

Upon notice duly given under Arizona Revised Statutes, Section 38-431, et seq., as amended, the City Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Bullhead City held a Special Joint Meeting on Tuesday, September 21, 2021, in the Council Chambers, 1255 Marina Blvd., Bullhead City, Arizona.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Brady called the special joint meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Council Present

Brady, Bruck, Brummett, D'Amico, Mieding, Wegmann, Zehri

Council Absent

None

Parks and Recreation Commissioners Present

Bell, Cox, Hippensteel, Shapiro, Shurte

Parks and Recreation Commissioners Absent

None

Staff Present:

CITY MANAGER: Toby Cotter

CITY ATTORNEY: Garnet Emery (via telephone)

CITY CLERK: Susan Stein

POLICE CHIEF: Robert Trebes

HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR: Jeff Tipton

PARKS AND RECREATION SUPERINTENDENT: Dave Heath

**DISCUSSION ITEM**

1. Joint discussion between the City Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission regarding recommendations for the implementation of additional enforcement and/or programs in order to improve water safety on the river.

Mayor Brady discussed the parameters of the meeting. He said they only had two hours, and had already heard from the public with dozens of ideas that had been noted. He said they knew what the problems were and said today they would discuss solutions.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Heath said the Parks and Recreation Commission met last month with the public and came up with about 25 ideas. He said city officials and staff had reviewed those ideas and created with an overview of the recommendations. He said some of the items discussed were already in motion: better swim beach demarcation at Community Park; partnering with Laughlin; creating a boating class by the Arizona Game and Fish Department; reviewing City Code to determine if the consumer form language is adequate; enforcing City Code on anyone renting watercraft online and not complying with all city ordinances; and constructing a new commercial boat launch on the northern side of Community Park. He said they were also in concurrence with the Parks and Recreation Commission's recommendations such as additional and more visible signage; wristbands for watercraft operators; increasing the age of legal operators in Arizona to 14; and establishing a no wake zone for all beach areas at Community Park. He said for every consumer safety form signed, a wristband would be issued to the individual, or individuals, authorized to operate the watercraft. He said the wristband would be worn while operating the

watercraft and each company would have a different color. He said this would make it easier for authorities to identify who should or should not be operating the vessel, and from where the vessel was rented. He said increasing the age of operators was a solution that would require action at the state legislative level. He said further study would be needed at the state level in Nevada and Arizona to move the no wake zone.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Heath read the list of other items suggested via public input: boating class made mandatory with a citation; color codes for each watercraft rental company; impound watercraft when the owner was cited; ban alcohol in city parks; ban alcohol on the river; each rental company required to have a representative on the water; lifeguard towers at swim beach; police patrolling on PWCs; vacation rentals must register all watercraft with the city; bond for all rental companies; require rudders on all PWCs; limit number of PWCs on the river; create a PWC operator's license; green sticker program for PWCs; and have Arizona, California, Nevada, pass a law allowing no more than three passengers on a PWC at one time. He said for various reasons, these ideas were not recommended by staff.

Mayor Brady said some other ideas about improving river safety he had heard about were: increasing fines; must be 25 years of age to operate a PWC; get Laughlin more involved; put a cap on the number of commercial licenses issued; crack down on wildcat renters; more enforcement with fines and not warnings; no wake zone at Community Park; add more officers; commission on river safety; governors on rentals and speed limits on all rentals; ban rentals from the public boat launch; mandatory safety training; and laminated diagram on proper traffic patterns and no wake zones.

Bullhead City Police Chief Trebes provided statistics from April 30, 2021, through September 12, 2021. He said Water Rescue & Safety Water Patrol had 3,024 rescues; 807 vessel assists; 32 major medical events; and 29 minor medical events. He said the Beach Patrol had 1,507 public contacts; swim beach vessel advisories 1,232; prohibited glass advisories 246; and 47 prohibited fuel advisories. He said the Bullhead City Police Department issued 135 tickets; 262 boating violation warnings; 93 swim zone violation warnings; 88 boating compliance checks/contacts; 179 rescue assists; 20 EMS/SAR responses; 80 accident investigations; and 48 watercraft accidents.

