

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, July 7, 2020, in the City Council Chambers, 1255 Marina Boulevard, Bullhead City, Arizona.

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Mayor D’Amico called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and invited Council Member Wegmann to deliver the invocation. Council Member Shutts led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Council Present

Brady (via Zoom conference), Bruck, Clark, D’Amico, Shutts, Wegmann

Council Absent

Ring

Staff Present:

CITY MANAGER: Toby Cotter

CITY ATTORNEY: Garnet Emery

CITY CLERK: Susan Stein

POLICE CHIEF: Brian Williamson (via Zoom conference)

FINANCE DIRECTOR: Rudy Vera (via Zoom Conference)

INTERIM PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR: Angie Johnson (via Zoom conference)

HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR: Jeff Tipton (via Zoom conference)

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTOR: S. Chooniyom (via Zoom conference)

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

None

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Brady opened the call to the public.

Eva Corbett asked for clarification on the locations where masks were required.

Sue Demarco said she did not want homeowners setting off illegal fireworks, and said a brush fire was caused in her neighborhood due to fireworks on the 4th of July. She said her dog almost had a heart attack and said irresponsible pet owners left their animals out to run away over a three-day weekend when the shelter was closed. She asked the city to address the fireworks issue and make people accountable.

Harvey Pryor said the Public Works Department had a huge budget. He asked if a public works committee could be formed to have oversight on the money spent. He said some Council Members were not ethical. He said citizens did not trust the Council with spending the city’s funds.

Gene Quitmeyer said city employees did not have the ability to make people keep their masks on. He said the city’s budget included items with no reference as to where the money was going. He said the city’s beaches should be closed in order to control spread of the COVID-19 virus, and said the city should not be profit-motivated.

Wesley said he was a local veteran. He said he was concerned about the workers in the local casinos that have reported a cleaning process that might be spreading the COVID-19 virus. He asked how the police body cam footage would be stored.

Scotty McClure said the monthly EPCOR billing revenue could be held in a separate city account rather than going to Canada. He said Safeway management did not care about the handicapped parking space situation and limited customer access to their store.

Nick Parsons said COVID was blown out of proportion because it had a high survival rate. He suggested replacing tournaments and events with bike races or kite flying festivals which would coincide with social distancing requirements.

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

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

None

WAIVER MOTION

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

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

MOTION CARRIED

MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Cotter said masks were required in all public facilities indoors. He said the city had zero power to restrict the sale and utilization of fireworks or people shooting them off on the 4th of July. He said the State of Arizona allowed the sale and said the city could only respond to fireworks complaints.

1. COVID-19

City Manager Cotter said the case numbers in Bullhead City included Fort Mohave, Mohave Valley, and other surrounding areas. He said the Mohave County Health Department was doing the best they could. He said 30 percent of the spread occurred in nursing homes and assisted living centers. He said there was a big jump in cases after graduation parties, funerals, and family gatherings. He provided statistics provided by the county. He said the county would hire additional people to help with contact tracing. He said the city had been pro-active since March, and hired a liaison to work with nursing homes. He said they worked with hospitals and medical professionals every day, and shared information to help make their decisions. He discussed numerous actions the city had taken since March to address the spread of the virus. He said they responded to every complaint received. He read a press release declaring the city would close all beaches and boat launches on weekends for the remainder of the summer to slow the spread of COVID-19. He read

Mayor Brady's comments regarding his decision to close the beaches on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays until after Labor Day.

Mayor Brady said he wished he could make his comments in person and not through Zoom. He said the decisions were made with full understanding of the impact on citizens and the business community. He said the objective was to stop the spread of the virus and keep residents safe and healthy.

Council Member Wegmann said the Council Members were receiving great pressure from citizens asking them to do this, and said they were trying to do the best they could to protect citizens.

Mayor Brady said the decisions made were based upon the information they received from the medical community.

2. Census 2020

City Manager Cotter said the census was still taking place. He said the response rate was about 54 percent in the city which was one of the lowest online response rates in the state.

