

**THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BENSON, ARIZONA  
HELD FEBRUARY 12, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.  
AT CITY HALL, 120 W. 6TH STREET, BENSON, ARIZONA**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor King called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor King then introduced Dr. Littrell of the Baha'I Faith who offered the invocation.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present were: Mayor Toney D. King, Sr., Vice Mayor Joe Konrad, Councilmembers Larry Dempster, Lupe Diaz, Levi Garner. Absent were: Councilmembers Pat Boyle, David Lambert.

Mayor King stated both Councilmembers Boyle and Lambert notified the Mayor that they were sick and would not be in attendance.

**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION:**

Mayor King recognized Andrew Ronquillo for 5 years of service, Mr. Ronquillo was not present. Mayor King then recognized Paul Moncada for 10 years of service, stating Chief Moncada started his employment with the City in 1976 and has actually served a total of 42 years.

**PROCLAMATION:** None

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

Kay Edwards, S. Land Avenue, Benson, spoke about the summer pool hours for adults, stating adult swim hours are scheduled from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and the seniors miss a lot of pool time because of monsoon season. Ms. Edwards asked for the summer swimming pools hours for adults to be changed.

Donald Buchanan, River Road, St. David, stated he had forgotten to pick up a key for a meeting that was to be held in the Council chambers on a Saturday and the Staff was very helpful in assisting him. Mr. Buchanan then stated he wanted to thank and compliment the kind of people the City has working for them, adding the friendliness of the Benson employees will keep the group who met here coming back to Benson.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT:**

Interim City Manager Vicki Vivian addressed Council, giving the dates of upcoming meetings and events.

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| Monday, February 26, 2018  | – Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall              |
| Tuesday, February 27, 2018 | – Community Watershed Alliance, 6:30 p.m., City Hall |
| Tuesday, March 6, 2018     | – Planning & Zoning Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall    |
| Monday, March 12, 2018     | – Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall              |

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| Thursday, February 15, 2018 | – Library Guest Speaker Dr. Eric Kaldahl, 10:30 a.m., City Library<br>Amerind Foundation – Amerind and the Borderlands<br>The current national border separating the US and Mexico is a very recent dividing line when you consider our region's deep history. A discussion will be held on the similarities and differences among our region's ancient cultures, including a discussing of the history of Amerind's archaeological research along the way. His talk will be |
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illustrated with photographs and objects from the Amerind Museum Collection.

Wednesday, February 14, 2018 – Benson City Grille., San Pedro Golf Course  
Will be hosting a Valentines dinner from 5:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.  
Reservation recommended

Monday, February 19, 2018 – President’s Day – City Offices Closed

Mrs. Vivian then stated Cochise Connections started on January 16, and transit routes are being adjusted to better serve Benson, St. David, J6/Mescal and Willow Lakes. Ms. Vivian then noted the public hearing on the grant funding for transit services will be in March as will the possible approval of the grant application. Ms. Vivian then stated the Ocotillo wastewater line is in, and the gas line, which was bypassed during construction, is back together and was done in conjunction with Chiricahua Health Center construction which the Council will be hearing more about during Dr. Melk’s presentation. Ms. Vivian then stated a portion of Aviation Drive that is being paved through grant funding is about 26% complete. Ms. Vivian then stated for a full list of events, activities, locations and times, the public could view the City’s website at [www.cityofbenson.com](http://www.cityofbenson.com).

Mayor King commented on the Valentine’s Day dinner at the Benson City Grille, stating the reservations were filling up fast.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **1. Discussion and possible action on the Consent Agenda**

- 1a. Resignation of Debbie Braatz from the Benson Planning & Zoning Commission
- 1b. Invoices processed for the period from January 11, 2018 through February 4, 2018 \*

Councilmember Garner asked about the reimbursement for personnel/Wildfire services in the amount of \$6,600 and the Wildland fire services revenue with Interim City Manager Vicki Vivian stating the City contractually pays \$6,600 to Benson Volunteer Fire Department Inc. for contracted fire services, but she would verify the payment and send the Wildland fire services revenue information to the Council.

Councilmember Vice Mayor Konrad moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Garner. Motion passed 5-0.

