

## September 2019 NEWSLETTER

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Any opinions contained herein are my own, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the City of Sedona or the Sedona City Council. Some of the content of this newsletter is taken directly (i.e. verbatim) from public documents. My highlights are not intended to be all inclusive - the public record is the final authority. If you have friends/neighbors that would like to get added to my newsletter send them to my website at <https://www.councilorchisholm.com> where they can signup. I have also posted my previous newsletters on the site.

You can reference greater detail and supporting documentation related to the city council meetings items via the following:

- <http://www.sedonaaz.gov/your-government/council-commissions-committees-boards/meetings-video-audio>
- <http://www.sedonaaz.gov/your-government/council-commissions-committees-boards/meetings-documents>
- <http://www.sedonaaz.gov/your-government/departments/city-clerk/council-commissions-committees-boards/city-council/meetings-agendas-packets-minutes>

Sign up for the city's e-Notify service to stay in touch with city events, functions, activities.

- <http://www.sedonaaz.gov/community/news-information/enotify-sign-up-for-news>

### Snapshot of Key Activities Since Last Newsletter

September 3, 2019 – Sedona Fire District Change of Command – Interim Fire Chief Jayson Coil swears in new Fire Chief Jon Trautwein.

September 5, 2019 Promotion of 2 Sedona Police Officers to Sergeant – new Sergeant's are Chris Stevens & Nathan Dorfman

September 10, 2019 City Council Executive Session - held to discuss applicants for the position of City Magistrate. Judge Michael Goimarac retiring October 1, 2019. Executive session discussions are not open to the public. Note: Arizona statute limits the topics that can be discussed within the executive session construct.

#### September 10, 2019 City Council Regular Session

- September 10, 2019 City council unanimously approved a construction contract for the Police Department Shooting Range Improvements Project Phase II with Caruso Construction, Inc. in the approximate amount of \$174,220.
- September 10, 2019 City council unanimously approved: 1) a professional services contract for design of the Shelby Drive Roadway Improvements Project with Kimley-Horn, Inc., in the approximate amount of \$133,615, and 2) a Resolution authorizing the execution of a Grant Agreement between the City of Sedona and the State of Arizona contributing \$500,000 in funds to be used for the Shelby Drive Roadway Improvements Project.
- City council unanimously approved the Final Plat for Hillside Vista Estates, to allow for a thirty (30) unit subdivision at 125 Bristlecone Pines Road.

- City council unanimously approved the award of a professional services contract for design of the Posse Ground and Soldiers Pass Road Trail and Parking Improvements with Hoskin Ryan Consultants, Inc. in the approximate amount of \$73,000.
- City council discussed the Street Performance Program and the regulation of street vendors, buskers, and other activities occurring in public spaces.

September 11, 2019 Special Session - City council and staff had a discussion regarding an overview of citizen communication activities and approaches, an assessment of the function's gains and gaps 2017 to present, and suggestions for possible additional improvements or new initiatives.

September 24, 2019 City Council Executive Session - City council went into executive session to discuss potential negotiations for the acquisition of real property for the siting of a transit hub in the vicinity of the “Y” intersection in the City of Sedona. Note: Arizona statute limits the topics that can be discussed within the executive session construct.

#### September 24, 2019 City Council Regular Session

- City council unanimously approved a Construction Contract for the Wastewater Reclamation Plant Grit Classifier Replacement Project with Western Environmental Equipment Co. in an amount not-to-exceed \$124,415.
- City council unanimously approved a purchase of a CCTV (Closed-circuit Television) Inspection Vehicle for the Wastewater Department from Elxsi dba CUES in the approximate amount of \$252,525.
- City council unanimously approved the Re-Plat of Park Place, 2nd Amended Final Plat, PZ18-00007 (SUB). The proposal would reduce the total number of units within the subdivision from 88 to 70.
- City council unanimously approved a Professional Services Contract for design services for the SR 179 Pedestrian Crossing at Tlaquepaque Project with WSP in the approximate amount of \$297,099.
- City council approved by a vote of 6-1 a Resolution and Ordinance adopting building code updates and amendments including the 2018 International Building, Residential, Existing Building, Energy Conservation, Plumbing, Mechanical, Fuel Gas, and Swimming Pool and Spa Codes, and the 2017 National Electrical Code.

September 25, 2019 City Council Executive Session - Discussion and consultation regarding personnel matters per A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1), specifically, to discuss the employment, and/or appointment of a person to fill the City Magistrate Judge position. Candidates interviewed were Daniella Ferrari, Susan Kayler, William Kunisch, and Rebecca Plevel. Executive session discussions are not open to the public. Note: Arizona statute limits the topics that can be discussed within the executive session construct.

