

Upon notice duly given under Arizona Revised Statutes, Section 38-431, et seq., as amended, the City Council of the City of Bullhead City held a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, May 7, 2019, in the City Council Chambers, 1255 Marina Boulevard, Bullhead City, Arizona.

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Mayor Ring called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and invited Mary Ann Shepherd of Unity Spiritual Center of Mohave Valley to deliver the invocation. Council Member Shutts led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Council Present

Bruck, Clark, D’Amico, Ring, Shutts, Wegmann

Council Absent

Brady

Staff Present:

CITY MANAGER: Toby Cotter

CITY ATTORNEY: Garnet Emery

CITY CLERK: Susan Stein

POLICE CHIEF: Brian Williamson

FINANCE DIRECTOR: Rudy Vera

INTERIM PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR: Angie Johnson

HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR: Jeff Tipton

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTOR: Absent

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation declaring Saturday, May 11, 2019, as the “24th Annual Carrie A. Edgmon Bicycle Safety Rodeo Day” in Bullhead City.

Vice Mayor Ring read the proclamation and presented it to Lorrie Duggins, Community Services Officer of the Bullhead Police Department; Lori Viles, Public Information Officer of the Bullhead City Fire Department; Sergio Chan, Co-Manager of Wal-Mart Bullhead City; and Jena Morga, Marketing Director of the Western Arizona Regional Medical Center (WARMC). Ms. Duggins invited all children in the community to attend the “Bike Rodeo” on Saturday, May 11th, to learn about bicycle safety and possibly win a bicycle. She said Wal-Mart and WARMC were amazing partners. Ms. Viles provided information on the second grade poster coloring contest.

2. Proclamation declaring the week of May 12 through May 18, 2019, as “Peace Officers’ Memorial Week,” and Wednesday, May 15, 2019, as “Peace Officers’ Memorial Day” in Bullhead City.

Vice Mayor Ring read the proclamation and presented it to Bullhead City Police Officer Dan Crawford. Officer Crawford invited the public to attend the event on May 15th to remember fallen police officers.

3. Proclamation declaring the week of May 6 through May 11, 2019, as “Economic Development Week” in Bullhead City.

Vice Mayor Ring read the proclamation and presented it to Mohave County Supervisor Hildy Angius. Supervisor Angius said the county looked forward to continuing all the good work with the city. She said the entire county was booming with economic development.

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Vice Mayor Ring opened the call to the public.

Laurie Bezick said their group was planning to hold “Trumpstock” at the Anderson Auto Group Field House on October 4th through October 6th. She said they hoped the event would bring additional revenue to the city.

Tom Hixson said he was a member of the “Trumpstock” event committee and said they hoped to fill the event center with 9,000 attendees. He said he attended the EPCOR public meeting and learned that the low-income and veteran assistance programs were under-utilized.

Sue DeMarco said she represented Saving Animals In Need Together (S.A.I.N.T.). She invited the public to attend the “Yappy Hour” fundraiser to be held on May 16th, and provided information on their spay/neuter voucher program and foster program.

Royanne Ortiz invited the public to attend the Republican Picnic on August 3rd. She said she attended the EPCOR public meeting and said they were spreading some negative information. She suggested that all subdivision water lines should be valued at zero when the water system was sold.

Having no one else present wishing to speak, Vice Mayor Ring closed the call to the public.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

None

WAIVER MOTION

MOTION: Council Member Bruck made a motion to waive the reading in full of all ordinances and resolutions presented for adoption at this meeting. Council Member Wegmann seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Bruck, Clark, D’Amico, Ring, Shutts, Wegmann NAYS: None
ABSENT: Brady

MOTION CARRIED

MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Anderson Auto Group Fieldhouse

City Manager Cotter said a grand opening ceremony was held at the Fieldhouse on May 3rd. He played a video that displayed the amenities of the new facility. He said major sporting tournaments and other events would take place there weekly throughout the year.

2. Weed Abatement

City Manager Cotter said the city sent a flyer out with the sewer bills that provided information to property owners regarding the opportunity to clean their weeds up to June 1st.

3. Recycling

City Manager Cotter said City Attorney Emery was working on the revised franchise agreement with Republic Services' attorneys.

