

**TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY  
MINUTES  
TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING  
TOWN HALL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 17, 2005**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Clarke called the special meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Paradise Valley, Arizona, to order at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 17, 2005, in the Town Hall, 6401 East Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley, Arizona, 85253.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mayor Ron Clarke  
Vice Mayor Ed Winkler  
Council Member Rick Coffman  
Council Member Mary Hamway  
Council Member Scott LeMarr  
Council Member Dan Schweiker  
Council Member Virginia "Jini" Simpson

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

Town Manager Thomas M. Martinsen  
Town Attorney Andrew Miller  
Management Services Director Lenore Lancaster  
Police Chief John Wintersteen  
Management Analyst Duncan Miller

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Discussion of Future Fire Service**

Mayor Clarke said Council would like feedback from the residents on the future fire service for the Town, one of the most important issues facing the Town in years.

Mr. Martinsen reviewed the history of fire service for the Town. He reviewed the viable alternatives: continue service with Rural/Metro or enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Scottsdale. He reviewed the pros and cons of the two services and the issues.

Mr. Miller reviewed the requirements for a fire district and a community facilities district. He reviewed the issue of a fee/subscription-based payment for service.

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Ms. Lancaster reviewed the impact on the expenditure limitation of a master contract with the City of Scottsdale. She reviewed two alternatives for payment for a master contract: property tax or increase in sales and use tax rate.

Residents asked questions of Mr. Martinsen.

Fire Chief Gary Morris, Rural/Metro, made a presentation on Rural/Metro services. He said a second fire station would cost about \$800,000 and have four firefighters on duty. Chief Morris answered questions from residents.

Mr. Martinsen said if the Town goes with the City of Scottsdale, it would take a year to transition to Scottsdale. Rural/Metro would provide service through the transition. The Town would also have to give Rural/Metro a one-year notice. Rural/Metro would have a temporary fire station in the eastern part of the Town. The cost would be negotiated with Rural/Metro.

Colin Williams, 7101 E. Lincoln Drive, said he served on a committee to evaluate the Town's options for fire service. They pushed for mandatory subscriptions, which has failed in the past. Rural/Metro employed him from 1995 to 1999 as public information officer. He said he does not like mutual aid agreements because there is reluctance to show up at a fire. He does not think it is fair to increase the bed tax and pass the residents' expense on to the guests. If people choose to build in the community they should be willing to pay for their services.

Lacy Johnson, 6920 McDonald, said he was satisfied with Rural/Metro and would like to see them stay. He felt they try to be innovative.

Blandy Boocock, 6001 Nauri Valley Drive, said he lived here for 30 years and always subscribed to Rural/Metro. He has witnessed two fires and Rural/Metro responded immediately. He would like to stay with Rural/Metro and raise sales taxes to pay for the service. He does not want to be at the mercy of Scottsdale.

Victor Maragni, 6502 E. Via Buena Vista, said he has had subscription services and municipal service. We have no control over Scottsdale fire service or the cost. Regarding bed tax increases, he cautioned that New York City found out what happens with increases in bed tax – guests stop coming.

Tom Husband, 5520 E. San Miguel, said that Scottsdale is an unknown. If they have to choose between Scottsdale and Paradise Valley as to where to go, they will go to Scottsdale. The other concern is the cost. We know what municipal monopolies do with costs. He felt there is no control with service from Scottsdale. He said the Town should fund Rural/Metro if we were going to fund service with Scottsdale. He said a second station needed to be strategically located for Paradise Valley. Over the past five years his cost increase has been only 80 cents per year. He would opt for Rural/Metro with a

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funding formula.

Bob Mason, 6231 E. Huntress Drive, said he is president of the Finisterre Homeowners Association. There is a funding issue with both Rural/Metro and City of Scottsdale. In his subdivision, only 88% of the homes subscribe to Rural/Metro. They are very happy with Rural/Metro. There are unknown issues with City of Scottsdale. He would like mandatory funding without a tax. He would like the Town to solve the equity issue.

Paul Streich said the Town has 12% non-contributors. If the subscription rate goes up, the percentage of non-subscribers would increase. He does not feel the Town needs a fire district. There may be a time when the Town needs a property tax, and this may be that time.

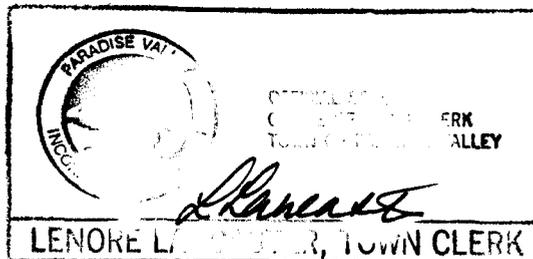
Terry Cain, 5991 E. Mockingbird Lane, said the Town should stay with Rural/Metro. It would allow the Town to keep its independence.

Lacy Johnson said the Town saw what happened with the City of Scottsdale with the sewer system and he hopes that does not happen again.

**Adjournment**

Mayor Clarke adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

  
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Ronald B. Clarke, Mayor



ATTEST:

  
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Lenore P. Lancaster, Town Clerk

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Town Council of Paradise Valley held on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of February 2005. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2005.

  
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Lenore P. Lancaster, Town Clerk