#### **Did You Know**

Transit plan ready for final input – A draft final implementation plan for an ambitious public transit program for the Sedona/Oak Creek Canyon area is ready for community review and comment. LSC Transportation Consultants, a transportation and traffic engineering firm with offices in Colorado, California and Nevada, has released a 330-page draft-final implementation plan. The plan takes what have been general concepts, created over many years of previous transit studies, to the point of actual implementation. The plan will be presented to the Sedona City Council on Oct. 23, 3 p.m., in the city council chambers located at 102 Roadrunner Dr. The direction and/or elements approved by the council at that meeting will serve as the city’s roadmap to transit implementation. The public can provide final input on transit implementation at the Oct. 23, 3 p.m., council meeting, and online at [sedonaaz.gov/transit](https://sedonaaz.gov/transit). Data-gathering and study for the transit plan has been ongoing

since June 2018 and has included multiple surveys, public meetings, focus groups, stakeholder interviews and visitor interviews.

### **Key Upcoming Events**

#### Tentative 10/8 Regular City Council session

- \*Approval of a Resolution and Development Agreement between the City of Sedona and Axys Capital Total Return Fund LLC for the acquisition of permanent right-of-way on Coconino County Assessor Parcel Nos: 401-08-006 and 401-14-075 in support of the Sedona In Motion, Uptown Roadway Improvements Project.
- \*Approval of an award of a Job Order Contract extension with Cactus Asphalt, Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$1,000,000 for street maintenance projects during Fiscal Year 2020.
- \*Public hearing/discussion/possible action regarding Approval of a Resolution and Ordinance amending the text of the Sedona Land Development Code (LDC).
- \*Discussion/possible action regarding approval of an APS Solar Communities Agreement.

Tentative 10/9 Special City Council session - Discussion/possible direction regarding the following: a. Update on Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) Work, b. Update on Conference, c. Landmark Program Incentives, and d. Grant Seeking

### **More Information Related to the Above Snapshot of Key Activities Highlighted in 1<sup>st</sup> section**

September 3, 2019 – Sedona Fire District Change of Command – Interim Fire Chief Jayson Coil swears in new Fire Chief Jon Trautwein.



September 5, 2019 Promotion of 2 Sedona Police Officers to Sergeant  
Sgt Chris Stevens (on the right) & Sgt. Nathan Dorfman (on the left)



**September 10, 2019 City Council Regular Session:**

- September 10, 2019 City council unanimously approved a construction contract for the Police Department Shooting Range Improvements Project Phase II with Caruso Construction, Inc. in the approximate amount of \$174,220. The scope of work for this project will improve and bring utilities to the Police Department Shooting Range. The project consists of trenching, drilling, and equipping a potable water well, construction of a pressure tank shed (6'x6'), and all associated electrical, plumbing, and utility connections. The potable water well will provide water service to the new modular classroom building. The project also includes excavation to install a sewer line and septic vault for the modular classroom.
- September 10, 2019 City council unanimously approved: 1) a professional services contract for design of the Shelby Drive Roadway Improvements Project with Kimley-Horn, Inc., in the approximate amount of \$133,615, and 2) a Resolution authorizing the execution of a Grant Agreement (grant application completed and submitted by Molly Spangler out economic development director) between the City of Sedona and the State of Arizona contributing \$500,000 in funds to be used for the Shelby Drive Roadway Improvements Project. This design will be for the improvement of Shelby Drive throughout the AAA Industrial Park subdivision. Design will include reevaluating the roadway structure and geometry, sidewalks on one side of the roadway, sewer, geotechnical evaluation, drainage report, and drainage improvements. These improvements will improve walkability, pedestrian and vehicular safety, and foster economic growth.
- City council unanimously approved the Final Plat for Hillside Vista Estates, to allow for a thirty (30) unit subdivision at 125 Bristlecone Pines Road. The Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously

recommended approval of the Preliminary Plat (6-0, Chair Levin excused) on December 4, 2018. City Council unanimously approved the Preliminary Plat (7-0) on January 8, 2019. The form of the Final Plat meets all City requirements. City Staff has reviewed the Final Plat and determined that all conditions of approval have been met. The applicant will now be required to provide Financial Assurances in accordance with Sedona Land Development Code. Once this is completed, the applicant will record the Final Plat with Yavapai County and construction of the infrastructure improvements and residences will proceed through the building permit process.

