

MINUTES OF THE JOINT STUDY SESSION OF THE SHOW LOW CITY COUNCIL AND SHOW LOW UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD HELD ON THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M. IN SHOW LOW CITY HALL, DEUCE OF CLUBS ROOM, 180 NORTH 9TH STREET, SHOW LOW, NAVAJO COUNTY, ARIZONA

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Seymore called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Daryl Seymore, Vice Mayor Brent Hatch, and Council members Rennie Crittenden and Mike Allsop.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Council members John Leech, Jr., Gene Kelley, and Connie Kakavas.

SHOW LOW UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President John Larsen, Vice President Stacey Anderson, and Board members Pam Lizardi, Amy Tregaskes, and Darrell Perkins.

SHOW LOW UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Ed Muder, City Manager; Morgan Brown, City Attorney; Joe Shelley, Chief of Police; Brad Provost, Police Commander; Shawn Roby, Administrative Sergeant; Stephen Price, Magistrate Judge; Bill Kopp, Public Works Director; Jay Brimhall, Community Services Director; Shirley Patterson, Chief Judicial Clerk; Justin Johnson, Administrative Services Director; and Ann Kurasaki, City Clerk.

SCHOOL DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT: Shad Housley, Superintendent.

GUESTS: Kenny Patterson and Shawna Brown.

Mayor Seymore asked everyone to introduce themselves to the rest of the group.

3. Invocation.

Mr. Johnson gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance.

President Larsen led the Council and audience in the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Seymore said he was grateful that the Council and the school board could meet and work together so well. He noted the last joint meeting was held in 2015. He was excited about the happenings and changes at both the School District and the City. He was thankful for the excellent security provided by the Show Low Police Department and prayed this community would never experience a school tragedy as happened recently in Florida and Maryland.

5. Discussion and Review of Intergovernmental Agreement(s) Between the City of Show Low and the Show Low Unified School District.

Mr. Brown said he would review the history of the agreements, the City's partnerships with the School District, and the current agreement.

1973: The date of the first known written agreement, when the City paved McNeil in exchange for a deed to a parcel of land from the School District.

1982: The two entities entered into an agreement for a joint use of facilities.

1986: The agreement was amended by adding school facilities for recreational program use by the City and City Park facilities for educational or athletic program use by the School District.

2001: They executed an agreement for adjacent-way improvements on Old Linden Road for \$1,078,970.78, split equally between the School District and City.

2002: They signed an agreement for the City's purchase of the North Junior High School for \$840,000, and also in the same year, the City leased camera equipment to the school for \$4,075.

2004: They entered into another adjacent-way improvements agreement for East Mills Place for \$430,800, split equally between the School District and City.

2005: The parties revised the agreement to include joint use of recreational facilities, School Resource Officers (since 1991), and the marquee sign at the corner of Central and the Deuce of Clubs. The City also partnered with the School District to pay for baseball/softball fields on a City water meter and the soccer field was transferred to the City meter once it was completed.

2007: The City leased camera equipment to the school for \$4,000.

- 2008: The agreement included the marquee sign and the City paying the utilities for baseball, soccer, and softball field lights (when they became functional).
- 2011: The entities began a cooperative agreement for a driver education program plus the agreement covered a school resource officer and field lights.
- 2012: The City gave some TV equipment to the School District in return for janitorial services.
- 2013: The City transferred additional TV equipment and a Parks Maintenance cart to the School District.
- 2016: In November, a revised agreement was approved for five years with the City providing a wrestling room and slurry seal services (in lieu of the field lights), splitting the costs for a new electronic marquee sign and a traffic safety program, and the City agreeing to not charge the School District for building permits for improvements less than \$10,000.
- 2017: In May, the City exchanged a standard-definition (SD) playback system to the school for school services.

Mr. Brown noted that the taxpayers appreciated this collaborative relationship and the wise use of funds, and the agreements also resulted in both entities making more efficient use of their resources.

Mr. Brown outlined each party's responsibilities in the current agreement:

- The City would 1) provide grant-funded School Resource Officers and pay for their training, equipment, vehicles, uniforms, and the GREAT program (formerly the DARE drug awareness program); 2) conduct a driver training program, with the costs split equally between the two parties; 3) pay for its half of an electronic marquee sign, with the cost split equally between both parties; 4) donate TV equipment worth approximately \$12,000 plus a Parks Maintenance cart; 5) provide approximately \$15,000 worth of slurry sealing annually; and 6) allow for the mutual use of facilities and resources, including the Council Chambers, Show Low TV services, aquatic center (covering 900 kids per year), baseball and softball fields, the City gym for winter activities, City parks for soccer, and the wrestling room.
- The School District would 1) apply for and administer grant funding for the School Resource Officers; 2) pay for its half of a driver training program and an electronic marquee sign; and 3) and allow for the mutual use of facilities, including school gyms for basketball and volleyball, the auditorium for special

events, the fields for events (e.g., the Fourth of July) and the school's former wrestling room.

Mr. Brown anticipated additional changes to the agreements in the future.

