

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 7, 2023, in the City Council Chambers, 1255 Marina Boulevard, Bullhead City, Arizona.

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor D’Amico called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and invited Pastor George Lyman from Desert Shores Community Baptist Church to deliver the invocation. Council Member Ring led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Council Present

Alfonzo, Brummett, D’Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Ring

Council Absent

None

Staff Present:

CITY MANAGER: Toby Cotter

CITY ATTORNEY: Garnet Emery

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

None

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor D’Amico opened the call to the public.

Sue Demarco said Saving Animals In Need Together was in desperate need of funding. She asked community members to donate whatever they could afford to help the animals in distress.

Steven Lee provided information on an upcoming “Voices for Freedom” meeting, and said they would be coordinating communications throughout the city.

Nicole Tracy invited the public to attend the Snowbird Appreciation and Bullhead Bazaar events to be held at Gary Keith Park on February 10th and 11th.

Darryl Wayman invited the community to participate in a donation ride for a local family with a child diagnosed with leukemia.

Terry Skinner provided information on upcoming Colorado River Concert performances.

Grace Telsner asked some questions regarding the future of the new Bullhead Belle. She read a paragraph regarding proper conduct in the establishment.

Sean Regan provided information on a meeting with the Arizona K-9 Veterans Services group to learn about obtaining a service dog and preventing veteran suicides.

Harvey Pryor invited the public to attend an RC Club event to be held on February 19th at Gary Keith Park.

Dr. Sheila Barnett provided information on the Second Annual Mohave Health Coalition Family Health Fair to be held on February 25th at the college.

Lorrie Duggins from the Bullhead City Police Department provided information on the free "Parents of Addicted Loved Ones" meetings.

Sharon Young said she lived on Ramar Road and had three house robberies and a house fire. She said she was concerned about the security of people that were vandalized during those times.

Eva Corbett invited the public to attend the upcoming Mohave Sheriff's K-9 Unit fundraising car show.

Nick Parsons said he drove a solar car and saved \$200 a month because he did not have to buy gas. He said the drone essay contest's last cutoff date to submit essays was April 1st.

Scotty McClure said Tradewinds and Topanga Drives had many utility cuts, and said the patching work was not done right. He said there were four stop signs, and five streets, in the American Legion area; and said there would be accidents. He said the Laughlin Ranch HOA was telling the Fire Department to not run sirens at the new fire house site.

Bo Hellams from the Bullhead Area Chamber of Commerce thanked the city for constructing the new Bike Track in Rotary Park.

Jerry Hardy from Mohave Electric said the utility was cutting roads for the new broadband service, and were working closely with the city and the asphalt supplier to fix those roads.

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

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

None

WAIVER MOTION

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

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Ring
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

MANAGER’S REPORT

1. Black Mountain Burro Gather

City Manager Cotter said the Bureau of Land Management gathered a total of 1,586 burros in the Black Mountain Range from May 2022 through January 2023. He said the burros were taken to the Florence Wild Horse and Burro Facility to be prepared for adoption.

2. Bermuda Water Rate Increase

City Manager Cotter provided information on the Bermuda Water Rate Case. He said citizens could provide comments and attend the Arizona Corporation Commission hearings on June 19th and June 26th in Phoenix. He said the proposed rate hike was \$9.60 for an average water user. He said the city was not involved in any communications with Bermuda Water.

3. Rotary Park Fitness Court

City Manager Cotter played a video of the recent grand opening celebration.

4. Howitzer/Veterans’ Park Grand Opening - February 13 at 10 a.m.

City Manager Cotter invited the public to attend the Veterans’ Park event, and said shuttle service would be available as there were limited parking spaces.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS’ REPORTS ON CURRENT EVENTS

Council Member Hecht thanked the participants that helped at the First Friday Cleanup event. She provided information on upcoming city events.

