

**CITY OF YUMA
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**HYBRID REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER – 6:30 P.M.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR SWEHLA AND THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS RECITED.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Baucke, Ebersole, Frame, McClung, Shay, Smith-Dischner, Swehla.

STAFF PRESENT: Jerry Thompson, Scott Moore, Candy Gilliland, Karma Wells.

CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no corrections or additions to the Agenda.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 1, 2022, AGENDA

Shay moved to approve the February 1, 2022, Agenda. Second by Smith-Dischner. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 18, 2022, MINUTES

Ebersole moved to approve the January 18, 2022, Minutes. Second by Shay. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND DISCUSSION – COUNCIL

Mayor Swehla began the General Fund discussion by reviewing which departments are covered by the General Fund and which revenue sources fund the General Fund. He went on to say that the General Fund is in really bad shape and we have to figure out what to do to add revenue to it. The best option to do that is a sales tax increase. Mayor Swehla asked each Council Member to share their ideas regarding adding revenue to the General Fund.

Council Member Ebersole stated that we need to get the sales tax and lodging tax questions on the ballot again.

Council Member McClung asked if we have any data on why 81% of the public voted against the increase. He stated we need to figure out why the community voted against the increase.

Council Member Frame stated that we need to explain what the plan is for the use of the funds. She thinks it would be helpful to explain to the community what specific projects a sales tax increase would be funding.

Council Member Smith-Dischner stated that she would like to know what the effect would be on the General Fund by moving the Ambulance department to a District or Authority. Manager Moore stated that it has not been decided yet which would be more favorable, but if that happened, the General Fund would not be covering the Ambulance department expenses any longer.

Manager Moore stated that the 1.5% sales tax increase would only cover what we are doing now. It would not be for a special project. We need to make that more understandable to the public.

Council Member Baucke stated that the public wants to know what they are going to get for their money. We need to show them the costs.

Mayor Swehla said that we need to get numbers together from five years ago and show how much we can do now with the money we have.

Discussion was held regarding using the newspaper and social media to get the information out to the public and how to remedy the misinformation that is on social media.

Mayor Swehla stated that we were doing well putting out information to the public last year and then we stopped. We need to continue to provide information. He asked staff if they can put some figures together that can be discussed at the next meeting.

CITIZENS RECOGNITION AND INTRODUCTION/PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ACTION ITEMS

- A. **LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL FOR MAIN EVENT BAR & GRILL LLC – LOCAL LICENSING AUTHORITY, KARMA WELLS.** Clerk/Treasurer Wells stated all the paperwork has been turned in to renew the liquor license for Main Event Bar & Grill, LLC and there are no issues with the Police Department. Ebersole moved to approve the liquor license renewal for Main Event Bar & Grill, LLC. Second by Shay. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.
- B. **RESOLUTION #2, SERIES OF 2022 – (CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT WITH MAGUIRE IRON INC) – SCOTT MOORE.** Manager Moore stated that Resolution #2 is for the approval of the contract with Maguire Iron for the refurbishment of the north water tower. Shay moved to approve Resolution #2, Series of 2022. Second by McClung. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.
- C. **APPROVAL OF UPDATED PRE-APPROVED BILLS LIST – KARMA WELLS.** Clerk/Treasurer Wells presented Council with an updated list of pre-approved bills. There was only one vendor added to the list to try to avoid any late fees. Smith-Dischner moved to approve the updated list. Second by Ebersole. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.
- D. **APPROVAL OF BILLS – KARMA WELLS.** Clerk/Treasurer Wells presented Council with two additional lists of bills; one for 2021 and the other for 2022. Shay moved to approve the bills. Second by Smith-Dischner. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.
- E. **PURCHASES IN EXCESS OF \$5,000 – SCOTT MOORE.** Manager Moore stated that he is seeking approval for payment of the invoice from Wagner Rents in the amount of \$19,486.20, for the purchase of the generator that we have currently been leasing. McClung moved to approve the invoice. Second by Shay. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

Clerk/Treasurer Wells stated that she is seeking approval for the purchase of a second credit card terminal. The cost of the terminal is only \$250, but Wells wanted approval from Council for the purchase because PSN will deduct that cost automatically from our bank account. There will be no check for the purchase. Ebersole moved to approve the purchase of the credit card terminal. Second by Smith-Dischner. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

None.

REPORTS

CITY MANAGER, SCOTT MOORE

Manager Moore stated that they are sending out bid requests for the replacement of our skid steer. It is a budgeted item in the amount of \$100,000. The bid request will be in the newspaper and is also being sent to four dealers who we have dealt with in the past. The bids are due by February 10, 2022, so they will be presented at the next Council meeting.

Manager Moore presented Council with snow removal routes. Some changes had to be made due to budget cuts. The changes affect at what point snow is plowed and hauled away based on how much snow we get. The emergency routes will remain the same as they have been.

Manager Moore stated that we have been looking at the websites of other municipalities and many of them have the photo and biography of each of their Council Members. We would like to do the same with our website and Manager Moore asked each Council Member to complete their biography for the next Council meeting.

Manager Moore stated he provided Council with a copy of the Emergency Medical & Trauma Services System Consultation from February 2018. Staff will contact CDPHE to see if this document can be updated.

Manager Moore stated that he emailed Council the Land Use Permit dates for Yuma County Planning & Zoning and County Commissioner meeting. This is in regards to the Anaerobic Digester that is going in at the Yuma Dairy, which is within one mile of land that we own. Council is invited to attend the meeting.

CITY CLERK/TREASURER, KARMA WELLS

None.

CHIEF OF POLICE, JERRY THOMPSON

None.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Frame

- Council Member Frame reported on various legislation in both the Senate and the House that CML are backing or opposing.

McClung

- Council Member McClung attended the Landfill Board meeting. There is continued improvement and progress being made. Byron continues to find cost saving measures. They are also developing a policy that addresses the problem of "dumpster diving" at the Landfill. A bid from Quality Heating and Cooling was accepted to install a new gas-powered tube heater.
- The recycle program is gearing up. The recycling containers should arrive in March, with the program going live in April.
- There isn't a lot going on at the Water Authority. We only have 3,000 of 25,000 acres that need to be retired.

Baucke

- Council Member Baucke stated that he has seen on the news that Fire Departments are having to rescue dogs from ponds. He said that he feels it was good to let the lake freeze. Manager Moore added that a small boat is going to be purchased to use for those types of situations.

Ebersole

- Council Member Ebersole stated that he attended the electric department and water/wastewater department committee meetings. He said that the vacuum truck is back and operational. There was also discussion about the north water tower project.

Smith-Dischner

- Council Member Smith-Dischner stated that she attended the electric department committee meeting. There is now a system map of the electrical grid and with that they have learned which fuses need to be updated. It will take a couple of months to complete, but should result in fewer power outages. There are still issues due to COVID with parts costing double and taking up to three months to arrive.

Shay

- Mayor Pro-Tem Shay attended the City Clerk's committee meeting. Daily operations were discussed and ways to make the office more efficient.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Shay also attended the NECALG meeting. The transportation hubs are trying to find new drivers. They will be starting a route from Sterling to Denver.

Swehla

- Mayor Swehla stated information was provided in Council packets regarding how some other communities handle contributions/donations to other organizations.
- Mayor Swehla asked Council to be thinking about what budget cuts they would make to the General Fund.
- There will be a Town Hall meeting on Wednesday, February 23, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Shay moved to adjourn. Second by Smith-Dischner. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

Ron Swehla
Mayor

Karma Wells, CMC
City Clerk/Treasurer