

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, May 2, 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 Tim Eighmy from Community Lutheran Church to deliver the invocation. Mayor D'Amico led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Council Present

Alfonzo, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Lizarraga, Ring

Council Absent

Brummett

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: Absent

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor D'Amico announced that Vice Mayor Brummett was in hospice care and asked for a moment of silence.

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor D'Amico opened the call to the public.

Alyson Fair read a poem at the request of Vice Mayor Brummett.

Michael Sinovic said he lived on Booster Drive and discussed an issue his neighborhood was experiencing with their mailboxes. He requested the Council's assistance with getting their mailboxes placed in front of their homes. He provided petitions to the City Clerk.

An unnamed citizen said all of their mailboxes for Booster Drive had been broken into.

Claudette Keyser said she lived on Booster Drive and requested the Council's assistance to help protect their mail.

Sean Regan said he represented Arizona Veterans' K9 Services and said funds were needed to keep the organization moving forward. He asked the community for assistance.

Scotty McClure suggested the Booster Drive residents contact the Postmaster in Redlands, California for assistance. He said he wanted an easement from the Fieldhouse for a road that went through to Camino Del Rio.

Chris Bonde from Booster Drive asked the Council to work with the post office and move their mailboxes from Havasupai to their homes. He said the road was in bad repair.

Nick Parsons reminded the community about the deadline for the drone essay contest. He said there should be educational seminars to educate citizens about the emergence of solar power.

Julie Hassett thanked the community for their support of the Mohave High School Drama Department and their recent production.

Eva Corbett invited the public to attend the Republican dinner and the annual GOP picnic.

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

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

None

WAIVER MOTION

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

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

MOTION CARRIED

MANAGER'S REPORT

1. State of Arizona Budget – Highway 95 Repaving Project/Right Turn Lanes

City Manager Cotter said Mayor D'Amico and city staff recently traveled to Winslow, Arizona, and were successful in getting the project approved.

2. Bridge Update

City Manager Cotter said the City Council took a mini-tour of the bridge that afternoon.

3. Water Conservation Program and Residential Rebates

City Manager Cotter said information on the program could be found on the city's website or by contacting the City Manager's office.

4. Council Budget Meeting on May 8th

City Manager Cotter said the budget meeting would begin at 9:00 a.m. and public comment would be taken at the end of the departmental presentations.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS ON CURRENT EVENTS

Council Member Head invited the public to attend the annual Burro BBQ.

Council Member Hecht said Perkins would celebrate their 30th anniversary on May 7th.

Council Member Lizarraga said the Cinco de Mayo Taco Fest would be held at Community Park.

Council Member Ring said the "Back the Blue" caravan would be held on May 20th.

Mayor D'Amico said the city had no authority over the Postal Service and said he would be happy to provide a letter in support.

ITEMS WITHDRAWN FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Council Member Head 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 Ring seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Items on the Consent Agenda were approved as follows:

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on April 18, 2023. (City Clerk Stein)

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS

2. **PUBLIC HEARING.** Discussion and possible action to make a recommendation to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control to approve the application for a Series 7 Liquor License (Beer and Wine Bar) Owner Transfer No. 237205 submitted by Lauren Kay Merrett for Tom’s Dog House located at 851 Hancock Road in Bullhead City. (City Clerk Stein)

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

Mayor D’Amico opened the call to the public.

Tom West said he and his wife were the applicants. He provided information on their new restaurant.

Having no one else requesting to speak, Mayor D’Amico closed the call to the public.