Chief Trebes said officers had some discretion as to what was cited and what was not. He said their manpower dictated what they could do on the river. He said full staff would be four boats covering the entire city limits. He said their primary resources were stationed in the casino area; and if they got a call at Rotary Park it would take about 40 minutes to get there. He said boating officers were taken off the water for investigations. He said their partnership with Water Rescue & Safety provided higher visibility which deterred crime and violations. He said they could not afford to set a boat at the swim beach, but the beach patrol assisted them with advisory warnings along the beach.

Council Member Mieding asked if they were fully staffed for the holiday and two-day weekends; and asked about the number of staff on a fully staffed day.

Chief Trebes said they were fully staffed on holiday weekends, and had two to three boats on non-holiday weekends based on availability. He said the school resource officers served on the river safety patrol during the summer. He said they staffed according to the number of visitors to be fiscally conservative. He said there were three lifeguards on patrol during both holiday and non-holiday weekends. He said there was a huge increase of people on the river, but not a huge increase

in accidents. He said they were keeping people safe, but were always open to improvement. He said decisions had to be made based on data, not emotion.

Council Member Zehri asked about the difference between major and minor medical events.

Trevor Taylor, co-owner of Water Rescue and Safety, said he had watched the program grow over time. He said the difference was whether or not the person had to be transported to the hospital as a result of their injuries.

Council Member Zehri asked if more enforcement officers were required.

Chief Trebes said they had 83 sworn officers in 1987, and currently had 73 sworn officers with four in training. He said they had streamlined processes to free up officers to be out in the streets and used civilian staff whenever possible in order to save taxpayer dollars. He said it would be nice to have more officers, but said they made sure they had the right staff to address the problems they were facing.

Council Member D'Amico said Bullhead City had been handling this issue almost by themselves so far, and said he hoped they would get some help from Mohave County, Laughlin, and other agencies so they did not have to put more Bullhead City officers on the river.

Mayor Brady said the cost of the city's annual water safety patrol program was about \$275,000 which was paid for through the watercraft rental safety form program.

Chief Trebes said the city hired two security guards to walk the beach which alleviated the need and saved on overtime expense for police officers. He said they put two additional officers on the beach during holiday weekends this year. He said the new buoy system and more signage would help with next year's safety measures along the beach.

Council Member Brummett asked if it was possible to put two more officers on PWCs.

Police Captain Jason Harms said it was not recommended as jet skis were not a stable situation and the watercraft were difficult to maneuver with their full gear. He said it was also problematic in regards to more bodily injuries occurring and water damage to their equipment.

City Manager Cotter said they were there today to listen to Mohave County, Laughlin, and other entities as to what they were going to do to address the situation. He said they should start asking the hard questions to their partners.

Mohave County Sheriff Doug Schuster said this had been a problem for many years. He said it looked like a big portion of accidents occurred at Davis Camp. He said they could look into moving the buoys. He said Davis Camp did not fall under his privy and he had no control over the park. He said if someone needed assistance at the camp, the call first went to Bullhead dispatch, then Bullhead notified the sheriff and the park and if no one responded, Bullhead City responded. He said he would speak with the key players and said there had to be accountability for the current process. He said the laws were not consistent on the river. He said he would keep the Council posted.

Council Member D'Amico asked if the county boat was approved, and would it be used at Davis Camp.

Sheriff Schuster said the boat would be coming, and said they had to determine what they would do at Davis Camp. He said they had to staff the park appropriately and have someone available to handle the calls.

Jackie Wallin said she was the President and CEO of the Laughlin Chamber of Commerce and Executive Director of the Laughlin Visitor Center. She said they knew this was not just a Bullhead City issue. She said the chamber and commission boards were made of up many members. She said six properties were responsible for providing hotel rooms for the water rescue and safety personnel. She said Laughlin was not incorporated and had five Laughlin Town Advisory Board Members that only had recommendation authority to the Clark County Board of Commissioners. She said personal watercraft operators should be at least 16 years of age. She said the Nevada Dept. of Wildlife was all Laughlin had for enforcement. She said there had been only one vessel with one game warden on the river in operation all summer. She said there was a second boat but no one to operate it. She said signage could be placed to warn operators of the dangers of the river. She said there could be a life vest check-in and check-out station, and said the fines could be increased. She suggested empowering local volunteers to learn water safety operations and enforcement procedures along the beaches. She said resorts were businesses that had agreements with watercraft rental agencies on their properties.