Mayor Seymore asked if there were any suggestions for future revisions. Mr. Housley felt the current agreement was beneficial to everyone involved. It was gratifying to have open communication and a good working relationship between both parties, knowing that future needs could be accommodated. Mayor Seymore also appreciated the cooperation, adding that the City was grateful for having the use of the school's football stadium to hold Fourth of July events.

6. Update on Capital Improvement Bonds.

Mr. Housley distributed a copy of the January newsletter of the bond oversight committee. He echoed what was said about the partnership between the School District and the City and the community's support. A result was the passage of the bond proposition by the voters last fall. He said the school board and school officials were careful about spending taxpayer dollars judiciously.

Mr. Housley thanked Sergeant Roby and Commander Provost for joining the bond oversight committee recently. The committee had met two or three times since the proposition passed in November. He reported that the School District had to complete a new audit to ensure the bonds' stability for the bondholders. The audit was nearing completion, which would result in a credit rating for the District, and then bonds could be sold. The bond proceeds would be managed and administered by the superintendent's office for draw. The District had gone ahead and purchased school buses because if they had waited any longer, they wouldn't have them for the beginning of the next school year. Staff recently learned that the new buses would be arriving in June. The nine transit buses and two Class A (special needs) buses would replace the aging and deteriorated fleet. The Class A buses were specially designed to traverse roads that were unpaved and/or in poor condition.

Mr. Housley said \$1.4 million of the bonds would be used specifically to address student safety; although with the change nationally regarding school safety, a common thread of safety was included in all their projects as they moved into development and design. Other bond funds would be used for classroom and student technology.

Mr. Housley said the District had hired outside entities to assess the school's energy efficiency and electrical systems to ensure a sound power grid. A report, expected next week, would include recommendations on where and how the District could get the most savings and rebates. The District also had a project manager, Facility Management Group, based in Phoenix overseeing all the bond

projects. An architect would be hired to look at the District's priorities, and then the District would issue a request for qualifications for a general contractor. Once the projects began, the general contractor would hold a job fair for local subcontractors to give them an opportunity to bid on jobs.

Mr. Housley said the architect would be tasked to keep safety in mind when considering issues such as traffic flow and eliminating choke points. He appreciated the traffic study City staff conducted, which was invaluable for their purposes. One certainty was to move all entries to the exterior of the school sites. The intention was to provide student parking and excess parking on the school's exterior and create one main point of entry only. Buses and staff parking would be moved to the interior of the school. He said the biggest challenge for parking was Nikolaus Homestead Elementary. The solution could mean eliminating the playground and securing the rest of the facility. Whatever solutions were reached would have to be done within budget.

Mr. Housley said school officials were moving slowly to find ways to turn \$10 million into \$15 million. The District was working with the Arizona School Facilities Board (ASFB), an agency that evaluated and addressed minimum standards and also provided capital assets and grant funding to remediate and correct problems. For instance, the ASFB approved the design of the Whipple Ranch Elementary roof and committed to correcting the problems. ASFB was also evaluating the gymnasium floor to determine what it would take to make it playable; it was the only floor above 6,000 feet elevation that didn't have air conditioning above it. ASFB also would take care of trip hazards in the sidewalks. Through this collaboration, staff had already made the \$10 million look like \$13 million.

Mr. Housley said the District was also a partner of the broadband consortium whose aim was to improve broadband access to e-rate entities like schools and libraries in Navajo, Apache, and Gila counties. The consortium went through three bid processes, rejecting the first and second bids, for a vendor to install broadband infrastructure in the region. The consortium also sought USAC e-rate funding to pay 80% of the estimated \$60 million in infrastructure costs matched by 10% from the state, a match that the state approved two days ago. (USAC, or Universal Service Administrative Company, was a nonprofit designated by the Federal Communications Commission to provide funding to companies and institutions to remedy gaps in high-speed broadband access.) Improving high-speed broadband service would mean being able to stream without interruption and share resources among schools (including reservation schools), such as access to physics teachers.

Mayor Seymore agreed that broadband access would be a tremendous boon for the schools, with the private sector being able to benefit from it. This was an issue the county and the Apache and Navajo Counties Mayors and

Councilmembers Association were also tackling, so it was wonderful news that funding was approved.

Mr. Housley expressed his appreciation to personnel from the Show Low Police Department for serving and participating in the bond oversight committee and in the school's safety meetings.

7. Discussion Regarding School Safety.

Mayor Seymore asked Mr. Housley to share the District's ideas about safety. Mr. Housley said after the recent tragedies, schools were now forced to adjust from inviting the community in to keeping it out. In Show Low's case, it was imperative to have a single point of entry, better signage (such as labeling buildings so first responders could identify them), adding security cameras to know the location of an intruder, and attaining the necessary levels of connectivity. Technology was available but schools didn't have enough cybersecurity protocols to ensure its efficacy. It was equally important to fund well-functioning intercom and fire systems and to move traffic to the exterior to ensure safe passage.

