

**MINUTES OF THE OF REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CAREFREE TOWN COUNCIL**

**WHEN:** TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2022

**WHERE:** CAREFREE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
33 EASY STREET, CAREFREE, AZ 85377

**LIVESTREAM:** [HTTPS://ZOOM.US/](https://zoom.us/j/3229729660)  
MEETING ID 322 972 9660  
PASSCODE 12345

**TIME:** 5:00 P.M.

**Town Council Attending:**

Mayor Les Peterson  
Vice Mayor John Crane  
Vince D'Aliesio  
Tony Geiger  
Stephen Hatcher  
Mike Johnson  
Cheryl Kroyer

**Town Council Absent:**

None

**Staff Present:**

Gary Neiss, Town Administrator; Michael Wright, Town Attorney; Mark Milstone, Town Engineer; Kandace French Contreras, Town Clerk/Treasurer.

Mayor Peterson called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

Commander Dan Schwerdtfeger of American Legion Post 34 led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**ITEM #1** Approval of the February 1, 2022 Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes.

**ITEM #2** Approval of the April 19, 2021 Budget Workshop Minutes.

**ITEM #3** Acceptance into the public record of the April, 2022 paid bills.

**ITEM #4** Acceptance of the cash receipts and disbursements report for March, 2022.

**ITEM #5 Authorization of Capital Improvement Funds to repair stucco and apply ceramic paint to the walls on the east side of the Gardens (east of the amphitheater).**

Councilmember Kroyer **MOVED TO ACCEPT** consent agenda items #1-5. **SECONDED** by Vice Mayor Crane. **CARRIED**, unanimously.

**ITEM #6 Call to the Public:**

Carefree resident Les Hardie provided feedback regarding the recent Carefree Classic Wheels and Wings event. Mr. Hardy declared that the event was a big success resulting in a donation of \$7,350 to the Foothills Caring Corp.

Mayor Peterson informed that the event has brought forth many excellent reviews and thanked all those involved and for hosting the event in the Town of Carefree.

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

**ITEM #7 Current Events.**

Vice Mayor Crane announced the Memorial Day recognition at the Cave Creek Cemetery on May 30th at 8:00 a.m.

The guest speaker will be Lieutenant Colonel, Robert D. Jeffrey, whom after being forced to eject from his F-4 Phantom II, became a prisoner of war in North Vietnam in 1965 for 2,611 days. Mr. Lieutenant Colonel, Jeffrey will be speaking of that as well as other experiences.

Students from Sonoran Trails Middle School will be singing the National Anthem and a representative from Our Lady of Joy Catholic church will be performing the invocation. The Daughters of the American Revolution will also be in attendance.

Vice Mayor Crane encouraged all to attend.

Pertaining to the Wheels and Wings event, Vice Mayor Crane clarified, the donation to the Foothills Caring Corp was truly a joint effort, adding to the recognition of others who were integral in the success of the event and instrumental in the ability to provide the donation to Foothills Caring Corp. SkyRanch Airport for hosting the event, Our Lady of Joy Catholic church for offering their parking lot and the volunteers from the Carefree community to name a few.

**ITEM #8 Presentation by Todd Cooley regarding the opening of the Hampton Inn by Hilton.**

Hampton Inn General Manager, Todd Cooley provided updates to the progress and an estimated opening of the new Hampton Inn. Mr. Cooley began by thanking the Town of Carefree for the opportunity to be there and responded to questions, addressed any concerns, and shared any economic impacts coming up in the next year. Adding, he has met with local artisans and offered them the opportunity to place artwork and signature pieces in the courtyard of the hotel as well as inside the hotel. Concluding, this is the community's hotel and wants everyone to be a part of it.

Regarding the opening of Hampton Inn, Mayor Peterson expressed the anticipation felt by many people. Looking forward to the Hampton leading in the rejuvenation of the downtown adding to the number of people in the restaurants and visiting the shops.

**ITEM #9      Review, discussion and possible action to approve Resolution 2022-09 adopting the tentative budget and bottom line for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023.**

Town Administrator, Gary Neiss presented a summary of the tentative budget for FY 2022/2023. Mr. Neiss reminded; the budget process doesn't happen overnight.

- **January - February**  
Staff begins to review workloads, trends, and starts to project needs for the following fiscal year.
- **March**  
Begin projecting out revenue figures and get inflationary indexes on various contracts and revenue figures from the state.
- **April**  
Three Budget Workshops are held to share what we know.
- **May**  
Meeting to approve the tentative budget.
- **June**  
Approval of the final budget

Mr. Neiss presented the 2022/2023 budget dashboard, a high-level evaluation of the forecasted revenues, and anticipated expenses for the next fiscal year.

Councilmember Kroyer **MOVED TO APPROVE** Resolution 2022-09 adopting the tentative budget and bottom line for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023. **SECONDED** by Vice Mayor Crane. **CARRIED**, 7-0.

**ITEM #10      Review, discussion and possible action to approve Resolution 2022-08 accepting into public record the ten-year pavement preservation program document dated April 8, 2022.**

Carefree Town Engineer, Mark Milstone presented the pavement preservation program document. He explained the current plan expires at the end of June 2022. The new document will supersede the old document. Analyzing existing roadways throughout the Town, this document prioritizes roadways, the type of maintenance and the most cost-effective time to perform that maintenance. Mr. Milstone further explained, with the use of cutting-edge technology, artificial intelligence, we will be able to prioritize those roadway improvements, a systematic approach to maintenance that provides long term financial savings, protects the overall pavement condition, and extends pavement.

Mr. Milstone responded to questions from Council pertaining to the pavement preservation program, costs, timeframe and provided details of the Capital Improvement Project process.

Vice Mayor Crane **MOVED TO APPROVE** Resolution 2022-08 accepting into public record the ten-year pavement preservation program document dated April 8, 2022. **SECONDED** by Councilperson D'Aliesio. **CARRIED**, unanimously.

**ITEM #11 Adjournment.**

Councilmember Kroyer **MOVED TO ADJOURN**. **SECONDED** by Councilmember D'Aliesio. **CARRIED**, unanimously.


The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

DATED this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 2022.

TOWN OF CAREFREE

BY: *Samantha Gesell*  
Samantha Gesell, Planning Clerk

TOWN OF CAREFREE

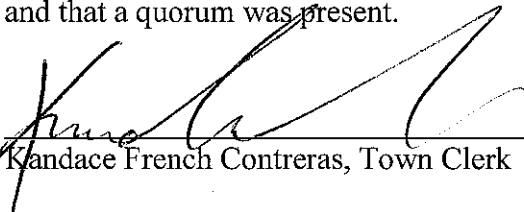
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Les Peterson, Mayor

Attest:

*Samantha Gesell*  
Samantha Gesell, Planning Clerk

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Regular Meeting of the Town of Carefree held May 3, 2022. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

  
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Kandace French Contreras, Town Clerk