

## NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING

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GILA BEND TOWN COUNCIL  
Wednesday June 21, 2023; 6:15 p.m.  
**Gila Bend Town Hall Conference Room**  
644 West Pima, Gila Bend, AZ 85337  
**WORK SESSION MINUTES**

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL  
Mayor Tommy Sikes  
Vice-Mayor James Turner  
Council Member Fernando Fernandez  
**absent**
- Council Member Clyde Kreeger  
Council Member Chris Riggs **absent**  
Council Member Scott Swanson  
Council Member Donny Young
- III. WORK SESSION (the Council cannot act on any of these subjects because they are on the agenda for **discussion only**)
- A. **Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Tentative Budget:** The Mayor and Town Council may discuss the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Tentative Budget. **Discussion Only**  
*Mayor Tommy Sikes opened the meeting for discussion. Town Manager Katherine Valenzuela will review each department. Council and Mayor- No changes needed. Court and Legal- Town Manager Katherine Valenzuela suggests an increase in budget for professional services due to the increase in projects in town, Councilmember Scott Swanson spoke about the potential need for specialized attorneys to help with the various types of projects. Town Clerk- Vice-Mayor James Turner asked about funds for the Museum and getting the Museum opened back up, Mayor Tommy Sikes suggested a seasonal part-time employee. Discussion continued regarding the museum staffing, security concerns, getting the Chamber of Commerce back up and running, and a 3% COLA increase to all Employees Finance- Increases have been added for training, audit services and banking fees. Discussion continued regarding the banking fees. Town Manager- Town Manager Katherine Valenzuela has added funds to hire a procurement specialist to help with obtaining items and keeping track of inventory, and the contract for the HR Consulting fees. MCSO/Police- Town Manager Katherine Valenzuela spoke about the contract with MCSO which is locked in through December and gives Council time to decide what changes they would like to make to the contract or if they would like to move forward with another entity. Discussion was held regarding a potential contract with Buckeye, beat questions for MCSO, how to utilize Paloma Security, and the Town Marshal position. Public Works- Discussion was had regarding the Public Works Director position that has been posted, vehicle purchases and financing vs paying out-right. Planning and Development- With the increase in potential projects funding needed for services from Logan Simpson, Wildan, Brown and Associates and Rick*

*Engineering- Discussion was had regarding funds for these contracts and utilizing Brown and Associates for code enforcement*

*Airport- No significant changes, airport manager Corey Drury would like to pursue a \$2 million dollar grant for repairs.*

*Sanitation- Discussion was held regarding the dump and costs associated. The extra costs are coming from non-residents dumping large amounts of trash.*

*Parks- Discussion was held regarding signage for the parks, pond expansion, and shades for the 911 park.*

*Recreation- Discussion was held regarding the various holiday events, funds needed, and a suggested increase to \$8,000 for repairs that would help with the needed pool repairs.*

*Fire Department- Vice-Mayor James Turner spoke about repairs that were needed that could have been avoided with regular maintenance, and discussion was held regarding a proposed increase of \$125,000 for maintenance and repairs. Discussion was held regarding the regular maintenance of the vehicles, and the fire district study.*

*Streets- discussion was held regarding the various chip seal projects that are needed, the safe routes to school project, and other road conditions.*

*AAA- no big changes, a brief discussion was held regarding the vehicles.*

*First Things First- No change.*

*EMS- Discussion was held regarding the purchase of a new ambulance which will be just under \$300,000, the type of ambulance, and the \$100,000 deficit from billing that has been written off.*

*Water- Discussion was held regarding the water rate study, RO trains that need replacing at \$68,000, and other water line repairs and maintenance needs.*

*Sewer- discussion was held regarding the increase in needed chemicals, possible sewer line issues at Hunt St., and manhole rehabilitation.*

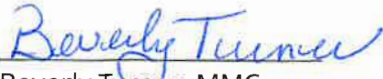
*Revenue- Discussion was held regarding revenues and a potential need to increase property tax by 30%*

IV. ADJOURNMENT

*Meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm*

  
Tommy Sikes, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Beverly Turner, MMC  
Town Clerk

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Council Meeting held on June 21<sup>st</sup> , 2023 and that the meeting was duly called and posted and that a quorum was present.

  
Beverly Turner, MMC  
Town Clerk

**This agenda posted no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting at the following locations:**

**Town Website: [www.gilabendaz.org](http://www.gilabendaz.org)**

**Gila Bend Post Office bulletin board: 109 W Papago**

**Gila Bend Town Hall lobby: 644 W Pima**

**Community Center lobby: 202 N Euclid**