Hopi Tribal Council Approves Action Item for FY2020 General Fund Budget

Kykotsmovi, Ariz. - Monday, December 30, 2019 at the Hopi Tribal Council Session presided by Hopi Vice Chairman, Clark Tenakhongva, the Budget Operations Team, as part of its continued scheduled time certain and presentation, received approval on the fiscal year 2020 General Fund Budget. According to approved fiscal year 2020 Expenditure Authorization & Appropriations Language, the approved FY2020 General Budget in the amount of $19,080,887.00 will also be the same base amount for fiscal year 2021. Hopi Vice Chairman Tenakhongva presided over the Council session while Daryn Melvin, Vice Chairman’s staff member and Wilfred Gaseoma, Hopi Tribal Treasurer, led the presentation.

Just before the eleven o’clock morning hour on December 30, 2019, Dale Sinquah, First Mesa Consolidated Villages Representative to Council made a motion to approve Action Item #006-2020 as amended. Wallace Youvella, Sr., First Mesa Consolidated Villages Representative to Council seconded the motion. With a vote of 14 in favor and 4 opposed, the motion passed approving the FY2020 Budget in the amount of $19,080,887.00.

The final approved amount was $1,080,887.00 over the proposed $18 million which Council directed the BOT to work with as of September 25, 2019. In comparison the $19,080,887.00 is $1,958,140.00 less than the FY2019 General Fund Budget of $21,039,027.00.

Just over three months after Council directed the BOT to work towards providing recommendations for the FY2020 General Fund Budget at the $18 million level, the BOT was before Council again. After countless hours of debating, reconfiguring the budget figures to include funds for programs which had not originally submitted budgets by the submission deadline, such as the Domestic Violence Program, Miss Hopi Committee and Hopi Assisted Living Facility (H.A.L.F.), and increasing salary amounts for the Facilities department staff to bring those employees up to par with other...
Hopi Chairman’s Report to the Hopi Public

Greetings to all our Hopi/Tewa Sinom. This is Chairman Nuvangyaoma. During my campaign, I spoke about transparency, and as part of that transparency, I have visited the villages and communities providing public forums to inform Hopi/Tewa Sinom. On December 30, 2019, a Phoenix Public Forum was held.

The Tutuveni recently published in the November 19, 2019 Issue #22 titled “Hopi Tribal Council Adopts Resolution H-081-2019 to Rescind the September 3, 2019 Vote for Selection of General Counsel”.

The story, however, failed to depict information important for our Hopi/Tewa Sinom as part of this story. When my Administration came into office on December 1, 2017, we identified matters of concern and knew corrective measures had to be put in place. The Hopi Tribal Government deals with Federal and State issues. For that reason all attorneys within the office of General Counsel must be licensed and in good standing with the State Bar of Arizona. The fact is no one in Office of General Counsel was licensed with the State Bar of Arizona. How attorneys are hired is another serious concern that has proven to be ineffective. Over the course of years there has been a large turnover of General Counsels.

Within the Hopi Constitution Under ARTICLE VI – POWERS OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL – Section 1(b) To employ lawyers, choice of lawyers and fixing of fees to be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior so long as required by Federal law. This section has been interpreted differently by Tribal Council Representatives. Tribal Council Representatives believe they are solely responsible for accepting reviewing, vetting, interviewing, and hiring attorneys. For that reason, I mentioned this to Hopi Tribal Council “As I look across this body (Hopi Tribal Representatives, including myself), I do not see one person with any Human Resources certification. We are Legislators, not Administrators. The Human Resources Departments specific purposes is to properly execute the hiring process”.

Ms. Works was hired to serve as Deputy General Counsel. Ms. Thin Elk was not an Arizona Licensed Attorney. Ms. Works attempted to resolve this matter internally within the office of General Counsel but subsequently had to report it to the State Bar for professional reasons and to protect her licensure.

The Hopi Tribal Council agreed with my administrative recommendation to update the General Counsel Position description to require the applicant to be licensed and in good standing with the State of Arizona. The Hopi Tribal Council also agreed to have the Human Resources component added to the hiring process of General Counsel. The following is the summary of the process in hiring General Counsel:

The position of General Counsel has been vacant since December 3, 2018, which is well over a year. On April 10, 2019, the Hopi Tribal Council directed the Executive Director and the Office Human Resources to formulate a team to review applications for the General Counsel position.

On May 16, 2019, the Hopi Tribal Council approved a General Counsel Application Review Team, which consisted of Dorma Sahneyah, Executive Director, Representative Dale Sinquah, Representative Rosa Honani, Representative Philton Talayumptewa Sr., Representative LeRoy Shingoitewa, and Vice-Chairman’s Chief of Staff Troy Honanie Jr. The panel was identified within an open council session.

On August 7, 2019, after conducting review of applications and applicant interviews, the Review Team presented to the Hopi Tribal Council its Interview Ratings depicting the recommended top candidate for the General Counsel position. Hopi Tribal Council decided not to support the Team’s recommendation of Sarah Works and voted to interview applicants that did not meet the Team’s qualification review.

A formal Action Item and Contract for Ms. Works were in route for review and signature however, Vice-Chairman Tenakhongva refused to sign the documents. The documents were sent to then Acting General Counsel Carlene Tenakhongva who also refused to sign the documents. The Action Item/Resolution was not provided to the Tribal Secretary’s office therefore it was never acted upon by the Tribal Council.

On September 3, 2019, the Hopi Tribal Council, by motion, voted to hire Ms. Sarah Works as General Counsel. Ms. Works was ranked as the highest qualified candidate, and because the action item was not signed previously and not provided to the Secretary’s office with a contract, Ms. Works was processed as a regular employee.

Ms. Works began producing weekly updates which were now being received within the Office of the Chairman and Hopi Tribal Council. Reporting had been absent since December 1, 2017.