Mr. Housley said in terms of law enforcement response, he had 100% confidence in how Show Low Police Department personnel would respond. He commended them for being extremely conscientious. He shared a recent incident involving a fake social media post generated by someone out of state and how it was quickly resolved. He said the school safety team, which included Sgt. Roby and the School Resource Officers, met monthly to evaluate and improve safety plans. Through discussions, they discovered gaps in their lock-down procedure and were taking steps to correct it. They initiated a threat assessment team, which would include training him so he could identify a threat, real or not. One suggestion was to create a safety and first aid kit that included a tourniquet for every classroom.

Chief Shelley said from law enforcement's perspective, they knew there would be gaps in response and they worked to mitigate them by taking a proactive approach and learning from each incident. They took all threats seriously and responded as appropriate to the situation. Having School Resource Officers on-site was a tremendous asset, although no one knew how much their presence stemmed violence. It would be beneficial to have one more School Resource Officer who could split his time between the two elementary schools. Regarding protocols and procedures, it was important to develop a unified plan, present it to the school boards for approval, and communicate any changes among all the local agencies to ensure continuity and consistency in response.

Mayor Seymore asked how the police radios were working at the schools and whether dead zones had been eliminated. Commander Provost said the portable

radios used by the officers were working consistently after the police department installed a receiver inside the school.

Mayor Seymore recalled that at the bond oversight committee meeting, they talked about a program to stop parents at the road instead of flooding the school property so they weren't in the way in case of a threat or lockdown. With first responders swarming the property, it was important to organize the area and determine who was in charge.

Chief Shelley concurred, adding that a sound communication plan was also needed. They had to be equally responsive to parents and other loved ones since they knew their kids were texting information to them.

8. Update on Teen Court Program.

Judge Price said Teen Court was a diversion program that began in 2007, and the kids were referred by juvenile probation. It lost funding and was resurrected in 2009. The program allowed students to have their cases adjudicated outside the criminal justice system. Each student must admit his or her responsibility and was assigned a defense attorney. There was also a prosecutor and they both argued for the appropriate sanction. This would normally result in serving once or twice on the Teen Court jury, writing an apology to the appropriate party, sometimes writing an essay on the subject matter (e.g., shoplifting, alcohol consumption), and always some type of community service or restitution. One of the main purposes of Teen Court was to determine the appropriate punishment for the offender. Since Teen Court participants knew the kids intimately they were the best judge of a fitting punishment. Judge Price said he felt it was the parents' responsibility to keep their children out of his courtroom.

Judge Price said most cases were referred by his court and his lead clerk, Shirley Patterson, who had assisted in the program since 2009 and served in his absence when necessary. The student offenders were given a choice of a \$250 fine or participated in Teen Court. Only one person had ever refused to participate in the program. The court also received referrals from the police, school disciplinarians, and the juvenile probation department. These referrals had slowed down but there was a new supervisor so Judge Price said he would educate supervisor about the Teen Court program.

Judge Price commended the students who participated in Teen Court. He said they were the brightest students and it was amazing to watch how well they communicated by the end of the school year.

Judge Price said cases adjudicated were civil and criminal traffic, alcohol, tobacco, disorderly conduct, truancy, possession of marijuana, possession of

drug paraphernalia, and shoplifting. He said Teen Court had received 36 referrals to date, with the majority of cases related to alcohol.

Judge Price said Teen Court also started hearing civil and criminal traffic cases, and every person who received a moving violation was allowed to have the points removed by attending defensive driving training once in a 12-month period.

Judge Price said Teen Court gave a student a second chance to have the case dismissed, thus saving families the cost of insurance. He said Teen Court had seen students from Blue Ridge, Snowflake, Mogollon, St. Johns, Round Valley, Whiteriver, and, this year we had a kid from Globe. He reiterated it was a successful and excellent program.

Judge Price invited everyone to come and observe Teen Court in action, which met monthly on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 6:00 p.m. There was ample seating for the audience.

Board Member Tregaskes said her son had been invited to participate in Teen Court and he loved it. It was a good experience for him to help his peers. She thanked the judge for the program.

Mayor Seymore asked if anyone had any final comments. President Larsen said he taped a segment yesterday for *School Zone* with Show Low TV. He wished he could have done it next week to share what was discussed tonight, especially about the infrastructure projects, and how well the City and the District work together. As a board, the members were doing everything they could to put the right people in place and to do the best job for the students and community. He commended Superintendent Housley for his leadership and stewardship. He said the School District strove for greatness, but knew it couldn't do it without the City's assistance. He thanked the City and the Council for their partnership.

9. Adjournment.

There being no further business to be brought before the Council, **MAYOR SEYMORE ADJOURNED THE JOINT STUDY SESSION OF THE SHOW LOW CITY COUNCIL AND THE SHOW LOW UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF MARCH 22, 2018 AT 6:54 P.M.**

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Ann Kurasaki, City Clerk

Daryl Seymore, Mayor

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the **JOINT STUDY SESSION** of the Show Low City Council and Show Low Unified School District held on March 22, 2018. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____.

(SEAL)

Ann Kurasaki, City Clerk