Mayor Brady said the rental businesses in Laughlin were not complying with Nevada state law. He said state law required Nevada operators to sign an affidavit that they successfully completed the safe boating course, and non-Nevada residents had to sign an affidavit that they met the requirements of the state they came from. He asked that the casinos comply with their state requirements and said it was a good idea for the casinos to show the city's safety video.

Kathy Ochs said she sat on the Laughlin Town Advisory Board since 2001 and this had been an ongoing issue. She said the city had not received enough support in recent years from Laughlin. She said the current relationship among their organizations and the county was much more cohesive. She said the Board would work closely with the city to get more things done to improve safety on the river.

Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman Shapiro asked about tracking the number of warnings versus the number of fines issued. He said he agreed that visibility was a good deterrent to problems on the river and improved safety. He asked if a previous comment that only 20 percent of jet skis on the river were rentals was valid.

Mayor Brady said it was an inaccurate statistic.

City Manager Cotter said the reality was that there were about 85 percent of jet ski rentals and about 15 percent privately owned watercraft on the river this summer. He said the city charged \$20 for every consumer that rented a watercraft in Bullhead City.

Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman Shapiro urged the city to stay ahead of the curve to better protect the public at the growing swim areas and beaches.

Parks and Recreation Commission Vice Chair Shurte said many visitors bring their own jet skis from other states. She said this was what the community was all about and they had to be very positive about the situation. She said legislative action would be required and there were a lot of agencies that had jurisdiction on the river as a federal waterway.

Parks and Recreation Commissioner Hippensteel said he looked into safety vest rentals and said some of the businesses were willing to assist.

City Manager Cotter said some of the deaths on the river this year were due to people that drowned without a life vest. He said this could be considered.

Parks and Recreation Commissioner Cox said he was concerned that the city needed to plan ahead for more people and visitors that would be on the river in the future. He said additional signage and colored wrist bands would be something for the Council to consider as both would not incur much additional cost.

Parks and Recreation Commissioner Bell said she looked forward to hearing from the Council as to what solutions were recommended.

Mayor Brady said they concurred with the recommendations from the Parks and Recreation Commission. He said watching the safety video was necessary along with supplying a wrist band for everyone that watched the video. He said wrist bands would be another deterrent for people to operate watercraft without watching the video. He suggested that staff move forward with the wrist band program and discuss it with the rental companies. He suggested the name and phone number of the rental companies be imprinted on the wrist bands.

Council Member Mieding asked if there would be an enforcement issue on mandatory wrist bands.

City Manager Cotter said they wanted to tie the consumer protection form with penalties, but it would not be a primary reason to pull people over if they did not have a wristband. He said the ordinance would come back to the Council for consideration.

Council Member Wegmann said she would like to hear the thoughts of business owners.

Council Member Zehri asked about the number of jet skis available for rent in Laughlin.

City Manager Cotter said there were about 100 rental jet skis in Laughlin, and said the same owners operated on both sides of the river. He requested that the Laughlin Town Board discuss this situation with Clark County in order to enforce renters to watch the safety video and follow the rules.

Kathy Ochs suggested that Laughlin operators also color code the wristbands.

Mayor Brady said increasing the legal age to operate watercraft in Arizona was a heavy lift. He said the three states had different laws. He suggested that staff create a resolution to change state law for introduction at the next legislative session.

Council Member D'Amico said he had talked with Representative Biasiucci about it and the issue came up twice in the past but never made to the floor. He said they would continue to work with local legislators.

Council Member Zehri said he would like to see the legal operator age increase to 16.

Mayor Brady said the recommendation to move the current no wake zone should be sent back to the law enforcement community to determine where the buoy lines should be placed and how this action could be accomplished.

City Manager Cotter said moving the no wake zone would impact the jet tour boats, water taxis, and fishermen.

Council Member Brummett said they needed to look at enforcement at the same time they were implementing new laws.

Council Member Zehri suggested they limit the number of jet skis on the river and have life guard towers on the beaches.

Mayor Brady asked if the Council was in favor of life guard towers. It was not the direction of the Council.

City Manager Cotter said staff was not recommending life guard towers. He said it became an expense and a liability; said there were signs all along the river that swimming was at their own risk. He said the city had life guards on the water.

Police Chief Trebes said he did not think the liability of life guard towers would justify the expense.

City Manager Cotter said the city could not put a law together that limited the number of jet skis on the river. He said they were building a new commercial launch at Community Park. He said hundreds of watercraft were also being launched from private property.