On November 12, 2019, Representative Dale Sinquah, First Mesa Consolidated Villages representative, introduced an Action Item/Resolution, endorsed by Rosa Honani, Shipaulovi Village representative which read “Rescission of the Sept 3, 2019 vote and selection for the position of General Counsel due to the improper manner in which the vote was conducted and introduced, and re-vocation of the Personnel action to hire Ms. Sarah works, rendering the action null and void.” Below are the voting results:

A.T. Sinquah Yes; Celestino Youvella Yes; Dale Sinquah Yes; Alfonso Sakeva No; Craig Andrews No; Ronald Humeyestewa No; Vice-Chairman Tenakhongva Yes; Chairman Nuvangyaoma presiding and not voting; Merwin K Yes; Annette Talayumptewa No; Rosa Honani Yes; Alverna Poneoma Yes; Dennis Koeyahngva No; Clifford Qutosquaquah Absent; Davis Pecusa No; David Talayumptewa Yes; Phillip Quocyhtewa Yes; Danny Honanie Yes; Herman Honanie Yes; LeRoy Shingoitewa No, Philton Talayumptewa Sr. No; Robert Charley No. Unanimously Hopi Tribal Council voted to support this Action Item and the Hopi Tribe was once again without a General Counsel.

In order to correct the situation a second action item/resolution and contract was drafted in order to meet the December agenda. These documents were drafted and filed with the Office of the Tribal Secretary on November 6, 2019.

On December 24, 2019, Action Item #004-2020 along with a contract was presented to Hopi Tribal Council as a solution to fill the vacancy of General Counsel. The presentation informed Hopi Tribal Council that there are currently 60+ Action Items pending legal review of matters that involve contracts, leases, resolutions, ordinances, operating budgets/outside funding matters, and ongoing/potential lawsuits.
Hopi Chairman’s Report, Cont.

Hopi Tribal council voted against hiring Ms. Works as General Counsel. Because of this action to date the position of General Counsel and 2 Deputy Counsel Positions remain vacant.

On December 26, 2019, Representative Dale Sinquah introduced and presented ACTION ITEM #009 -2020 – To adopt policies and procedures for providing legal support to the Hopi Tribal Council and Departments -- DISCUSSION – to adopt interim procedures providing legal support to the Hopi Tribal Council and Departments. On November 12, 2019, the Hopi Tribal Council approved by motion and majority vote Resolution H-081-2019; To Rescind the September 3, 2019 vote and selection for the position of General Counsel. The approval of Resolution H-081-2019 resulted in the position of General Counsel for the Hopi Tribe unfilled. The tribe must adopt procedures to direct the Executive Director to accept request for legal support (i.e., action items, legal review, etc.) and forward the Office of the General Counsel to contract legal firms to complete the legal review in a timely manner. These interim procedures will apply until the position of the Hopi General Counsel is filled.

This Action Item was approved.

The Hopi Tribe will no longer receive revenue from the coal royalties which accounted for approximately 85% of our General Fund budget. Contracting out our legal services is a temporary fix that will create added expense to an already depleting Hopi Tribal General Fund budget.

I encourage the public to attend Council meetings and become aware of Hopi Tribal Council actions. Your awareness is necessary to empower change.

Kwakwa,
Chairman Nuvangyaoma

Tips for a Stress-Free Tax Season

(StatePoint) Taxes are an unavoidable fact of life. Unfortunately, they can be somewhat overwhelming, which can cause people to put the task off and miss the deadline. Use these tips for a stress-free tax season:

Get It Over With
The sooner you get your taxes filed, the sooner you can stop worrying about them. Early filing also means an earlier refund -- if you’re due one -- or time to plan to prepare to pay any owed taxes. To ensure it all happens on time, actually block out time in your calendar to sit down and work on your taxes. Be sure not to underestimate how much time is needed. If your situation has gotten more complicated over the last year, figure that into the equation.

Check Your Work
The last thing anybody wants to hear is that they are being audited. You can avoid this anxiety by having the right tools on hand. Start by keeping your records filed in an organized way – both digitally and on paper with a filing cabinet that locks. As you do your taxes, it is a good idea to take your time, and do a practice run. A printing calculator is a good way to keep records of all necessary calculations. Be sure your printing calculator is up to the task. The two-color ink printer of Casio’s HR-170RC allows you to quickly see both positive and negative numbers to avoid reading errors, and its 12-digit LCD display showcases crisp, sharp numbers for easy viewing. A must-have tool for tax season, its functions include a grand total key, cost/sell/margin buttons, sign change, tax calculation, decimal selector and more.

Maximize Your Refund
While many people look forward to their tax refund and view it as a windfall, it is important to keep in mind that this money is simply your own income that you overpaid to the state and federal government throughout the year. That said, you should have a smart plan for your refund wisely so that is not wasted on an impulse purchase. A few good ideas for tax refunds is investing the money into a retirement account, using it to pay down debt or padding out your rainy-day fund.

This tax season, don’t get overwhelmed. For stress-free filing, stay organized and give yourself plenty of time.

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Hopi Tribal Council Approves Action Item for FY2020 General Fund Budget, Cont.

program staff, the group and Council seemed set on dollar figures and continued the final work on the Appropriations Language. Suggestions for using the 2020 base figure for FY2021 resulted in the change being made to the Appropriations language. Much discussion over the difference between using the word “emergency” versus “exigent” in the Contingency Account section also resulted in that subtle change being implemented and was changed from the previous year’s Appropriations Language.

Tribal Council members concerned for parity amongst salaries for all Tribal programs and departments, whether the programs are funded via contract, grant or general funds led members to suggest changes which would be reflective of how Cost of Living Allowances, Merit Increases, Benefits and Incentives would be handled for all Hopi Tribal employees. While the FY2020 General Fund Budget approval takes into consideration funding from that source only, Council members made a point to modify the section ‘All Departments: General Fund, Contract and Grant Programs and Entities’ and added the language, “This section applies to all Tribal Department: General fund, contract/grant programs and Regulated Entities.”

Villages and Communities being provided funding in the amount of $290,400.00 each are as follows: Upper Moenkopi, Lower Moenkopi, Hotevilla, Bakabi, Oraibi, Kya-kotsmovi, Shungopavi, Mishongnovi, Sipaulovi, Walpi, Sichomovi, Tewa and Yu-Weh-Loo-Pahki.

