

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, April 5, 2022, in the Council Chambers, 1255 Marina Blvd., Bullhead City, Arizona.

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Council Present

Brady, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Wegmann

Council Absent

None (one vacant seat)

Staff Present:

CITY MANAGER: Toby Cotter

CITY PROSECUTOR: Martin Rogers

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: Absent

DISCUSSION ITEM

1. Discussion on proposed Capital Improvement Projects for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

City Manager Cotter said the goal for this discussion was to understand the City Council's priorities and objectives for capital improvement projects included in the upcoming 2022-2023 fiscal year budget. He said most of the projects had been planned for many years. He said in 2010, the city had no money to invest and the projects list was on one page. He said the economy over the last five years had been very good for the community, and said growth, tourism, and sports were flourishing. He said the ARPA and Cares Act funding had helped the city through federal grants. He said the city could fund the proposed capital projects under the current budget.

Police Chief Trebes reviewed the Police Department's capital projects that included: five new police SUVs \$350,740; impound yard alarm system upgrades \$55,000; lower police department deck roof repairs \$10,000; 911/EOC block wall and parking lot \$100,000; two new patrol boats \$248,313; van for the BACCUP program \$52,400; and a PD directory server and data links \$207,000. He said the two patrol boats would be funded through grants.

City Manager Cotter reviewed the six Human Services Department capital projects: Senior Center /CDBG \$1,544,446; Senior Center parking lot reconfiguration \$200,000; new Animal Shelter \$750,000; new Transit Facility (engineering) \$350,000; van for Meals on Wheels \$40,000; and a Dial A Ride van \$66,360. He said most of the projects would be grant funded.

City Manager Cotter said staff proposed a list of necessary wastewater and water projects that could be completed and paid for in the next fiscal year. He said \$5,000,000 could be spent from the

wastewater reserve fund, and \$6,500,000 would be spent through a WIFA federal loan program under a very low interest rate, with \$750,000 to \$1,000,000 forgivable after a number of years.

Utilities Director Clark said it was imperative that the proposed projects get completed. He discussed the SCADA wastewater network upgrade \$500,000; Section 10 headworks \$2,400,000; LS 16-2 wet well rehabilitation \$600,000; LS 18-2 wet well rehabilitation \$1,250,000; 7th Street line replacement \$775,000; Section 10 reuse pump station \$675,000; Section 10 WWTP blowers/controls \$525,000; Section 18 WWTP electrical controls \$500,000; citywide manhole rehabilitation \$1,000,000; Section 10 RAS valve replacement \$250,000; Section 10 blower buildings \$300,000; Section 10 generator \$591,000; and Lakeside Drive line replacement \$700,000.

City Manager Cotter discussed the water system capital projects including the new north well \$2,000,000; new south well \$2,000,000; north transmission line \$3,000,000; south transmission line \$500,000; SCADA system \$500,000; hydrant replacement \$100,000; DIP pipe replacement \$50,000; and generators \$200,000.

Mayor Brady asked if the rates would need to be increased in order to complete the projects.

City Manager Cotter said they were applying for every possible grant and \$6,350,000 in low interest federal loans through WIFA; and said they were not proposing a rate increase through the next year. He said using \$2 million in ARPA funds to repair the south well was a very good use of those federal dollars. He said the system needed a lot of investment.

Utilities Director Clark said the water system the city purchased was old and a lot of equipment was reaching the end of its useful life. He said hefty capital expenses would be needed to repair and maintain the system. He said they were working with the Fire Department on 85 fire hydrants that required either repair or replacement. He said they needed the wells for redundancy in the system, and the transmission lines to get the water from the wells to where it was needed.

City Manager Cotter said the court remodel for safety and security was proposed in the amount of \$475,000. He said Fleet Services was requesting a service truck in the amount of \$125,000.

City Manager Cotter said last year, ADOT was granted \$20 million to repave Highway 95 from the bridge to the bridge. He said they requested \$34.5 million from the state to further reconstruct the highway and add 18 right turn lanes. He said this was subject to further discussion. He said the second bridge had been fully funded.

Public Works Director Johnson discussed street improvements in the capital projects list, including: Landon Road construction \$1,655,200; Hancock Road construction \$2,500,000; Arcadia Blvd. extension \$250,000; Bullhead Parkway and parkway grants \$25,000,000; dump truck replacement \$150,000; backhoe \$150,000; traffic signal tech upgrade \$100,000; rights of ways and medians \$350,000; and one pickup truck replacement \$40,000.