- City council unanimously approved the award of a professional services contract for design of the Posse Ground and Soldiers Pass Road Trail and Parking Improvements with Hoskin Ryan Consultants, Inc. in the approximate amount of \$73,000. This design would include new parking at the north end of Posse Grounds Park property and a walking/biking path connecting the parking to and along Soldiers Pass Road and ending at Rim Shadows Drive. Once the proposed improvements are installed, parking restrictions would be implemented within the public right-of-way north of Carruth Drive. (see proposed route in Appendix A). Several citizens came to the council meeting to share their thoughts. There were opinions expressed for and against the overall project.
- City council discussed the Street Performance Program and the regulation of street vendors, buskers, and other activities occurring in public spaces. Several topics were discussed;
  1. The 1<sup>st</sup> amendment of the Constitution of the United States – I feel that everyone understood that people have the right to free speech. As long as the person is not violating the law the person has the right to express themselves on public property – this includes the individuals interpretation (in most cases) of ‘artistic’ expression.
  2. Artist Quality – several comments were made regarding people that are not providing a quality artistic experience.
  3. Disorderly conduct – comments were made regarding people yelling, being rude, being aggressive, etc. In those cases, the observer needs to contact the police department so that due process (another Constitutional right) can be performed.
  4. Conducting business – persons conducting business i.e. exchanging goods or services for money need to be appropriately licensed and in compliance with the rules concerning business in our city. In those cases where people are conducting business without an appropriate license the police should be contacted.
  5. Public health, and safety restrictions – the city does have the authority to restrict expression where public health and safety is an issues however there must be proof of the public health and safety issue cited and the city needs to make reasonable accommodations for free speech and artistic expression.

This topic is not closed, and research continues regarding problem definition and regulatory options to address. In the interim I ask that citizens report all issues to our police department so appropriate evidence gathering and documentation can occur.

**September 11, 2019 Special Session –** City Council discussed an overview of citizen communication activities and approaches, an assessment of the function's gains and gaps 2017 to present, and suggestions for possible additional improvements or new initiatives. Several social media measures indicate the cities increased leverage of these forms of communication are paying dividends as it appears significantly greater ‘hits’ have been observed over 2018 #'s. I have also received positive feedback from citizens regarding the chief of police use of social media specifically the Nextdoor app.

### September 24, 2019 City Council Regular Session

- City council unanimously approved a Construction Contract for the Wastewater Reclamation Plant Grit Classifier Replacement Project with Western Environmental Equipment Co. in an amount not-to-exceed \$124,415. The WWRP headworks includes the barscreen equipment and the grit classifier, both of which aid in the removal of foreign material from the waste stream prior to biological treatment of the waste. The grit classifier separates and removes material primarily consisting of rocks, gravel, and sand. Grit removal is important to reduce wear on downstream pumps and mechanical equipment, as well as keeping solids handling and disposal to a minimum. The current grit classifier was installed in 1999. In 2011, the drive, screw coupling, and motor shaft were replaced, and the tub was refurbished and patched. That work cost \$24,000. The original equipment is now 20 years old (life expectancy is 15-20 years). In recent months, the grit classifier has shown new signs of wear and inefficiency. Wastewater staff contacted the manufacturer, Smith and Loveless, Inc. (SCHLOSS), to evaluate the extent of repairs needed to bring the grit classifier back to good working condition. At that time, the manufacturer recommended that a complete replacement of the grit classifier would be more cost-efficient and a better long-term solution over making all the necessary repairs. Given the age of the equipment and the history refurbishing certain parts, staff agrees that a full replacement is the most cost-effective approach.
- City council unanimously approved a purchase of a CCTV Inspection Vehicle for the Wastewater Department from Elxsi dba CUES in the approximate amount of \$252,525. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) requires that wastewater utilities perform condition assessments of the wastewater collection system once every five (5) years. The condition assessments are typically conducted using CCTV cameras inserted into the sewer pipes through manholes. Wastewater collection operators are able to navigate the remote-controlled CCTV video camera through the pipe, which transmits the video to a monitor located inside the CCTV Inspection Vehicle. The operator then evaluates and records the condition of the pipe using national standards set by the National Association of Sewer Service Companies. Historically, the City has contracted pipe inspections to a 3rd party, with an average annual cost of \$83,000. Deliverables from the contractor include recorded video, and a report of any defects found. Wastewater staff is then required to review the data delivered and maintain records of defects throughout the system. Review of the recordings and reports can be time consuming, and in the past, was not always conducted due to lack of resources and time to complete the reviews in the detail required to ensure that repairs are made. Having proper equipment and a full-time employee, who would be primarily dedicated to executing and overseeing the CCTV inspections, is beneficial to the wastewater department in that sewer defects that require repair or attention can be realized before it becomes a larger problem. Through regular monitoring and evaluation of sewer pipes, we can have a better understanding of the real-time condition of the collection system. Repairing pipe defects while they are small typically results in an overall decrease in future pipe deterioration and avoids costlier future repairs.
- City council unanimously approved the Re-Plat of Park Place, 2nd Amended Final Plat, PZ18-00007 (SUB). The current property owner acquired the property in 2017 and began to pursue approvals to build out the rest of the project. The Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously approved a development review application for the design of the proposed townhouses on May 21, 2019. In order to move forward to the building permit phase, an amended final plat must be approved to line up the parcel lines with the approved building footprints. As the proposal would reduce the total number of units within the subdivision from 88 to 70 (a reduction of 18 units), this is considered a Minor Final Plat Amendment and is being processed in accordance with the subdivision procedures for minor plat amendments.