Council has made a mark in history for 2020 with the passage of approved funds for the Villages and one of them being the Village of Oraibi. FY2020 will be the first fiscal year in which the Village will receive Hopi Tribe General Funds. Funding drawn-downs by the Villages and Communities are contingent upon having an approved budget submitted by March 1, 2020 to the Office of the Tribal Treasurer and of the Office of Financial Management. Other Funding Drawdowns, Reporting, Audit Requirements, Employer Identification Number, Carry over funds, and Village/Community Allocations stipulations were also included in the Appropriations Language.

Under the section, ‘Enterprise/Special Revenue Programs/Third-Party Billing (Revolving Account)’ section, a subsection was added reading: “c. Any Revolving Account funds accumulated two years or more prior to the current Fiscal Year shall be applied to a program’s proposed budget for the upcoming Fiscal Year, before any other funds are budgeted for that particular program.”

This particular addition affects and clarifies for programs such as Hopi Tutuveni the use of its Revolving Funds. In the past there was no language stipulating how unused balances could be applied and since Hopi Tutuveni did submit a proposed budget, in accordance with instructions and directions for the BOT, Hopi Tutuveni will be allowed use of its Revolving Fund balance in the next Fiscal Year. Revenues earned in 2019 will not, however, be available for Hopi Tutuveni’s use until 2021, according to the approved Appropriations Language in the section. This does create limitations of sorts on Hopi Tutuveni’s ability to fully use revenue to further generate more revenue.

In appreciation, Vice Chairman Tenakhongva issued a Memorandum with the subject line of “EARLY RELEASE” at approximately 3:11 p.m. on December 30, 2019 to all Hopi Tribal Employees stating, “I am sincerely appreciative of the difficult compromises and selfless contributions made by the various department director and program managers, which allowed us to continue providing essential services to our constituency, in the face of limited funds and declining revenues.” The memorandum went on with, “As a sign of my sincere appreciation, I am issuing this memorandum for the early release of Tribal Employees beginning at 12:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 31, 2019. Hopi Tribal Services will resume Thursday January 2, 2020 at 8 a.m.”

On Thursday, January 2, 2020 at approximately 4:53 p.m. Wilfred Gaseoma, Hopi Tribal Treasurer sent an email to all Tribal Employees noting, “Attached is the approved FY 2020 General Fund Budget and Expenditure Authorization and Appropriations Language, A.I.#006-2020/Resolution #H-008-2020…The Expenditure Authorization and Appropriations Language will be strictly adhered to.” He also noted there would be a presentation of the document in the near future and that program budgets would be sent by the Office of Financial Management by the week of January 5, 2020.

How to Navigate Expensive Car Repair Bills

(StatePoint) If you’re like many Americans, your car is your lifeline. When it’s in need of repair, being able to cough up the cash to keep it running is critical.

A new survey finds that U.S. consumers spent an average of nearly $2,000 on vehicle repairs and maintenance in the last five years, with millennials and generation Z being hardest hit by the costs. The 2019 Ally Financial survey, conducted online by The Harris Poll, found that while adults 55 and older spent $1,654 on average for vehicle maintenance and repairs in the past five years, millennials and generation Z paid an average of $2,334 during the same timeframe.

Ally’s survey results come on the heels of research from the Federal Reserve, which found that nearly four in 10 adults would not be able to cover unexpected expenses of $400 without selling something or going into debt.

If you’re concerned about the cost of a surprise car repair leaving you running on empty, consider these tips from Ally Financial.

Save
An emergency savings fund can prepare you for unexpected car repair bills. Another recent Ally survey found that two-thirds of 18- to 24-year-olds haven’t established any type of emergency savings fund, compared to approximately half of all other adults. Over time, setting aside even $10 each month can potentially protect you against having to borrow or incur debt.

Stay Protected
A vehicle service contract (VSC), similar to an extended warranty, is a protection plan that covers vehicle repairs costs outside of the manufacturer’s warranty, and may be easier to budget for than a large unexpected bill from the mechanic’s shop. Unfortunately, many people aren’t taking advantage of VSCs. The Ally survey found that only 21 percent of Americans have purchased one in the last five years. Before committing to a particular service contract, shop around to ensure that you’re working with a reputable company that offers services at locations convenient for you. Also look into additional benefits. For example, Ally’s FlexCover includes 24/7 roadside assistance, towing, trip interruption protection, (e.g. reimbursement for room and board if your car troubles require an overnight stay) or rental car reimbursement. While these reimbursements are usually capped at a certain dollar amount, they can alleviate some of the burden

Be Proactive
Maintenance issues that go unattended can lead to heftier repair bills down the road. Schedule timely oil changes, brake pad replacements and tire rotation, and mark your calendar to check fluid levels like coolant and windshield washer fluid. If flashing lights appear on your dashboard, check your owner’s manual and contact your dealer or mechanic to see what the problem could be.

“Unfortunately, too many Americans are just one repair bill away from being forced to make tough financial decisions,” says Mark Manzo, president of Insurance at Ally Financial. “But proactive strategies can offer peace of mind and protect your wallet.”
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Call for Papers

The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office is interested in learning about the stories of your Hopi heritage that have inspired you. These stories may be from any point in time from the distant past (including before the 15th century) to the present. In order to help others appreciate these stories, please explain how you overcame the challenges that you have faced and how it helped you strengthen your connection to your Hopi heritage. Your stories will be used to make short films for educational purposes.

- Please format your submission to be double-spaced and it should be no longer than 2,000 words.
- Include your name, birth date, address, email address, and phone number and submit to the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office or to skoyiyumptewa@hopi.nsn.us
- Submissions are limited to members of the Hopi Tribe and between the ages of 18 - 30 years old.
- Authors whose submissions are accepted will be notified.
Circle M, Keams Canyon Store.

Following locations: Moenkopi Travel Center, Moenkopi Legacy Inn, Hotevilla Store, Kykotsmovi Village Store, Tribal Government Complex, Hopi Cultural Center, Hopi Health Care Center, Polacca Circle M, Kears Canyon Store.

