MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA, HELD FEBRUARY 20, 2024, AT 5:30 P.M., AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS-RIVERFRONT LOCATED AT 1083 RIVERFRONT ROAD, COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA.

Mayor Elinski called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

Roll call was taken as follows:

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Tim Elinski, Mayor Debbie Wilden, Vice Mayor Stephen DeWillis, Council Member Lisa DuVernay, Council Member Helaine Kurot, Council Member Michael Mathews, Council Member Derek Palosaari, Council Member

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Whitmer, Acting City Manager John Austin Gaylord, City Attorney Tami S. Mayes, City Clerk Amanda Wilber, Human Resources Director

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE LEGAL ACTION:

EXECUTIVE SESSION—PURSUANT TO A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(1), 38-431.03(A)(3), AND 38-431.03(A)(4), DISCUSSION OR CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL FOR LEGAL ADVICE REGARDING A CONTRACT WITH THE ACTING CITY MANAGER.

DISCUSSION REGARDING A CONTRACT WITH THE ACTING CITY MANAGER, TOM WHITMER.

Mayor Elinski stated, for those in the audience, we're likely going to convene into executive session and be out as soon as we hash out some of the details with this contract.

Mayor Elinski moved to convene into executive session. The motion was seconded by Council Member DeWillis and unanimously carried.

Council convened into executive session at 5:39 p.m., reconvening into open session at 5:52 p.m. All parties were present as previously stated.

Mayor Elinski moved to adjourn the executive session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Palosaari, and unanimously carried.

Mayor Elinski stated we find ourselves back in open session. We did have a discussion about the contract for hiring Mr. Whitmer. We thank him for being willing to assume this role. It is a heavy lift and a big ask, but he did step up and we appreciate that very much. The contract, as written, was presented by our Human Resources Director and our City Attorney, and they worked with Mr. Whitmer on that. It is commensurate with other contracts that we've had in the past with other City Attorneys. We're not going to vote on it in this special meeting, but it is on the Consent Agenda for our regular meeting.

<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

Mayor Elinski moved to adjourn the special meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Mathews and unanimously carried.

The special meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

	DocuSigned by:	
	Tim Elinski, Mayor	
ATTEST:	•	
DocuSigned by: Jami Mayes		
Tami Mayes, City Clerk		

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES

I hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the special meeting of the City Council of the City of Cottonwood held on February 20, 2024. I further certify that the meeting was duly called, and that a quorum was present.

Docusigned by: Sami Mayes	4/1/2024	
Tami S. Mayes, City Clerk	Date	