- City council unanimously approved a Professional Services Contract for design services for the SR 179 Pedestrian Crossing at Tlaquepaque Project with WSP in the approximate amount of \$297,099. The installation of a shared-use path underpass at Oak Creek in this area of the corridor will separate pedestrians from the roadway and will have the following benefits and objectives:
  - alleviate conflicts between pedestrians and motorist;
  - improve safety;
  - provide a more uniform flow of traffic; and
  - improve traffic volume

Potential impacts of the project include:

- Impacts to existing culture (trees, landscaping, decorative walls and related elements).
- Encroachment of private property and need to acquire right-of-way and/or easement area.
- Potential impact on private commercial parking area.
- Potential impact to existing utility infrastructure.
- Temporary impacts to vehicle/pedestrian traffic and businesses during construction.

With completion of the feasibility report for the State Route 179 At Tlaquepaque Pedestrian Crossing, staff initiated a direct selection process consistent with A.R.S Statute 34, Chapter 1, Section 34-103 in order to identify a qualified engineering consultant for completing design of the project. The direct selection process utilized the Sedona Public Work's annual inventory of submitted Architect – Engineer Qualifications for FY 20, from which a selection committee consisting of three employees of Public Works identified an initial list of pre-qualified consultants based upon relevant experience. From this initial list the selection committee then further evaluated and rated the pre-qualified engineering consultants based on criteria of: project size vs size/capacity of firm; consultant qualifications/areas of experience; relevant and recent local experience; unique attributes/qualifications; and familiarity with City of Sedona. This evaluation and rating by the selection committee concluded with the top three ranked engineering consulting firms being as follows: 1) WSP USA Inc (considered most qualified); 2) AZTEC Engineering Group (considered second most qualified); and 3) Kimley-Horn and Associates (considered third most qualified). Procurement: Following the finding of the selection committee, staff began negotiations with WSP to develop an appropriate scope of work and fee basis for the projects design. Negotiations with WSP did conclude with a mutually satisfactory scope of work and fee for the project.

- City council approved by a vote of 6-1 a Resolution and Ordinance adopting building code updates and amendments including the 2018 International Building, Residential, Existing Building, Energy Conservation, Plumbing, Mechanical, Fuel Gas, and Swimming Pool and Spa Codes, and the 2017 National Electrical Code. The current building codes consist of the 2006 International Code Council (ICC) codes and the 2005 National Electric Code (NEC), all of which were adopted in 2007. The proposal to adopt the 2018 ICC codes and the 2017 NEC is an effort to address the most current construction practices, products, materials and allowances, to be consistent with the surrounding counties and communities, and to address a Council priority. The documents herein address feedback from staff, customers (including a focus group with architects, contractors, and members of the green/sustainable community), and Council via direction received at the City Council Work Session dated June 11, 2019. The minority opinion restated previous concerns that a complete cost analysis was not completed regarding the financial impact of adapting the new standards. City staff reminded council that local developers were involved in the analysis and several articulated that they were already developing to the current standards. Additionally, many of the energy related requirements may be an increase in upfront costs but over the course of the building savings based on the efficiencies may offset of return benefit to the owner.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions, comments, or concerns at [wchisholm@sedonaaz.gov](mailto:wchisholm@sedonaaz.gov)

Bill

## APPENDIX A