The Hopi Tribe P.O. Box 123 Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039
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ARTICLES:
The Hopi Tutuveni welcomes original articles reporting on local, state and national news items on issues related to Hopi or of interest to Tutuveni readers. We are especially interested in articles reporting on issues impacting the Hopi community or on events and activities involving members of the Hopi Tribe. Articles should not exceed 750 words and should follow Associated Press (AP) style and formatting. The Managing Editor reserves the right to edit articles for style, length and clarity. If significant editing is required, the Managing Editor will communicate with the author prior to publication.

PRESS RELEASES:Press releases must be submitted on official letterhead and include the name of the organization, contact person, telephone number and email address. Press releases should not exceed 500 words and submissions may be edited for length and clarity at the discretion of the Managing Editor.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:
Letters should not exceed 250 words and must include the name of the author and complete contact information (address, phone number or email address) and the headline and date of the article on which you are commenting. Anonymous letters and letters written under pseudonyms will not be published. The Tutuveni Editorial Board reviews all submissions and reserves the right not to publish letters it considers to be highly sensitive or potentially offensive to readers, or that may be libelous or slanderous in nature.

OPINION EDITORIALS:
Submissions must be exclusive to Hopi Tutuveni and should not exceed 1,000 words. Include with your submission your name and complete contact information, along with a short 2-3-sentence bio.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:
All press releases, articles, letters to the editor and Opinion Editorials electronically as a Word document or as plain text in the body of an email to the Managing Editor, Romalita Laban. Articles, press releases and editorials that include photographs must be in high resolution, 300dpi or more and must be your own. All photographs must include photo credit and a caption for each photo listing the names of all persons included in the photo and description of what the photo is about. (call 928-734-3283 for deadline schedule).

The Hopi Tutuveni is published twice a month, with a circulation of 2,500 copies throughout the entire Hopi Reservation. The paper is delivered on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month to the following locations: Moenkopi Travel Center, Moenkopi Legacy Inn, Hotevilla Store, Kykotsmovi Village Store, Tribal Government Complex, Hopi Cultural Center, Hopi Health Care Center, Polacca Circle M, Kears Canyon Store.

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HOPEDC currently has a Line and Prep Cook positions available. Requires some experience working in a restaurant environment. The successful applicant must be able to work a flexible schedule including some evenings and weekends, possess a Food Handler's card and can work in a fast-paced environment.

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For more information contact: isampson@htedc.net, Human Resource Manager

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Hopi Tutuveni January 8, 2020

Cross Word Puzzle

Find the English words for the Hopi words.

HOPI WORDS

Pavatya (Tadpole)
Pahona (Beaver)
Sikwi (Meat)
Samii (Fresh Corn)
Noqkwivi (Corn & Meat Stew)
Kowaako (Chicken)
Leetayo (Fox)
Pat Ga (Squash - Pumpkin)
Koyongo (Turkey)
Isaw (Coyote)
Hekwepu (Brownish Lizard)
Hootsoko (Small Eared Owl)
Hoonaw (Bear)
Tokotska (Black Bird)
Tsili (Chili)
Kokowe’e (Rooster)
Wutaga (Corn Gruel)
Moosa (Cat)
Pooko (Dog)
Mooro (Burro)
Mosayru (Buffalo)

Find the Hopi Words

Across
1. Honmaqtö
2. Saaqa
4. Qötö
8. lavayi
9. Kiisongvi
10. Pi’ala
12. Talwiipi
14. Tupko
15. Peena
16. Pisa

Down
1. Räana
3. Piqosa
4. Navota
5. Wuuhaq
6. Aärilti
7. Tsatsayom
11. Malatsi
13. Aahu
15. Wunima

Answers for December 17th edition

Across
1. Honmaqtö
2. Saaqa
4. Qötö
8. lavayi
9. Kiisongvi
10. Pi’ala
12. Talwiipi
14. Tupko
15. Peena
16. Pisa

Down
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4. Navota
5. Wuuhaq
6. Aärilti
7. Tsatsayom
11. Malatsi
13. Aahu
15. Wunima

Answers in next issue

New Perspective - Education

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928-734-3283 or rlaban@hopi.nsn.us
By LARRY The CAT
The Hopi Tutuveni

It’s that time of year again, the time where everyone will start to say “New Year, New Me.” Now I’m not the one to judge your prerogative to your New Year, but every year, most people will say the same thing, like they are going to have a fresh start, with a fresh mind and nothing is gonna be in their way… right?

It’s like we’re all abuse victims and the “New Year” abuses us to say that we are going to do better by it, so we say it’s not the new years’ fault but our fault for not making that new year better for ourselves. But in reality, were going to say the same thing next year…like that dreaded cycle.

As a mush head kitten growing up in the early 1990’s, every New Year was awesome to me, ‘cause you get to stay up past midnight to welcome the new year while throwing confetti everywhere. All while pretending to be an alcoholic while drinking apple cider from what looks like a wine bottle and So ‘oh (grandma) won’t get mad when you pretend to stagger like your alcoholic uncle. Awe yes, I love those special times.

But now that I’m an adult, a New Year is just a new year; it’s just a new number that I have to remember by the end of the 365th day. I guess what I’m saying is that the older you get the more you realize that time is just a number and that we are all controlled by a 12-page wall hanger with funny cats on the top page and numbers on the bottom.

I remember the time when I turned “of age” to drink, not apple cider. Our family had a gathering where we stayed up to welcome in the New Year. We had games, singing contests, and yes, the traditional Native game of B-I-N-G-O, it was so much fun. Around the “5 minute ‘til midnight mark” we opened up a bottle of “adult juice” for us adults and apple cider for the little kids and watched with excitement when the live television broadcast of the lighted ball was shown being dropped and all the white people began to sing the traditional end-of-the-year song. We drank to a New Year and celebrated, but when I tasted my first adult beverage it was like drinking rotten grapes with a hint of bubbles, it was the worst beverage that I drank. I think from that point on, I stuck with the child version of being an alcoholic and enjoyed that good ol’ bubbly apple cider.

