

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 7, 2024, in the City Council Chambers, 1255 Marina Boulevard, Bullhead City, Arizona.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor D'Amico called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and invited Craig Evins of Trinity Baptist Church to deliver the invocation. The Mohave High School JROTC Cadets presented the Colors, Mohave High School Student Madison McKee sang the National Anthem, and Sgt. 1st Class Luke Luna, Staff Sgt. Tim Case, and Staff Sgt. Doug Cavalierer, U.S. Army Recruiters, Bullhead City, led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Council Present

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

Council Absent

None

Staff Present:

CITY MANAGER: Toby Cotter

CITY ATTORNEY: Garnet Emery

CITY CLERK: Debie Ogden

POLICE CHIEF: Robert Trebes

FINANCE DIRECTOR: Robert Drexler

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR: Angie Johnson

HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR: Jeff Tipton

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor D'Amico presented "Welcome Home" certificates to the retiring military members. Members of the Tri-State Military Moms read the biographies of each member and the retired highway banners were presented.

Cindy Frizelle played a short video celebrating the Tri-State Military Moms 10th Anniversary.

Kim Cool spoke about how she became a volunteer for the Tri-State Military Moms, and thanked everyone that is involved with the organization.

Mayor D'Amico called for a break at 6:08 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor D'Amico opened the call to the public.

Jim Fuller apologized for his part in getting Ashley Gerich removed from her first seat position at the MCRCC (Mohave County Republican Central Committee).

John Sullivan invited the public to attend a murder mystery dinner theater fundraiser for the Desert Shores Community Baptist Church on May 17th.

Stan Kepler asked the Council to include funds in the upcoming budget for a new RC racetrack.

Grace Telsner said doctors were needed in Bullhead City and Laughlin. She said the wait to see doctors is going to get longer as the community grows. She said existing vacant buildings could be made into medical facilities.

Darian Randall spoke about The Big Tent event that is going to be held at Gary Keith Park on May 11-12.

Captain John Birsk from the Salvation Army said their May the 4th Be With You Event was successful. He said next week is Salvation Army week, and said they will be posting about the history of the Salvation Army.

Harvy Pryor asked who the Utility Department's second in command was, and asked if that person could sit in for Utility Director Clark when he was not able to attend meetings. He said the city is paying too much to have the BATS buses and vans washed.

Nick Parsons said he liked the billboard that reminded slow drivers to stay in the right hand lane.

Scotty McClure accused council members of trying to get campaign funds from the Emerald Bay presenters during the break at the last council meeting. He said Hildy Angus has purchased 2,000 campaign signs, and said Council Member Lettman has paid \$15,000 for campaign signs.

Eva Corbett said Debbie Miller will be giving a presentation at the Colorado River Museum on May 22nd. She said the Bullhead Area Chamber of Commerce will have a mixer on May 16th. She said A Night of Music will take place at Mohave High School on May 9th and Under the Lights of Broadway will take place on May 14th.

Sue Demarco from Saving Animals In Need Together spoke about four dogs that were recently adopted.

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

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

None

WAIVER MOTION

MOTION: Vice Mayor Head 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, Lettman, Lizarraga, Ring
NAYS: None ABSENT: None**

MOTION CARRIED

MANAGER'S REPORT

1. River Run Motorcycle Rally Statistics

Police Chief Trebes gave statistics of the River Run Motorcycle Rally. He thanked all the law enforcement agencies that assisted with the event.

2. May 13th Budget Meeting

City Manager Cotter said the Budget Meeting will take place on May 13th at 9:00 a.m. He said the meeting will be televised, and said the meeting will be open to the public. He said the public will have a chance to speak sometime during the meeting.

3. June 7th Bridge Grand Opening

City Manager Cotter said a bridge crossing event will take place on June 7th at the new bridge from 7:00 a.m. until noon.

4. Summer Camp Registration

City Manager Cotter said summer camp registration is still open. He said people can register for various camps on the City's website.

5. E-Recycling and Shred Event

City Manager Cotter said the E-Recycling and Shred Event will take place on Saturday from 8:00 a.m. until noon at the City Council parking lot.

6. Welcome new City Clerk Debie Ogden

City Manager Cotter welcomed new City Clerk Debie Ogden.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS ON CURRENT EVENTS

Council Member Ring provided information on the Back the Blue and Fire event to be held on May 18th.

