

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 Special Meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, in the Council Chambers, 1255 Marina Blvd., Bullhead City, Arizona.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Brady called the special meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Council Present

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

Council Absent

None

Staff Present:

CITY MANAGER: Toby Cotter

CITY ATTORNEY: Garnet Emery

CITY CLERK: Susan Stein

FINANCE DIRECTOR: Rudy Vera

HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR: Jeff Tipton

PARKS AND RECREATION SUPERINTENDENT: Dave Heath

**DISCUSSION ITEM(S)**

1. Discussion regarding the proposed changes to the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Comprehensive Fee Schedule.

City Manager Cotter said the City Council reviewed the Comprehensive Fee Schedule on an annual basis. He said following this workshop, staff would post the recommended fee changes on the city website for a minimum of 60 days and bring the recommended fee changes to the Council for consideration and adoption at the regular Council meeting on May 4, 2021. He said the fees adopted by the Council would become effective on July 1, 2021.

Finance Director Vera said the Development Services/Building and Planning and Zoning fee changes were recommended based upon a one-time cost of living rate of 1.3 percent. He said no changes had been made to these fees since 2014. He reviewed the individual fees.

City Manager Cotter said the fees covered some cost recovery, but not full cost recovery, for these services.

Council Member Zehri asked about the amount of revenue generated from these fees.

City Manager Cotter said the revenue was based on the economy and the fees were not to create revenue, but to offset the city's costs.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Heath said the Recreation fee changes were needed to more accurately reflect actual personnel costs. He said the softball and baseball tournament field preparation fees would increase from \$50 to \$75 per field/occurrence. He said the fees were charged when the tournament organizer requested the city to prepare the fields.

City Manager Cotter said none of the local youth groups were charged any fees to use the fields for any type of athletic activities. He said those fees applied to promoters that profited from the city's facilities.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Heath said the Municipal Pool Private Party Reservation fees for the part-time pool managers, lifeguards, and snack bar attendants would be changed to reflect the current hourly rate. He said the small ramada reservation fee would increase from \$35 to \$50 and the medium ramada reservation fee would increase from \$75 to \$100. He said the increase was basically to keep up with staff hours and maintenance costs. He said another change to the reservation fee section was that the City Manager may reduce rental fees to zero for non-revenue generating uses of a facility, and for events sponsored by non-profit organizations.

City Manager Cotter said once the fees were posted on the website, they could not be increased but could be lowered.

The consensus of the Council was to move forward with the proposed fee changes.

**MOTION: Council Member Wegmann made a motion to adjourn the special meeting and convene into executive session at 4:22 p.m. Council Member Bruck seconded the motion.**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Council Member Clark recused himself from the Executive Session.**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

2. Discussion or consultation for legal advice concerning the status of the City's eminent domain litigation with EPCOR and its effects and related continuing issues involving EPCOR's current matters before the Arizona Corporation Commission. Arizona Revised Statutes § 38-431.03(A)(3).

**MOTION: Council Member Bruck made a motion to adjourn from executive session and the special meeting at 4:50 p.m. Council Member Wegmann seconded the motion.**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Brady declared the special meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct record of the special meeting of the City Council of the City of Bullhead City held on the 16th day of February 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 2nd day of March 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Stein, MMC, CPM  
City Clerk

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, February 16, 2021, in the City Council Chambers, 1255 Marina Boulevard, Bullhead City, Arizona.

**CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**ROLL CALL**

Council Present

Brady, Bruck, Brummett, Clark, D’Amico, Wegmann, Zehri

Council Absent

None

Staff Present:

CITY MANAGER: Toby Cotter

CITY ATTORNEY: Garnet Emery

CITY CLERK: Susan Stein

ACTING POLICE CHIEF: Robert Trebes

FINANCE DIRECTOR: Rudy Vera (via Zoom Conference)

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR: Angie Johnson (via Zoom conference)

HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR: Jeff Tipton

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.

Steven Lee urged the public to unite in order to defend and uphold the Constitution.

John Sala said the intersections onto Highway 95 from Rising Sun and Sterling were causing traffic problems. He said the newly installed medians prevented vehicles from turning left and said this created a dangerous situation.