Sometimes I wish we could re-live those memories again and again, but just like every year, we create new memories and new blessings. Yes, of course, you will have your ups and downs with the New Year, but that’s because we are just human and that is always going to be in human nature to screw up once in a while. But we can’t always be a “screw up” though, cause there are times where you will have a redefinition in life to set you back to the right path…preachy right?

Take the Tribal Council for example, a couple of weeks ago they had their final Council meeting of the year where they debated long into the night about the budget for the tribal programs and for the Tribe in general. It was an emotional roller coaster ride where you had certain Tribal Council members taking up their allotted turns to “speak” their mind about how we should treat the “money.” It was like they were treating the money like it was going to save us from a burning building…maybe it will, I don’t know.

Now don’t get me wrong, our councilmen and women are trying their best to save everyone’s job. Of course we don’t know how to “Get Money” cause most Hopis don’t know the first thing about business. We can barter, but we don’t know the first thing of running a successful business…hence our bad business choice in Texas…yes Texas, you know the “Ten-Gallon Hat” kind of Texas, but more about that later.

When I was living at one of the neighboring towns off the Hopi reservation, I worked retail, and let me tell you some of the strange and weird ways of the white man. Some of it was like “WHAT’s wrong with you?” Now don’t get me wrong, I don’t hate or judge anyone, but sometimes you just have to stand back and say “What’s wrong with you?”

When I first started my job, I wanted to please everyone in the store. I wanted them to have such a great experience shopping for pens and pencils, so I made it my goal to always put the customer on a pedestal, it was like, “You need a pencil made out a rain forest rare wood, with the finest Brazilian rubber eraser?” “I will not stop ‘til I get that for you…” but as the years passed on and every year I kind of dreaded going to work, cause I couldn’t please everyone. I realized and knew from that point on that you can’t please everyone and I took that as a lesson that it’s hard to please everyone when you want them to be happy. But during my employment I also encountered many new friends and new experiences and stories. Some good and some bad, but all in all, it was something that I will remember for the rest of my life.

My advice to you is, it doesn’t take a “New Year” to start something new, but to finish something old, and with that you can create something “New” to be proud of. Don’t let the little things get in the way, well and ‘cause they’re little and you’re big. Unlike me, I’m a cat, and everything is big…but again, if you want to start fresh, just make sure you don’t try to become a perfect Hopi but instead just so you’re a better Hopi that is humble and happy about being better. Have a Happy New Year and bring me pizza…just kidding.
WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump insists that Iranian cultural sites are fair game for the U.S. military, dismissing concerns within his own administration that doing so could constitute a war crime under international law. He also warned Iraq that he would levy punishing sanctions if it expelled American troops in retaliation for a U.S. airstrike in Baghdad that killed a top Iranian official.

But Congress is pushing back, in what’s expected to be a pivotal week as lawmakers return from a holiday recess. On Monday, two top Senate Democrats called on Trump to immediately declassify the administration’s reasoning for the strike on the Iranian official, Gen. Qassem Soleimani, saying there is “no legitimate justification” for keeping the information from the public.

And House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said late Sunday the House would introduce and vote this week on a war powers resolution to limit the president’s military actions regarding Iran. In a letter to House Democrats, Pelosi called the airstrike “provocative and disproportionate” and said it had “endangered our servicemembers, diplomats and others by risking a serious escalation of tensions with Iran.” A similar resolution was introduced in the Senate.

Congress, which has the sole power to declare war, has complained that Trump did not provide advance notice of his decision to strike in Iraq. Trump did meet the 48-hour deadline required by the War Powers Act to notify Congress after the deadly drone strike, though the document was classified and no public version was released.

The administration is expected to brief lawmakers on its actions this week.

In their letter to Trump, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer of New York and the Senate Foreign Relation Committee’s Sen. Robert Menendez of New Jersey said the White House’s classified notification sent to Congress late Saturday under the War Powers Act was insufficient and inappropriate.

“It is critical that national security matters of such import be shared with the American people in a timely manner, they wrote. “An entirely classified notification is simply not appropriate in a democratic society.” They asked that the notification be declassified “in full.”

Pelosi said the notification “raises more questions than it answers. This document prompts serious and urgent questions about the timing, manner and justification of the Administration’s decision to engage in hostilities against Iran.”

Iran has vowed to retaliate for Trump’s targeted killing of Soleimani, the head of Iran’s elite Quds force. It has sparked outrage in the Middle East, including in Iraq, where more than 5,000 American troops are still on the ground 17 years after the U.S. invasion. Iraq’s parliament voted Sunday in favor of a nonbinding resolution calling for the expulsion of the American forces.

Trump first raised the prospect of targeting Iranian cultural sites Saturday in a tweet. Speaking with reporters Sunday as he flew back to Washington from his holiday in Florida, he refused to back down, despite international prohibitions.

“They’re allowed to kill our people. They’re allowed to torture and maim our people. They’re allowed to use roadside bombs and blow up our people. And we’re not allowed to touch their cultural sites? It doesn’t work that way,” Trump said.

On Iraq, Trump said the U.S. wouldn’t leave Iraq without being paid for its military investments there over the years — then said if the troops do have to withdraw, he would hit Baghdad with economic penalties.

“We will charge them sanctions like they’ve never seen before ever. It’ll make Iranian sanctions look somewhat tame,” he said. “If there’s any hostility, that they do anything we think is inappropriate, we are going to put sanctions on Iraq, very big sanctions on Iraq.”

He added: “We’re not leaving until they pay us back for it.”

The administration has scrambled to contend with the backlash to the killing of Soleimani, which marked a stark escalation in tensions between Washington and Tehran.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said the U.S. military may well strike more Iranian leaders if the Islamic Republic retaliates. He tiptoed around questions about Trump’s threat to attack Iranian cultural sites, a military action that likely would be illegal under the laws Cont. On Page 12
The sunrise ahead: What's next for closed Navajo power plant

WASHINGTON – They may have turned out the lights, but the party’s not over at the Navajo Generating Station and its affiliated Kayenta coal mine.

