

**CITY OF YUMA
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**HYBRID REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER – 6:30 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: Scott Moore, Karma Wells, Jerry Thompson, Kathryn Sellers Via Phone.

CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There are no corrections or additions to the Agenda.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2023 AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Shay moved to approve the September 5, 2023 Agenda. Second by Smith-Dischner. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 15, 2023 MINUTES

Council Member Baucke moved to approve the August 15, 2023 Minutes. Second by Shay. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

CITIZENS RECOGNITION AND INTRODUCTION/PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Sally Strand was present to discuss the clock on Main Street. Ms. Strand stated she has been working with Mr. Dustin Thim on a different design for the clock and would like Council to have a conversation about the clock and getting the clock back up for the town.

Ms. Gay Henry stated she drew the new design for the clock. Ms. Henry stated that there are already Welcome to Yuma signs at both ends of the highway. This design is also more open and not block the traffic views.

Ms. Robin Albright stated the sign is of significance to their family. They would like the sign up expediently. Ms. Albright stated the sign can be done with the old design or the new design.

Mr. Skip Mitchell stated that there needs to be more communication on what is going on with the clock. Mr. Mitchell would like everyone to work together and have a conversation about the clock.

Mr. Cliff Henry stated that the clock needs to go back up and with the new design there would be less visibility problems. Mr. Henry also added that he hopes the City does not ask the Mitchell family for more money.

Ms. Dorothy Mitchell stated she would like to see the clock back up and she feels her kids have a good plan.

Ms. Vicky Bachtel stated she would also like to see the clock back up.

Mayor Swehla stated Council may add this concern to the next agenda to make a decision.

ACTION ITEMS

- A. PUBLIC HEARING ON LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL FOR LA TERRAZA LLC – LOCAL LICENSING AUTHORITY, KARMA WELLS.** City Clerk/Treasurer Karma Wells stated La Terraza has turned in all the appropriate paperwork to renew their liquor license. There has been an issue with the Police Department. Public hearing was opened. Chief Thompson stated in May 2023 an officer went into the establishment and alcohol was still out after allowed times. Chief Thompson stated he spoke with Mr. Vasquez about the issue and had contacted the State. Mr. Humberto Vasquez was in attendance and stated he has talked to people about the issue and is working to fix the issue. Public hearing was closed. Council Member Smith-Dischner moved to approve the liquor license renewal for La Terraza. Second by Baucke. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.
- B. PUBLIC HEARING ON SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE #5, 2023 (APPROVING A LEASE WITH 8000 COUNTY ROAD 39, LLC) – SCOTT MOORE.** City Manager Scott Moore stated this is the second reading of Ordinance #5, Series of 2023 approving the lease with 8000 County Road 39. Jim and Angie Andrews have offered to lease this for a long-term lease. Public hearing was opened. No comments were made. Public hearing was closed. Mayor Pro Tem Shay moved to approve Ordinance #5, Series of 2023. Second by Benish. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.
- C. CONSIDERATION OF CEBT HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL – SCOTT MOORE.** City Manager Scott Moore stated we used the city staff currently receiving health insurance benefits to calculate the increase in the renewal, as these numbers change if we have a turnover in employees. 2024 CEBT rates have increased by 5%. Mayor Pro Tem Shay moved to approve the CEBT health insurance renewal. Second by Benish. Question. 6 ayes. 1 abstain (Smith-Dischner abstained due to her husband working for the City.) Motion carried.
- D. CONSIDERATION OF CIRSA INSURANCE RENEWAL – SCOTT MOORE.** City Manager Scott Moore stated the 2024 premium would be \$192,934.36 which is an increase of 18%. Last year it was a 14% increase. It was stated that CIRSA is a good program. Council Member Smith-Dischner moved to approve the CIRSA insurance renewal. Second by Shay. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.
- E. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE #6, SERIES OF 2023 (LEASE AND EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH SE MUNICIPAL COLORADO, LLC) – SCOTT MOORE.** City Manager Scott Moore stated he was approached by a company out of Nebraska to lease a piece of City property for a solar facility. The lease would be \$500 per acre with a 2.5% raise every year for 25 years. The company will maintain the property. Council Member McClung asked if there was any type of protection for the city if something happened to the solar panels and leaked contamination. Attorney Sellars stated a claim can be made against their insurance in that type of incident. Mayor Pro Tem Shay moved to table Ordinance #6, Series of 2023 until the next meeting. Second by McClung. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.
- F. RESOLUTION #15, SERIES OF 2023 (AGREEMENT WITH CONCRETE SPECIALTIES FOR SEWER LINE EXTENSION – CONCRETE SPECIALTIES) – SCOTT MOORE.** City Manager Scott Moore stated he has been in contact with Concrete Specialties about an 8" sewer line between Apache and Grant Street. This was budgeted in 2023 for \$50,000. Concrete Specialties has said they will do this, not to exceed \$35,000. Council Member Smith-Dischner moved to approve Resolution #15, Series of 2023. Second by Shay. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.
- G. RESOLUTION #16, SERIES OF 2023 (CONTRACT WITH CONCRETE SPECIALTIES FOR WATERLINE REPLACEMENT) – SCOTT MOORE.** City Manager Scott Moore stated in 2017 there was a rate increase in water to replace old and aging waterlines. This year we would like to replace 2" lines with 6" lines on 2nd Avenue from Cedar Street to Date Street and north on North Main Street to Benson. There was \$200,000 budgeted for this project. This will be monitored daily to not exceed \$200,000. Mayor Pro Tem Shay moved to approve Resolution #16, Series of 2023. Second by Frame. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