City Attorney Emery expressed his concurrence with City Manager Cotter. He said it came down to the practicality of regulating business on dry land which was a problem as to how to regulate the numbers of PWCs, and come up with a reasonable framework that would withstand the scrutiny in a court of law. He said they could not unilaterally control the number of PWCs that were on the water. He said the only entity that could approach this was the United States Coast Guard through a sort of safety zone implementation that could perhaps prohibit the number of skis within certain zones or certain times.

Council Member Zehri asked about providing boating safety classes and mandating those receiving citations to take the class.

City Manager Cotter said they were working to provide boating safety classes at the Suddenlink Community Center. He said they believed they should offer classes outside of citations and encourage more people to take the safety classes.

Mayor Brady said they could offer an option of either receiving a citation or taking a boating safety class.

Council Member Mieding said enforcement had not been addressed during some conversations. He said most of the accidents were caused by poor decisions on the water. He asked about the cost of adding another vessel and life guard, and asked Chief Trebes if he foresaw a drop in incidents with additional enforcement.

City Manager Cotter said they did not know the effect of a sheriff's boat or county park boat patrolling at Davis Camp. He said they thought there would be a dramatic reduction in accidents. He said he could present the option for additional enforcement during the next budget session.

Council Member Mieding said he was not referring to another Bullhead City vessel, but was looking toward one of their partners along the river to assist.

Council Member Wegmann asked for a report on the numbers of PWC accidents and drownings. She said they wanted to support citizens as well as their businesses.

Council Member Zehri suggested forming a task force to include all of the agencies to work together.

Mayor Brady asked the Council if they wanted to form a task force. It was not the direction of the Council.

Mayor Brady thanked everyone for attending and providing all of their suggestions and input.

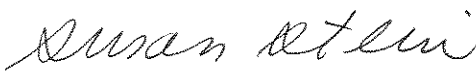
### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Brady declared the special meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

### **CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct record of the special joint meeting of the City Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Bullhead City held on the 21st day of September 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 5th day of October 2021.

  
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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, September 21, 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 Spiritual Leader Maryann Shepherd to deliver the invocation. Council Member Brummett led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**ROLL CALL**

Council Present

Brady, Bruck, Brummett, D'Amico, Mieding, Wegmann, Zehri

Council Absent

None

Staff Present:

CITY MANAGER: Toby Cotter

CITY ATTORNEY: Garnet Emery (via telephone)

CITY CLERK: Susan Stein

POLICE CHIEF: Robert Trebes

FINANCE DIRECTOR: Rudy Vera

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR: Angie Johnson

UTILITIES DIRECTOR: Mark R. Clark

HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR: Jeff Tipton

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTOR: Saritti Chooniyom

**PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

1. Proclamation declaring October 3 - 9, 2021, as "Fire Prevention Week" in Bullhead City.

Mayor Brady read and presented the proclamation to Lori Viles and Scott Neal of the Bullhead City Fire Department.

**OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Brady opened the call to the public.

Gabe Vollaire, Mohave High Student Body President, invited the public to attend an opening ceremony to be held on October 21st to welcome the "Wall that Heals" Exhibit on display at the Mohave High School Campus.

Richard Lange discussed Air B&B issues he had experienced in his neighborhood on Riverfront Drive.

Michael Fisher asked how to get in touch with someone at City Hall for assistance because he wanted to begin improving his property.

Ron Anderson said he hired a plumber to perform a small task and he was charged a \$525 flat rate.



Dan Alfonzo asked if the city could provide information on COVID funds received and how the funding was used.

Harvey Pryor said the city had allowed people to camp overnight illegally in a big motor home in one of the city's parking lots.

Scotty McClure said Trinidad, California, had some laws to alleviate Air B&B issues. He asked why the water bill and wastewater bill were not combined, and asked for the reason he received a franchise fee of 9 cents on his bill. He said the animal shelter should not be closed for four days in a row. He said five handicapped spots were being used for pick-ups at Safeway.

Julie Hassett invited community members to attend the upcoming live concerts offered by Colorado River Concerts. She discussed the entertainment and said this was their 45th season.

Eva Corbett invited the public to attend a fundraiser to benefit the Mohave Sheriff's K-9 unit at Swanty's Automotive on October 23rd.