Public Works Director Johnson discussed the proposed flood control projects including: Secret Pass culvert \$1,627,191; Ramar Road drainage improvements \$350,000; Riverbend flooding improvements \$10,000; Rotary Park drainage improvements \$40,000; miscellaneous drainage improvements \$200,000; and Bullhead City Risk MAP project \$50,000.

City Manager Cotter discussed park improvements: Splash Pad at Community Park \$550,000; playground at Community Park \$250,000; Community Park restroom and mechanicals \$300,000; Community Park Master Plan (Riverwalk) \$150,000; Rotary Park tri-plex restrooms addition \$200,000; Community Park improvements \$400,000; Gary Keith Park \$650,000; UTV parking lot off Silver Creek \$250,000; Rotary Park pump track \$250,000; Community Garden \$50,000; Community Park athletic complex \$25,000; Rotary Park well improvements \$30,000; Rotary Park ballfields \$100,000; and outdoor fitness court \$180,000. He said there had been substantial investment in Community Park. He said Rotary Park and Gary Keith Park were almost completed.

Public Works Director Johnson said the Community Park splash pad was half grant funded and would be completed next year, the playground was under public review and design, and said the "Riverwalk" project would include master planning by a professional park planner.

Assistant to the City Manager Travis Pruitt said staff was looking at a wide variety of grants for the community garden and their primary focus was a community driven effort. He said the preliminary budget estimate was \$300,000 and the goal was to have the garden group develop self-sufficiency.

Assistant to the City Manager Edigar Kajirwa said a grant from the National Fitness Campaign and local sponsors would fund a new outdoor fitness court. He said this would be a great initiative for the community.

Mayor Brady said he would like to add more restrooms at Community Park. He said they created a large portion of the beach area to the south, and said it appeared that three new restrooms would be required to serve that area. He recommended adding \$500,000 to the budget this year in order to get the projects underway this year.

Council Member Hecht said she would like to look into replacing the playground at Ken Fovargue Park as it was reaching the end of its useful life.

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

Mr. Noori asked if \$500,000 was worth investing in restrooms at Community Park. He said paving the parking lot was more important.

City Manager Cotter said more amenities would be added to the park in the future and advance planning was necessary. He said the city invested \$1.6 million in the commercial launch ramp this year.

Pamela Smith said every playground needed shade structures.

Regina Guarisco asked about the WIFA loan and grant process, and asked about the structure of the loan and when forgiveness would take place.

Dr. Waheed Zehri said capital improvement projects were a very important part of the city's budget. He said he would like to know what projects had been completed, those under construction, and the projects that were phased over a number of years. He said he would like to see the progress of each project.

City Manager Cotter said he would provide the information to Dr. Zehri.

Najib Noori said the commercial launch project was initially \$450,000 and increased to \$750,000. He said now the cost of the project was \$1,160,000. He said it was unfair to charge the jetski rental businesses for the increased construction cost of the launch, and said they were not notified about the increase in price.

City Manager Cotter said the project was awarded to McCormick Construction in the amount of \$1,164,000 during the public process, and said prices had gone up.

MOTION: Council Member Wegmann made a motion to adjourn the special meeting and convene into executive session at 4:16 p.m. Council Member Brummett seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Wegmann
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

EXECUTIVE SESSION

2. Discussion or consultation for legal advice, pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes § 38-431.03(A)(3), concerning the status of: Notice of Claim, Michael Bohannon (September 2021); Notice of Claim, Bradley Oliver (May 2020); City v. Arizona Series 5, Mohave County Superior Court No. CV2018-01106; National Prescription Opiate Litigation, United States District Court for Ohio, 1:17-MD-2804; Hill v. (various Bullhead/DPS officers), United States District Court for Arizona, CV20-08076-PCT-SPL-MTM; James v. City, United States District for Arizona, 3:21-CV-08091-MTL; Carley v. City, Mohave County Superior Court, CV2021-01190; and Pacheco v. City, Mohave County Superior Court, CV2020-00018.

MOTION: Mayor Brady made a motion to adjourn from executive session and the special meeting at 4:48 p.m. Council Member Wegmann seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Wegmann
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED


ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Brady declared the special meeting adjourned at 4:48 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 5th day of April 2022. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 19th day of April 2022.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Susan Stein", is written over a horizontal line.

