022, AT 8:23 P.M.**

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Rachael Hall, City Clerk

Connie Kakavas, Vice Mayor

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CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the **REGULAR MEETING** of the City Council of Show Low held on March 1, 2022. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____.

(SEAL)

Rachael Hall, City Clerk