ITEMS WITHDRAWN FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Council Member Head made a motion that Items No. 1 through 3 on the Consent Agenda be approved in accordance with the reports, certifications and recommendations furnished each Council Member and without further discussion. Council Member Lizarraga seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Brummett, D’Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Ring
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 January 17, 2023; and the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on January 17, 2023. (City Clerk Stein)

2. Approval of the request to release the financial assurance for Belle Air Heights, Tract 5017, Unit 2; and to accept the required improvements into the city system for maintenance. (Development Services Director Chooniyom)
3. Adoption of Resolution No. 2023R-03 approving the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Mohave Area General Narcotic Enforcement Team (MAGNET). (Police Chief Trebes)

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS

None

ACTION ITEMS

Building, Planning and Zoning Items

4. Discussion and possible action to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-05 by reference, approving an amendment to Chapter 17.38, Density Districts, Title 17, of the Bullhead City Municipal Code; and adopt Resolution No. 2023R-04 declaring the code amendment a public record. (Development Services Director Chooniyom)

Planning Manager Loera said this amendment would address minimum lot sizes in areas of the city that had existing parcels substantially smaller than what current density district tables allowed. He said the municipal code specified the minimum lot size for a single family residential lot to be 6,000 square feet (D-6 district) with minimum dimensions of 60-feet wide and 100-feet deep. He said the amendment would allow reduced lot sizes in areas of the city that were platted under Mohave County's jurisdiction and had lot sizes smaller than what the D-6 density district allowed. He said staff identified the area bounded by Hancock Road to the north, Riverview Drive to the south, Lakeside Drive to the east, and the Colorado River to the west, as an area where the majority of parcels were less than 6,000 square feet in size. He said the proposed amendment would create a D-3 density district with a minimum lot size of 3,200 square feet and minimum dimensions of 40-feet wide and 80-feet deep. He said the Planning and Zoning Commission took no action on this item.

Council Member Alfonzo asked if the developers would be required to put in sidewalks, and if the housing was low-income. He said the neighborhoods could get very crowded with parked vehicles and increased traffic. He spoke in opposition to the proposed amendment.

Planning Manger Loera said they would not need to install sidewalks, and said the cost of the homes would be specific to each contractor.

Council Member Ring said she was in support, and said the housing was not low-income. She said the new homes would build up the community.

Vice Mayor Brummett said affordable housing was needed in the community. She spoke in support of the proposed code amendment.

Council Member Hecht said she was in favor and said it was great to bring in new development for areas that needed housing.

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

Sean Regan spoke in opposition to the amendment. He said more density would put more vehicles on Highway 95.

Nick Parsons said he was concerned about the water allocation.

Steven Lee said he did not think there would be any parking problems in those particular areas. He said affordable housing was needed, but low income housing would bring in problems.

Barbara Pape said developers needed to provide more mobility in those areas.

Jim Roundtree said he had had been building homes in that area for the last two years. He said the homes were approximately 1,000 square feet with higher quality construction. He said most of the buyers would be empty nesters. He said the in-fill lots were sitting there for many years and the economics of the community would dictate the development of smaller lots.

Pamela Smith said the council packet did not mention that this item went before the Planning and Zoning Commission and no action was taken. She said she was perturbed the item was now in front of the Council.

Scotty McClure spoke in opposition to the proposed amendment. He said the area was too crowded now.

MOTION: Council Member Ring made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-05 by reference, approving an amendment to Chapter 17.38, Density Districts, Title 17, of the Bullhead City Municipal Code; and adopt Resolution No. 2023R-04 declaring the code amendment a public record. Vice Mayor Brummett seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brummett, D'Amico, Hecht, Ring
NAYS: Alfonzo, Head, Lizaraga ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

Bid Awards, Contracts, Intergovernmental Agreement, and Purchases

5. Discussion and possible action to approve a construction contract with T.R. Orr, Inc., of Kingman, Arizona, in the total amount of \$739,705.30 for the construction of the Phase 3 Pickleball and Tennis Courts in Rotary Park; and to authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute the contract and issue resulting payments. (Public Works Director Johnson)

Public Works Director Johnson said the project included construction of four new pickleball courts and one new tennis court at Rotary Park. She said grading, concrete courts, sidewalks, drainage facilities, lights, and associated work would be part of this contract. She said four bids were submitted and the low bidder was T.R. Orr, Inc.

Mayor D'Amico said he was in support of this project, as pickleball was a very popular sport.

Council Member Lizarraga asked for some handball courts in the future.

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

Scotty McClure said the pavement was cracked at the existing court locations.