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, April 5, 2022, 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 Pastor Bill Jones of Bethel Community Church to deliver the invocation. Council Member Wegmann led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Council Present

Brady, Brummett, D’Amico, Head, Hecht, Wegmann

Council Absent

None (one vacant seat)

Staff Present:

CITY MANAGER: Toby Cotter

CITY PROSECUTOR: Martin Rogers

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: Absent

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

None

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Brady opened the call to the public.

Steven Lee said the fair housing program proclamation and poster he received in the mail were part of the “woke” culture and propaganda from the new world order. He said he hoped the city would address this.

Sue Demarco said people needed to be the voices for animals against abuse. She said the Saving Animals In Need Together organization was looking for a new vehicle and continued to seek additional support from the community.

Jennifer Jones from Saving Animals In Need Together discussed the city’s “Helping Paws” spay and neuter program. She said the requirements were out of proportion to what people could really afford. She said only six vouchers were issued last year.

Bill Hart said he would like to learn more about the fair housing program.

Eric Fox from Pro Fit Kitchen invited the community to attend the first Community Health Fair to be held on April 23rd at Mohave Community College.

Janice Goerlitz said the fees charged to the local watercraft rental businesses were excessive. She said she did not understand why the cost to construct the commercial launch ramp increased.

Billy Pershing invited the community to attend the Tea Party meeting on April 9th at the public library.

Harvey Pryor said an RC Club meeting would be held on April 9th at the Parks and Recreation Building. He said the club already had 594 members.

Trace Goerlitz said he did not understand the reason that the local watercraft rental companies had to pay the city's fees in order to cover the costs of the lifeguards on the river.

Mr. Noori from the local watercraft rental industry said the lifeguards helped on the entire river, and asked about the reason why only the city's rental businesses had to pay the fees to cover those costs. He said he would not pay the consumer protection form fees.

Regina Guarisco said small businesses needed help to pay a living wage to employees, and suggested the implementation of a business grant program.

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, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Wegmann
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Bond Rating and \$20 Million Financing for Water Utility

City Manager Cotter said the city was rated AA Stable, which was a very good bond rating. He said the most recent \$20 million bond had a 3.5 percent interest rate, which was a little higher than the 1.87 percent rate on the previous \$80 million bond.

2. Constitutional Law Training in Police Department

Police Chief Trebes said he was excited to report that training in constitutional law would continue, and said their entire sworn staff would receive the training. He said the force would be the best trained in constitutional law in the nation.

3. Homeless Enforcement

City Manager Cotter said the city cleaned every homeless encampment reported within the city. He said the city did have compassion, and worked with the Catholic Charities Homeless Shelter and the River Fund to help people in need. He said the city had a homeless shelter and they were following the law. He said when beds were available; people would not be allowed to sleep in public parks or on the sidewalk. He said they have cited people for feeding the homeless in city parks.

4. Second Bridge Update

City Manager Cotter requested that citizens stay away from the construction zone at the second bridge location. He said a drone video on the bridge's progress was available for public viewing.

5. 2022 Mayor and City Council Candidates

City Clerk Stein said ten citizens submitted nomination petitions and were qualified to have their names printed on the August 2, 2022 primary election ballot. She said three citizens were running for the Mayor position, four citizens were running for two 4-year Council seats, and three citizens were running for three 2-year Council seats.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS ON CURRENT EVENTS

Vice Mayor D'Amico said an additional eight pickle ball courts were planned to be constructed and would be included in the upcoming fiscal year's capital improvement projects list.

Council Member Wegmann said the Bullhead Area Chamber of Commerce mixer would be held on April 7th in order to raise funds for the Children's Theater Group.

Council Member Hecht invited the public to attend an upcoming Health Fair, Swap Meet, and an Easter Egg Hunt at Rotary Park.

Mayor Brady said the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition event had more than 100 veterans in attendance. He thanked the Morning Kiwanis Club for organizing a successful Kids' Expo event.

