



Staff Report

Agenda Item: **Resolution Approving The 2010 Federal Appropriations Request For Municipal Water Projects** – approval of a resolution to be submitted to Representative Ann Kirkpatrick for project funding.

Staff Contact: Gayle Mabery, Town Manager

Meeting Date: February 24, 2009

Background: Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick notified the Town of Clarkdale recently that her office has developed a process for local agencies within her district to submit requests for project funding for the 2010 Fiscal Year. A complete set of guidelines and instructions accompanied the notification, with a due date for requests on Friday, February 27, 2009.

Congresswoman Kirkpatrick emphasized her commitment to prudent and responsible use of taxpayers' money, and pointed out that the request process will be transparent, with all requests subject to public review and comment on her website www.house.gov/kirkpatrick

Upon submission of our projects for consideration, Town staff will continue to work with Congresswoman Kirkpatrick's staff to supplement any information they might need in order to submit our projects for consideration in the Federal Budget for 2010.

Town Staff is recommending two municipal water projects to be submitted for appropriations requests:

- Twin 5 Water Relocation – Replace and relocate existing exposed above group dual-5" water pipelines with 12" ductile iron pipe to enhance system security and improve operating capability. \$ 3,487,583
- Lower Clarkdale Water Line Replacement Project – Replacement of approximately 12,300 feet of aging waterline (circa 1912) located in the Lower Town area of Clarkdale with new 8-inch PVC, C900 waterlines. This project will standardize waterline size, improve water flows, increase fire protection, improve water quality and eliminate numerous and on-going costly emergency repairs to the system. \$ 2,152,125

It should be noted that Congress names only a small fraction of the appropriation requests it receives, and that appropriations funding for construction are extremely limited. The timeline provided by Congresswoman Kirkpatrick is as follows:

- November – February – Agencies and organizations begin drafting proposals for funding requests.

- February 27 – Deadline for submitting appropriations request to Congresswoman Kirkpatrick’s Office.
- Late February through Spring – House and Senate Appropriations Committees begin hearings on all appropriations bills and begin “marking up” (amending) bills. Members must submit projects for consideration prior to the start of these hearings.
- Summer – House and Senate work to approve their versions of the 12 appropriations bills. Some bills will go through the Conference Committee, approved by the House and Senate and sent to the President.
- September – Remaining conference committees meet to finalize appropriations bills. They are voted on and sent to the President for signature. In recent years, the remaining appropriations have been rolled into a large omnibus bill, voted on late in the year.
- October 1 – New Fiscal Year begins. If any bills are not signed into law, continuing resolutions are approved to allow the federal government to continue working under the previous fiscal year’s budget authority until their appropriations for the current fiscal year are approved.

Congresswoman Kirkpatrick’s application process requires a Resolution of support for the projects by the submitting agency.

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Council approve the Resolution in support of the submission of local water infrastructure projects to Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick for consideration of federal appropriations in the Fiscal Year 2010 budget.

RESOLUTION # _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF CLARKDALE, ARIZONA, IN SUPPORT OF SUBMITTING LOCAL WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS FOR CONSIDERATION OF FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE 2010 FEDERAL BUDGET.

WHEREAS, as an original “company town”, Clarkdale was founded in 1912, and is recognized as Arizona’s first planned community; and,

WHEREAS, the Clarkdale water system was operated by a private owner from 1912-2006; and,

WHEREAS, in 1999, recognizing the deteriorating nature of the water company, and the need to secure long term, sustainable water resources for the citizens of Clarkdale, the Clarkdale Town Council began negotiations for the purchase of the local water company; and,

WHEREAS, working in partnership with our neighboring City of Cottonwood, Clarkdale successfully purchased the portion of the water company serving Clarkdale in January, 2006; and,

WHEREAS, the citizens of Clarkdale, recognizing the importance of public ownership of the water utility, voted to give the Town of Clarkdale authority to operate a water utility on March 14, 2000 with an unprecedented 71% voter approval; and,

WHEREAS, upon purchase of the private water company, Clarkdale citizens saw their rates increase on an average of 350% as a result of the purchase price and cost of initial critical repairs to the system; and,

WHEREAS, the age of the Clarkdale water system necessitates significantly more investment to preserve the health and safety of Clarkdale citizens and ensure sustainable water delivery; and,

WHEREAS, two water system improvement projects are of a critical nature with no immediate funding source available:

- Twin 5 Water Main Relocation – Replace and relocate vulnerable existing exposed above ground dual-5” water main pipelines with a minimum 12” ductile iron pipe to enhance system security and improve operating capability. \$ 3,487,583
- Lower Clarkdale Water Line Replacement Project – Replacement of approximately 12,300 feet of aging waterline (circa 1912) located in the Lower Town area of Clarkdale with new 8-inch PVC, C900 waterlines. This project will standardize waterline size, improve water flows, increase fire protection, improve water quality and eliminate numerous and on-going costly emergency repairs to the system. \$ 2,152,125

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CLARKDALE, ARIZONA AS FOLLOWS:

That the Town Council of the Town of Clarkdale urges the United States Congress to include the two above named projects for appropriations in the Fiscal Year 2010 Budget.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mayor and Common Council on the 24th day of February, 2009.

Doug Von Gausig, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathy Bainbridge, Town Clerk/Finance Director