Steven Lee said there were strings attached with ARPA funds. He said the city could do a lot better with a drive-in movie that would serve more people.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Dave Heath said they found a solution for crack filling for use in any type of weather. He said city staff built the first courts where the pavement was cracking and said they had learned a lot since then.

MOTION: Council Member Lizarraga made a motion to approve a construction contract with T.R. Orr, Inc., of Kingman, Arizona, in the total amount of \$739,705.30 for the construction of the Phase 3 Pickleball and Tennis Courts in Rotary Park; and to authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute the contract and issue resulting payments. Council Member Ring seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Ring
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

6. Discussion and possible action to ratify the City Manager's previous execution of the acceptance of the BHHS Legacy Foundation Grant dated October 19, 2022, in the amount of \$113,000.00 to be applied towards Phase 3 of the Pickleball and Tennis Courts project in Rotary Park. (City Manager Cotter)

Assistant to the City Manager Edigar Kajirwa said the BHHS Legacy Foundation continued to be a steadfast partner with the city for community projects and had committed to support Phase 3 of the pickleball and tennis court improvement projects in Rotary Park with grant funding in the amount of \$113,000. He said pickleball was a growing sport that had immense health benefits for participants.

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

Scotty McClure asked the city to consider installing handball and racquetball courts.

Mayor D'Amico thanked the Legacy Foundation for their continued support.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Brummett made a motion to ratify the City Manager's previous execution of the acceptance of the BHHS Legacy Foundation Grant dated October 19, 2022, in the amount of \$113,000.00 to be applied towards Phase 3 of the Pickleball and Tennis Courts project in Rotary Park. Council Member Ring seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Ring
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

7. Discussion and possible action to approve the construction contract with JTR General Engineering for manhole rehabilitation construction services, Project No. 23-U-009 Rebid, in the amount of \$935,000.000; and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement and issue resultant payments. (Utilities Director Clark)

Utilities Director Clark said this contract included the labor portion of the manhole rehabilitation project. He said three bids were received and JTR General Engineering was the lowest bidder. He said the item was part of the approved capital improvement project. He said the City Council had previously approved the purchase of materials; including manhole inserts, frames, and lids. He said there were 5,715 manholes in the city and approximately three to five percent were in need of some type of repair. He said they would budget to rehabilitate about 50 manholes per year as they moved through this project.

Mayor D'Amico 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 construction contract with JTR General Engineering for manhole rehabilitation construction services, Project No. 23-U-009 Rebid, in the amount of \$935,000.000; and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement and issue resultant payments. Council Member Ring seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Ring
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

8. Discussion and possible action to approve: 1) the allocation of \$347,580.50 from American Rescue Plan Act funds to Community Pride Advocates for the construction of two ramadas in Gary Keith Civic Center Park in connection with the completion of the outdoor performing arts facility; 2) the Gary Keith Civic Park Improvements Community Pride Advocates Grant Agreement Phase III Ramadas/Pavilion Construction (final substantial form); and 3) authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement and take all actions consistent with completion of the project. (City Manager Cotter)

City Manager Cotter said this was a request to provide funding to Community Pride Advocates and match funding provided by the BHHS Legacy Foundation for the completion of two large ramadas, with each entity providing \$347,580.50.

Mayor D'Amico said Gary Keith Park was mainly for the citizens of the community to enjoy.

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

Olivia McCormick said this project began in 2015, and now it was two-thirds complete through assistance from many partnerships and in-kind donations. She said this total project cost was just under \$2 million. She said Redmond Construction was awarded the bid for construction. She said Mohave County gave them \$1.2 million towards the project.

Vice Mayor Brummett said it was hard to put into words to say, "thank you," to everyone associated with the construction of the park and all of its amenities.

Council Member Lizarraga said he was in support of everything the organization did for the community.

