

City of Yuma
City Council Minutes
Hybrid Regular Meeting
Tuesday, February 18, 2025
Meeting Location – City Hall, 320 South Main Street, Yuma, CO and virtual through Zoom
Call to Order – 6:32 P.M.

Meeting called to order by Mayor McClung and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members Present: Baucke, Benish, Diaz, Dischner, Frame, McClung, Shay.

Staff Present: Jerry Thompson, Karma Wells, Kathryn Sellars (via Zoom).

Corrections or Additions to the Agenda

There were no corrections or additions to the agenda.

Approval of February 18, 2025, Agenda

Shay moved to approve the February 18, 2025, agenda as presented. Second by Frame. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

Citizens Recognition and Introduction/Public Comment

Ms. Amanda Monk was present to inform council that she is Congresswoman Lauren Boebert’s representative for five counties. If council needs any assistance from Representative Boebert’s office, Ms. Monk will be the point of contact. She stated that she has been working on the issue with the post office and Boebert has already drafted a letter to the Postmaster General. Ms. Monk has been working with Senator Hicklooper’s office and with Yuma County Commissioner, Adam Gates. She will inform the mayor when she has any updates to provide.

Presentations (Informational)

A. Employee Service Year Recognition

Mayor McClung recognized several city employees for their years of service anniversary:

Michael Brophy – 3 years
Charlene Svitak – 3 years
Jeffery Schanhals – 27 years
Debra Wilkins – 32 years
Michelle Smith – 2 years
Selena Cook – 1 year

B. Other Presentations (If any)

None.

Reports (Informational)

A. Interim City Manager – Karma Wells

i. Department Updates

Interim City Manager Wells stated that she did not have any updates.

ii. Website ADA Updates

Interim City Manager Wells stated that the work has been completed for our website to be ADA compliant. She added that the budget still needs to be added to the website and needs to be ADA compliant as well. Council Member Frame suggested that we check with Cleargov to see if that is something that they can easily do for us.

Mayor McClung asked for an update on two CORA requests that have been received. Ms. Bethleen McCall has submitted a request for any information regarding the post office since the May hailstorm. Mr. Zeke Towers has submitted a request for Interim City Manager/Clerk/Treasurer Wells' hours worked, schedule and requests. He also wants that same information for library employee Ashley Lynch as well as her job description and any disciplinary action taken against her.

iii. Staffing Report

Interim City Manager Wells stated that we still have openings in the water/wastewater departments, the electric department and a paramedic for the ambulance service. Mayor McClung added the City is looking at becoming part of a coop in the area to hire and lineman that can help out several towns in the area.

B. City Clerk/Treasurer – Karma Wells

i. Sales Tax Report

Clerk/Treasurer Wells provided council with the sales tax report.

ii. Staffing Report

Clerk/Treasurer Wells stated that the Clerk's office is fully staffed.

C. Chief of Police – Jerry Thompson

i. Police Report

Chief Thompson provided council with the January police report.

ii. Staffing Report

Chief Thompson stated that our new cadet is currently in training at the police academy.

D. City Attorney – Kathryn Sellars (If necessary)

None.

City Council Reports/Comments (Informational)

Baucke

- Council Member Baucke commented that an additional perk to consider in the search for a new city manager would be to provide a place for them to live, as it is difficult to find housing in Yuma. Discussion was held.

Frame

- Council Member Frame stated that the YCED meeting last night was cancelled due to the weather.
- Council Member Frame has a policy committee meeting on Friday.

Benish

- Mayor Pro Tem Benish attended the parks and recreation committee meeting. They discussed the new splash pad.
- Benish also attended the community center department meeting where they discussed the use of the center. We need to find ways to use it and keep it full or it isn't of any use to us.
- Mayor Pro Tem Benish and Mayor McClung met with KRW to discuss the employment plan. He is very happy with KRW and they seem very qualified.
- Benish attended a meeting with people in the agriculture field. A lot of the issues they see are housing.
- Benish also attended a meeting with Airport Users and what the city can do to resolve issues that they have at the airport. They were well prepared and stated things that they would like to see happen at the airport. The meeting was very well attended.

McClung

- Mayor McClung met with Hispanic leaders in the community.
- He would like to consider having people attend committee meetings and get an advocacy group in place to help with education in the community.

Shay

- Council Member Shay attended the library board meeting. They have picked up more users at the library since the 100-year open house. The library staff is getting ready for the summer reading program.

