

**CITY OF YUMA
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**HYBRID REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER – 6:34 P.M.

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

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

STAFF PRESENT: Karma Wells, Jerry Thompson, Scott Moore, Candy Gilliland and Stacie Gonzalez

CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council Member Shay moved to approve the November 15, 2022 Agenda. Second by Benish. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member McClung moved to approve the November 1, 2022 Minutes. Second by Shay. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

CITIZENS RECOGNITION AND INTRODUCTION/PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ACTION ITEMS

- A. **WAIVER OF POTENTIAL CONFLICT WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY.** City Manager Scott Moore stated that Mr. Ryan Saffer with the WY Communications Center reached out to him about maintenance and repairs for the Comm Center building. It would be appropriate that an MOU be developed that would enable the City of Yuma and WY Communications to share costs for repairs since the communications center is not paying rent. The City of Yuma attorney also represents Washington County, who is a part of the WY Communications Center, therefore City attorney Kathryn Sellars is requesting a waiver to be approved regarding the potential conflict. Council Member Baucke moved to approve the waiver of potential conflict with Washington County. Second by Smith-Dischner. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

- B. **RESOLUTION #23, SERIES OF 2022 (AMENDING THE CITY'S 125 FLEXIBLE BENEFITS PLAN).** City Manager Scott Moore stated that City of Yuma employees participate in a pretax flexible benefits plan. The IRS has changed the allowable amount for 2023 to \$3,050.00 per employee. Council Member Shay moved to approve Resolution #23, Series of 2022. Second by Benish. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

- C. **RESOLUTION #24 SERIES OF 2022 (AMENDING THE CITY'S 125 FLEXIBLE BENEFITS PLAN).** City Manager Scott Moore stated that this also goes along with the IRS changes for 2023 in the Flexible Benefits Plan. The IRS has raised the carry over amount to \$610.00 for 2023. Council member Shay moved to approve Resolution #24 Series of 2022. Second by Smith Dischner. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.
- D. **FIRST READING ORDINANCE #6 SERIES OF 2022 (APPROPRIATE SUMS OF MONEY AND ADOPT THE 2023 BUDGET).** City Manager Scott Moore stated that staff has shared the preliminary 2023 budget and opened the floor for discussion and questions if there are any. Council Member Shay motioned to approve first reading of Ordinance #6 Series of 2022. Second by Benish. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.
- E. **FIRST READING ORDINANCE #7, SERIES OF 2022 (SET MILL LEVY).** City Manager Scott Moore stated the assessed valuation is listed at \$27,115,608 with the mills at 30.64. Council Member Smith-Dischner moved to approve first reading Ordinance #7, Series of 2022. Second by Shay. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.
- F. **FIRST READING ORDINANCE #8, SERIES OF 2022 (AMEND 2022 BUDGET).** City Manager Scott Moore supplied information on sanitation fund expenses increased by \$17,738.00 as a result of unanticipated funds. Water fund revenue increased by \$3,860.00 as a result of unanticipated funds. General fund revenue increased \$99,538.00 as a result of unanticipated funds. Council Member Shay moved to approve the first reading Ordinance #8, Series of 2022 (amend 2022 budget). Second by Smith Dischner. 7 ayes. Question. Motion Carried.
- G. **APPROVAL OF BILLS.** City Manager Scott Moore presented two sets of bills. Council received bills late due to a holiday this week. Council member Smith-Dischner moved to approve the bills. Second by Shay. 7 ayes. Question. Motion carried.
- H. **PURCHASE IN EXCESS OF \$5,000.** City Manager Scott Moore stated there were no purchases in excess of \$5,000.00 but would like to discuss an increase request for the electric department recloser purchase request approved at a previous meeting. There will be a price increase of about \$3,100.00 due to supply chain expenses. This would increase the total purchase to \$61,190.00 and asks for approval not to exceed \$62,000.00. Discussion was held. It was mentioned Manager Moore did not feel there would be another price increase. Council Member Shay moved to approve the purchase not to exceed \$62,000.00. Second by Smith-Dischner. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

REPORTS

CITY MANAGER, SCOTT MOORE

- A representative from Black Hills Energy, Tom Hanley, visited with city staff and discussed Black Hills Energy rate changes they are experiencing. The Colorado PUC approved a natural gas rate increase of 8% to 15% at the beginning of November. City Manager Moore will let council know what that exact increase will be for residents of Yuma as soon as Black Hills Energy notifies him. Mr. Hanley discussed programs offered for energy savings, counseling, budgeting, payment plans, and is also going to talk to the Rural Community Resource Center to let them know these programs exist for Yuma for residents. It was suggested that a link to Black Hills Energy be placed on the City website.
- Mayor Swehla stated there was a concerned citizen wondering why it took two bucket trucks and three police cars to string lights on the highway 34. City Manager Moore explained that the City of Yuma electric department along with several other city departments are involved during the installation of our holiday lights. Closing Highway 34 is not an option so having the Yuma PD as well as our EMS department with their vehicles is critical for the safety of our staff and traffic using the highway

CHIEF OF POLICE, JERRY THOMPSON

None.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

McClung

- Council Member McClung attended the Parks and Rec Committee meeting. They are moving forward as best as they can with the increased costs associated with the programs. The dilemma is if you raise the fees for all programs there may be a decrease in participation.

Benish

- Council Member Benish also attended the Parks and Rec Committee meeting. There were 175 kids who have participated in recreation programs.
 1. The failed sod installation at the pond was discussed. They have made some phone calls and have a couple guys coming out to assess the best methods moving forward.

Smith-Dischner

- Council Member Smith-Dischner attended the animal shelter meeting. Adding on to the dog pound was discussed. They are talking about using the app GROUPME to keep everyone involved informed. They are actively looking for volunteers and wanting to engage with the community to find volunteers to help with the shelter. They are also looking for a second person to help Laura out when necessary.
- Council Member Smith-Dischner stated at the Community and Enrichment Center, Stacie is working on getting the Silver Sneakers program rolling for the seniors at the community center next year. Stacie is also working with the Gene Doty Senior Center in Fort Morgan to involve the seniors in other activities. Stacie has also partnered with County Express for transportation of seniors to activities.
- City staff is also wanting to find a way to get the windows installed at the old scout building. The Community and Enrichment Center Committee discussed possibly getting the community engaged in helping get them installed.

Shay

- Council Member Shay also attended the animal shelter committee meeting. They are going to try to stay on top of things to not make the mistakes that happened before.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL

“To consider personnel matters, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402 (4)(f) and not involving: any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session, specifically for the City Manager, City Clerk/Treasurer and Chief of Police evaluations.”

Mayor Swehla stated Council intends to meet in executive session to consider personnel matters, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402 (4)(f) and not involving: any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session, specifically for the City Manager, City Clerk/Treasurer and Chief of Police evaluations. Council member Shay motioned to go into executive session at 6:59 PM. Second by McClung. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

Council resumed regular session at 8:00 PM. A statement was made for who was present in executive session and no objections were made to the discussions in executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Ron Swehla
Mayor

Karma Wells, CMC
City Clerk/Treasurer