

FREDONIA TOWN COUNCIL WORK MEETING
May 16, 2023
25 N. Main St., Fredonia, AZ
4:00 p.m.

Pursuant to ARS 38-431.01, notice is hereby given to members of the Fredonia Town Council and the Public that a Work Meeting will be held on May 16, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. One or more may participate telephonically. Councilor Ballard, Vice Mayor Johnson. Councilor Johnson. Councilor Banks, Traci Goodall

Work Meeting

Call to Order 4:05pm
Roll call Mayor Riddle

A. Discussion

1. Zoom meeting with Chris Phalen- Natural Resource Officer for Senator Sinema. Mayor Riddle advised that she had reached out to Leana Fowler and was very displeased that we were not contacted at all. The response was discussed. Mr. Phalen stated that the grazing rights were not taken away, there were no changes to the grazing rights. Council asked Mr. Phalen if he knew what a AUM is. He stated he did not. The term is used in ranching as to how many cows there can be per unit . Grazing allotments were discussed, ranchers use them to get loans from the bank. Mayor Riddle asked why we did not get any notification nor were we consulted in any way. She asked how do we become partners in this? We would like to Co-manage also. Mr. Phalen stated he would be sure our concerns were heard. Councilor Ballard asked why are they doing this at all? Mr. Phalen stated the purpose is to protect the landscape and watershed from Uranium mining. The topic of UN Agenda 2021,2030,2050 were discussed. Hayden Ballard was available by phone to ask questions of Mr. Phalen. Mr. Ballard was representing himself, not his employer. Mr. Ballard spoke of the Antiquities act and the legal ramifications of what the proposed monument would do under the guidelines of the antiquities act and asked what is the object that the monument is trying to protect? Also how grazing was negatively affected by other monuments that were allowed to pass and grazing rights were retired. Councilor Johnson discussed how atomic radiation from Las Vegas NV should be the priority, not uranium mining in the ground. Councilor Banks worked in a uranium mine for over 10 years, he stated not one drop of water leaves the mine site. Councilor Banks has contacts with certified geologists in regards to the mine that he was employed with. He also stated that there are ore bodies exposed currently in the Grand Canyon, How is that protected? Mr. Phalen stated that there are natural uranium deposits showing thru currently in the canyon. Mr. Phalen asked if prior studies could be shared. Mayor Riddle asked again how do we get involved? What is the next process? We want to protect grazing, not let what happened at Bears Ears monument happen here. Mr. Phalen stated NGO Management will look at the concerns and do their best. Mayor Riddle asked how do we get our concerns out?

Mr Phalen stated we will take this discussion to the congressman's office. Councilor Johnson stated we need the decision makers to visit our area. All the pictures that were taken were from the south rim, not the Arizona strip. They have no idea what this area of land looks like. Mayor Riddle asked if we could have two weeks to get the requested correspondence back to Mr. Phalen. The mayor stated that she would contact him every two weeks for updates. Councilor Ballard reiterated the change to the Economic Impact of Livestock and grazing study on the AZ Stip 2006 version page 14 be increased by 1.5% to calculate for inflation. This document is also shared with Mr. Phalen. Councilor Banks stated he would give contact information to the Mayor concerning the geologist.

Adjourn: 5:35 pm by Mayor Riddle 2nd by councilor Ballard all in favor

Approved



Christy Riddle, Mayor

Attest



Traci Goodall, Town Clerk

Certification- I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held.



Traci Goodall, Town Clerk