Consent Agenda (Action Items)

- A. Approval of February 4, 2025, regular meeting minutes and February 13, 2025, special meeting minutes.
- B. Approval of disbursements and payroll.
- C. Purchases in excess of \$5,000.

Shay moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Benish. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

Public Hearings and Other New Business (Action Items)

A. Approval of disclosed disbursements (if needed)

Clerk/Treasurer Wells stated that there is one disbursement to disclose for Mayor McClung to the Bank of Colorado in the amount of \$223 for lodging and parking for training. Shay moved to approve the disbursement. Second by Frame. Question. 6 ayes. 1 abstain (McClung). Motion carried.

B. Resolution #10, Series of 2025 – Agreement with Drakes Towing & Recovery, LLC

Police Chief Thompson stated that our current towing operator is retiring, so we need to find someone new to provide those services. The way that towing has been handled in the past will change. The new towing company will tow vehicles straight to their company lot rather than to the police impound lot, unless it involves a criminal investigation. The owner of the vehicle will then be billed for the tow, rather than the police department. This agreement is not exclusive so if there is a new owner for J.R.'s Towing, they could provide towing services as well. Baucke moved to approve Resolution #10, Series of 2025. Second by Shay. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

C. Resolution #11, Series of 2025 – Agreement with Stretch's Towing, LLC

Police Chief Thompson explained that this is the same type of agreement as discussed in Resolution #10, only with Stretch's Towing, LLC out of Akron. Baucke moved to approve Resolution #11, Series of 2025. Second by Shay. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

D. Resolution #12, Series of 2025 - Agreement for Services with KRW Associates for Recruitment and Selection Services for a City Manager

Interim City Manager Wells stated that this agreement is for the services approved at the special council meeting on February 13, 2025, to proceed with KRW Associates for the recruitment and selection services for a new city manager. Shay moved to approve Resolution #12, Series of 2025. Second by Dischner. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

E. Resolution #8, Series of 2025 – Construction Contract with American Ramp Company

Interim City Manager Wells stated that Resolution #8 is to approve the contract with American Ramp Company for the installation of a bicycle park, pump track and skatepark replacement. In the original quote, the amounts were rounded down which resulted in a difference of \$581.11. The original quote did not include the cost of bonds which is an additional \$7,500. The total project cost is \$338,081.11. Baucke moved to approve Resolution #8, Series of 2025. Second by Dischner. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

F. Resolution #13, Series of 2025 – Amendment #1 to 2024 Paving Agreement with Short Elliot Hendrickson

Interim City Manager Wells stated that in the original quote with SEH for engineering services for the 2024 Paving Project, they were not instructed to assess the utility lines. There are cast iron water lines that city staff would like to have replaced while the street is torn up. This amendment would be at a cost of \$38,888. Shay moved to approve Resolution #13, Series of 2025. Second by Benish. Question. 6 ayes. 1 nay (Baucke). Motion carried.

G. Resolution #14, Series of 2025 – Colorado Division of Aeronautics Grant Agreement for Airfield Pavement Maintenance

Interim City Manager Wells stated that we would like to request grant funds from the Colorado Division of Aeronautics to help cover the costs of pavement maintenance at the airport. The amount of the grant would be \$70,000. The city's portion would be \$7,778. Shay moved to approve Resolution #14, Series of 2025. Second by Baucke. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

Old Business and Public Hearing on Passage of Ordinance on Second Reading (Action Items)

A. Tabled Action Items

None.

B. Public Hearing on Second Reading Ordinance #1, Series of 2025 – Amending the Yuma Municipal Code Concerning Natural Medicine

Attorney Kathryn Sellars reviewed the legalities of Natural Medicine and gave an overview of the ordinance which will allow Natural Medicine as conditional use in the Industrial 1 Zone. The ordinance covers hours of operation and distance requirements for the facilities. There have been no changes to the ordinance since the first reading. Public hearing was opened. Hearing no comment, public hearing was closed. Shay moved to approve on second reading Ordinance #1, Series of 2025. Second by Benish. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

Additional Business

Interim City Manager Wells stated that we need to have a contract in place by March 1 in order to meet the deadline for the splashpad and playground. It was agreed to have a special council meeting on Wednesday, February 26, at 12:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Frame moved to adjourn. Second by Shay. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

Tim McClung
Mayor

Karma Wells, CMC
City Clerk/Treasurer