

TOWN OF PINETOP-LAKESIDE

RESOLUTION NO. 23-1671

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PINETOP-LAKESIDE, ARIZONA, APPOINTING ROBERT HIGGINS, PINETOP-LAKESIDE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, AS THE TOWN MAGISTRATE FOR THE TOWN OF PINETOP-LAKESIDE, ARIZONA, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 2.14 OF THE PINETOP-LAKESIDE TOWN CODE.

WHEREAS, Robert Higgins, Pinetop-Lakeside Justice of the Peace, has submitted a letter of interest in being appointed to a four (4) year term as the Town Magistrate for the Town of Pinetop-Lakeside. (Exhibit A); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to A.R.S. Section 22-403 a justice of the peace may serve as the Town Magistrate; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Pinetop-Lakeside, Arizona, as follows:

Section 1: Robert Higgins, Pinetop-Lakeside Justice of the Peace, is hereby appointed to a four-year term as Town Magistrate for the Town of Pinetop-Lakeside.

Section 2: The term of this appointment will be for the period commencing on July 1, 2023 and ending on June 30, 2027, with a compensation of \$25,000.00 annually. Said appointment shall be renewable for a two year term, at a minimum, and up to a four year term thereafter.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Pinetop-Lakeside, Arizona, this 15th day of June, 2023.

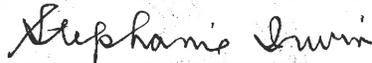


ATTEST:



Kristi Salskov, CMC
Town Clerk

TOWN OF PINETOP-LAKESIDE



Stephanie Irwin
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



William J. Sims, III
Town Attorney

EXHIBIT A

Robert Higgins, Pinetop-Lakeside Justice of the Peace, letter of interest for Pinetop-Lakeside Town Magistrate.



May 2, 2023

Mayor Stephanie Irwin
Vice Mayor Sterling Beus
Council member Jerry Smith
Council member James Brimhall
Council member Taber Heisler
Council member Lynn Krigbaum
Council member Jim Snitzer

RE: Appointment as Town Magistrate

Dear Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor and Town council Members,

Please accept this as a letter of interest in being appointed as the Town Magistrate. I have been the Justice of the Peace for a little over two years and a resident of Pinetop-Lakeside since 1994. Our three daughters were raised here and my wife Laura and I love this town and its people.

Prior to being the Justice of the Peace I was a Superior Court Judge in Navajo County for nine years. I was appointed to that position in 2012 by Governor Jan Brewer, and I was first elected to that position a year later and re-elected in 2016. I was appointed by the Supreme Court of Arizona in 2016 to be the Presiding Judge of Navajo County, a position I held until early 2021 when I came to the Pinetop-Lakeside court upon Judge Widmaier's retirement.

As you know, Arizona statutes allow cities and towns to contract with Justices of the Peace to provide municipal magistrate services. (Please see Arizona Revised Statute 22-401 (C) (1) and A.R.S 11-952). The Town Code 2.12.020 provides for two or four year terms. At this time I respectfully ask for a four year appointment.

Since I am new to the town I have attached a resume for your perusal. Thanks so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Higgins", written over a white background.

Robert Higgins

Pinetop-Lakeside Justice of the Peace

Robert J. Higgins

Education

- BACHELOR OF ARTS – ENGLISH | 1980 | SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY
- MASTER OF ARTS – LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE | 1988 | ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
- JURIS DOCTORATE | 1992 | SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY

Relevant Work Experience

- JUSTICE OF THE PEACE | PINETOP-LAKESIDE, ARIZONA | MARCH 2021-PRESENT
- NAVAJO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT | MARCH 2012 – JANUARY 2021
- PRESIDING JUDGE | NAVAJO COUNTY | 2016- JANUARY 2021
- PRIVATE PRACTICE | PINETOP-LAKESIDE, ARIZONA | 1997 – MARCH 2012
- DEPUTY NAVAJO COUNTY ATTORNEY | 1994-1997
- KLEINMAN, LESSELYONG & NOVAK | PHOENIX LAW FIRM | 1993-1994
- BROPHY COLLEGE PREPATORY | ENGLISH TEACHER, COACH | 1982-1989
- PONAPE AGRICULTURE & TRADE SCHOOL | TEACHER, COACH | 1980-1982

Volunteer Work

- ST ANTHONY SCHOOL | CO-FOUNDER, PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES | 1997 – PRESENT
- WHITE MTN TUITION SUPPORT FOUNDATION | PRESIDENT | 2003-PRESENT