

Transparency: (2) the quality or state of being transparent.

From time to time, accusations are made against Administrative persons of “not being transparent”. A common statement is that the “Town” fails to notify residents about this or that. Another statement is that the “Town is Obligated” to notify residents. The reality has been that certain persons ‘missed’ the information or did not understand..... they act like this is somehow the Town Administrations fault.

The methods we use go beyond what is required by Law, and is fairly standard throughout the state.

NEWS PRINT:

The state has requirements for certain things to be posted in the newspaper, while most other information must simply be available within a certain time frame. We only just comply with regulations for posting in a printed newspaper because it is very expensive. ‘News’ releases are treated with extreme caution because they open the door for editing that does not necessarily reflect the proper view.

HUACHUCA CITY’S WEBSITE:

Though we are not required to have a web-site due to our population size, I spearheaded getting one anyway. I believe in providing as much information as possible and accessible to you at any time. The website also allows for much quicker and more accurate updates and dissemination of information. Our Town’s web site is: <http://www.huachucacityaz.gov/>

LEAGUE OF ARIZONA CITIES AND TOWNS:

We have been posting state required material on this site since I’ve been with the Town. There is a plethora of information and links to almost any question you may have. Much of our historical records (agendas, budgets, minutes, and ordinances) that have not yet been updated to our web site may be found there as well. <http://www.azleague.org/>

ARIZONA STATE LAW:

You may often hear references made to “state law”, “ARS’s”, or the “State Statutes”; they are all the same. The Town must always adhere to State Law and the State Law always supersedes Town Code. One of the problems that plagued our Town for years, if not decades, was with our Code not properly updated to reflect changes with the State; this is fixed. The State law is available on-line at the following site: <http://www.azleg.gov/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp>

SOCIAL MEDIA:

The Town does not ‘officially’ subscribe to this yet. It is too easy to get in legal trouble with this and we do not have the staffing to properly get involved at this time. All Town employee’s must be careful to remain politically ‘neutral’ when publically speaking on behalf of the Town. There are citizens who have Facebook pages and such, but it is important to realize that they cannot ‘officially’ represent the Town. Elected Officials have much more latitude in the “Public Arena”. I maintain my Facebook page specifically as a communication tool on a more personal nature to you.

As a whole, this administration is leaps and bounds ahead of where we were just a few years ago. We are not perfect but always striving to be better. Nothing is hidden, and we are always ready to provide what is required. If you don’t see what you want, please always feel free to ask. Lastly, anyone who says that we are not being transparent, must just not be looking in the right direction.