4. EPCOR Valuation and Interim Rate Case

City Manager Cotter said EPCOR was holding public meetings to discuss the impact of the interim water rate increase. He said the city's valuation process was ongoing, and said they hoped to obtain the value of the system within the next one to two months. He said the city strongly objected to some of the statements that were made by EPCOR during their last public meeting.

5. Summer Water Safety Program

City Manager Cotter said the water safety program would kick off in a few weeks. He said jetski rental companies would collect a \$5 safety fee with every rental in order to fund the program.

6. Federal Land Swap

City Manager Cotter said President Trump recently signed the land swap legislation to trade the land in Section 12 for the land in the Black Mountains donated by Don Laughlin. He said they were working to finalize the trade with the Bureau of Land Management and the Bureau of Reclamation by December 15, 2020.

7. State Sovereign Land - State Legislation

City Manager Cotter said the Council passed a resolution seeking control of 13 acres just south of the Laughlin Bridge. He said Governor Ducey signed the legislation and said the city would now own the 13 acres which was previously under control by the State Land Department. He said this land could only be used for public recreational purposes. He thanked Mayor Brady for his leadership in obtaining this piece of land for city purposes.

8. May 13th Budget Workshop

City Manager Cotter said the budget work shop would be held on May 13th. He said the meeting would begin at noon and said they hoped to finalize the process in one day. He said the public was welcome to attend and provide comments.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS ON CURRENT EVENTS

None

ITEMS WITHDRAWN FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Council Member Clark made a motion that Item No. 1 on the Consent Agenda be approved in accordance with the reports, certifications and recommendations furnished each Council Member and without further discussion. Council Member Bruck seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Bruck, Clark, D'Amico, Ring, Shutts, Wegmann NAYS: None
ABSENT: Brady

MOTION CARRIED

Items on the Consent Agenda were approved as follows:

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on April 16, 2019; and the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on April 16, 2019. (City Clerk Stein)

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS

None

ACTION ITEMS

Building, Planning and Zoning Items

None

Bid Awards, Contracts, Intergovernmental Agreement, and Purchases

None

Other Business

2. Discussion and possible action to adopt Resolution No. 2019R-13, ratifying submission to the Bureau of Justice Assistance for grant funds in the amount of up to \$500,000.00 to enhance the Bullhead City Veterans' Treatment Court program, appoint the City Manager or his designee as agent for the Mayor and City Council, and to sign resulting documents on behalf of the city. (Peter Psareas, Presiding Magistrate)

City Magistrate Psareas said the Bullhead City Veterans' Court had been in place for two years. He said they had many volunteers and related services, but said the program needed more funding in order to improve the quality and level of services.

Court Administrator Melissa Solano said the grant was federally funded through the Bureau of Justice Assistance. She said the funds would enhance the veterans' treatment court services to include coordination and management of court participants and recovery support services. She said the grant maximum was \$500,000 for a 36-month performance period. She said they were requesting a full time veterans' treatment court clerk, conference program attendance, technical assistance for a caseload management solution, partnering with WestCare to provide assessments for veterans, and funds for testing and sober living.

Vice Mayor Ring asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak. No one from the public spoke.

MOTION: Council Member Shutts made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2019R-13, ratifying submission to the Bureau of Justice Assistance for grant funds in the amount of up to \$500,000.00 to enhance the Bullhead City Veterans Treatment Court program, appoint the City Manager or his designee as agent for the Mayor and City Council, and to sign resulting documents on behalf of the city. Council Member Wegmann seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Bruck, Clark, D'Amico, Ring, Shutts, Wegmann NAYS: None
ABSENT: Brady

MOTION CARRIED

3. Discussion and possible action to approve the March 2019 draft of the Bullhead City Trails Feasibility Study. (Dave Heath, Parks and Recreation Superintendent)

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Heath said in April 2018, the City Council approved an expenditure of \$10,635 to cover the cost of a Mountain Bike Trail Feasibility Study for Bullhead City. He said the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) submitted a draft of the study for review by the city. He said at the April 16, 2019, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, the Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of the study as presented. He said the study provided guidance in the design and location of mountain bike trails throughout the community. He said the plan included single-track trails, a pump park, and a tot track. He said this study would serve as a tool for developing the trails, as well as provide value for future grant requests.