ITEMS WITHDRAWN FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Council Member Wegmann 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. Vice Mayor D'Amico seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Wegmann
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 March 15, 2022. (City Clerk Stein)
2. Adoption of Resolution No. 2022R-14 appointing and directing the City Finance Director to submit the Annual Expenditure Limitation Report to the Arizona Auditor General on behalf of the City Council. (Finance Director Vera)

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS

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 a Series 12 Liquor License Job No. 176515 submitted by Kerriane Margaret Meoni for Meoni's Italian Kitchen located at 2350 Miracle Mile Road, #400, 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 from the public 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 a Series 12 Liquor License Job No. 176515 submitted by Kerriane Margaret Meoni for Meoni's Italian Kitchen located at 2350 Miracle Mile Road, #400, in Bullhead City. Vice Mayor D'Amico seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Wegmann
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

4. **PUBLIC HEARING.** Discussion and possible action to make a recommendation to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control to approve the application for a Series 12 Liquor License Job No. 183868 submitted by Juanita Alicia Esparza for Tacos & Beer AZ located at 1884 Highway 95 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 from the public 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 a Series 12 Liquor License Job No. 183868 submitted by Juanita Alicia Esparza for Tacos & Beer AZ located at 1884 Highway 95 in Bullhead City. Council Member Hecht seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Wegmann
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

ACTION ITEMS

Building, Planning and Zoning Items

5. Discussion and possible action to approve the request to add one full-time position of Permit Technician to the Development Services Department. (Development Services Director Chooniyom)

City Manager Cotter said the Building Department desperately needed more help due to the increased commercial, residential, multi-family, and manufactured home building projects within the city. He said the pace had exceeded all expectations.

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

MOTION: Council Member Hecht made a motion to approve the request to add one full-time position of Permit Technician to the Development Services Department. Council Member Head seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Wegmann
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

Bid Awards, Contracts, Intergovernmental Agreement, and Purchases

6. Discussion and possible action to approve the purchase of three (3) Police Department motorcycles in the total amount of \$92,207.22 from Bobby's Territorial; and further, authorizing the City Manager to finalize and execute any resulting agreements and issue payments. (Police Chief Trebes)

Police Chief Trebes said funds in the amount of \$101,415 had been allocated for the purchase of the vehicles. He said extensive research was conducted to obtain the best equipment at the best price. He said the Traffic Section Supervisor and the Police Department had determined the 2022 Harley Davidson FLHTP was the best option to meet the needs of the department. He said staff was requesting to replace three Honda motorcycles purchased in 2014 that have endured several summers, have high mileage, and considerable wear and tear. He said the three 2014 Honda motorcycles would be sent to public auction.

Corporal Eddie Espinosa explained the reasons that Harley Davidson motorcycles were the best option for the Police Department. He said service would be performed at the Kingman Harley Davidson factory authorized location.

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

Steven Lee said he did not think that officers would want to ride the motorcycles during the summer heat.

Dan Alfonzo said it appeared that the vehicles were demo units, and asked about the warranty period.

Corporal Espinoza said a three-year factory warranty was included, and said the units were brand new machines.

Harvey Pryor said the HD air cooled engines had less power than the BMW water cooled engines. He asked if there was a lease and maintenance option.

Corporal Espinoza said the lease program had been discontinued.

Mark Ruffalo, owner of California Harley Davidson, said he would personally donate to the city an extended service warranty of five years on the new motorcycles with Kingman Harley.

MOTION: Council Member Hecht made a motion to approve the purchase of three (3) Police Department motorcycles in the total amount of \$92,207.22 from Bobby's Territorial; and further, authorizing the City Manager to finalize and execute any resulting agreements and issue payments. Council Member Wegmann seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Wegmann
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

7. Discussion and possible action to adopt Resolution No. 2022R-15 authorizing the submittal of a grant application to purchase up to two new patrol boats and four jet skis from Arizona State Parks, the receipt of any awarded funds, execution of any required grant agreements, and the purchase of the boats and jet skis. (Police Chief Trebes)

Police Chief Trebes said the new patrol boats would serve as replacements for two older boats that were projected for retirement in the near future; thereby maintaining a functional fleet of five patrol boats. He said the jet skis would be primarily utilized by personnel working under contract in the city's river safety program and would serve to reduce equipment costs associated with the contract. He said not more than a 50 percent match would be required if grant funding was available from Arizona State Parks.

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

Harvey Pryor asked if more officers would be trained as boating safety officers, and if a certified police officer could teach boating safety courses.

Mr. Noori from the local watercraft rental industry said the lifeguards did not help anyone from their businesses last summer.

City Manager Cotter said there were more than 2,000 assists by the lifeguards last summer, and said he disagreed with the last comment.

