



## Minutes Town Council Regular Meeting July 8, 2021

Valerie Molina  
Mayor

Ricardo Vital  
Vice Mayor

Mary Bravo  
Councilmember

Gloria Cota  
Councilmember

Elvira Osuna  
Councilmember

Joe Sánchez  
Councilmember

Anita Cota Soto  
Councilmember

Agendas/Minutes:  
[www.guadalupeaz.org](http://www.guadalupeaz.org)

Town Council Chambers  
9241 S. Avenida del Yaqui  
Guadalupe, AZ 85283  
Phone: (480) 730-3080  
Fax: (480)-505-5368

Minutes of the Guadalupe Town Council Regular Meeting held on Thursday, July 8, 2021, at 6:00 P.M., at Guadalupe Town Hall, 9241 South Avenida del Yaqui, Museum Room, Guadalupe, Arizona.

A. Mayor Molina called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

### B. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Valerie Molina. The following councilmembers participated via video conference: Vice Mayor Ricardo Vital, Councilmember Mary Bravo, Councilmember Gloria Cota, and Councilmember Elvira Osuna

Councilmembers Absent: Councilmember Joe Sánchez and Councilmember Anita Cota Soto

Staff Present: Jeff Kulaga – Town Manager / Clerk, Jennifer Drury – Assistant to the Town Manager, Cachi Castorena, MCSO Deputy, and David Ledyard – Town Attorney (via video conference)

### C. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Bravo provided the invocation. Mayor Molina then lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

### D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Approval of the June 24, 2021 Special Council Meeting Minutes.

**Motion by Councilmember Bravo to approve agenda item D1; second by Vice Mayor Vital. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote 5-0.**

1. Councilmembers approved the June 24, 2021, Special Council Meeting Minutes.

E. CALL TO THE PUBLIC: No one spoke. Mayor Molina announced that Town Hall is open and that the public is welcome to address the Council in person or via e-mail.

F. MAYOR and COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS: None.

### G. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

#### 1. COVID-19 ACTION UPDATE

Jeff Kulaga, Town Manager / Clerk provided an update from Town staff regarding current Town of Guadalupe COVID-19 positive case rates, scheduled testing, vaccination information, Town services, and steps taken to safeguard public health and safety in response to the Coronavirus.

Mr. Kulaga stated that everyone should continue to use their judgement on whether to wear a mask; continue washing hands; continue social distancing; and, urged everyone to get vaccinated. He then discussed recent vaccination events and thanked the Towns' community partners for their support. Per the County Health Department, Guadalupe's vaccinated rate is 31%. Guadalupe is one of two municipalities in the County that is under a 40% vaccination rate.



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Mr. Kulaga outlined services and supplies that have been provided by the Town to residents over the past year related to COVID-19 and its impacts. The new focus will be on increasing the vaccination rate for residents. Another area of focus will be the allocation of Economic Recovery Act Funding. Currently, there is \$468,721 in federal funds available for eligible Guadalupe families. Eligible families must demonstrate a decrease in income due to COVID-19, an increase in expenses such as medical bills due to COVID-19, and household size is also a factor.

An upcoming vaccination event will include a Back-to-School event on Saturday, July 24, 2021. The Promotoras will be in attendance to determine if there are families that are eligible for federal funding.

Mr. Kulaga discussed COVID-19 positive case rates that are trending downward.

In response to a question regarding how to determine if a family is eligible for federal funding, Mr. Kulaga stated that staff is currently receiving training on what documentation is required to determine eligibility to receive federal funding assistance. This program will also be promoted on the Town's website and through the Promotoras.

In response to a question regarding the upcoming vaccination/Back-to-School event, Vice Mayor Vital stated that attendees that show proof of being vaccinated will be entered into a raffle. Ages 12 and older are eligible to be vaccinated.

## 2. RESCIND REQUIRING FACE COVERINGS IN PUBLIC PROCLAMATION (JUNE 19, 2020)

Councilmembers discussed rescinding the June 19, 2020, Proclamation issued by Mayor Molina requiring all individuals within the jurisdiction of the Town of Guadalupe to wear face coverings in all places of public accommodation, if they are or will be in contact with other individuals who are not in their household, and / or required in all spaces where it is difficult or impossible to maintain physical distancing.

Jeff Kulaga, Town Manager / Clerk, discussed the low COVID-19 positive cases in Guadalupe. Nationally, there is less mask wearing. Mr. Kulaga noted that when the face coverings in public proclamation was implemented in June, 2020, it was challenging to enforce.

Councilmembers discussed new virus strains and how they impact those that are, or are not, vaccinated. Guadalupe's low vaccination rate is of concern. Until the vaccination rate increases, the face coverings in public proclamation should remain in place. It is important to take the Delta virus seriously. There are families that are deciding not to get vaccinated because they have children under the age of 12 years old, fear, and disbelief that it is needed.

**Motion by Councilmember Bravo to retain the face coverings in public proclamation dated June 19, 2020, until the vaccination rate increases; second by Vice Mayor Vital. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote 5-0.**

Councilmembers voted to retain the June 19, 2020, Proclamation issued by Mayor Molina requiring all individuals within the jurisdiction of the Town of Guadalupe to wear face coverings in all places of public accommodation, if they are or will be in contact with other individuals who are not in their household, and / or required in all spaces where it is difficult or impossible to maintain physical distancing.

## H. TOWN MANAGERS' COMMENTS

Jeff Kulaga, Town Manager / Clerk

- The Wastewater Collection System Rehabilitation Project (sewer line repairs), a \$517,000 grant funded project, will begin July 12, and conclude in October 2021. The Town's sewer system is 40 years old. Manhole covers will be replaced and sewer pipes will be lined. Curbs and gutters may be removed and replaced. Dibble Engineering is coordinating repairs along Avenida del Yaqui to coincide with the Avenida del Yaqui Street Improvement Project. Crews will inform residents that may be impacted.



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## I. COUNCILMEMBERS' COMMENTS

### Councilmember Bravo

- o Thanked everyone.
- o Encouraged everyone to get vaccinated.

### Councilmember Osuna

- o Thanked everyone for their work.
- o Condolences to the families that are victims of the acts of violence in the community; and, encouraged families to be part of the solution.

### Vice Mayor Vital

- o Saturday, July 24, 2021 – Vaccination event.

### Mayor Molina

- o She and Vice Mayor Vital met with Pascua Yaqui Tribe Workforce Development Office representatives to discuss their reentry program that begins in August. The program is to assist incarcerated individuals to reenter society. Brochures are available at Town Hall and at the tribal office.
- o This evening, behavioral health services are available at Community Center on Avenida del Yaqui; and, fresh produce is available to the public.

## J. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion by Councilmember Bravo to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting; second by Councilmember Osuna. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote 5-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

  
Valerie Molina, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Jeff Kulaga, Town Manager / Town Clerk

## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the July 8, 2021, Town of Guadalupe, Town Council Regular Meeting. I further certify the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

  
Jeff Kulaga, Town Manager / Town Clerk