Council Member Head said next week is National Police Officer Week. He said in 1962 President Kennedy declared May 15th Peace Officer Day in the United States of America. He said that same year Congress declared the week that includes May 15th as Police Officer Week in the United States. He said there are several events taking place at the National Law Enforcements Memorial in Washington, D.C. including the addition of 282 names to the Wall of Remembrance which currently has 24,067 names etched on it. He said the ceremony will be streamed on Facebook and You Tube.

Council Member Hecht said the First Things First meeting that was held last week was very educational. She said the organization is planning to work with local community members and organizations to see what can be done about getting more childcare in Bullhead City. She said she toured the new firehouse on Laughlin Ranch Boulevard, and said they are planning to have their

grand opening at the end of the month. She congratulated the Mohave County Animal Shelter on their grand opening. She said last weekend's cleanup was very successful. She thanked Republic Services for their help, and said they were able to fill an entire roll off with trash and debris. She said she will not be able to attend the budget meeting due to a prior commitment, and said she will do her best to call into the meeting.

Council Member Lettman thanked everyone that attended the Rotary Club's 73rd annual Burro Barbeque last weekend at Rotary Park. He said the event was very successful. He gave a shoutout to his neighbor that posted a question regarding bad cell phone service on the Bullhead Parkway. He said approximately three years ago there was a proposal to put a cell phone tower in the Pegasus Ranch area. He said the community came out to oppose the project, and said the cell phone provider left and never came back. He requested an item be put on an upcoming council agenda to discuss the possibility of placing a cell phone tower on a parcel of land the city obtained during the EPCOR takeover. He said he will not attend the League of Arizona Cities and Towns convention in August because his term as council member will be expiring in November.

ITEMS WITHDRAWN FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Council Member Hecht made a motion that Item 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. Council Member Alfonzo seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, D'Amico, Head, Hecht, Lettman, 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 City Council Meeting held on April 16, 2024; and the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on April 16, 2024. (City Clerk Ogden)
2. Approve the application for a grant from SC Johnson in the amount of \$47,482.50 for the delivery of customer service training to city employees, and if granted, authorize the City Manager to execute any required grant agreement. (Assistant to the City Manager Pruitt)

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 10 (Beer and Wine) Liquor License Job No. 282727, submitted by Maria Burgess for Circle K Stores #9561 located at 1080 Highway 95, Bullhead City, Arizona. (City Clerk Ogden)

City Manager Cotter said staff has reviewed this item and has no concerns. He said all the buildings between 4th and 5th Street were demolished and the land was sold to Circle K. He said Circle K is going to build a new gas station at the location.

Mayor D'Amico asked if the applicant was present. The applicant was not present.

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

MOTION: Council Member Ring made a motion to make a recommendation to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control to approve the application for a Series 10 (Beer and Wine) Liquor License Job No. 282727, submitted by Maria Burgess for Circle K Stores #9561 located at 1080 Highway 95, Bullhead City, Arizona. Council Member Hecht seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

ACTION ITEMS

Building, Planning and Zoning Items

None

Bid Awards, Contracts, Intergovernmental Agreement, and Purchases

4. Discussion and possible action to approve the Investment Grade Audit Agreement with Schneider Electric Buildings American, Inc., and authorize the City Manager to execute the Agreement and take all actions necessary for the evaluation of the audit results by the City Council; and further, if the city does not enter into an Agreement implementing energy improvements, direct the City Manager to pay \$168,000 due under the Agreement. (Assistant to the City Manager Pruitt)

Assistant to the City Manager Pruitt said this item has already been heard by the Council during a work session. He said staff is bringing the item back tonight to see if the council would like to enter into an agreement with Schneider Electric Buildings American. He said the city evaluated six potential companies to provide an energy audit for city facilities and systems. He said the most qualified company was Schneider Electric.