Bo Hellams said he was one of the lifeguards and said they responded to everyone equally.

A representative from Jet Sports said the city's rental businesses were the only ones paying for the lifeguards.

Najib Noori from Fast Trip said he was not against the lifeguard program, but they needed to share the cost. He said he would like the businesses from Laughlin and the County to help with the costs.

Regina Guarisco asked if any water safety resources would be located at Rotary Park.

Police Chief Trebes said most of the activity and water traffic was located closer to the casinos, but they did patrol the Rotary Park area as well.

City Manager Cotter said the city also responded more than 200 times for services in the Davis Camp area. He said Nevada Wildlife also patrolled the area but did not have many resources. He said he hoped there would be some support from Mohave County this year.

MOTION: Council Member Wegmann made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022R-15 authorizing the submittal of a grant application to purchase up to two new patrol boats and four jet skis from Arizona State Parks, the receipt of any awarded funds, execution of any required grant agreements, and the purchase of the boats and jet skis. Council Member Hecht seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Wegmann
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

8. Discussion and possible action to adopt Resolution No. 2022R-16 approving the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Mohave County Flood Control District and the City of Bullhead City for the disbursement and use of funds for flood control projects within Bullhead City during fiscal year 2022-2023. (Public Works Director Johnson)

City Manager Cotter said the district allocated the sum of \$1,049,022 to the city for flood control capital improvements for the upcoming fiscal year. He said the funds were a portion of the flood control money the county collected from property taxes and shared with the cities each year to allow cities to perform flood control work.

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 adopt Resolution No. 2022R-16 approving the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Mohave County Flood Control District and the City of Bullhead City for the disbursement and use of funds for flood control projects within Bullhead City during fiscal year 2022-2023. Council Member Hecht seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Wegmann
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

9. Discussion and possible action to approve the contract with McCormick Construction Inc. of Bullhead City, Arizona, for the City-Wide Paving Project in an amount of \$2,422,916.00; and authorize the City Manager or his designee to sign resulting documents on behalf of the city. (Public Works Director Johnson)

Public Works Director Johnson said McCormick Construction was the low bidder. She said seven roads would be paved under this project. She said all roads would be reconstructed, paved with 2 to 3 inches of asphalt, and a fog seal applied. She said the roads to be paved were Rio Grande Road, Coral Reef Drive, Coronado Drive, Moser Avenue, Trane Road, Riverfront Drive, and Riviera Boulevard. She said the roads were chosen because the water infrastructure did not need upgrading.

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

Steven Lee asked if the neighborhoods would receive advance notice of the paving schedule.

City Manager Cotter said the public would be well informed.

Billy Pershing asked if two inches of asphalt was typical of the road structure.

Public Works Director Johnson confirmed.

Council Member Brummett said she was pleased to see the road projects moving forward, and said she was proud the city was taking care of the neighborhood streets.

Council Member Hecht said the Bullhead City Direct App was an amazing resource that helped citizens to report potholes or graffiti.

MOTION: Council Member Wegmann made a motion to approve the contract with McCormick Construction Inc. of Bullhead City, Arizona, for the City-Wide Paving Project in an amount of \$2,422,916.00; and authorize the City Manager or his designee to sign resulting documents on behalf of the city. Council Member Head seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D’Amico, Head, Hecht, Wegmann
 NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

Other Business

10. Discussion and possible action to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-16 approving the code amendment “Watercraft Responsibility and Safety Amendments 2022;” and adopt Resolution No. 2022R-17 declaring the code amendment a public record. (City Manager Cotter)

City Manager Cotter said the Council held a work session in March on river safety. He said city staff was directed to propose a potential code change for the Council’s consideration that would integrate a wristband requirement for persons operating rental watercraft along with enhanced enforcement mechanisms. He said the requirement of a wristband represents that each person wearing a wristband has watched the city-mandated safety video and signed the consumer protection form. He said it was very clear, from past accidents and police reports, that nearly all parties involved with accidents were rental operators and had not watched the safety video.

Vice Mayor D’Amico said the city would purchase the wristbands and not charge the rental businesses for them.

Council Member Hecht asked about the number of consumer protection forms that were signed last year. She asked if having the phone number imprinted on wristbands would be helpful.

City Manager Cotter said approximately 25,000 forms. He said they would have to purchase at least 300,000 wristbands. He said the phone number would serve as an identifier to the lifeguards or police.