Eva Corbett invited the public to attend the Colorado River Republican Women’s luncheon to be held on February 17th at the Chaparral County Club. She expressed her support for the Guardian Foundation.

Larry Tunforss said a home in his neighborhood burned down in June 2019 and had not been repaired yet. He requested that the city look into this situation. He opposed the proposed road through Community Park, and requested a public hearing about this. He requested the city to ask that ADOT clean the weeds in the medians along Highway 68.

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

**AGENDA MODIFICATIONS**

None

**WAIVER MOTION**

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor D'Amico 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. COVID-19

City Manager Cotter said the COVID-19 positive case numbers in the city had been decreasing over the last few weeks, and said Bullhead City residents have received 10,900 vaccinations to date. He said persons 65 years of age and older and educators were now eligible to receive the vaccine. He provided the County's hot line number.

2. Marina Turn Lane

City Manager Cotter said ADOT had awarded the contract for construction of the Marina Blvd. right turn lane at Highway 95.

3. Frontier Communications

City Manager Cotter said a major outage on February 6th was caused by a contractor hitting a fiber optic line. He said a good portion of the community was impacted, especially small businesses, for two days. He said the local emergency dispatch call center was down for more than a day and calls had to be routed to another dispatch center.

4. EPCOR Rate Case Public Hearings

City Manager Cotter said the immediate possession hearing that was supposed to begin on February 22nd would be postponed to mid-April. He said the city's lead attorney had recently experienced a tragic death of a close family member and asked the court to reschedule. He said they appreciated EPCOR and the court accommodating the change.

5. Second Bridge Update

City Manager Cotter said the bid date had been extended to February 22nd in order to give the bidders additional time.

**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. Vice Mayor D'Amico 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 Special Council Meeting held on February 2, 2021; and the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on February 2, 2021. (City Clerk Stein)

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

None

**BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

None

**PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS**

2. **PUBLIC HEARING.** Discussion and possible action to make a recommendation to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and control to approve the application for an Interim Permit and new Series 12 Liquor License Job No. 135796 submitted by Lanora Irene Ochs for the Laughlin Ranch Bar & Grill located at 1360 William Hardy Drive, #A, in Bullhead City. (City Clerk Stein)

City Manager Cotter said staff had reviewed the application and had no concerns.

Mayor Brady opened the public hearing. Having no one requesting to speak, Mayor Brady closed the public hearing.

**MOTION:** Council Member Wegmann made a motion to make a recommendation to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and control to approve the application for an Interim Permit and new Series 12 Liquor License Job No. 135796 submitted by Lanora Irene Ochs for the Laughlin Ranch Bar & Grill located at 1360 William Hardy Drive, #A, in Bullhead City. Council Member Bruck seconded the motion.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

3. **PUBLIC HEARING.** Discussion and possible action to make a recommendation to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and control to approve the application for an Interim Permit and new Series 7 Liquor License Job No. 135819 submitted by Lanora Irene Ochs for the Laughlin Ranch Junction located at 1360 William Hardy Drive in Bullhead City. (City Clerk Stein)

City Manager Cotter said staff had reviewed the application and had no concerns.

Mayor Brady opened the public hearing. Having no one requesting to speak, Mayor Brady closed the public hearing.

**MOTION:**    **Council Member Wegmann made a motion to make a recommendation to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and control to approve the application for an Interim Permit and new Series 7 Liquor License Job No. 135819 submitted by Lanora Irene Ochs for the Laughlin Ranch Junction located at 1360 William Hardy Drive in Bullhead City. Council Member Bruck seconded the motion.**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Building, Planning and Zoning Items**

None

**Bid Awards, Contracts, Intergovernmental Agreement, and Purchases**

None

**Other Business**

4. Discussion and possible action to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-01, referencing City Code Amendments “Food Sharing and Public Parks Amendments 2021” and Resolution No. 2021R-03, declaring the code amendments a public record. (City Manager Cotter)