Brandon Woodward from Schneider Electric gave a brief presentation regarding an energy audit. He said pending council approval, Schneider Electric would do a deep dive in evaluating the areas in

order to lower utility costs, save water, and generate economic development. He said if the council does decide to enter into an agreement, they will agree to allow Schneider Electric to evaluate potential cost savings. He said the council is not agreeing to any projects. He said the audit was an eight-month process, and said after the audit was completed, the Council would consider authorizing a construction contract with Schneider Electric. He said their company has performed over 1,000 audits and saved their customers approximately \$4 billion in utility costs. He said their program priorities are to identify innovative cost-savings opportunities for city facilities, modernize existing infrastructure, and maximize resources and grants. He said some of the current challenges that have already been identified are the interior and exterior lighting is very old, the sports field lighting could use some attention, the solar lighting at the beach does not work, some streetlights are very old, and the thermostats inside city buildings could be upgraded. He said there will be no cost to the city if they do a project. He said if the city decides not to do a project, there is an exit fee of \$168,000.00. Council Member Alfonzo asked Mr. Woodward if his company will do competitive bidding for any selected projects. Mr. Woodward said they will have a competitive bidding process, and said they welcome city staff's input. Council Member Alfonzo asked Mr. Woodward if they will look for grants, or will it be up to the city to find grants. Mr. Woodward said they have a grants team that will look for grants for potential projects.

Council Member Lizarraga asked Mr. Woodward how often they will return to Bullhead City after the initial audit. Mr. Woodward said he will visit Bullhead City regularly. He said their goal is to act as a general contractor for the selected projects. He said they are mandated by state statute to require savings throughout all the projects.

Council Member Lettman asked Mr. Woodward what his role would be as a general contractor if they decided to switch all streetlights to LED. Mr. Woodward said he felt that switching out the streetlights would be a great cost savings for the city. He said they will work with city staff to build a spec as to what the streetlight should look like and then try to identify several local contractors that could perform the required work. He said they always try to find local vendors but if one is not found, they then look within the State of Arizona. He said if a vendor is not found in the state, they will then search nationally for a vendor. He said they will also competitively bid out the project. Council Member Lettman asked if that would be a clash between the city needing to go out to bid and Schneider Electric going out to bid for a project. City Attorney Emery said the process could be done by Schneider Electric as a general contractor. Council Member Lettman asked Mr. Woodward what a marketing and branding strategy meeting is. Mr. Woodward said they work with cities to identify their vision and mission. He said they provide their national marketing resources to help tell the good news stories of what the city is doing, and the fiscal responsibility impact the projects have on the community.

Council Member Hecht asked who would be involved in the design of upgraded amenities such as streetlights. Mr. Woodward said there will be several city staff members involved in all their projects. He said they bring recommendations to city staff, and said it is staff that will make all decisions.

Mayor D'Amico opened the public hearing.

Barbara Pape said she was concerned about solar energy. She said she worked on solar projects in California, and they turned out to be very unsuccessful. She said some data shows that solar could make an area hotter.

Scotty McClure said the wood light pole across the street from his home works just fine and a new one is not needed. He said a big expense is the pump stations, and said he would like some of them removed with a new design. He said the city does not need to enter into an agreement because current city staff could find ways to save money on utilities.

Eugene O'Neill said if the city decides to look at replacing and adding streetlights, there are a lot of dark streets in his neighborhood that could use streetlights.

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

Mayor D'Amico said he was not in favor of this agreement and said he felt the city would be better off by doing the work in house. He said they are already aware that savings could be found in the current lighting and HVAC systems. He said he had complete confidence in city staff and every department, and said doing the work in house will also save money.

MOTION: Council Member Lizarraga made a motion to approve the Investment Grade Audit Agreement with Schneider Electric Buildings American, Inc., and authorize the City Manager to execute the Agreement and take all actions necessary for the evaluation of the audit results by the City Council; and further, if the city does not enter into an Agreement implementing energy improvements, direct the City Manager to pay \$168,000 due under the Agreement. Council Member Ring seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

5. Discussion and possible action to approve the additional expenditure of \$241,374.51 under the contract with Ergon Asphalt and Emulsions, Inc. of Las Vegas, Nevada, for the purchase of an additional 300 tons of PMCQS-1h asphalt emulsion for street maintenance projects within City limits, for a total contract amount not exceeding \$1,206,872.55, and authorize the City Manager to approve resultant payments. (Public Works Director Johnson)

Public Works Director Johnson said this item is a change order with Ergon Asphalt and Emulsions. She said the current contract is for 1,200 tons of slurry oil, and said staff is asking to override the current contract by 300 tons so the Parkway could be completed this year. She said the funds are currently in the slurry seal line item.