3. Election Information

City Clerk Stein provided information on the upcoming August 4th primary election. She said early ballots would be mailed on July 8th and early voting in-person would be held at the Mohave County Public Library from July 8th through July 31st.

4. Transportation Projects

Interim Public Works Director Johnson said the Bullhead Parkway extension to the new bridge was 65 percent complete; Clearwater Drive flood control project would be completed at the end of the week; 30 locations of sidewalks buckling were repaired throughout the city were completed; the annual street maintenance program was completed on June 2nd; and said their street maintenance program goal for next year was 30 percent of the city's streets. She said the Mohave Drive right-turn lane; Mohave Drive road repair; emergency repair work on Swan Drive; and the Corwin Road traffic signal projects had been completed. She said the Arizona Department of Transportation would construct a right turn lane from Highway 95 on to Marina Blvd. in the fall.

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 Wegmann seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Items on the Consent Agenda were approved as follows:

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on June 16, 2020; and the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on June 16, 2020. (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

2. Discussion and possible action to approve acceptance of the Office of Justice Programs, BJA FY20 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program, in the amount of \$35,651.00 to be used to purchase PPE equipment for the current COVID-19 outbreak and anticipated resurgence of the virus in the fall; and authorization for the City Manager or his designee to execute all documents pertaining to the grant application and awards on behalf of the city. (Police Chief Williamson)

City Manager Cotter said this grant would assist with additional expenses incurred for the prevention and response to the COVID-19 virus.

Vice Mayor D’Amico asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak. No one from the public spoke.

MOTION: Council Member Shutts made a motion to approve acceptance of the Office of Justice Programs, BJA FY20 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program, in the amount of \$35,651.00 to be used to purchase PPE equipment for the current COVID-19 outbreak and anticipated resurgence of the virus in the fall; and authorization for the City Manager or his designee to execute all documents pertaining to the grant application and awards on behalf of the city. Council Member Bruck seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

3. Discussion and possible action to approve the purchase of and full up-fit for five (5) patrol vehicles in the amount of \$330,674.50; and authorize the City Manager to enter into and execute appropriate contracts for the purchases and performance of necessary services. (Police Chief Williamson)

City Manager Cotter said it was imperative to move forward with the purchase, and said over the last few months; hundreds of police cars had been damaged in riots. He said they took the opportunity to be first in line to purchase new cars. He said the vehicles were available on the state contract.

Vice Mayor D’Amico said the city definitely needed the new vehicles.

Vice Mayor D’Amico asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak.

Gene Quitmeyer said the police parking lot was always full, and asked if the cars could be shared.

Vice Mayor D’Amico said the cars were used 24-7, and said the vehicles needed to be circulated.

City Manager Cotter said the expired vehicles were sold on public auction and said the city did not receive much for them, as they were worn to the ground.

Harvey Pryor spoke in support of the purchase. He said he would like to see other police safety equipment, such as bicycles, being utilized.

MOTION: Council Member Wegmann made a motion to approve the purchase of and full up-fit for five (5) patrol vehicles in the amount of \$330,674.50; and authorize the City Manager to enter into and execute appropriate contracts for the purchases and performance of necessary services. Council Member Clark seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

4. Discussion and possible action to adopt Resolution No. 2020R-31 approving Amendment No. 2 to the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Bullhead City Pest Abatement District and the City of Bullhead City. (Human Services Director Tipton)

City Manager Cotter said since 2016, the city had partnered with the Pest Abatement District. He said the district had been battling the gnats years before and did a great job in attacking them. He said the caddis flies, black flies, and mosquitoes had become a problem; and said the partnership hired a pest abatement manager. He said some additional field help was required in order to address the insect populations. He said there had been some success in controlling the mosquitoes and black flies, and said these funds were critical as it related to the caddis flies and black flies.

Vice Mayor D'Amico asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak. No one from the public spoke.

