

MINUTES OF THE STUDY SESSION OF THE SHOW LOW CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025, AT 6:00 PM IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 181 NORTH 9TH STREET, SHOW LOW, NAVAJO COUNTY, ARIZONA

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Leech called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Leech, Vice Mayor Kakavas, Councilman Adams (arrived at 6:03 p.m.), Councilman Clark, Councilman Hatch, Councilman Judd, and Councilman Whipple.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: F. Morgan Brown, City Manager; Anna Atencio, City Attorney; Justin Johnson, Deputy City Manager; Lisa Robertson, Grants and Transit Manager; Shannon Adams, Grants Coordinator; and Rachael Hall, City Clerk.

GUESTS: None.

3. Presentation by State Historic Preservation Office

Ms. Adams introduced Arianna Urban, a planner at the State Historic Preservation Office, an office of the Arizona State Parks. Ms. Urban said historic/heritage preservation was often winced at or thought of as an undesirable threat to property rights but said that preservation was just about collaborating with different levels of government, the public, city administration, elected officials, business owners, and other stakeholders to make sure that the future included strategies to preserve the unique and inherent character of a community.

Ms. Urban said historic/heritage preservation was a tool to manage change, planning for changes to communities and helping those changes incorporate character and authenticity. She said it included perpetuation of important places for future generations, collaboration between three levels of government and the public, and integration of preservation into planning strategies.

Ms. Urban said heritage preservation was not government authority over private property, did not prevent owners from changing properties, was not a way to force hands of property owners, was not anti-development, did not restrict property rights and values, and was not legally binding.

Ms. Urban said the Certified Local Government Program (CLG) was a collaboration between the National Park Service, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and municipal governments. She said there was a public commitment to preserving community identity and preservation was tailored to the needs of each city. She said one of the main functions of SHPO was to provide a way to formally assist local cities and towns to incorporate preservation into planning and decision-making. She said CLGs acted independently to develop and maintain their programs. She said local municipalities demonstrated a presence of significant

historic resources and make a public commitment to preserving them. CLGs must have support from community, city administration, and elected officials. CLGs must be incorporated but could include counties. She said currently there were 30 CLGs in Arizona.

Ms. Urban said the benefits of becoming a CLG included grant funding for preservation planning projects, technical assistance in planning/zoning and preservation, training for staff, commissioners, neighborhoods and public, partnerships in regional and statewide preservation networks, and improvements in economic development, tourism, and quality of life.

Ms. Urban said there was a Show Low survey done in 1993. She said a new survey update would help to locate altered and demolished properties, seek new eligible resources, create potential heritage areas or districts, and show historic property tax incentives. She said SHPO had survey funding for CLGs.

Ms. Urban said the process would include identifying and recognizing important cultural and historic places, striving to best utilize historic properties, and ensuring historic places were dynamic parts of the community. She said no property restrictions were involved. No residential properties or neighborhoods were included, only commercial and institutional buildings would qualify for the program.

Ms. Urban said ultimately, preservation was about making sure places kept the character that made them special while improving quality of life and making it easier to use and reuse historic buildings. She said preservation wasn't ever about freezing a building or a place in time, but instead about managing change.

Mayor Leech asked if the buildings had to be owned by the City to be able to participate in the CLG program. Ms. Urban said it could be set up however the City wanted to set the program up. She said the program could include only city-owned buildings or could be city-owned and privately-owned buildings to participate in the program.

Vice Mayor Kakavas asked if the funds had to be used on an actual historic building or if the funds could be used to build a new museum to preserve historic artifacts for the City. Ms. Urban said SHPO couldn't fund a new museum but SHPO worked closely with the Arizona Historical Society and they have a program for CLGs to work with local historical societies. She said funds from SHPO could potentially help with a landscape survey for the Reidhead House's integration with the new campus museum project.

Councilman Adams asked what the next step would be. Ms. Urban said next step would include an updated survey prior to the CLG application process. She said the updated survey could be done by herself along with city staff, and this would give an idea of the City's resources to the National Park Services.

Councilman Judd asked if the City became a CLG, what the obligation would be to in the future for any buildings that had used funds from the program. Ms. Urban

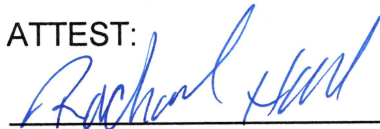
said there would not be any type of obligation in the future. She said there was no demolition restrictions or anything. She said SHPO wanted to preserve buildings but understood if something couldn't be preserved any longer.

The Council thanked Ms. Urban for her presentation.

4. Adjournment.

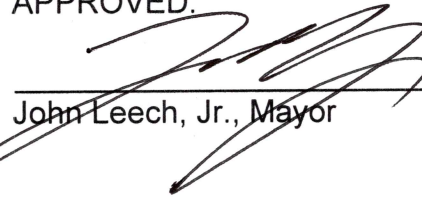
There being no further business to be brought before the Council, **MAYOR LEECH ADJOURNED THE STUDY SESSION OF THE SHOW LOW CITY COUNCIL OF JANUARY 21, 2025, AT 6:30 P.M.**

ATTEST:



Rachael Hall, City Clerk

APPROVED:

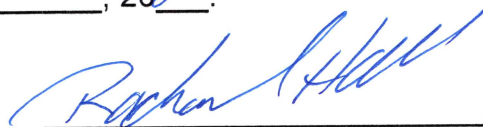


John Leech, Jr., Mayor

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Study Session of the City Council of Show Low held on January 21, 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 4 day of February, 2025.



Rachael Hall, City Clerk

