

# TOWN OF WELLTON

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## Minutes of the DECEMBER 17, 2013 Regular Meeting

**Mayor James L. Deermer called the regular meeting to order at 6:59 PM on Tuesday, December 17, 2013, led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation. Roll call was taken.**

**Council Members Present:** Mayor James L. Deermer, Vice Mayor Cecilia C. McCollough, Councilmen Alex M. Bejarano, Lisa J. Jameson, and Vickie L. Bornt

**Staff Present:** Town Manager Richard Watenpaugh, Judge Russ Jones, Officer Jeffrey Philpot, Public Works Director Joe Grant, Financial Director Ana Flores, and Billing Clerk Sandra Jones

**Guests Present:** Bill & Anna Phillips, Clyde & Priscilla Kitchens, Al & Sharon Lockwood, Jeff Hammack, Juell & Vera Barker, Sheila Vogt, Candace & Don Besse, Bob & Jill Sloncen, Lynette Layton, Shirley Reynolds, Clarissa & Jesse De Anda, Ralph & Sylvia Davidson, Robert & Peggy Leeper, Alfredo Flores Jr, Omar Flores, Erik Flores and Delphine Hamilton.

### **Call to the public:**

Mr. Juell Barker expressed his concern over a recent article in the Sun about GYEDC. He inquired as to Wellton's relationship with the GYEDC; what the Town's expectations were and whether any benefits had been realized by the Town. He requested that further discussions on how to bring more businesses, industry, jobs, and growth to Wellton be added as a future agenda item. He expressed his observation and concern that Wellton is on a down-trend in sales tax revenue, with the school losing 70 students, and businesses continuing to furlough employees. He also wondered why the majority of the Border Patrol agents chose to live in the Foothills rather than Wellton and would like to know what makes Wellton so unattractive to them.

Mr. Don Besse, representing the Men's Auxiliary of VFW #6790, read a proclamation and was pleased to present a check in the amount of \$1,000 to the Town in support of the Food Bank.

### **Department Head Reports:**

A. Police Department. Officer Philpot reported that calls were down around 25% for the calendar year from last year, however there has been an uptick in domestic violence and crimes against children.

B. Magistrate and Court Department. Judge Jones provided an update on citations and warrants issued, and the number of court appearances during November. He also stated that he had attended the Governor's Office of Highway Safety Conference and participated in a presentation on distracted driving, and that Arizona soon-to-be Supreme Court Justice Scott Bales recently visited and took a tour of the new Court House.

C. Fire Department. Financial Director Flores, reporting in the absence of Chief Rivera who was tending to repairs on one of the fire trucks, reported that there had been a total of 24 runs for the month with an average of 9 firefighters responding.

D. Public Works Department. Director Joe Grant had the following to report:

- The sidewalk/bike path project funded by a CBDG grant, is currently being worked by James Davies Engineering.

- The bid received for the pump station project came in under budget so the remaining funds will enable the Town to purchase a system that will allow monitoring pump station controls by computer.

- The General Plan bids also came in under budget. The remainder of the funds will be used to develop an overall bicycle and pedestrian plan.

- The status on the proposed property sale on San Jose Avenue is that Mr. Engler, Town Attorney is preparing the Notice of Intent to Sell and the Solicitation of Bids documents.

### DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

#### 1. Approval of Cash Disbursements.

##### A. For the month of November 2013.

Councilman Jameson asked about the disbursement to Desert Excavating and whether it was in the budget. Financial Director Flores explained that was from the CBDG grant for the water booster pump project. Councilman Jameson also noted the disbursement for five (5) more turnouts and asked if that was the last of those purchases. Financial Director Flores explained that there will be five (5) more budgeted for next year that will bring all fifteen (15) in compliance at that time.

Councilman Bejarano moved and Vice Mayor McCollough seconded to approve the cash disbursements for the month of November 2013. Voice vote 4-0; motion carried. Councilman Jameson abstained due to a potential conflict of interest.

