
PRESS RELEASE

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Town of Clarkdale Announces Elimination of 2 Positions

Clarkdale, AZ (February 25, 2010) Clarkdale Town Manager Gayle Mabery announced today, that, due to the current economy and the budget situation for FY 2011, she was left with the difficult but necessary choice of eliminating two positions from the organization on Wednesday, February 24th. The two positions eliminated included a Planner II position in the Community Development Department and the Deputy Town Clerk position in the Town Clerk/Finance Department. These two positions were selected after careful examination of the Town's core functions, the service levels and demands in given departments, and the capacity of those departments to accommodate the loss of the positions with as little detriment to the Town's ability to continue to provide critical services to the public as possible. The stark reality of the Town's declining and uncertain revenue streams, and personnel costs consuming a vast majority of expenses, led to the elimination of these positions.

Prior to the elimination of these two positions, the Town was able to reduce the work force without involuntary terminations. Methods used to date included attrition (keeping budgeted positions unfilled if they were vacant), early retirements and reclassifications. Through those methods, Clarkdale's organization moved from 51 full time employees and 4 part time employees in FY 2008 to 42 full time employees and 4 part time employees in January, 2010. As a result of the elimination of these additional positions, the Town will start the FY 2011 budget with 40 full time and 4 part time employees, which is a 20% decrease in our staffing level since FY 2008.

Town Manager Mabery believes that the two cuts that have been made, in addition to restructuring job classifications and work assignments, and continuing with the 10% reduction in pay for employees across the organization, will allow the Town to avoid additional involuntary staff reductions for FY 2011. However, as the Town faces the pressure of declining and uncertain revenue sources, they will continue to make the adjustments that are necessary to operate the Town within a balanced budget and maintain as high a level of service as is possible in today's economic climate.