

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING

GILA BEND TOWN COUNCIL

July 27, 2023; 6:00pm

Gila Bend Unified School District Media Center

308 North Martin Avenue

Minutes

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

- A. Call to order *meeting called to order at 6:00 pm*
- B. Pledge of Allegiance *led by Mayor Tommy Sikes*
- C. Invocation *given by Councilmember Clyde Kreeger*

II. **ROLL CALL**

Mayor Tommy Sikes	Council Member Chris Riggs
Vice Mayor James Turner	Council Member Scott Swanson
Council Member Fernando Fernandez <i>absent</i>	Council Member Donny Young <i>absent</i>
Council Member Clyde Kreeger	

III. **PUBLIC HEARING:**

F/Y 23/24 Budget and Property Tax Levy. The Mayor and Town Council may receive Public Comment relating to the F/Y 23/24 Final Budget and Property Tax Levy.

(Public Comment Only)

Councilmember Chris Riggs moved to open the F/Y 23/24 Budget and Property Tax Levy Public Hearing at 6:02 pm

Second by Vice-Mayor James Turner

With no discussion Mayor Tommy Sikes called for the vote

Motion to open the public hearing at 6:02 pm passed unanimously (5-0)

For: Mayor Tommy Sikes, Vice-Mayor James Turner, Councilmembers Clyde Kreeger, Chris Riggs and Scott Swanson

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: Councilmembers Fernando Fernandez and Donny Young

Scott Swanson addressed Council as a Gila Bend Resident and made the following statement: "I would like to make a public comment as a taxpayer and not as a Councilmember. And I've been reminded not to discuss with other councilmembers at this time as its not allowed. I would like Council to consider keeping our Gila Bend tax rate the same rate as last year and not increase the rate as per the current published schedule B. The vote for the tax is not tonight but scheduled for our regular town council meeting Tuesday August8, 2023. We may or may not want to schedule a workshop to discuss this tax, but again, I would request council consider not increasing the tax this year and keep it the same as last year. I just want to make sure we have the proper dates and procedures to modify the document and its submission times to the Tax Assessor. I realize that we will be voting on the final budget tonight and that the revenue from this tax will be locked in and if we lower the tax rate at our next meeting we will need to cover this difference from the expenditure portion of the budget. We have enough contingency money to cover the difference which should only be around \$30,000. Thank you."

Resident Fred Hull addressed Council and spoke about residents already paying enough property taxes and not all of the taxes go to the Town as the School takes most of the tax

money. Mr. Hull asks that the Council be conservative and spend properly. Councilmember Chris Riggs asked Councilmember Scott Swanson if he would like to schedule a work session and Councilmember Swanson responded that if Council felt it was necessary.

Resident Fred Hull spoke again regarding property he owns that he is not allowed to do anything with due to flood control and he will then not pay any more taxes on the property, and there are other properties in town that people are unable to do anything with. Council should keep this in mind.

Councilmember Chris Riggs moved to close the F/Y 23/24 Budget and Property Tax Levy Public Hearing at 6:04 pm

Second by Councilmember Clyde Kreeger

With no further discussion Mayor Tommy Sikes called for the vote

Motion to close the public hearing at 6:04 pm passed unanimously (5-0)

For: Mayor Tommy Sikes, Vice-Mayor James Turner, Councilmembers Clyde Kreeger, Chris Riggs and Scott Swanson

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: Councilmembers Fernando Fernandez and Donny Young

IV. **NEW Business**

A. **Resolution 23-04:** The Mayor and Town Council may discuss and possibly take action to adopt Resolution 23-04, a Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Gila Bend, Arizona adopting the budget for Fiscal Year 2023/2024 **Discussion and Action** Councilmember Chris Riggs moved to approve the Resolution 23-04 a Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Gila Bend adopting the budget for Fiscal Year 2023/2024 as presented

Second by Councilmember Clyde Kreeger

With no discussion Mayor Tommy Sikes called for the vote

Motion to approve the Resolution 23-04 adopting the budget for Fiscal Year 2023/2024 as presented passed unanimously (5-0)

For: Mayor Tommy Sikes, Vice-Mayor James Turner, Councilmembers Clyde Kreeger, Chris Riggs and Scott Swanson

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: Councilmembers Fernando Fernandez and Donny Young

V. **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Chris Riggs moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:06 pm

Second by Councilmember Clyde Kreeger

With no discussion Mayor Tommy Sikes called for the vote

Motion to adjourn passed unanimously (5-0)

For: Mayor Tommy Sikes, Vice-Mayor James Turner, Councilmembers Clyde Kreeger, Chris Riggs and Scott Swanson

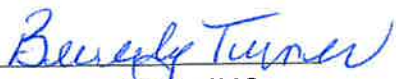
Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: Councilmembers Fernando Fernandez and Donny Young


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 July 27th, 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
Gila Bend Post Office bulletin board: 109 W Papago
Gila Bend Town Hall lobby: 644 W Pima
Community Center lobby: 202 N Euclid