The owners of both facilities face several years of decommissioning and clean-up as well as the possibility of decades of environmental monitoring of the sites, which closed down for good this fall after a two-year fight over their futures.

At least some of the complex will live on, through salvaged parts and relocated jobs. But the remaining work will likely employ only a fraction of the facilities’ hundreds of workers, many of whom were members of the Navajo and Hopi tribes, whose economies relied on the facilities.

Contractors for the Salt River Project, which owns the power plant, have already started a three-year process of decommissioning the 43-year-old coal-fired power plant.

National Service and Salvage Corp. of Indiana is dismantling the electrical system that powered the train that delivered coal from Kayenta to NGS, the mine’s only customer. An Ohio company, Independence Demolition, will begin this year removing hazardous materials and additional equipment before demolishing the plant itself.

SRP has not announced the contractors who will do coal ash and coal pond cleanup at the site, but those processes are not expected to start until mid to late in the year. SRP says all of its main contractors have been instructed to give preference to Navajo Nation members and companies in hiring and awarding subcontracts on the project.

SRP estimates 90 percent of the material will be recycled, going so far as to set up a website where members of the public can purchase everything from office equipment to industrial parts salvaged from the plant.

But some parts of the complex will remain, including several outbuildings. The most prominent remnant is a transmission substation that has the capacity to deliver 500 megawatts of power to the electrical grid.

Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez announced in October that the tribe would be taking control of the substation. Nez did not specify at the time how the tribe would make use of the substation, only that it has contracted with an outside firm to advise it as the nation neared the Dec. 23 takeover.

An SRP spokesman said the company will continue to pay for the operation and maintenance of the substation for the next decade.

Even though the plant is gone, the Navajo Nation will still get payments from SRP for the property. An SRP spokesman said the company was paying $600,000 a year in lease payments to the tribe, and will give a one-time payment of $110 million, which would

International Open Call for Native American and Indigenous actors

As part of the Casting Society of America’s stated “ongoing commitment to diversity and inclusion in casting” in the film and television industry, the organization has set an international open call for Native American, First Nations and Indigenous actors for Sunday January 12, 2020 on a scheduled appointment-only basis.

For in-person scheduled auditions, participating locations will include Los Angeles, New York, Albuquerque, Portland, Chicago, Norman, Oklahoma and Montreal. If interested applicants are not able to make it to the location, self-tape auditions are also being encouraged for union and non-union actors.

According to the Casting Society of America (CSA) press announcement, “CSA members across the globe will open their offices to union and non-union Native American and Indigenous Actors. Artists who are professionally trained, as well as those actively pursuing professional careers as performers are welcome to attend. Artists will be given an opportunity to perform a prepared scene of their choice in front of a panel of CSA casting directors offering actors the opportunity to interact with casting directors who are looking to expand their knowledge and understanding of underrepresented and undiscovered talent in a professional casting environment.”

Russell Boast, the Casting Society of America president and DeLanna Studi, Chairperson of the SAG-AFTRA National Native Americans Committee both offered comments in the announcement regarding the casting call.

“The Native American and Indigenous Actors Open Call follows the huge success of CSA’s Inclusion and Diversity open calls for Trans and Non-binary actors, Performers with Disabilities, Seniors and MENASA (Middle Eastern, North African & South Asian) actors,” said Russell Boast in the release.

“These open calls offer both an opportunity for these underrepresented actors to be seen and a chance for our Casting Director members globally to become familiar with their work. Our hope is that empowering Casting Directors by giving them the tools to cast authentically will create a ripple effect through the industry that will result in more opportunities for diverse actors and filmmakers both in front of and behind the camera.”

“As Native Americans, one of our biggest obstacles is just being seen as present-day human beings. We are an important part of our shared American story, not only of the past, but of the present and future as well. We have a responsibility to ensure that this vibrant
5 Things to Do to Prepare for a Recession

Photo credit to STATEPOINT

(StatPoint) Experts agree that periods of economic downturn, or recessions, are unavoidable and often follow a period of market growth. However, experts also acknowledge that it is difficult to predict exactly when the next recession will begin.

It is important to manage the pieces of your financial life knowing that a market decline is possible, regardless of the exact timing. A Certified Financial Planner (CFP) can provide you with competent, ethical advice on how to financially prepare to weather a down market.

Here are five steps you can take today to get ready for a possible recession:

* Create or revisit your financial plan. Now is a good time to update your financial plan, including your savings strategy for retirement, to ensure it can withstand a market decline. If you do not yet have a financial plan, start working to put one in place ahead of a recession.
* Develop a cash flow. The simple technique of identifying how much money is coming in and how much is going out can help you develop a short-, intermediate- and long-term plan that keeps you in control of your finances.
* Maintain a healthy emergency reserve fund. If you are still working, maintain six to 12 months of expenses in a safe, liquid account. Retirees should aim to keep 12 to 24 months’ worth of expenses in reserve.
* Pay down your debt. While incurring debt can be a smart financial choice, carrying too much of it -- particularly high-interest debt -- can be dangerous, especially during a recession. Prioritize paying off your highest interest consumer-related loans (credit card and auto) and then work your way down to the lower interest ones. Try to avoid taking on any new debt.
* Maintain a diversified portfolio. Creating and adhering to a diversified portfolio spreads your risk across different asset classes. You may need to rebalance periodically by trading up assets to maintain your desired level of asset allocation. Be sure that your allocation is tied to your long-term financial goals, instead of basing it on the market’s ups and downs.

A CFP professional can provide you with guidance on navigating any of these financial moves to prepare for a recession. To find a CFP professional near you, visit letsmakeaplan.org.

The good news is that recessions do not last forever. Taking these proactive steps now will help protect you from significant financial damage and quickly recover from potential losses.

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If you have a question on content or pictures let us know and we can gladly help you.

928-734-3283 or rlaban@hopi.nsn.us
be about $3 million a year if stretched out over the new 35-year lease, said the company will continue to pay for the operation and maintenance of the substation for the next decade.