City Manager Cotter said the City Council held a workshop on February 2nd for discussion and community input concerning potential city code amendments that would address some of the issues related to use of public lands within the city. He said the proposed ordinance detailed the requirements to serve food in city parks. He said there had been more than 60 meetings of the Homeless Task Force to help the homeless community, and said there now was a new shelter that was feeding the homeless. He said it had been discussed that the best place to feed the homeless was the shelter where they could receive other needed resources. He said the city provided free bus

passes to the homeless. He said this was not an “anti-homeless” discussion, but a discussion about the utilization of public lands and public parks, what the community expectations were and the expectations of the policy makers regarding the use of public parks. He said the ordinance did not prevent food sharing events on private property, churches, or businesses; only in city parks and on park lands. He played a news clip video of the actions that Whittier, California, and Tucson, Arizona took to reduce homelessness issues. He said there were parallels that Bullhead City could draw from other cities. He said this was a real conversation, there were people on both sides; and said he hoped this ordinance would solve the problem. He said the ordinance was not about sleeping the parks, just food sharing in the parks.

City Attorney Emery said they drafted the proposed food sharing ordinance to apply objectively to the citizenry at large, with public safety and public policy reasons behind it.

Mayor Brady asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak.

Barbara Pape spoke in support of the item to maintain safety in the parks.

John Sala spoke in support of the item. He asked how it applied to citizens hosting a party.

City Attorney Emery said the law did not apply to social events that would include a party.

Chelsea Kelly said the homeless shelter was not available for sleeping due to COVID. She spoke in opposition to the item.

C. J. Kelly said he was the acting President of the Guardian Foundation. He said he understood everyone’s concerns. He said he did not know that anyone on the Council had ever spent time with their organization in the parks. He said they provided trash bags and people were picking up their trash, but the bags were not removed from the park. He said park visitors were littering in the parks. He requested the Council to postpone making a decision until the shelter was operating in full function.

Pastor Chuck Kelly of Calvary Chapel said he lived in Bullhead City since 1977 and was involved with the Bread of Life Mission in feeding the homeless population. He said there was about the same number of homeless people living in the parks now as there were twenty years ago, which was about 30 to 40 people. He said he was proud to be a member of the Guardian Foundation and happy to cook for the homeless every week.

Larry Tunforss said he volunteered for the Guardians and found out the people being fed cleaned up and left after they ate. He urged the Council to watch the process and see the efforts of the community.

Linda Dooley said she represented Together We Can Tri-State. She said she distributed food in the parks and helped people that wanted to get out of the parks. She said she did not have the money to pay the city and said this was an anti-poverty issue.

City Manager Cotter said it seemed that there was public anxiety about the Council not watching or participating in any food sharing events at the parks. He said they did participate in distributing



food, and they had multiple videos of the feeding process. He said he wanted to clear the air about the accusations.

An unidentified woman said the homeless were also citizens of the community. She said the ordinance prevented the working poor, as well as the homeless, from getting food.

Norma Thornton said she brought food to the homeless and found them to be kind and wonderful people. She said she wished the Council could get to know them. She spoke in opposition to the ordinance.

Grace Hecht encouraged the Guardian members to work with the homeless shelter representatives as there were many positions available there. She said the BATS system provided free bus passes to the homeless in order to travel to the shelter.

Tami Ring spoke in support of the proposed ordinance. She said independent feedings were enabling people to live on the streets instead of using places with the resources available for help.

Steven Lee suggested a compromise that might be agreeable to both sides of the issue.

Jason said he owned the Bullhead City Cab Company and he provided free rides to the homeless and cleaned up trash in the park from the out of state residents. He spoke in opposition to the ordinance.

Deacon John DelQuadro from St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church said the Council should get to know the people that they fed. He urged the Council to postpone their decision.

Cindy Sowenski said the people they fed in the parks were human beings and said people should not be afraid of them.