Council Member Clark thanked Greg Riordan and Parks and Recreation Superintendent Heath for their efforts. He said they had been working on this project for many years. He said the pump park and tot track could be located in Rotary Park. He said the tot track could become the future site of the annual Bike Rodeo, and said the track would teach kids about the rules of biking and how to use their bikes. He said the trail system would become another opportunity to attract more visitors to the area.

Vice Mayor Ring asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak.

Barbara Pape said this program would be really great for kids and help to keep them safe.

Ray Rhines said she represented the Bullhead Area Chamber of Commerce, and said they were in support of the bike trails.

MOTION: Council Member Wegmann made a motion to approve the March 2019 draft of the Bullhead City Trails Feasibility Study. Council Member Clark seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Bruck, Clark, D'Amico, Ring, Shutts, Wegmann NAYS: None
ABSENT: Brady

MOTION CARRIED

4. Discussion and possible action to approve a name and location for the bull statue. (Dave Heath, Parks and Recreation Superintendent)

City Manager Cotter said the city purchased a bull statute with \$2,500 in funding from the Municipal Art Fund to be used as a community art and tourist attraction. He said the Parks and Recreation Commission, at their April 16, 2019, meeting, recommended that the bull statue be located at Gary Keith Park. He said Mayor Brady thought a better location would be in front of the Chamber of Commerce, and then move "Poki" the tortoise to a location closer to the river. He said former Mayor Jack Hakim had previously agreed with Mayor Brady about the preferred locations for the two statues. He said the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) would install a turning lane southbound on Marina Blvd. which would take away most of the proposed location area at Gary Keith Park.

Council Member D'Amico said he agreed with the recommended name of the bull as "Bravo." He said he agreed with the location of the bull statue in front of the Chamber of Commerce, and moving "Poki" to the river.

Vice Mayor Ring asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak.

Eva Corbett said she was in agreement with Council Member D'Amico.

Ray Rhines said "Poki" was very popular with tourists, and said people enjoyed taking pictures with the tortoise statue.

Barbara Pape said "Poki" should be located near the water.

Hildy Angius said the bull might be intimidating for people, and said "Poki" might be hidden from public view if it was relocated near the water.

Council Member Clark asked about the proposed location of the tortoise statue.

Council Member D'Amico said the tortoise statue would be located at the intersection of Highway 95 and Laughlin Ranch Blvd. and would be highly visible to the public.

MOTION: Council Member D'Amico made a motion to approve the name of the bull statue as "Bravo;" the bull statue to be located in front of the Chamber of Commerce building; and the re-location of the current "Poki" statue to the intersection of Highway 95 and Laughlin Ranch Blvd. Council Member Wegmann seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Bruck, Clark, D'Amico, Ring, Shutts, Wegmann NAYS: None
ABSENT: Brady

MOTION CARRIED

5. Discussion and possible action to approve a new name for Community Park or keep the name Community Park until the conclusion of the land swap to consider other opportunities. (Dave Heath, Parks and Recreation Superintendent)

City Manager Cotter thanked the Parks and Recreation Commission for thinking outside the box to rename the park in order to better market the area to visitors by focusing on the river and the beach. He said a suggestion was also made to name the "Old Bullhead" area as the "River District." He said a lot of energy was happening in that neighborhood, and said in a few years, it would become a very exciting place.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Heath said the area was growing, expanding, and changing for the better. He said the Parks and Recreation Commission wanted to focus on the energy of the area and had recommended re-naming Community Park as "Bullhead City River Park" or Bullhead City River Beach Park."

Council Member D'Amico said the City Council had voted on the same item about six months ago to keep the name as "Community Park." He suggested the name remain the same at this time. He thanked the Parks and Recreation Commission for their efforts.

Council Member Clark said the City Council had discussed re-naming all of the parks quite some time ago. He said different areas within the parks could be named. He said he was in favor of keeping the name of "Community Park."

Council Member Ring said she received a suggestion from a citizen to name the new beach, "Turtle Beach."

Vice Mayor Ring asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak.

Laurie Bezick said the Sears Tower in Chicago was renamed and said no one recognized the new name, so they continued to call it the "Sears Tower." She said the name of the park should not be changed.

Barbara Pape suggested the name be changed to "Community Beach Park."

No action was taken on Agenda Item No. 5.

COUNCIL REQUESTED ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Vice Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct record of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Bullhead City held on the 7th day of May 2019. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 21st day of May 2019.



Susan Stein, MMC, CPM
City Clerk