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

Dan Alfonzo spoke in opposition to the wristband program, and said it was a futile effort.

Steven Lee said the rental businesses should help pay for the water safety program.

Achmad, a representative from the rental watercraft industry, spoke in opposition to the wristbands. He said all rental jet skis had the name of the rental company on them.

A representative from Davis Camp jet ski rental said city police would not assist him when he called and referred him to the county sheriff. He said he paid the extra \$10 fee for the Community Park commercial ramp and did not use it.

Najib Noori from Fast Trip requested a meeting with city management to discuss the details. He said the Bullhead City jet ski rental businesses were being pushed too far. He asked for the Council’s support. He said all of the agencies needed to work together to make the river safe.

City Manager Cotter said all the meetings with the city occurred in public and this was the forum to have this discussion.

Mark Ruffalo said this was a public safety issue and spoke in support of the wristband idea. He suggested sending a “secret shopper” to the rental agencies.

Guy Martel said he was a local business owner and spoke in opposition to the fees charged to the watercraft rental companies.

Mr. Noori said they deserved some respect, and spoke in opposition to the wristband and lifeguard programs.

Barry Badery said it would take extra time for his staff to apply wristbands, and said renters would share the wristbands without watching the video. He said their instruction time for operators took 25 minutes, and said it took about two minutes of instruction to rent a watercraft in Laughlin.

Michelle Martel spoke in opposition to the wristband program.

Regina Guarisco thanked everyone that advocated for river safety. She encouraged the public to attend the Laughlin Town Board meeting on April 12th to support a safe river for all.

Billy Pershing confirmed the \$20 consumer protection fee was charged per jet ski, not per customer.

Vice Mayor D’Amico said he met with a father whose daughter almost died in a jet ski accident on the river; and said if one life could be saved, the program was worth implementing.

Mayor Brady said he would like to change Section (F) to reflect a \$50 civil violation and/or offer a boater safety course, instead of a class 1 misdemeanor.

Council Member Wegmann said she agreed with Mayor Brady.

Council Member Head asked for a language change ordering wristbands to be applied by a business representative to having a business representative present when the wristband was applied.

City Prosecutor Rogers suggested the code be re-written to include the revisions discussed tonight and brought back to the Council for approval at the next regular meeting.

City Manager Cotter said they could include language that the program did not apply to those vessels launched at the lake. He said the \$20 total consumer protection form fee was included in the comprehensive fee schedule and was not broken up into \$10 for the form and \$10 for the launch ramp.

MOTION: Vice Mayor D’Amico made a motion to table Agenda Item No. 10 for additional discussion to the next regular City Council Meeting. Council Member Wegmann seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D’Amico, Head, Hecht, Wegmann
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

11. Discussion and possible action to consider filling the vacant City Council partial term by appointment through the end of the current election cycle due to the recent resignation of Council Member Zehri. (City Clerk Stein)

City Manager Cotter said Council Member Dr. Zehri recently resigned from the Council to run for Mayor in the 2022 election, creating a vacant seat.

City Clerk Stein said the partial term for an appointment to fill the Council vacancy would run through the end of the 2022 election cycle.

Mayor Brady said they had gone through the appointment process three times in the last year and there was some controversy. He said he would like to review the application questions and weighting scale before moving forward. He said there was one candidate running unopposed in the upcoming election, and said he would like to change the code language to allow the Council to appoint that candidate to fill the vacant seat.

City Manager Cotter said staff would amend the code language and bring back some options that would allow some flexibility to the Council at the next regular meeting.

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

Billy Pershing asked for clarification on the resign to run time frame.

Dan Alfonzo confirmed that the Council nomination period was over.

Regina Guarisco spoke in support of adding to the current code language in order to allow flexibility.

Barry Badery suggested that a retired elected official fill the vacant seat.

MOTION: Vice Mayor D'Amico made a motion to table Agenda Item No. 11 for additional discussion to the next regular City Council Meeting. Council Member Wegmann seconded the motion. Council Member Wegmann seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Wegmann
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

COUNCIL REQUESTED ITEMS

None

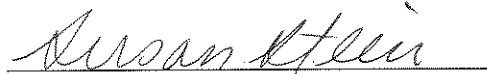
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 8:36 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 5th day of April 2022. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 19th day of April 2022.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Susan Stein", is written over a horizontal line.

Susan Stein, MMC, CPM
City Clerk