Council Member Zehri thanked all of the organizations for providing services to the homeless population. He said the Guardian Foundation was providing more than food to those in need. He thanked Catholic Charities for constructing the new homeless shelter in Bullhead City. He said access to food was a basic human right. He said when a person was experiencing homelessness, he or she often loses access to food and shelter; and when that act of sharing food is limited and prohibited, it was a violation of human rights. He said it was a false assumption that all people who were homeless were able to travel to specific locations where food was served or distributed. He said the proposed ordinance was unconstitutional, inhumane, discriminating, impractical, premature and anti-homeless. He said the ordinance could put our city at risk for challenges in court. He said, when showing compassion became an illegal act, there were more serious problems to tackle. He said the ordinance was about criminalizing people for trying to do good. He said the city had to provide meaningful alternatives to feed homeless and poor people. He said he did not agree with City Manager Cotter's statement that the shelter was offering overnight rest, relief, basic necessities, case management and health services with the ability to shelter 57 individuals each night. He said this statement was not completely true, because currently the shelter was limited in services and resources due to the pandemic. He said this was not a meaningful alternative to feed the homeless. He said there were more than 19,000 municipal governments in the country, and 129 cities had some type of ordinance restrictions to share food in a public place. He said some of those cities had been challenged in court due to their ordinance restrictions and some of the restrictions

had been reverted after court rulings. He said a Federal judge rejected a Las Vegas ban on feeding the homeless in parks in 2006, and a city in Florida became infamous after arresting a 94-year old man for feeding the homeless in 2018. He said he did not want Bullhead City to become one of these cities that cracked down on compassion. He said the Guardians were feeding the homeless in a wide-open area away from residential areas and allowed enough space for social distancing. He said the shelter was located in a residential area which created issues. He said the homeless were people too. He said this was not a life or death issue for the city but was detrimental for the people of the homeless community. He asked what measures had actually been taken to help resolve the concerns. He asked that the Council table this ordinance tonight and said he did not understand why this was a rush as the country was in an era of pandemic. He said now was the time to be a community that showed compassion and support.

Council Member Wegmann asked the Council to consider tabling the item. She said she had performed celebrations of life for the homeless, and people were so thankful. She said the shelter was not ready to do what needed at this time. She said she hoped there was something else that could be done.

Council Member Brummett thanked the people of the community for their compassion and said if the solution was easy, it would have been solved decades ago. She said Bullhead City was in a good place to help the homeless and said this was something to move forward with. She said the ordinance would not shut down the feeding of the less fortunate but would limit where they were being fed on public lands. She said the shelter would be functioning in time and said she would like to see everyone work together and come up with an alternative private property that would provide safety and food for the homeless. She said she would be comfortable postponing the vote for a few months.

Vice Mayor D'Amico asked if the shelter could provide three meals per day, seven days per week.

City Manager Cotter said he understood the shelter would be providing three meals per day in a week or so; plus laundry machines, showers, computers for resumes, telephones, and safe harbor.

Vice Mayor D'Amico asked if this measure was unconstitutional as Council Member Zehri stated.

City Attorney Emery said he would not present anything to the Council that was unconstitutional. He said any ordinance, any place, could be challenged. He said the purpose of the ordinance would have to violate human rights; and said based upon the way the ordinance was written, it was not unconstitutional.

Vice Mayor D'Amico said he and other Council Members did spend time with the homeless population. He said he had offered to help and said the response was that people did not want to be bothered.

David Lipinski of the Guardian Foundation said he was aware that the Council was involved in helping the homeless population. He said there were issues in the park, but said he brought his family to the parks all of the time and was not afraid. He said the organization helped people through the processes required to get back on their feet. He said their goal was to reduce the number of homeless people in the parks. He asked the Council for more time to work through the issues.

He said they relocated the feeding across the street during the time Community Park was under the COVID-19 lockdown.

Vice Mayor D'Amico said this issue was only about feeding and anyone needing food would be fed at the shelter. He said the Guardian Foundation and Catholic Charities had to work together. He said the parks were for families and kids.

Council Member Zehri asked if a representative from Catholic Charities was present.

City Manager Cotter said they were watching the meeting, but not present. He said there were thousands of other places than the shelter or the parks where homeless could be fed; such as private properties, non-profit churches, and other places. He said the public parks were the property of the citizens.

Council Member Wegmann asked about the number of people being helped at the shelter.

City Manager Cotter said all services except overnight sleeping were available now.

Council Member Clark said he appreciated everyone showing up tonight. He said coordination among all of the different entities was required in an effort to get this done right. He said he agreed with Vice Mayor D'Amico. He asked the Guardian Foundation to coordinate with Catholic Charities. He said this issue had been discussed for almost a decade and now it was time to start moving in the right direction to give people a hand up.