MOTION: Council Member Bruck made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2020R-31 approving Amendment No. 2 to the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Bullhead City Pest Abatement District and the City of Bullhead City. Council Member Clark seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Other Business

5. Discussion and possible action to adopt Resolution No. 2020R-32 creating a new Lighting Improvement District No. 23 (Desert Shores/North Fork at Laughlin Ranch) and dissolving Districts 8 and 22. (Development Services Director Chooniyom)

City Manager Cotter said this resolution would consolidate two existing lighting districts. He said Lighting Improvement Districts 8 and 22 were created early in the stages of development of the individual plats at Desert Shores and North Fork at Laughlin Ranch. He said as development progressed, lot lines ended up crossing lighting district lines which caused confusion to property owners, realtors, and financing companies. He said the consolidation would not affect the amount of electrical costs to the property owners. He said the developer paid for the lights, a lighting district was established, and the cost of electricity was charged on property owners' tax bills.

Vice Mayor D'Amico asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak. No one from the public spoke.

MOTION: Council Member Wegmann made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2020R-32 creating a new Lighting Improvement District No. 23 (Desert Shores/North Fork at Laughlin Ranch) and dissolving Districts 8 and 22. Council Member Shutts seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

6. Discussion and possible action to approve the estimated total annual assessment of \$53,355.00 for all improvement districts listed for fiscal year 2021; grant the City Manager or designee approval to sign all Tax Levies and Rates Certification Forms on behalf of the lighting districts; and forward the information to Mohave County for inclusion in its fiscal year 2020-2021 Statement of Tax Levies and Rates. (Finance Director Vera)

City Manager Cotter said the statement of annual expenses was submitted to the Mohave County Finance Department, and said the estimated total annual assessment was \$53,355 for all improvement districts listed for fiscal year 2021.

Vice Mayor D'Amico asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak. No one from the public spoke.

MOTION: Council Member Shutts made a motion to approve the estimated total annual assessment of \$53,355.00 for all improvement districts listed for fiscal year 2021; grant the City Manager or designee approval to sign all Tax Levies and Rates Certification Forms on behalf of the lighting districts; and forward the information to Mohave County for inclusion in its fiscal year 2020-2021 Statement of Tax Levies and Rates. Council Member Clark seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

7. Discussion and possible action regarding COVID-19 testing and approve a partnership with Western Arizona Regional Medical Center. (City Manager Cotter)

City Manager Cotter said there was a potential opportunity for additional COVID-19 testing. He said there was a possible partnership between Mohave County Public Health, Western Arizona Regional Medical Center (WARMC), and the City of Bullhead City to provide additional testing as early as this weekend. He said there would be some financial cost to the city, WARMC, and the County Public Health Department. He said WARMC would donate all of the staffing, and the county would donate all of the PPE required. He said the cost was about \$27 for each rapid test. He said they were proposing the city allocate \$75,000 in order to test 2,000 residents. He said the test results would be known in 15 minutes. He said those who tested positive with the rapid test would need to receive the nasal swab test. He said the nasal swab tests cost about \$125. He said there

were some additional details to be worked out; such as paying for testing for residents outside of Bullhead City.

Mayor Brady said they were working hard to do everything they could to protect the citizens of Bullhead City.

Vice Mayor D'Amico asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak.

Nick, a resident, said the public officials set the example and should be wearing masks.

Vice Mayor D'Amico said the city officials did wear masks, but took them off when they were speaking.

Eva Corbett asked about the testing locations.

City Manager Cotter said the owner of the Riverview Mall had donated space in the mall to conduct testing.

Scotty McClure asked if the Field House could be used for testing purposes and an emergency hospital. He asked how people would know about the testing.

City Manager Cotter said the Field House was pre-scheduled for other activities. He said information about testing opportunities would be available through social media, newspaper, and on billboards.

Harvey Pryor said the city needed the Field House for testing and the School Board told them no. He said the taxpayers paid for the facility and the school needed to open the doors.

MOTION: Council Member Wegmann made a motion to approve the partnership for COVID-19 testing with the Western Arizona Regional Medical Center in the amount of \$75,000 to provide tests for Bullhead City residents. Council Member Bruck seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

COUNCIL REQUESTED ITEMS

None


ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Vice Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:03 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 July 2020. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 21st day of July 2020.



Susan Stein, MMC, CPM
City Clerk