MOTION: Council Member Ring made a motion to approve: 1) the allocation of \$347,580.50 from American Rescue Plan Act funds to Community Pride Advocates for the construction of two ramadas in Gary Keith Civic Center Park in connection with the completion of the outdoor performing arts facility; 2) the Gary Keith Civic Park Improvements Community Pride Advocates Grant Agreement Phase III Ramadas/Pavilion Construction (final substantial form); and 3) authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement and take all actions consistent with completion of the project. Council Member Lizarraga seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Ring
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

Other Business

9. Discussion and possible action to adopt Resolution No. 2023R-05 advocating for student housing on, and adjacent to, the Mohave Community College Campus in Bullhead City. (City Manager Cotter)

City Manager Cotter said student housing on or near the college campus would allow the Bullhead City campus to become a premiere location for community college education in Arizona. He said the campus had the opportunity to house students studying nursing, dental, auto repair, computers, truck driving, hospitality, welding, policing, and more. He said student housing was also needed for the athletic program being created at Mohave Community College. He said a public forum would be held on February 8th at the college to allow Mohave County residents an opportunity to give input.

Council Member Hecht said she was a graduate of the college, and said this was an opportunity to bring more people into the city's work force.

Council Member Alfonzo asked if the city would incur any costs.

City Manager Cotter said the city did not anticipate any costs, and said developers had not requested any incentives.

Council Member Lizarraga asked about the proposed type of housing that would be located near the campus.

City Manager Cotter said the housing would be primarily apartment complexes.

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

Steven Lee said community colleges were intended for members of the local community, and said he did not see a need for student housing.

Scotty McClure spoke in opposition to the proposed campus. He said the addition of the soccer team and housing would eventually cost the taxpayers.

MOTION: Council Member Lizarraga made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023R-05 advocating for student housing on, and adjacent to, the Mohave Community College Campus in Bullhead City. Council Member Alfonzo seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Ring
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

10. Discussion and possible action to approve: 1) the city joining the "Amicus" brief in opposition to the transfer of Colorado River 4th priority water to the Town of Queen Creek; 2) the Mayor's signature on the brief; and 3) authorizing the expenditure of up to \$3,000.00 towards legal costs in connection with the "Amicus" brief. (City Manager Cotter)

City Attorney Emery said, in 2019 and in 2020, the City Council formally expressed opposition, along with many other communities adjacent to the Colorado River, to the proposed transfer of 2,000 acre feet of Colorado River water to the Town of Queen Creek in central Arizona. He said the transfer request continued through the administrative process and was approved by the Bureau of Reclamation and the State of Arizona through the Arizona Department of Water Resources. He said Mohave County, LaPaz County, and the City of Yuma have brought a lawsuit seeking injunctive relief prohibiting the transfer, alleging that the Bureau of Reclamation did not engage in the appropriate level of administrative inquiry; and until it did, a transfer could not be properly authorized. He said the court had allowed interested parties to submit a legal brief in support of the plaintiffs. He said interested parties currently included the cities of Page, Kingman, Parker, Wellton, Somerton, San Luis, Lake Havasu City, and the Mohave County Water Authority. He said the legal brief did not require the city to become a party to the lawsuit, but would allow the city, along with other interested parties, to voice their collective concern to the court. He said the legal brief was called an "amicus" brief, or "friend of the court" brief, and would consist of a one-time contribution of up to \$3,000 towards the legal costs required to engage legal counsel and have the brief prepared, submitted, and argued to the court. He said the legal departments of the cities of

Yuma and Lake Havasu City had been providing the coordination for the engagement of legal counsel for the services.

Mayor D'Amico said he recently met with the mayors of the river cities and was in favor of the city joining the brief. He said he welcomed questions and comments from the Council Members.

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

Steven Lee spoke in favor of joining the proposed brief.

Billy Pershing spoke in favor of joining the proposed brief.

Scotty McClure said this was Mohave County's problem, and said the city should not spend \$3,000 to say nothing.

MOTION: Council Member Alfonzo made a motion to approve: 1) the city joining the "Amicus" brief in opposition to the transfer of Colorado River 4th priority water to the Town of Queen Creek; 2) the Mayor's signature on the brief; and 3) authorizing the expenditure of up to \$3,000.00 towards legal costs in connection with the "Amicus" brief. Council Member Hecht seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Ring
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor D'Amico called for a break at 7:38 p.m. He reconvened the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

11. Discussion and possible action to adopt Resolution No. 2023R-06 authorizing submission of an application to the Arizona Department of Housing for State Housing Fund and HOME Investment Partnerships Program Grant Funds for fiscal year 2022. (Human Services Director Tipton)

Human Services Director Tipton said this was a competitive grant for which the city could apply to receive \$440,000. He said the program work must be performed according to the housing rehabilitation standards contained in the Housing Rehabilitation Guidelines, and the homes must be brought to the applicable state or local code. He said priorities of the program were to assist qualified low-income homeowners that resided in Bullhead City, and preserve and improve the long-term life of existing affordable owner-occupied housing stock. He said no match was required for this grant. He said over the past six years, the city had received more than \$3 million to assist in rehabilitating 48 owner-occupied homes and 100 people with emergency repairs.