Council Member Zehri said this was about human beings and against the Constitution. He asked for more time until the pandemic was over and the shelter was 100 percent open.

Council Member Bruck said it was time to move forward and suggested extending the effective date to May 1, 2021.

Mayor Brady thanked everyone in the community that helped the homeless. He said the city stepped in to help with the Homeless Task Force more than six years ago. He said they were seeing more of a problem now and there was no easy solution. He said the issue was not about prohibiting people from eating. He said they had compassion but feeding people in the parks was getting out of hand. He said the parks were not the proper location and they were not prohibiting anyone from feeding people at private locations. He said he supported extending the effective date to May 1, 2021 to allow time for the organizations to work together in order to find an alternate location in addition to the shelter to feed the homeless.

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor D'Amico made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-01, referencing City Code Amendments "Food Sharing and Public Parks Amendments 2021" with an Amendment to Section 4: changing the effective date to May 1, 2021; and Resolution No. 2021R-03, declaring the code amendments a public record. Council Member Bruck seconded the motion.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

5. Discussion and possible action to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-02, referencing City Code Amendments “Shopping Carts City Code Amendments 2021” and Resolution No. 2021R-04, declaring the code amendments a public record. (City Manager Cotter)

City Manager Cotter said the ordinance looked to preserve the community, and was not an anti-homeless issue, nor a criminal issue. He said it enabled Code Enforcement to re-possess a shopping cart and return it to its owner. He said the shelter’s contract with the city forbids shopping carts at their location. He said the city’s Code Enforcement Division had collected approximately 100 shopping carts that were abandoned on city property since November. He said the city would work with the individuals, help get them the help they needed, and return the shopping cart to its owner.

Mayor Brady asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak.

Grace Hecht thanked the city for providing the Bullhead City Direct App with the ability to report abandoned shopping carts. She said she would like to know what stores had the locking carts.

City Manager Cotter said shopping carts were expensive and the locking devices added more cost.

Billy Pershing asked if someone living more than 500-feet from a store would be in violation if they used the cart to take their groceries home.

City Manager Cotter said if that person indicated he or she would return the cart to the store, there would be no issue.

Steven Lee said the locking mechanisms on the carts were unreliable due to jamming and breaking, as well as being expensive to maintain.

**MOTION:** Council Member Wegmann made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-02, referencing City Code Amendments “Shopping Carts City Code Amendments 2021” and Resolution No. 2021R-04, declaring the code amendments a public record. Council Member Bruck seconded the motion.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

6. Discussion and possible action to approve Ordinance No. 2021-03, adopting by reference the document entitled “Elections Amendments 2021” as an amendment to Title 2 of the Bullhead City Municipal Code; and adopt Resolution No. 2021R-05, declaring that document a public record. (City Clerk Stein)

City Clerk Stein said the proposal simply clarified the City Code and referred to the appropriate statutory provisions.

Council Member Clark asked if there were any changes in the language.

City Clerk Stein said the language was more aligned to the state law, with no substantive changes.

Mayor Brady asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak.

Steven Lee asked for the ordinance to be read because it was vague.

Mayor Brady said every agenda item was posted online and available for the public to view. He said it was an individual's responsibility to read the agenda item reports beforehand and provide comments on that item during the meetings.

**MOTION:** Council Member Clark made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2021-03, adopting by reference the document entitled "Elections Amendments 2021" as an amendment to Title 2 of the Bullhead City Municipal Code; and adopt Resolution No. 2021R-05, declaring that document a public record. Vice Mayor D'Amico seconded the motion.

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

#### **MOTION CARRIED**

7. Discussion and possible action to approve an allocation of \$50,000 from the City's General Fund Contingency Budget to the River Fund, Inc. to assist the homeless in Bullhead City; and authorize the City Manager to negotiate and enter a grant agreement with the River Fund, Inc. (City Manager Cotter)

City Manager Cotter said the River Fund was a critical social service agency assisting individuals in need, including those who were homeless, living in vehicles, or at risk of becoming homeless. He said the grant funds would be designated to assist individuals that might need overnight accommodations when assistance could not be provided by the new homeless shelter, provide bus passes for those individuals who might need to travel to another location, assist in vehicle reparations enabling individuals to continue their travels, and a provide other assistance outside of the scope of those offered by Catholic Charities. He said the grant agreement would require that assistance be limited to individuals that have been experiencing crisis situations within Bullhead City.