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

### **AGENDA MODIFICATIONS**

None

### **WAIVER MOTION**

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor 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: Brady, Bruck, Brummett, D'Amico, Mieding, Wegmann, Zehri  
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

#### 1. Flood Control Projects Presentation

Public Works Director Johnson provided a PowerPoint presentation with information on historical flooding, storm clean ups, flooding, levee failure, drainage improvement projects, flood and erosion stabilization projects, and wash and channel maintenance projects. She said flood control funds could only be used for storm cleanup, drainage maintenance, and drainage improvements. She said \$3,857,523 had been spent on flood control projects over the last five years. She said \$6,090,000 was earmarked for future projects within the next five years.

#### 2. Water System Transfer Update

City Manager Cotter said the city had taken over the assets of the EPCOR water system and began the billing process. He said the city was billing on behalf of EPCOR for portions of last month's

usage. He said they would consolidate both water and wastewater on the same bill in the future. He said the system they were taking over was not in good shape and needed a lot of improvements. He said they would make the water safe and affordable, and said the best thing that could have ever happened was that the city took over the water company.

Utilities Director Clark said over the last three weeks, since they city had taken over the water system; they had received more than 400 calls for service with 33 main leaks and many service line breaks. He said they learned a lot about how the system operated and said some of the issues had been going on for months and years before. He said they would be taking over separate systems; North Mohave, Lake Mohave Highlands, Desert Foothills, Laughlin Ranch and the Mohave Main. He said they were working as hard as they could and took on an additional five water system employees that week.

Vice Mayor Bruck said the city's bills included a return mailing address of Prescott, Arizona, that might confuse customers.

City Manager Cotter said the Prescott address was the lockbox address to receive payments via the mail. He said customers would have to re-sign up for automatic bill pay.

#### **MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS ON CURRENT EVENTS**

Council Member Zehri welcomed a new employee in the City Manager's office. He congratulated the new Executive Director for the Bullhead Area Chamber of Commerce. He discussed some community events and encouraged everyone to join those activities. He said he supported Mohave Community College joining the National Junior College Athletic Association.

#### **ITEMS WITHDRAWN FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

None

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Council Member D'Amico 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, Brummett, D'Amico, Mieding, 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 September 7, 2021; and the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on September 7, 2021. (City Clerk Stein)

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

None

**BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

2. Discussion and possible action to appoint two citizens to serve on the Bullhead Area Transit System (BATS) Commission to fill two 2-year terms effective October 1, 2021, and expiring on September 30, 2023. (City Clerk Stein)

City Manager Cotter said there were two applicants to fill two positions.

**MOTION:** Council Member Wegmann made a motion to appoint Grace Hecht to serve on the Bullhead Area Transit System (BATS) Commission to fill a 2-year term effective October 1, 2021, and expiring on September 30, 2023. Vice Mayor Bruck seconded the motion.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Bruck made a motion to appoint Gary Shapiro to serve on the Bullhead Area Transit System (BATS) Commission to fill a 2-year term effective October 1, 2021, and expiring on September 30, 2023. Council Member Mieding seconded the motion.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS**

None

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Building, Planning and Zoning Items**

3. Discussion and possible action to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-16 approving a zoning map change from R1L-PAD (Residential: Single-Family Limited, Planned Area Development) to R1MH-PAD (Residential: Single-Family Manufactured Home, Planned Area Development) for a subdivision known as Rancho Colorado, Tract 5086, that is a portion of Section 13, T20N, R21W. (Development Services Director Chooniyom)

Mayor Brady requested the agenda item be tabled for discussion and consideration at the next regular Council meeting.

**MOTION:** Council Member D'Amico made a motion to table Agenda Item No. 3 for discussion and consideration at the October 5, 2021, regular Council meeting. Council Member Wegmann seconded the motion.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

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

4. Discussion and possible action to authorize Wheaton Building, LLC to complete the Housing Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$60,450; and authorize the City Manager to approve resultant payments. (Human Services Director Tipton)

Human Services Director Tipton said this project was eligible under the owner-occupied housing rehabilitation program. He said the scope of work was extensive, and said the project was 100 percent grant funded.

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

Scotty McClure said this program was a waste of federal money.

**MOTION:** Council Member Wegmann made a motion to authorize Wheaton Building, LLC to complete the Housing Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$60,450; and authorize the City Manager to approve resultant payments. Vice Mayor Bruck seconded the motion.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

5. Discussion and possible action to authorize Bullseye Home Service to complete the Housing Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$51,965; and authorize the City Manager to approve resultant payments. (Human Services Director Tipton)

Human Services Director Tipton said the eligible project received two bids. He said the project was 100 percent grant funded by the Arizona Department of Housing.