- H. APPROVAL OF BILLS – KARMA WELLS.** City Clerk/Treasurer Karma Wells stated she handed out an additional list of bills and there were none to disclose. Mayor Pro Tem Shay moved to approve the bills. Second by Smith-Dischner. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.
- I. PURCHASES IN EXCESS OF \$5,000 – SCOTT MOORE.** City Manager Scott Moore stated he would like to purchase a sectionalizing switch for the electrical department to try to prevent outages. This would cost approximately \$5,383.50. Mayor Pro Tem Shay moved to approve the electric department switch in the amount of \$5,383.50. Second by McClung. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

None.

REPORTS

CITY MANAGER, SCOTT MOORE

The Magellan survey was discussed at the meeting held on a Saturday a while back. Magellan provided a quote for \$9,500 or \$11,000 with different options for each cost. Council's consensus to have this item on the next agenda.

The municipal judge contract is up in October. Judge Charlie Peters would like to continue with his contract. Council's consensus was to have the contract on the next agenda.

Manager Moore updated Council on the loader. There were some issues with the injectors and the new injectors were faulty. It will probably be the end of September before they will have new injectors for the loader. Manager Moore will see about leasing a loader for a couple of weeks, until we can get our loader fixed.

CITY CLERK/TREASURER, KARMA WELLS

None.

CHIEF OF POLICE, JERRY THOMPSON

Council Report will be ready for the next meeting.

Chief Thompson stated he thinks the issue at La Terraza will be a one-time issue.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Frame –

Council Member Frame attended the Yuma County Economic Development Meeting. Shelby had been asked to go a foreign trade mission to Chile and Argentina to report on the benefits of Ag in our County. There were 11 participants at the board development training session. There is an Agri Tourism Workshop in Eckley on October 10. Rural Philanthropy days is October 3rd & 4th.

Council Member Frame also attended a Clerks Committee meeting. They are using the ClearGov program to do the budget process and working on records retention.

Shay –

Mayor Pro Tem Shay attended the Yuma County Water Authority Board Meeting. With all the rain and water, none of the water has made it to Bonny Dam. The Flagler Reservoir is going to be drained some because it is too full.

Mayor Pro Tem Shay also attended the Landfill Meeting. They are expanding the Recycling to Joes and Idalia.

Mayor Pro Tem Shay attended the Animal Shelter meeting. The dog numbers are down a little bit and the floor replacement can't be worked on until it gets cooler.

Mayor Pro Tem Shay attended the NECALG meeting. Their Grant writer was able to help and advise Jerry on a grant.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Shay moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Smith-Dischner. Question. 7 ayes. Motion carried. Meeting was ended at 7:27 p.m

Ron Swehla
Mayor

Karma Wells, CMC
City Clerk/Treasurer