

**TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY
TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
May 10, 2014**

OPENING CEREMONIES

Mayor Lombardo called the special meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Council Members Present: Abel, Huntington, Rowe, and Mayor Lombardo. Leone was absent due to a planned vacation.

Staff Present: Deputy Town Manager Stueckle, Administrative Services Director Yakimow, Senior Accountant Cisneros, and Town Clerk Copeland

Deputy Town Manager Stueckle welcomed all in attendance and gave a brief overview of the meeting process.

DEPARTMENT REPORT

1. FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 Proposed Budget Update and Review

Administrative Services Director Yakimow presented the proposed budget, explaining fiscal impacts and the budget development process using Town Council's policy direction from the meeting of March 4, 2014. Anticipated revenues for the General fund are estimated at \$9.4 for fiscal year 2014-15 and \$9.7 million for fiscal year 2015-16. A summary of anticipated expenditures was also presented, including public safety, personnel services, operating supplies and services, and community partnerships.

Mayor Lombardo opened public comment.

Richard Harlan, Yucca Valley inquired about the Town Manager salary adjustment.

Bonnie Brady, Yucca Valley commented about the condition and repair status of the old PFF sign.

Deputy Town Manager Stueckle explained that as soon as the State approves the long-range property management plan, some level of action will be directed for the removal of the old sign.

Richard Harlan, Yucca Valley commented on the broken street sign at the Camino del Cielo signal along State Route 62.

With no other members of the public wishing to speak, Mayor Lombardo closed public comments.

Deputy Town Manager Stueckle explained that in the past several years, the Town Council's focus with the budget has been to reduce costs. Significant reductions have occurred during this time.

Council Member Abel agreed with Brady's comment regarding the old PFF sign. Abel also stated interest in possibly looking into adjusting the Town's reserve level to accommodate some of the Town's infrastructure needs. The Town's reserves are significantly higher than the standard public range, and though we don't want to drop too low, a one-time transfer might help to fix the local roads.

Council Member Rowe inquired about the reserve policy and if a change is recommended, how would the funding occur. Rowe stated that budget surplus from year to year should go toward specific line items for infrastructure and not swept into the reserves.

Mayor Pro Tem Huntington stated it is necessary to look for sustainable resources to meet the infrastructure needs and would like to see reserves stay where they are. Huntington thanked staff for a comprehensive draft budget.

Mayor Lombardo commended staff on keeping expenses in-line and sees a need for additional revenue since cutting expenses is not covering the infrastructure needs. Lombardo stated he would be in favor of seeing any surplus budget going toward infrastructure and not swept into reserves, but would like to keep reserves above the 50 percent mark.

Mayor Lombardo reopened public comment.

Richard Harlan, Yucca Valley spoke of road maintenance and the proposed sewer project.

Carey Harwin, Yucca Valley inquired on new equipment capabilities to take care of road maintenance in-house.

With no other members of the public wishing to speak, Mayor Lombardo closed public comments.

Deputy Town Manager Stueckle thanked Yakimow and Cisneros for the budget presentation and stated that the workshop will be repeated on May 20th at 5:00 p.m.

With no further business, Mayor Lombardo adjourned the special meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lesley Copeland, CMC
Town Clerk