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 Bullseye Home Service to complete the Housing Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$51,965; and authorize the City Manager to approve resultant payments. Vice Mayor Bruck seconded the motion.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

6. Discussion and possible action to approve the “Agreement for Professional Engineering Design Services for Emergency Wet Well Rehabilitation of Pump Stations 16-2, 18-1 and 18-2” between the City and West Coast Civil, Inc., in the amount of \$63,195; and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement and issue resultant payments. (Utilities Director Clark)

Utilities Director Clark said the city required assistance with emergency wet well rehabilitation for lift stations 16-2, 18-1, and 18-2. He said the discharge piping at the lift stations had deteriorated and needed to be replaced, and said there was a need for a bypass plan for sewage to bypass the lift stations during construction. He said the engineer would also assist in the preparation of bid documents for the construction, provide backup for contractors’ questions, and prepare final as-built drawings.

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

Billy Pershing asked if infrastructure funds could be used to pay for the projects.

City Manager Cotter confirmed, and said they would apply for every grant that was available.

**MOTION:**    **Council Member D’Amico made a motion to approve the “Agreement for Professional Engineering Design Services for Emergency Wet Well Rehabilitation of Pump Stations 16-2, 18-1 and 18-2” between the City and West Coast Civil, Inc., in the amount of \$63,195; and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement and issue resultant payments. Council Member Wegmann seconded the motion.**

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

7. Discussion and possible action to approve the purchase of the Bering Sea Water Slide from WillyGoat Toys and Playgrounds, LLC. of Birmingham, AL for the Bullhead City Municipal Swimming Pool in the amount of \$79,768 plus tax; and authorize the City Manager to approve resultant payments. (Human Services Director Tipton)

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Heath said the current municipal pool slide was built in 1992 and had outlasted its typical 25-year life span. He said the new slide was under the approved budgeted amount and would be more water and energy efficient.

Council Member Zehri asked if there was a weight restriction on the slide. Parks and Recreation Superintendent Heath said 275 pounds.

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

Dan Alfonzo asked if the city could save the \$25,900 installation cost by installing it themselves.

City Manager Cotter said some things were liability-related and it was best to have the original manufacturer install the slide.

Mayor Brady said Don Laughlin had donated the money to build the original municipal pool and slide.

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Bruck made a motion to approve the purchase of the Bering Sea Water Slide from WillyGoat Toys and Playgrounds, LLC. of Birmingham, AL for the Bullhead City Municipal Swimming Pool in the amount of \$79,768 plus tax; and authorize the City Manager to approve resultant payments. Council Member Wegmann seconded the motion.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Other Business**

8. Discussion and possible action to approve: 1) the request to add one full-time position of Permit Technician, Grade 117, to the Development Services Department; and 2) transfer the amount necessary from contingency in the approximate amount of \$57,175 in order to fund the position. (Development Services Director Chooniyom)

City Manager Cotter said the city had been very conservative in its requests for new positions. He said during the budget process, it was agreed this request would be delayed until September to see if the building projects would continue at a rapid pace. He said the pace had exceeded all expectations with 53 new home plans submitted just in August. He said the forecast was very stable with potential increases in commercial and multi-family housing.

Development Services Director Chooniyom provided statistics from the past five years on the increasing number of building permit applications.

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

Billy Pershing asked if permit fees had been evaluated in order to cover the additional cost.

City Manager Cotter said the Council evaluated all city fees each year during the annual budget process. He said the cost of the fees increased 1.3 percent this year.

Council Member Mieding asked if the city had used outside consultants to assist with plan review work as an alternative for hiring.

Development Services Director Chooniyom said the requested position was for a technician. He said they used both in-house staff and outside plan examiners that proved to be sufficient in order to meet the turnaround times.

**MOTION:** Council Member Wegmann made a motion to approve: 1) the request to add one full-time position of Permit Technician, Grade 117, to the Development Services Department; and 2) transfer the amount necessary from contingency in the approximate amount of \$57,175 in order to fund the position. Vice Mayor Bruck seconded the motion.

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

**MOTION CARRIED**

**COUNCIL REQUESTED ITEMS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 6:48 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 21st day of September 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 5th day of October' 2021.

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