

**THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BENSON, ARIZONA
HELD APRIL 27, 2020 AT 7:30 P.M.
AT THE BENSON COMMUNITY CENTER, 705 W. UNION STREET, BENSON, ARIZONA**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor King called the meeting to order at 7:29 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present were: Mayor Toney D. King, Sr., Councilmembers: Pat Boyle, Larry Dempster, Lupe Diaz, Nick Maldonado, Barbara Nunn and Christopher Tapia.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Discussion and possible action regarding Resolution 16-2020 of the Mayor and Council of the City of Benson, Arizona, proposing an extension of the Alternative Expenditure Limitation**

City Manager Vicki Vivian stated the Alternative Expenditure Limitation (Home Rule) election requires a “yes” or “no” vote on whether the City’s annual limit on expenditures should be set according to the State of Arizona Annual Expenditure Limitation formula for the City of Benson, or if the limitation should be set annually by City Council as the total of its Approved Budget. Ms. Vivian then stated Arizona voters approved Article IX, Section 21 and 22, of the Arizona Constitution on June 3, 1980 and the Article prescribes an annual expenditure limit for each political subdivision in the State, adding the Arizona Economic Estimates Commission (EEC) establishes annually for each political subdivision an Expenditure Limit based on actual expenditures in the 1979-1980 fiscal year. Ms. Vivian then stated the limit is adjusted each year for changes in population and inflation factors. Ms. Vivian then stated the Article approved by the voters also contained provisions that allow cities to establish a voter-approved Alternative Expenditure Limitation (Home Rule), noting in order to have Home Rule, the voters must approve Home Rule in an election every four years. Ms. Vivian then stated passage of the attached resolution is the next step in the process of bringing the Home Rule Option to a vote by the qualified electors of the City of Benson.

Vice Mayor Nunn asked how would the information get to the voters with Ms. Vivian stating she is currently working on a publicity pamphlet that will explain to the voters what will be on the ballot including what AEL (Alternative Expenditure Limitation) is. Ms. Vivian then stated sometimes, the required legal language is difficult to understand so the information she read at the public hearing is information that would be helpful to the get out to as many people as possible. Ms. Vivian then stated the City cannot use City resources to influence the outcome of an election; however, Council and others could share the factual information she read. Ms. Vivian then stated in the past the Chamber and the Economic Development Groups have also written and submitted arguments supporting Home Rule to be included in the publicity pamphlets, which are usually easier to understand.

Councilmember Maldonado moved to approve Resolution 16-2020. Seconded by Vice Mayor Nunn. Motion passed 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Diaz moved to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Maldonado. Motion passed 7-0.

Toney D. King, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Vicki L. Vivian, CMC, City Clerk