MOTION: Council Member Lizarraga made a motion to make a recommendation to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control to approve the application for a Series 7 Liquor License (Beer and Wine Bar) Owner Transfer No. 237205 submitted by Lauren Kay Merrett for Tom’s Dog House located at 851 Hancock Road in Bullhead City. Council Member Hecht seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

ACTION ITEMS

Building, Planning and Zoning Items

None

Bid Awards, Contracts, Intergovernmental Agreement, and Purchases

None

Other Business

3. Discussion and possible action to adopt Resolution No. 2023R-17 approving the Comprehensive Fee Schedule for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 effective July 1, 2023. (City Manager Cotter)

Finance Director Vera said a Council work session was held on February 21, 2023, to discuss the proposed fee changes. He said Development Services Sections A3.40.021.02 and A3.40.022.09 increased fees by one percent including permits for signs, grading permits, mechanical permits, plumbing permits, electrical permits and valuation fees. He said inspection fees would increase from \$48 per hour to \$50 per hour. He said Recreation Section A3.40.030.03 established Community Park ramada rentals for small and medium ramadas, increased Community Park large ramada rentals and established deposit rates. He said ramadas at other parks including Dean Hackett, Gary Keith, Ken Fovargue, and Rotary Park may be utilized on a first-come, first-serve

basis. He said Utilities Section A3.40.051.05 established sewer pumping fees and A3.40.052.02 established manhole cover and assembly costs and a fire hydrant relocation fee. He said the new fees would become effective on July 1, 2023.

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 adopt Resolution No. 2023R-17 approving the Comprehensive Fee Schedule for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 effective July 1, 2023. Council Member Alfonzo seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

4. Discussion and possible action to adopt Resolution No. 2023R-18 urging the Bureau of Reclamation to not consider any near-term Colorado River operational alternative that would impact the City's currently allocated water entitlement. (City Manager Cotter)

Utilities Director Clark said the Bureau of Reclamation recently issued its "Near-Term Colorado River Operations Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement April 2023" which did not yet designate options for further management of the Colorado River, but could realistically lead to more regulations for consuming users as well as potential outright reductions in use. He said the city had been an exemplary manager of its contracted entitlement, and with its already limited area of growth, needed to ensure that ultimate city municipal uses would not be impacted. He said the city has spent over \$1.9 million on water conservation over a nine-year period, and this year \$550,000 was budgeted for water conservation. He said the city had saved over 2,500 acre feet of water, and more savings would accrue in future years. He said all efforts needed to be employed to ensure the city's entitlement was not endangered due to other competitive municipal uses. He said the signed resolution would be sent to Congressmen, Senators, and other Legislators letting them know how the city stands in regards to the water seizures.

Mayor D'Amico asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak. No one from the public spoke.

MOTION: Council Member Lizarraga made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023R-18 urging the Bureau of Reclamation to not consider any near-term Colorado River operational alternative that would impact the City's currently allocated water entitlement. Council Member Ring seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

5. Discussion and possible action to approve: 1) the City Manager, or designee's, application for CFI grant funding, and any other grant opportunities that would assist and contribute to the development of EV charging and network infrastructure within the city; and 2) the execution of any required grant agreement(s) and the receipt and expenditure of any awarded funds in support of the electric vehicle charging station objectives. (City Manager Cotter)

City Manager Cotter said charging stations were allowed to be placed in federally managed parks. He said there were a number of state and federal grants available and there was an opportunity to partner with Findley Automotive to bring 12 charging stations within the city. He said currently there were no charging stations in the city. He said the economy was based on people visiting the city from California and Nevada, and said there were many electric cars in those states. He said there was a demand for EV charging stations, and said these grants were only available to the public sector. He said staff was requesting the Council approve going forward and applying for these grants.

Assistant to the City Manager Kajirwa said the federal program had \$700 million available through grant applications. He said the federal government wanted to establish a network of charging stations throughout the country. He said the city qualified for grants and said he believed the city had a viable chance to receive the funding. He said there was a high demand for local charging stations and the city wanted to provide that amenity. He said 80 percent of the funding would come from the federal government and 20 percent would come from a public private partnership.

Council Member Hecht asked about the number of stations and how long it took to charge a vehicle.

