



Friends of Carefree, there was another Executive Session at 4PM, followed by the open/public Council meeting at 5PM.

Town Council Meeting, April 5, 2016 at 5:00PM

There was no mention of the earlier Executive Session, and the regular monthly Council meeting was another expeditious affair lasting just 40 minutes.

Items 1 - 5, Consent Agenda: All items were related to routine town business (meeting minutes, bills, financial reports, event permits, etc.), approved 7 - 0.

Item 6, Call to the Public: No one spoke.

Item 7 Current Events: None noted.

Item 8, Foothills Foodbank Presentation: Executive Director Pam DiPietro provided the council and audience with an overview of the Food Bank services. The organization was founded in 1988 by members of various community churches. Initially 90% of services supported Hispanics and only 10% for Caucasians. Today that reality has changed, currently with 20% Hispanics and 80% Caucasians being served by Food Bank services. The 400 volunteers serve 3,000 families (637 new in 2015) with over 41,000 individuals receiving food. 90% of the food is donated, predominantly by area supermarkets.

Services go well beyond food distribution. They assist with the SNAP program (food stamps), health care, job search, one-time financial assistance, and vouchers for gas, pharmacies, and thrift stores. They partner with numerous other organizations and are planning a 2,000sf addition to their facility. Donations for that addition are still short by \$100K. For a more comprehensive version of this presentation, feel free to listen to the Town recording when it becomes available.

Item 9, Transaction Privilege Tax Ordinance: The 'Privilege' Tax is probably better known as the Sales Tax. As a result of changes to the State Model City Tax Codes, Carefree 2012-2014 Tax Code amendments need to be adopted - this was the 'First Reading'. Another 'reading' is necessary before the Council can take action. A second part of this agenda item involved approval of a Resolution declaring the Carefree Tax Code Changes a public record. Approved 7 - 0.

Item 10, Open House Signs: The Amendment of Town Code, Section 11-3-3 relating to permits for Open House signs was approved 7 - 0. Item A was amended and items B & C were removed. Essentially the permit fee for Open House signs was eliminated.

Item 11, Elections: This Resolution authorizes the Town Clerk to conduct the Primary Election (08/30/16) and General Election (11/08/16) as Mail Ballot Elections. Approved, 7 - 0.

Item 12, Town Council Updates: The Splash Pad is now open; Gateway footer construction will begin early May; Investigation into having the Sun Dial electrostatically painted is underway; Two new dedication plaques have been purchased for the Sun Dial acknowledging the contributions of K.T. Palmer and the Carefree Kiwanis Club; The Liberty/BMSC agreement is another step closer to final approval, with Scottsdale agreeing to process Carefree material - ACC is expected to provide their final approval soon; The 'slurry seal' for some area roadways affected by the Bicycle lane project will commence in a few weeks.

Council Chambers Update – *[Because the town-purchased building at 33 Easy Street (proposed future home of the Council Chambers) is being leased to Ed Lewis for 1 – 2 years, temporary space is needed when the town lease in the Post Office building expires in June. Last year the town declined to pursue a lease extension.]* Gary Neiss provided an update. Previously he had stated that a deal was imminent with the Lutheran Retreat at low cost/no cost to the town. However, when it came to putting the deal in writing the Retreat backed out, citing schedule conflicts and prior commitments. Local churches, the Carefree Resort, and other facilities were then contacted. Mr. Neiss said that the churches would not be a good fit (no explanation given) and that discussions with the Resort were ongoing, as well as with the YMCA and PV Community College. Councilman Farrar pointed out that the Y and PVCC were not in the Town of Carefree. Mr. Neiss responded that they were not that far outside of Carefree. *[They sure aren't centrally located, especially from the east side of town, a mere 5 – 6 miles from my home]*

MCSO Lt. Ryan Baranyos, addressed the council to announce the MCSO Citizen Academy beginning this Saturday, and continuing every other Saturday for a total of 4 sessions. Only 26 seats remain available, so if you are interested you must visit <http://www.mcso.org/Documents/Citizens%20Academy%20Authorization.pdf> soon to sign up. You can view the MSCO Citizens Academy flyer in our [Archives](#).

Item 13, Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:40PM.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Van Allen and John Traynor

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