Council Member Hecht said staff is doing a great job, and said this is a much needed improvement to the Parkway.

Mayor D'Amico said there have been some hiccups with this project, and asked Public Works Director to speak on some of the issues.

Public Works Director Johnson said staff is currently working on this project at night. She said it is dark outside and staff is trying to paint temporary striping in the road using a small light. She said

staff will start blacking out the temporary lane striping tomorrow. She said the striping contractor started last Friday and hoped to have the project finished by May 17th.

Council Member Alfonzo asked all drivers to slow down and watch out for the workers.

Council Member Hecht asked Public Works Director Johnson to explain why some parts of the Parkway are smooth and other parts are not. Public Works Director Johnson said those are locations where the asphalt was removed down to the dirt because the roadway was falling apart and then filled with new asphalt. She said it is new pavement and staff could slurry the area many times, but the spots will keep coming back. Mayor D'Amico said staff is currently working on grants and Proposition 416 to help pay to redo the entire Parkway. He said the only thing the city can do right now is maintain it.

Barbara Pape said Bullhead City is self-sufficient and self-reliant, and said she would like to see it continue.

Scotty McClure said he was in favor of this item.

MOTION: Council Member Ring made a motion to approve the additional expenditure of \$241,374.51 under the contract with Ergon Asphalt and Emulsions, Inc. of Las Vegas, Nevada, for the purchase of an additional 300 tons of PMCQS-1h asphalt emulsion for street maintenance projects within City limits, for a total contract amount not exceeding \$1,206,872.55, and authorize the City Manager to approve resultant payments. Council Member Alfonzo seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Other Business

6. Discussion and possible action to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 2024-10 "Pawnbroker Amendments 2024" by reference; and approve RESOLUTION NO. 2024R-21, declaring "Pawnbroker Amendments 2024" a public record. (Police Chief Trebes)

Police Chief Trebes said during recent business operations and enforcements, certain amendments to the pawnbroker code were identified as being necessary to reflect actual practice and processing of evidence. He said the changes are very minor. He said the language on some of the time frames for articles to be sold or exchanged needed to be changed, the administrative fees charged by the city needs to be changed to the sheriff, and some of the timeframes for court dispute needs to be changed.

Mayor D'Amico said the changes were made by the State, so the changes need to be made.

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

MOTION: Council Member Lizarraga made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-10 “Pawnbroker Amendments 2024” by reference; and approve Resolution No. 2024R-21, declaring “Pawnbroker Amendments 2024” a public record. Council Member Alfonzo seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

7. Discussion and possible action to: 1) approve a transfer of \$236,118.94 from the General Fund Contingency to Miscellaneous Capital Park Improvements for cameras in Community and Rotary Parks; 2) approve an agreement with STEP CG, LLC., in substantial final form; and 3) authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement. (Public Works Director Johnson)

City Manager Cotter said a work session was held on this item, and said the council directed staff to peruse cameras in the parks.

Recreation Superintendent Heath said cameras are already located in four different locations throughout the parks, and said this item is to add more cameras to Rotary and Community Parks.

Vice Mayor Head asked who will perform the work that is not listed in the contracts. City Manager Cotter said the major item before the Council tonight is whether or not to move the money out of the Contingency Fund to the Miscellaneous Capital Park Improvements Fund, and said any expenditure over \$50,000 must be authorized by the Council. He said Public Works Director Johnson has identified the items under \$50,000 and will be working with local vendors to get those projects done.

Recreation Superintendent Heath said a portable camera is also included in this item. He said staff will have the ability to take the camera to any park or event as needed.

Mayor D’Amico said the parks are getting vandalized and cameras were needed.

Mayor D’Amico opened the public hearing. Having no one present wishing to speak, Mayor D’Amico closed the public hearing.

MOTION: Council Member Ring made a motion to approve a transfer of \$236,118.94 from the General Fund Contingency to Miscellaneous Capital Park Improvements for cameras in Community and Rotary Parks; approve an agreement with STEP CG, LLC., in substantial final form; and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement. Council Member Alfonzo seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, D’Amico, Head, Hecht, Lettman, 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 7:58 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 May 2024. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 16th day of May 2024.



Debie Ogden, MMC, CPM
City Clerk