Assistant to the City Manager Kajirwa said there were different levels of chargers which took different amounts of time to charge a vehicle. He said the proposed locations were in the parks and City Hall, and said they did not know the number of stations as it would depend on the amount of the grant.

Council Member Alfonzo confirmed the city was applying specifically for electrical charging stations, and confirmed there was enough time to submit the application which was due on May 23rd.

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

Barbara Pape asked if there had been a study on the number of electric vehicles in the city. She asked if the city had enough energy to supply the stations.

City Manager Cotter said there were thousands of electric vehicles in surrounding states and those were the people that supported the local economy. He said people would be prohibited from coming to the city at a certain point in time if there were no available charging stations. He said people had to go to Needles or Kingman to charge their car. He said the Mohave Electric Cooperative was happy to supply power to the growing community.

Bart Anderson asked if the city would be selling electricity and if the city was covered under liability insurance.

City Manager Cotter confirmed, and said the stations would be monitored and insured.

Parks and Recreation Commissioner Craig Cox clarified the commission was in favor of having stations, just not located in the city's parks.

Sean Regan spoke in opposition to the charging stations.

Eva Corbett said the charging stations were loud.

Nick Parsons spoke in favor of providing charging stations.

Gary Genovese said electric vehicles were coming and suggested the city partner with private enterprises.

Scotty McClure said the taxpayers would not be happy paying for the charging stations. He said more parking spots would be lost in the parks, especially when the large trucks had to plug in.

Billy Pershing said there would be an impact on the local electric rates.

Jerry Hardy from Mohave Electric Cooperative said there would be no impact on local rates.

Assistant to the City Manager Kajirwa said the city wanted to provide the opportunity for its residents to be able to charge their vehicles more quickly, and provide a better air quality. He said the stations were not loud and the infrastructure would not take up a lot of space. He said they wanted to partner with a private organization that would provide the 20 percent of the cost.

Council Member Ring said she would vote "no," as the grant discussed environmental justice and represented racism.

Mayor D'Amico said the future cost for the infrastructure and power was unknown. He said he thought the private sector should be supporting this.

Council Member Head asked if the charger plugs would fit all electric vehicles.

Assistant to the City Manager Kajirwa said the chargers would accept all types of plug-ins.

Council Member Hecht said people could use the bus to travel to other destinations while their cars were charging. She said the city was proactive in pursuing this grant.

MOTION: Council Member Lizarraga made a motion to approve: 1) the City Manager, or designee's, application for CFI grant funding, and any other grant opportunities that would assist and contribute to the development of EV charging and network infrastructure within the city; and 2) the execution of any required grant agreement(s) and the receipt and expenditure of any awarded funds in support of the electric vehicle charging station objectives. Council Member Hecht seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Hecht, Lizarraga
NAYS: D'Amico, Head, Ring ABSENT: Brummett

MOTION FAILED

6. Discussion and possible action to approve EV Charging Stations in the proposed locations and modify the city's masterplans with the Bureau of Land Management. (City Manager Cotter)

No motion was made and no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 6.

COUNCIL REQUESTED ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT*

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Mayor declared the regular meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

***The City Council will adjourn from the Regular City Council Meeting and convene into Executive Session.**

MOTION: Council Member Ring made a motion to adjourn the special meeting and convene into executive session at 7:07 p.m. Council Member Alfonzo seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

EXECUTIVE SESSION
AGENDA

1. Discussion or consultation with the City Attorney for legal advice and with the City Attorney and/or the City Manager concerning negotiations for the purchase or lease of real property, currently under lease with the City, and known as the Optimum Center (formerly Suddenlink Center) at 2380 Optimum Way, Bullhead City. Arizona Revised Statutes § 38-431.03 (A)(3)&(A)(7).

ADJOURNMENT

Note: No legal action was taken by the City Council during the Executive Session.

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 2nd day of May 2023. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 16th day of May 2023.



Susan Stein, MMC, CPM
City Clerk