

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

WHEN: TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2023

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

LIVESTREAM: CAREFREE YOUTUBE CHANNEL
<https://www.youtube.com/@CarefreeAZgov>

TIME: 5:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor John Crane
Vice Mayor Cheryl Kroyer
Councilmember Sheila Amoroso
Councilmember Vince D’Aliesio
Councilmember Stephen Hatcher

ABSENT:

Councilmember Mike Johnson

Staff Present:

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

Mayor Crane called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

SILENT ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

George Nelson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

IT ITEM #1 Approval of the June 6, 2023 Town Council Meeting minutes.

ITEM #2 Acceptance into the public record of the June, 2023 paid bills.

ITEM #3 Acceptance of the cash receipts and disbursements report for May, 2023.

Mayor Crane announced the agenda item and there were no comments or changes.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Kroyer made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items 1 through 3 as presented.

SECOND: Council Member D’Aliesio.

VOTE: Approved 5-0-1.

Voting Member	Aye/Nay
Mayor John Crane	Aye
Vice Mayor Cheryl Kroyer	Aye
Sheila Amoroso	Aye
Vince D’Aliesio	Aye
Stephen Hatcher	Aye
Mike Johnson	Absent

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

ITEM #4 Call to the Public:

John Traynor - Carefree, AZ appeared and spoke regarding his belief there was a mistake made in December. The recent vote was not about property tax. “We are all watching. Pick the 80%.”

George Nelson - Thanked the Council for selecting him to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. He has a military family. Referenced the 80% selection and suggested pickleball courts for the Town of Carefree.

Diane Thompson – Endorsed Colleen Rose – Scurti for the vacant council seat.

John Mattes, Carefree, AZ appeared and spoke regarding transparency and truth. He said the Town Administrator has been in his position for 20 years or so he believes. He suggested he did not receive a “personnel policy and procedures” requested by Public Record Request and so there is not one. That it is a liability to the Town. Virtually every other municipality has a “personnel policy and procedures.” He checked. He thanked the Council for the Carefree Water Company adding an insert to his water bill.

Stuart Scurti – He stated he sat in the post office building with his wife, Colleen Rose-Scurti when she solicited support for the vacant council seat. He stated it was, “transparency at its finest.” He endorsed her for the vacant council seat and told the council to choose wisely.

Walter Brubaker, Carefree, AZ spoke regarding Scottsdale recent decision to house homeless people. He urged the Council to act against such activity. He stated he observed pot dispensaries, bail bondsman and other businesses in Cave Creek and urged the Council not to allow the same in Carefree.

REGULAR AGENDA:

ITEM #5 Current Events.

Briana Khan was introduced as the new Communications Manager.

ITEM #6 Review, discussion, and possible action to appoint an applicant to the vacant Town Council seat pursuant to Carefree Town Code Section 2-1-1 to serve through December, 2026. The following individuals have submitted applications:

1. Lon Johnson
2. Michael Krahe
3. Louis P. Levinson
4. Clint Miller
5. Gene Orrico
6. Colleen Rose-Scurti
7. Diane Roth
8. Sharon Smith
9. Ted Taylor
10. Ron Thackery

John Mattes - Carefree, AZ appeared and endorsed Colleen Rose – Scurti.

Ariane Buser – Carefree, AZ appeared and endorsed Colleen Rose – Scurti.

Jan Neal – Carefree, AZ appeared and endorsed Diane Roth

Mayor Crane announced the agenda item and drew candidate names from a hat for the order to appear and speak for two minutes prior to council voting. Candidates Michael Krahe and Ron Thackery appeared by telephone.

The candidates spoke in the following order:

1. Ron Thackery
2. Louis P. Levinson
3. Lon Johnson
4. Sharon Smith
5. Michael Krahe
6. Colleen Rose-Scurti
7. Clint Miller
8. Gene Orrico
9. Ted Taylor
10. Diane Roth

The Council Members presented their thoughts regarding their candidate choices. The successful candidate required a simple majority vote.

Round One Voting:

Mayor John Crane – Lon Johnson
Vice Mayor Cheryl Kroyer – Clint Miller
Councilmember Sheila Amoroso – Clint Miller
Councilmember Vince D’Aliesio – Sharon Smith
Councilmember Stephen Hatcher – Diane Roth

No candidate received a simple majority. Candidates not receiving a vote were eliminated. Second round of voting commenced.

Round Two Voting:

Mayor John Crane – Lon Johnson
Vice Mayor Cheryl Kroyer – Clint Miller
Councilmember Sheila Amoroso – Clint Miller
Councilmember Vince D’Aliesio – Sharon Smith
Councilmember Stephen Hatcher – Sharon Smith

Two candidates each received two votes; Clint Miller and Sharon Smith. Candidate Lon Johnson was eliminated. Round three voting would only include Clint Miller and Sharon Smith.