Mike Connor from the River Fund provided information and examples of instances when the River Fund stepped in to help those affected by domestic violence, homelessness, poverty, and other crisis situations. He said they had 19 different fund accounts that were spent within the local community from Golden Valley to Golden Shores, including Laughlin, Nevada, and Needles, California.

Mayor Brady asked Mr. Connor if \$50,000 would be enough.

Mr. Connor said it depended on what came in the door. He said they worked together with all of the local non-profit agencies.

City Manager Cotter said the city would provide a report on the funding expensed, and said the amount could be addressed at that time.

Mayor Brady said this was another example of the community showing compassion to those in need.

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

**MOTION:** Council Member Wegmann made a motion to approve an allocation of \$50,000 from the City's General Fund Contingency Budget to the River Fund, Inc. to assist the homeless in Bullhead City; and authorize the City Manager to negotiate and enter a grant agreement with the River Fund, Inc. Council Member Bruck seconded the motion.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

8. Discussion and possible action to authorize a budget transfer of \$23,000 from the General Services Contingency Budget to the REO budget for delinquent property taxes on city-owned real property. (Finance Director Vera)

City Manager Cotter said a budget was adopted for payment of taxes and fees related to city owned property. He said the budgeted amount was not sufficient to pay for the outstanding property taxes for the 18 real properties recently acquired. He said the properties would be brought to the REO Committee in a future meeting to establish minimum bid amounts and for a public auction.

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

**MOTION:** Council Member Bruck made a motion to authorize a budget transfer of \$23,000 from the General Services Contingency Budget to the REO budget for delinquent property taxes on city-owned real property. Council Member Wegmann seconded the motion.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

9. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Mayor, City Manager, and City Council Members to advocate on SB1402 and HB2602 (E-Cigarettes); and authorize the Mayor to sign on to the letter. (City Manager Cotter)

City Manager Cotter said this item was added to the agenda at the request of various organizations and mayors seeking a discussion regarding a letter of support for SB1402 and HB2602 establishing a tobacco retail license with strong enforcement provisions as it related to e-cigarettes. He said the bill was moving along in the House and Senate.

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

**MOTION:** Council Member Wegmann made a motion to authorize the Mayor, City Manager, and City Council Members to advocate on SB1402 and HB2602 (E-Cigarettes); and authorize the Mayor to sign on to the letter. Council Member Bruck seconded the motion.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**COUNCIL REQUESTED ITEMS**

10. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Mayor, City Manager, and City Council Members to advocate on HB2796 and SB1309 related to a gasoline facility in Kingman. (Council Members Kathy Bruck and Mark Clark)

City Manager Cotter said Council Members Bruck and Clark requested this item be added to the agenda for discussion as it related to the city's support of legislative items. He said the bill was about property tax classifications and primarily an item related to economic development. He said there was a proposal to build a zero sulfur gasoline facility in Kingman that would employ 3,500 people.

Council Member Clark said it was his understanding that the plant would not pencil out unless it received a property tax break. He said the project would be great for the county and would benefit Bullhead City in the long run.

Mayor Brady asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak.

Barbara Pape spoke in favor of the item and said the area needed more jobs.

Steven Lee spoke in favor of the item.

Billy Pershing asked if the project would be a refinery and/or produce natural gas.

Council Member Clark said the project would refine natural gas and convert it into oil.

City Manager Cotter said the Council would consider the tax legislation under this item.

Daniel Alfonzo said the project would be a refinery and said there would be risks. He said an environmental study and an investigation into the effects on the surrounding area should be completed.

**MOTION:** Council Member Clark made a motion to authorize the Mayor, City Manager, and City Council Members to advocate on HB2796 and SB1309 related to a gasoline facility in Kingman. Vice Mayor D'Amico seconded the motion.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

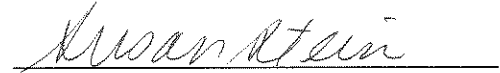
**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 8:16 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 16th day of February 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 2nd day of March 2021.



Susan Stein, MMC, CPM  
City Clerk