Even though the plant is gone, the Navajo Nation will still get payments from SRP for the property. An SRP spokesman said the company was paying $600,000 a year in lease payments to the tribe, and will give a one-time payment of $110 million, which would be about $3 million a year if stretched out over the new 35-year lease.

Mine owner Peabody Energy did not lay out a specific reclamation timeline for the Kayenta Mine, except to say in an email that it is expected to take several years. That is less time than it could have taken, a Peabody spokesperson said, because of the company’s “contemporaneous approach” to reclamation that cut down on the overall number of acres it will have to restore.

Peabody noted that it received the National Award for Excellence in Reclamation from the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement in October for its work at Kayenta. In a video, the agency praised Peabody’s efforts to plant juniper bushes on the site, and for converting some reclaimed land into grazing pasture.

But local environmental activists are not impressed. They say the vegetation being planted as part of the reclamation project was chosen for how fast it can take root rather than whether it’s appropriate for the area.

Peabody officials disagreed, saying regulators’ oversight of the site reclamation is thorough, with checks required before seeding and for at least 10 years after. In a statement, the company said it has been a “good steward and a great neighbor …. We’ve returned lands to a higher value and will continue to do so throughout the reclamation phase.”

While work to disassemble the complex proceeds, environmental groups in the region are pushing to take steps away from its history altogether.

A coalition of Navajo environmental groups this fall announced the #NavajoEquitableEconomy initiative laying out plans and policies to move the Navajo Nation away from coal and towards more renewable sources of energy.

Nicole Horseherder is a board member with one of those groups, To Nizhoni Ani, which has partnered with Oakland-based nonprofit Native Renewables to train members of the Navajo Nation for jobs in solar installation. In December, the partnership graduated 10 students from a weeks-long solar workforce training program.

“We’re trying to mitigate the closure and get ready for the future,” Horseherder said. “Otherwise other people will take those jobs, and for us that usually means outsiders.”

In April, Nez issued a Hayoolkaal – or “sunrise” – proclamation calling for the Navajo to diversify its energy portfolio and restore lands used for coal and uranium mining. A bill declaring the tribe’s intent to do so died in a Navajo Nation Council committee in October, however.

In that same month, the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority opened a second solar facility in Kayenta with the help of SRP, which said the tribe can now generate enough solar power to serve 36,000 homes. The nation and SRP continue to discuss possible future projects, a company spokesman said in an email.

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**International Open Call for Native American...Cont.**

and vital part of our shared experience is not lost or set aside,” said DeLanna Studi. “As Native people, we are often called the ‘Vanishing Race’ or the ‘Disappearing People.’ One of our biggest burdens and greatest opportunities is educating the industry about who we really are: to break past these stereotypes and to move our communities forward.

“We live in a digital age where the majority of all of our information comes from on-screen images. In addition to our families, our communities, and our education system, how we learn who we are and how we relate to others is powerfully influenced by the media. Especially now. It is imperative that Hollywood stories move beyond stereotypes and reflect the great diversity and vitality of who we are as Native Americans today. We are still here, and we are thriving.”

How to sign up and schedule an audition

Interested union and non-union actors are invited to any of the locations on an appointment-only basis. For more information and to sign up for one of the locations visit: http://bit.ly/CSA_NativeAmericanOpenCall

How to submit a self-tape

To submit a self-tape send an email inquiry to: inclusionanddiversity@castingsociety.com

In the self-tape:

- Slate: (A piece of paper with the following info held up to the camera):
  - Your name, location, email address.
  - Read: A scene of your choice that best shows off your strengths. No longer than 2-3 pages.
  - About: If you would like to tell us a little about yourself please share a minute.
  - Label: Please label your self-tape First-Name_Last-Name_OpenCall
  - Email: Self-tape to inclusionanddiversity@castingsociety.com
  - Subject heading: Open Call Self-Tape

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**For back issues of the Hopi Tutuveni visit:**

The Hopi Tribe, Hopi Department of Transportation hereby provide “Public Notice for the Tribe’s FY2020 – 2024 Tribal Transportation Improvement Plan (TTIP)”.

In consultation with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) – Western Region – Division of Transportation has developed the attached FY 2020-2024 Tribal Transportation Improvement Program that identifies transportation planning, maintenance, and improvement projects to be funded with the Hopi Tribe’s share of FY 2020-2024 Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) funds.

Pursuant to 25 CFR Part 170.422 Public involvement is required in the development of the TTIP thereby PUBLIC NOTICE, is provided to allow for public comment. Additional information may be obtained from:

Hopi Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 123
Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039 (928) 734-3182

Written comments will be accepted until close of business January 30, 2020. Comments or questions should be submitted to the Hopi Department of Transportation, at the above address.

~This is a paid advertisement~

-PUBLIC NOTICE-

for

Hopi Tribe, FY2020-2024 Tribal Transportation Improvement Plan (TTIP)
### Transportation Construction Funds TIP (pg. 2)