Round Three Voting:

Mayor John Crane – Clint Miller
Vice Mayor Cheryl Kroyer – Clint Miller
Councilmember Sheila Amoroso – Clint Miller
Councilmember Vince D’Aliesio – Sharon Smith
Councilmember Stephen Hatcher – Sharon Smith

ACTION: *Clint Miller was selected to the vacant council seat through December, 2026.*

Town Clerk/Treasurer Kandace French Contreras swore in Mr. Miller and he took his place at the dais.

(Taken out of order)

ITEM #10 Review, discussion and possible action to approve the Series #012 Restaurant liquor license for Don Russell Little and Black Mountain Café.

The agenda item was presented by Town Clerk, Kandace French Contreras. Applicant Don Russell Little appeared and spoke before the Council.

MOTION: Council Member D’Aliesio made a motion to approve the agenda item #10 as presented.

SECOND: Mayor Kroyer.

VOTE: Approved 5-0-1.

Voting Member	Aye/Nay
Mayor John Crane	Aye
Vice Mayor Cheryl Kroyer	Aye
Sheila Amoroso	Aye
Vince D'Aliesio	Aye
Stephen Hatcher	Aye
Mike Johnson	Absent

ITEM #7 Review, discussion and possible action to authorize capital funds for the purchase of a Pierce Fire/Pumper Truck.

The agenda item was presented by Town Administrator, Gary Neiss.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Kroyer made a motion to approve the agenda item as presented.

SECOND: Council Member Amoroso.

VOTE: Approved 5-0-1.

Voting Member	Aye/Nay
Mayor John Crane	Aye
Vice Mayor Cheryl Kroyer	Aye
Sheila Amoroso	Aye
Vince D'Aliesio	Aye
Stephen Hatcher	Aye
Mike Johnson	Absent

ITEM #8 Review, discussion and possible action to authorize capital funds for the stucco repair/resurface, Rhino Shield and ceramic paint to garden walls located between the amphitheater and the bridge into/from the post office building.

The agenda item was presented by Town Administrator, Gary Neiss.

MOTION: Council Member Amoroso made a motion to approve the agenda item as presented.

SECOND: Vice Mayor Kroyer.

VOTE: Approved 5-0-1.

Voting Member	Aye/Nay
Mayor John Crane	Aye

Vice Mayor Cheryl Kroyer	Aye
Sheila Amoroso	Aye
Vince D'Aliesio	Aye
Stephen Hatcher	Aye
Mike Johnson	Absent

ITEM #9 Review, discussion and possible action to authorize capital funds to refresh decomposed granite in the Town Center Desert Garden and replanting amphitheater planter located at the northwest corner of the amphitheater.

The agenda item was presented by Town Administrator, Gary Neiss.

MOTION: Council Member D'Aliesio made a motion to approve the agenda item as presented.

SECOND: Council Member Amoroso.

VOTE: Approved 5-0-1.

Voting Member	Aye/Nay
Mayor John Crane	Aye
Vice Mayor Cheryl Kroyer	Aye
Sheila Amoroso	Aye
Vince D'Aliesio	Aye
Stephen Hatcher	Aye
Mike Johnson	Absent

ITEM #11 Review, discussion and possible action to approve the Agent/Owner amendment to the Series #012 Restaurant liquor license for Andrea Dahlman Lewkowitz and Keelers Neighborhood Steakhouse.

The matter was presented by Town Clerk, Kandace French Contreras.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Kroyer made a motion to approve the agenda item as presented.

SECOND: Council Member Amoroso.

VOTE: Approved 5-0-1.

Voting Member	Aye/Nay
Mayor John Crane	Aye
Vice Mayor Cheryl Kroyer	Aye
Sheila Amoroso	Aye
Vince D'Aliesio	Aye
Stephen Hatcher	Aye
Mike Johnson	Absent

ITEM #12 Adjournment.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Kroyer made a motion to adjourn.

SECOND: Council Member D'Aliesio

VOTE: Approved 5-0-1.

Voting Member	Aye/Nay
Mayor John Crane	Aye
Vice Mayor Cheryl Kroyer	Aye
Sheila Amoroso	Aye
Vince D'Aliesio	Aye
Stephen Hatcher	Aye
Mike Johnson	Absent

ACTION: *ADJOURNED AT 6:56 P.M.*

DATED this 14th of July, 2023.

TOWN OF CAREFREE

BY:


Kandace French Contreras, Town Clerk/Treasurer

TOWN OF CAREFREE


John Crane, Mayor

Attest:


Kandace French Contreras, Town Clerk/Treasurer

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Regular Meeting of the Town of Carefree held July 11, 2023. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.



Kandace French Contreras, Town Clerk