Western Arizona Council of Governments Housing Consultant Denise Bishop provided a PowerPoint presentation. She said the purpose of the program was to help very low, low, and moderate income facilities in the city to upgrade their housing and living conditions to meet the Department of Housing's quality standards; improve and preserve the quality and appearance of the housing stock in the city; and financially help to stabilize low-income households through the

reduction of constant home repairs and decreased utility costs. She said the qualifications were as follows: 1) must be residents of Bullhead City; 2) must be the legal homeowner of the property and occupants listed on the deed; 3) must live in the property full-time and must have lived there for one year prior to rehabilitation services; 4) must meet income guidelines set for by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). She said income qualification included all members living in the home regardless of family status and be verifiable; the applicant must be an American citizen; the homeowner could not own any other property or have interest in another property; the home cannot be located in a floodplain; a manufactured home could not be built prior to June 1, 1975; all mortgage payments, utilities, and property taxes must be current; the home must be insured; and the value of the home could not exceed HUD's median home value for Mohave County when rehabilitation was completed. She said the 2021 HUD home median value was \$285,000.

Ms. Bishop said the emergency/minor rehabilitation/SSP/CDBG funding would provide grants up to \$15,000 to perform emergency repairs for qualified homeowners that were faced with substandard housing conditions. She said these conditions included those posing a serious threat to the health, safety, or welfare of the household or immediate livability of the home; such as, but not limited to: heating/cooling, plumbing, electricity, roofing, broken windows, and ADA accessibility accommodations. She said the emergency repair could be corrected without bringing the entire home to housing quality standards and local code. She said, if needed, a greater scope of work could be completed later under the Moderate Rehabilitation Program. She said no lien was required for this funding.

Ms. Bishop said the HOME funding may provide forgivable loans up to \$45,000 to rehabilitate homes with a more expensive scope of work necessary for the entire home to meet the state's housing quality standards and local code. She said assistance was in the form of a deferred forgivable loan at zero percent interest with a five/ten/fifteen year recapture period. She said the program also required a weatherization test and recommendations at the beginning of the project, and must pass the final weatherization test at the end of the project. She said weatherization recommendations included the replacement of appliances for energy efficiency, window replacement, air conditioning replacements, vent sealing, sealing of barrier under the home; and other items to increase the energy efficiency of the home.

Ms. Bishop said applications were accepted throughout the year, screened, and placed on the waiting list. She said applicants received preference if they were disabled, elderly, families with children under the age of 18, veterans, or individuals with extremely low income. She said there were two waiting lists; one for emergency repairs and one for moderate rehabilitation.

Ms. Bishop said these two programs assisted the most vulnerable members of the community with the assistance they needed to stay longer and unassisted in their own homes. She said the program assisted with stabilizing the housing stock of the city and brought tax dollars in the amount of \$440,000 back into the community. She said the contractors lived in the community and shopped local whenever possible. She said the program required no match or funding from the city.

Council Member Alfonzo asked if they rehabilitated manufactured and stick built homes.

Ms. Bishop said she could not go over the \$285,000 HUD limit, and most stick built homes exceeded that number.

Council Member Hecht spoke in favor of the program.

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

Billy Pershing asked about the income limitation amount.

Ms. Bishop said the amount would depend on the number of people in the household.

Steven Lee said manufactured housing built before 1975 would not qualify.

Ms. Bishop said she could authorize small repairs on older manufactured homes; but those properties would not qualify for the full housing rehabilitation work.

City Manager Cotter said the program had come a long way under Ms. Bishop and thanked her for her efforts.