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<th>Project ID</th>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Route No. &amp; Section</th>
<th>Route Name</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Program Length</th>
<th>Proj. Descr, Year CBN begins, work done by, Est Cost ($</th>
<th>Program Source</th>
<th>Program Agreement (PA) Totals</th>
<th><em>Optional</em> Building Engr Proj only</th>
<th>TIP Project Totals</th>
<th>Previous TIP Funds in Existing Engr Contract</th>
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<tr>
<td>H654700</td>
<td>HR 60 (1)</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Low-Mountain Rd</td>
<td>Navajo</td>
<td>13.7 mi</td>
<td>G &amp; S Phase 1.7 mi, pre-design for G &amp; S Phase 1.7</td>
<td>TTP</td>
<td>CON</td>
<td>$2,521,103.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>H653200</td>
<td>HR 500(1)</td>
<td>500 S 30 &amp; 110</td>
<td>Hotevilla-Babadi School Rd</td>
<td>Navajo</td>
<td>1.3 mi</td>
<td>0.5, 5.5, &amp; 5.6 mi, work on 0.5 mi, Pre-Design from CEF to 0.5 mi, Pre-Design from CEF to 0.5 mi</td>
<td>TTP</td>
<td>CON</td>
<td>$472,334.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>H653100</td>
<td>HR 501(3)</td>
<td>501</td>
<td>Babadi Streets</td>
<td>Navajo</td>
<td>1 mi</td>
<td>Reclaimed 0.7 mi of deteriorating in-place pavement and corrected 0.7 mi of water from component work on 0.7 mi</td>
<td>TTP</td>
<td>CON</td>
<td>$1,403,363.86</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>H653400</td>
<td>HR 503(1)</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>Kyklatatsivi Streets</td>
<td>Navajo</td>
<td>3.3 mi</td>
<td>Reclaimed 0.3 miles of paved streets &amp; 2 Parking Lots in the community of Kyklatatsivi. Existing PL 0.346; CEF 1.5 mi; total reclaiming and $3,916,861.18 required to transfer to PA for CEF 0.346 CEF</td>
<td>TTP</td>
<td>CON</td>
<td>$5,316,594.76</td>
<td>$400,000.00</td>
<td>$150,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>H653200</td>
<td>HR 514(1)</td>
<td>514 Sec. 10, 20, 40</td>
<td>Upper/Lower Montezuma Rd</td>
<td>Coconino</td>
<td>1.3 mi</td>
<td>Up grad 1.5 mi of CEF 9.269; 0.6 mi of 0.7 mi of CEF 1.5 mi; total repair work on 0.7 mi of CEF 1.5 mi; total repair work on 0.7 mi of CEF 1.5 mi</td>
<td>TTP</td>
<td>CON</td>
<td>$171,692.00</td>
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### Transportation Construction Funds TIP (pg. 3)

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<td>H651200</td>
<td>HR Tribal Trans Png 2</td>
<td>514 Sec. 10, 20, 40</td>
<td>Navajo &amp; Coconino</td>
<td>Navajo</td>
<td>0.8 mi</td>
<td>Perform CEF Contract Coordination and Various Transport Planning Activities, to include any RRB Planning and Scoping. Existing PL 1.5 mi</td>
<td>TTP</td>
<td>CON</td>
<td>$1,087,409.00</td>
<td>$100,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>H651300</td>
<td>HR Road Inventory Update 2</td>
<td>514 Sec. 10, 20, 40</td>
<td>Navajo &amp; Coconino</td>
<td>Navajo</td>
<td>1.8 mi</td>
<td>Perform Road inventory update field reviews, second inventory data, prepare project requirements, support data management to RRB. Existing PL 1.087 mi</td>
<td>TTP</td>
<td>CON</td>
<td>$418,144.03</td>
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<td>H501M00</td>
<td>HR Roadmani</td>
<td>514 Sec. 10, 20, 40</td>
<td>Navajo &amp; Coconino</td>
<td>Navajo</td>
<td>2.5 mi</td>
<td>J2 514,000 mi of 6% slope, average 0.33% slope, design noise barriers for 514,000 mi of 6% slope, average 0.33% slope, Total cost $5,690,000</td>
<td>TTP</td>
<td>CON</td>
<td>$2,054,329.94</td>
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### Transportation Construction Funds TIP (pg. 4)

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<td>HR Transient</td>
<td>514 Sec. 10, 20, 40</td>
<td>Navajo &amp; Coconino</td>
<td>Navajo</td>
<td>1.6 mi</td>
<td>For Transportation Coordination &amp; Activities, funds to match Tribes to undertaken Capital &amp; Operations Tribal Transit System</td>
<td>TTP</td>
<td>CON</td>
<td>$50,000.00</td>
<td>$50,000.00</td>
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Cont. On Page 16
Wrongfully arrested Flagstaff man offers to settle for $350K

By FELICIA FONSECA
AP News

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) — A Flagstaff man who was wrongfully arrested on suspicion of selling LSD has offered to settle the matter with the city for $350,000.

Tremayne Nez, who is Navajo, spent more than 30 hours in jail after being arrested in June as part of a multi-agency drug operation. His mug shot was circulated online, and he said he was placed on administrative leave from his job and subjected to a drug test.

Police have said his arrest was a case of mistaken identity and apologized to him.

Nez has said even mistakes should have consequences. One of his attorneys, Gary Pearlmutter, filed a claim with the city last month, saying Nez suffered anxiety, embarrassment and fear because of the false arrest, loss of wages and had to drop an internship he needed to graduate from college.

The Flagstaff Police Department is liable for the damages and for publishing false information on Nez, Pearlmutter said.

“Our opinion is that the police should have exercised more diligence in identifying the person who sold the LSD to the informant,” Pearlmutter said earlier this week. “They appear to fail some of their own policies when it comes to doing photo identification.”

The claim letter, dated Dec. 11 and obtained by The Associated Press through a public records request, is a precursor to a lawsuit. It gave the city 60 days to respond to the settlement offer of $350,000, which includes attorney fees.

The city doesn’t comment on potential litigation, spokeswoman Jessica Drum said.

The charge against Nez was dropped, his attorneys said.

Nez as a suspect to ensure it doesn’t happen again with anyone else, department spokesman Sgt. Charles Hernandez said.

He declined to say what changes have been made, citing the nature of undercover investigations and potential litigation.

The police department reviewed its policies and procedures after misidentifying Nez as a suspect to ensure it doesn’t happen again with anyone else, department spokesman Sgt. Charles Hernandez said.

He declined to say what changes have been made, citing the nature of undercover investigations and potential litigation.

The charge against Nez was dropped, and the court returned a $15,000 cash bond his family posted. His name still appears on a public access site for Arizona courts.

Pearlmutter said Nez still gets embarrassed and fear because of the false information on Nez, Pearlmutter said.

The police department reviewed its policies and procedures after misidentifying Nez as a suspect to ensure it doesn’t happen again with anyone else, department spokesman Sgt. Charles Hernandez said.

He declined to say what changes have been made, citing the nature of undercover investigations and potential litigation.

The charge against Nez was dropped, and the court returned a $15,000 cash bond his family posted. His name still appears on a public access site for Arizona courts.

Pearlmutter said Nez still gets asked about the arrest.

No illegal drugs were found in Nez’s home.