

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, January 19, 2021, 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 Pastor Roy Hagemyer of The Way Christian Church to deliver the invocation. Council Member Clark led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**ROLL CALL**

Council Present

Brady (via Zoom conference), Bruck, Brummett, Clark, D'Amico, Wegmann, Zehri

Council Absent

None

Staff Present:

CITY MANAGER: Toby Cotter

CITY ATTORNEY: Garnet Emery

CITY CLERK: Susan Stein

INTERIM POLICE CHIEF: Dennis DeSantis (via Zoom conference)

FINANCE DIRECTOR: Rudy Vera (via Zoom Conference)

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**

Vice Mayor D'Amico opened the call to the public.

Eva Corbett invited the public to attend the Colorado River Republican Women's Club luncheon to be held on January 20th at Chaparral Country Club.

Grace Hecht provided updated information on opportunities to receive the COVID vaccine in Bullhead City.

Harvey Pryor thanked the city for completing the work on Rio Vista Drive.

Scotty McClure asked if city meetings could be broadcast on Channel 4. He said the Mohave County Board of Supervisors reversed their decision, and public comment was again allowed during their meetings. He said he would receive his COVID vaccine at Smith's Grocery this week.

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 Clark 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: Brady, Bruck, Brummett, Clark, D’Amico, Wegmann, Zehri NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MANAGER’S REPORT**

1. EPCOR Condemnation

City Manager Cotter said the bond hearing was set for February 22nd. He said he would provide additional updates to the Council at the next meeting.

2. Bridge Project out to bid

City Manager Cotter said Clark County would hold a pre-bid meeting for construction of the second bridge on January 25th, and bids for the project were due on February 8th. He said the city appreciated all of the efforts from the Clark County staff and officials. He said they would keep the Council informed on the project.

3. Economic Development Updates

City Manager Cotter said the city had a positive growth year in spite of the pandemic. He said the city turned into a regional shopping area as the retailers kept their shelves stocked and people from outside the area were traveling to the city to shop. He said 303 new single family homes were built in 2020, and more than 1,500 building related permits were approved. He said a number of commercial projects were in progress and a major redevelopment between 4th and 5th Streets would be announced shortly. He said retail and commercial development would not be slowing down in the next few years.

4. Covid-19/Vaccinations

City Manager Cotter said information on vaccinations would be provided through all media outlets, and said all information came directly from the Mohave County Health Department.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS’ REPORTS ON CURRENT EVENTS**

Council Member Wegmann reminded the public to stay home after being tested for having COVID and were awaiting results in order to not expose others to the virus.

**ITEMS WITHDRAWN FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Council Member Clark made a motion that Items No. 1 and 2 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: Brady, Bruck, Brummett, Clark, D'Amico, Wegmann, Zehri NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

Items on the Consent Agenda were approved as follows:

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on January 5, 2021. (City Clerk Stein)
2. Discussion and possible action to approve: 1) the Final Plat for Canyon Trails at Fox Creek, Tract 5190, Unit 8; 2) the Financial Assurance through the Property Escrow Agreement; 3) the Water Allocation in the amount of 13.1 acre-feet; and 4) authorizing the Mayor to execute the agreement on behalf of the city. (Development Services Director Chooniyom)

**PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

None

**BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

3. Discussion and possible action to appoint two citizens to serve on the Bullhead Area Transit System (BATS) Commission to fill two partial terms effective immediately and expiring on September 30, 2021. (City Clerk Stein)

Vice Mayor D'Amico said there were two applicants to fill two positions.

Lars Ravn expressed his interest in serving on the BATS Commission.