#### 2. Approval of Minutes

A. For the Meeting of November 20, 2012 (Special Meeting)

B. For the Meeting of March 19, 2013 (Regular Meeting)

C. For the Meeting of May 7, 2013 (Regular Meeting)

D. For the Meeting of May 21, 2013 (Regular Meeting)

E. For the Meeting of November 19, 2013 (Regular Meeting)

F. For the Meeting of December 2, 2013 (Special Meeting)

G. For the Meeting of December 3, 2013 (Regular Meeting)

In discussion, Councilman Bornt recommended that the minutes for November 20, 2012 and May 7, 2013 be pulled because there were items that required clarification prior to approval. Councilman Jameson recommended that the minutes for May 21, 2013 also be pulled pending clarification of an item. Town Manager Watenpaugh identified a typo on page 1 of the March 19, 2013 minutes.

Councilman Bornt moved and Vice Mayor McCollough seconded the approval of the March 19, 2013 minutes with the noted pen and ink change, and the minutes of November 19, 2013, December 2, 2013, and December 3, 2013 as presented. Voice vote 5-0, motion carried.

**3. Discussion and action to appoint Richard J. Watenpaugh as Chief Fiscal Officer for the Town of Wellton.**

Vice Mayor McCollough moved and Councilman Bornt seconded the appointment of Richard J. Watenpaugh as Chief Fiscal Officer for the Town of Wellton. Voice vote 5-0, motion carried.

**4. Discussion and action to add Richard J. Watenpaugh as signor for all Town bank accounts at National Bank of Arizona.**

Vice Mayor McCollough moved and Councilman Jameson seconded the addition of Richard J. Watenpaugh as signor for all Town bank accounts at National Bank of Arizona. Voice vote 5-0, motion carried.

**5. Discussion and possible action to appoint Town Manager Richard Watenpaugh to the Yuma County Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority (YCIPTA) Board of Directors for a five (5)-year term ending February 28, 2019.**

Councilman Bejarano moved and Councilman Jameson second the appointment of Town Manager Richard Watenpaugh to the Yuma County Intergovernmental Public Transportation Authority (YCIPTA) Board of Directors for a five (5)-year term ending February 28, 2019. Voice vote 5-0; motion carried.

**Future Agenda Items:**

- Update on Impact Fee Schedule on January 7 (by Town Manager Watenpaugh)
- Work Session on acquisition of vacated Border Patrol facility (by Officer Philpot)
- Discussion on how to bring business, industry, jobs, and growth to Wellton (by Mr. Barker)
- Consideration of the costs to operate and maintain the Border Patrol facility if it is acquired (by Mr. Davidson)

• **Other Reports:**

Financial Director Flores reported that her efforts over the last six (6) months to prove to the State Department of Revenue that there was a company not paying sales tax to Wellton was successful and the Town has received a check for \$821,146.92. Yet to be received are penalties and interest on the unpaid taxes.

- **Staff Reports:**

Councilman Bejarano updated everyone on the Town of Wellton Facebook page that he and Financial Director Flores developed. Financial Director Flores reported that there are now 147 'Likes'.

Town Manager Watenpaugh thanked the Council for selecting him and invited town members to come in and see him.

Councilman Jameson recounted the Turkey Trot activities at the school before Thanksgiving. She also talked about the Jingle Dash scheduled for December 18 with elementary school students running inside and junior high students running around outside.

Councilman Bornt reported on having the pleasure of attending the Wellton Pickleball Club Grand Opening on December 7. The event was well-attended. She commended Don and Candace Besse on their efforts.

**Convened Executive Session at 7:33 PM.**

**A. For legal, real estate or personnel matters pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431.03, Section A(1), (3), or (7).**

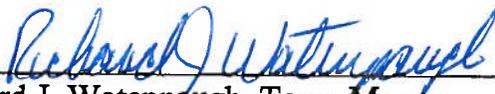
**Reconvened Regular Session at 8:10 PM.**

**Adjournment:** Motion made by Vice Mayor McCollough and seconded by Councilman Bejarano to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.



  
James L. Deermer, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Richard J. Watenpaugh, Town Manager

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the regular meeting held on December 17, 2013 and the meeting was duly called and posted and that a quorum was present.

  
Richard J. Watenpaugh, Town Manager