### **2. Discussion and possible action regarding Resolution 4-2018 of the Mayor and Council of the City of Benson, Arizona, approving a Special Event Liquor License for Helping Hands @ Cochise Terrace for February 24, 2018 at Cochise Terrace, 1030 S. Barrel Cactus Ridge, Benson, Arizona**

Interim City Manager Vicki Vivian stated the organization, Helping Hands @ Cochise Terrace has applied for a Special Event Liquor License which “allows a charitable, civic, fraternal, political or religious organization to sell and serve spirituous liquor for consumption only on the premises where the spirituous liquor is sold, and only for the period authorized on the license, adding as per ARS §4-203.02, the application is sent to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses & Control, where the director may “subject to the approval of...the governing body of a city or town...” issue the license on a temporary basis. Ms. Vivian then stated it is further stipulated that “qualifying organizations will be granted a special event license for no more than ten (10) days in a calendar year and a special event may be held for more than one (1) day, but it must be held on consecutive days and at the same location, or additional licenses will be required”. Ms. Vivian then stated if Resolution 4-2018 is approved, this will be their first special event held in 2018, adding Helping Hands @ Cochise Terrace is requesting the permit for a fundraiser to be held at Cochise Terrace on Saturday, February 24, 2018 from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Ms. Vivian then stated this organization has done this type of event for many charitable organizations over the years. Mayor King confirmed there have been many of these events in the past. Vice Mayor Konrad noted the application was not notarized with Ms. Vivian stating she would make sure it was notarized when they came to pick up the paperwork.

Vice Mayor Konrad moved to approve Resolution 4-2018. Seconded by Councilmember Dempster. Motion passed 5-0.

3. **Presentation on the Chiricahua Community Health Centers, Inc. (CCHCI) by Dr. Jonathan Melk, Chief Executive Officer/Chief Medical Officer**

Interim City Manager Vicki Vivian stated Chiricahua Community Health Centers has been serving Cochise County since 1996 and began serving Benson in 2016. Ms. Vivian stated Chiricahua began as a grassroots community effort in the community center of Elfrida and has since grown to be the largest primary care provider in Cochise County, adding Chiricahua currently serves over 28,000 patients in the county, of which 33% are - uninsured. Ms. Vivian then stated their staff and providers are committed to the mission of “Caring for patients, building healthy communities” and the vision of “Health for ALL”. Ms. Vivian then introduced Dr. Jonathan Melk MD, Chief Executive Officer/Chief Medical Officer of the Chiricahua Community Health Centers, Inc., stating Dr. Melk would be making a presentation on their organization and their new facility in Benson.

Dr. Melk introduced Dr. Richard Sampson who has been with Chiricahua Health Centers since its inception. Dr. Melk then gave a brief history of Chiricahua Health Centers and where they are today. Dr. Melk spoke about the patients they have seen in other locations who were from the Benson zip code area, which drove them to consider building a permanent location in Benson. Dr. Melk then spoke of the state-of-the-art facility that is scheduled to open in June, 2018 and the services they will provide.

The Council thanked both Dr. Melk and Dr. Sampson and were happy to hear about the additional medical services Chiricahua Health Centers will be bringing to serve Benson and the surrounding communities.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Pursuant to A.R.S. section 38-431.03(A)(1) and (3), Discussion or consideration of assignment of Interim City Manager regarding search for a full-time City Manager

Council asked why the executive session was needed with City Attorney Paul Loucks stating the executive session was noticed for discussion or consideration of the assignment to the Interim City Manager regarding the search for a full-time City Manager, adding he wouldn't go beyond that pending disclosure of the Attorney/Client privilege information.

Vice Mayor Konrad moved to enter into executive session with the Mayor and Council, the Interim City Manager, the City Attorney and the Deputy City Clerk at 7:52 p.m. Seconded by Mayor King. Motion passed 5-0.

Interim City Manager Vicki Vivian stated there was no Council action listed on the agenda after the executive session.

Council reconvened at 8:22 p.m.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor King moved to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Garner. Motion passed 5-0.

ATTEST:

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Toney D. King, Sr., Mayor

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Vicki L. Vivian, CMC, City Clerk