**MOTION:** Council Member Wegmann made a motion to appoint Lars Ravn and Gary Shapiro to serve on the Bullhead Area Transit System (BATS) Commission to fill two partial terms effective immediately and expiring on September 30, 2021. Council Member Bruck seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** AYES: Brady, Bruck, Brummett, Clark, D'Amico, Wegmann, Zehri NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**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**

4. Discussion and possible action to approve 2021 legislative priorities: including seeking full funding for State Route 95 from Marina to Sterling; encouraging the state to once again find SLIF (State Lake Improvement Funds); fixing issues with short-term rentals; prohibiting registered sex offenders from operating taxicabs and pay per ride services; and authorizing the Mayor, City Manager, and City Council Members to advocate on these matters as may be necessary. (City Manager Cotter)

City Manager Cotter said the Council would discuss legislative issues impacting Bullhead City for the upcoming legislative session. He said as in the past, he was requesting guidance from the City Council regarding their legislative priorities for the next year. He said the city did not hire a lobbyist, and said sometimes the Mayor, Council Member, or he would travel to Phoenix to represent the city and support or oppose a measure.

City Manager Cotter said HB 2071 was formulated to request the repaving of Highway 95 in Bullhead City, and said they were asking the state to fund the project. He said most of the highway repairs were performed by the city and they partnered with the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) the best they could. He said the State Lake Improvement Fund (SLIF) grant funds were cut during the recession, and said they would like to see those dollars come back in order to make improvements in the parks. He said short-term housing rentals were popular, but not without controversy. He said they wanted to make sure that state law guided the regulation of these rentals. He said today the Mayor was advocating in Phoenix against the eminent domain bill (HB 2049) as they believed it came about due to the city's acquisition of EPCOR. He said they would continue to fight that bill as it moved forward.

Mayor Brady said the current sex offender bill did not limit sex offenders to drive taxicabs. He said state law required taxi companies to conduct background checks, but there was nothing in state law to prohibit sex offenders from driving a taxi. He said they believed that HB 2049 was re-introduced to support EPCOR and help it become a monopoly in the State of Arizona. He said the bill stated that anyone condemning a public utility company must assume all existing assets and contractual obligations. He said that was such a broad statement which lent itself to possible abuse and litigation and it did not make sense. He said he argued against the bill today with the House Commerce Committee, and said the League of Arizona Cities and Towns and the City of Surprise spoke in opposition to the bill. He said, after much discussion, the bill passed out of the committee; and they would have to challenge this further as it goes through the legislative process. He asked that HB 2049 be added to the list of legislative issues for the next year.

Council Member Clark said Representative Regina Cobb would introduce a bill that would prohibit the transfer of fourth priority mainstem water from the Colorado River. He said the bill would not

allow entities like Mohave Valley Irrigation and Drainage District and the Town of Quartzite to transfer water, as well as the GSE transfer out of Cibola. He said there was a limited amount of water (165,000 acre-feet) and they needed to keep that water on the river. He said the Indian tribes were looking at legislation that would allow them to transfer or lease large quantities of water. He said he believed that Indian water rights would be the “go-to place” for water make-up in Central Arizona in the future. He asked for the bill to be added to the legislative list.

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

Harvey Pryor suggested that registered sex offenders not be allowed to work at the jet ski rental businesses.

Scotty McClure asked that traffic lights along Highway 95 be timed to coordinate with a speed of 40 mph before new payment was installed. He said Trinidad, California, had been fighting the short-term rental issue for many years.

**MOTION:** Council Member Clark made a motion to approve 2021 legislative priorities: including seeking full funding for State route 95 from Marina to Sterling; encouraging the state to once again find SLIF (state lake improvement funds); fixing issues with short-term rentals; prohibiting registered sex offenders from operating taxicabs and pay-per-ride services; opposing the HB2049 eminent domain bill; opposing any transfers of fourth-priority rights of mainstream Colorado River water; and authorized the Mayor, City Manager, and City Council Members to advocate on these matters as may be necessary. Council Member Wegmann seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** AYES: Brady, Bruck, Brummett, Clark, D’Amico, Wegmann, Zehri NAYS: None  
ABSENT: None

**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 6:19 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 19th day of January 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 2nd day of February 2021.

*Debra Ogden Deputy City Clerk*  
For Susan Stein, MMC, CPM  
City Clerk