MOTION: Council Member Ring made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023R-06 authorizing submission of an application to the Arizona Department of Housing for State Housing Fund and HOME Investment Partnerships Program Grant Funds for fiscal year 2022. Council Member Hecht seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Ring
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

12. Discussion and possible action to approve authority for city staff to formally express support for HB 2372 and HB 2375; and further authorize staff to continue to lobby for state funding for improvements to Highway 95. (Assistant to the City Manager Pruitt)

Assistant to the City Manager Pruitt said he would highlight three bills that were of interest to Bullhead City. He said they would like to formally express the city's support for these bills. He said House Bill 2375, Arizona State Land Transfer, Bullhead City, would transfer six parcels of state sovereign land to the city. He said the parcels included two boat ramps at Community Park, two parcels that made up the Veterans' Memorial site, and the fishing pier and boat ramp in Rotary Park. He said the city was paying permit fees in the amount of \$10,000 each year. He said the city could not purchase the land outright and would like to remove all unnecessary paperwork and all of the fees associated with this. He said Mayor D'Amico went to Phoenix and was successful in getting the bill out of committee and the next step would be to go to the House and the Senate for final approval. He said Representative Biasiucci had sponsored the bill and was helping to move it forward.

Assistant to the City Manager Pruitt said potential funding was included in an appropriations bill for constructing 18 right turn lanes along Highway 95. He said the amount of \$22.5 million was included in this bill for Bullhead City. He said there was no guarantee that the city would receive the funding. He said the sponsor of the bill was Representative Gillette.

Assistant to the City Manager Pruitt said House Bill 2372, Colorado River Water Transfers, was sponsored by Representatives Biasiucci, Gillette, and Senator Borrelli.

Utilities Director Clark said HB 2372 was dropped on behalf of Mohave County as they had been pushing for this legislation for several years. He said this was not a permanent ban on river water transfers but was a temporary ban on transfers until the Lake Mead lake level recovered to an elevation of 1,090 feet. He said this would give them some breathing room to allow the lake a chance to recover. He said it would take many years for the lake to recover to 1,090 feet and said this legislation was needed to help protect the river system and let it recover. He said this legislation would not stop the Queen Creek transfer.

Mayor D'Amico said he was glad that he went to Phoenix to lobby and support their representatives at the State Capitol. He said he would go to Phoenix and push for the road appropriations bill.

Council Member Head said House Bill 2418 was labeled as a law enforcement response time bill. He said his peers and he were concerned about this bill. He said funding could be stripped from some cities based on some nebulous response time to some unnamed emergency.

City Manager Cotter said they had been discussing this proposed bill, and suggested the Council's and city's opposition to that bill be added to the motion.

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

Steven Lee thanked the city for addressing the current proposed legislation.

Billy Pershing asked if the legislation would affect the re-paving of Highway 95.

Mayor D'Amico said the current bill was for funding highway turn lanes.

MOTION: Council Member Head made a motion to approve authority for city staff to formally express support for HB 2372 and HB 2375; and to express opposition on HB 2418; and further, authorize staff to continue to lobby for state funding for improvements to Highway 95. Council Member Ring seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Ring
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

13. Discussion and possible action to consider cancelling the City Council meeting originally scheduled for Tuesday, July 4, 2023; and rescheduling the meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023. (City Manager Cotter)

MOTION: Council Member Hecht made a motion to cancel the City Council meeting originally scheduled for Tuesday, July 4, 2023; and reschedule the meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 5, 2023. Vice Mayor Brummett seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Ring
NAYS: None ABSENT: None

MOTION CARRIED

14. Discussion and possible action to authorize the total budget amendment in the amount of \$1,230,710.00 from general fund general services contingency to the applicable departments and funds. (Finance Director Vera)

Finance Director Vera said the general services contingency fund was budgeted to provide an appropriation that may be needed during the fiscal year due to grant opportunities, emergencies, new programs, and higher than expected programmed expenditures. He said staff would not propose a budget amendment unless there was funding to pay for the expenditures.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Brummett made a motion to authorize the total budget amendment in the amount of \$1,230,710.00 from general fund general services contingency to the applicable departments and funds. Council Member Ring seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Brummett, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Ring
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 8:34 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct record of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Bullhead City held on the 7th day of February 2023. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 21st day of February 2023.


Susan Stein, MMC, CPM
City Clerk