

TOWN OF WELLTON

Minutes of the September 20, 2022 Regular Meeting

Mayor Pro Tem Kenneth Baughman called the regular meeting to order at 7:00PM on Tuesday, September 20, 2022. Councilmember Michelle Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance and Town Manager Richard Marsh gave the invocation. Roll call was taken.

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Pro Tem Kenneth Baughman, Councilmembers Scott Blitz, Sylvia Davidson, and Michelle Jones.

Councilmembers Absent: Mayor Cecilia McCollough

Staff Present: Town Manager Richard Marsh, Deputy Town Clerk Sandra Jones, Finance Director Marisol Hernandez, Public Works Director Joe Grant, Assistant Public Works Director Brandon Howard, Police Chief David Rodriguez, Fire Chief Mark Rivera, Grants Director Yolanda Galindo, and Attorney Andrew McGuire (telephonically).

Guests Present: Richard Delehant, Janet Delanhant, Bruce Elford, Jerry Heggerston, Alicia Heggerston, Doris Maynard, Elra Claymore, Lisa ALama, Kerri Motovidlak, Rob Murdock, Brian Claar, Estevan Gutierrez, Heather Perez, Julie Stevens, Sandi Luna, Mike Freshour, Rob Hohlbein, Tammy L Morfey, Audrey Zingler, Lynda Lake, Regina Langford, Connie Zimmerman, Ralph Davidson, Catherine Blitz, Barbara Biggs, Shirley Reynolds, Mabel L Wall, Clif Loomer, Darren Simmons, Bob Leeper, Peggy Leeper, G Brown, Ronald G Ward, Gerald Alberigi, and Deanna Moser.

Call to the Public

None.

Presentation

None.

Discussion and Action Items

1. Approval of Financial Statement:

a. As of June 30, 2022.

Motion made by Councilmember Blitz, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to approve the Financial Statement: as of June 30, 2022.

Baughman: Yay
Jones: Yay
McCollough: Absent
Davidson: Yay
Blitz: Yay
Motion carried.

2. Approval of Cash Disbursements:

a. For the Period: April 1, 2022 – June 30, 2022.

Motion made by Councilmember Blitz, seconded by Councilmember Davidson, to approve the Cash Disbursements: for the Period: April 1, 2022 – June 30, 2022.

Baughman: Yay
Jones: Yay
McCollough: Absent
Davidson: Yay
Blitz: Yay
Motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes:

a. For the Meeting of August 16, 2022 (Regular Meeting).

Motion made by Councilmember Blitz, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to approve the Minutes: for the Meeting of August 16, 2022 (Regular Meeting).

Baughman: Yay
Jones: Yay
McCollough: Absent
Davidson: Yay
Blitz: Yay
Motion carried.

4. Discussion regarding Fire Department.

Question and answer discussion led by Fire Chief Mark Rivera regarding size of volunteer department, ISO rating, costs of labor, equipment, etc.

5. Discussion and possible action to proclaim September 2022 as “Library Card Sign-Up Month”.

Mayor Pro Tem Kenneth Baughman proclaimed September 2022 as “Library Card Sign-Up Month”.

6. Discussion and possible action to award Bid to the lowest bidder – Gutierrez Canales Engineering, PC (GCE), in the amount of \$544,461.63 for the Phase II of San Francisco Avenue Road Improvements Project, CDBG Contract #141-22.

Motion made by Councilmember Blitz, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to award the bid to the lowest bidder – Gutierrez Canales Engineering, PC (GCE), in the amount of \$544,461.63 for the Phase II of San Francisco Avenue Road Improvements Project, CDBG Contract #141-22.

Baughman: Yay
Jones: Yay
McCollough: Absent
Davidson: Yay
Blitz: Yay
Motion carried.

7. Discussion and possible action to award bid to the lowest bidder – GCI Construction and Inspections LLC, in the amount of \$58,633.00 for the Coyote Wash Building Exterior Paint & Repair.

Motion made by Councilmember Blitz, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to award the bid to the lowest bidder – GCI Construction and Inspections LLC, in the amount of \$58,633.00 for the Coyote Wash Building Exterior Paint & Repair.

Baughman: Yay
Jones: Yay
McCollough: Absent
Davidson: Yay
Blitz: Yay

Motion carried.

8. Discussion and possible action to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Yuma County, and City of Yuma, City of San Luis, City of Somerton, and Town of Wellton for the Yuma Region – Imagery Acquisition Consortium Project and authorize the Town Manager to execute the document.

Motion made by Councilmember Davidson, seconded by Councilmember Blitz, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Yuma County, and City of Yuma, City of San Luis, City of Somerton, and Town of Wellton for the Yuma Region – Imagery Acquisition Consortium Project and authorize the Town Manager to execute the document.

Baughman: Yay
Jones: Yay
McCollough: Absent
Davidson: Yay
Blitz: Yay

Motion carried.

Future Agenda Items

- Code of Conduct for Elected Officials.
- Water Conservation Plan.

Town Manager Report

- Currently the Town of Wellton's grader is inoperable. Salvador Arcos, Assistant Public Works Director, secured assistance from Yuma County Public Works. They will be grading 3 miles of roads for us: County 11th and 12th Street from Avenue 27E to Avenue 25E.
- I attended the Arizona League of Cities and Towns Annual Conference last week and participated in the following sessions:
 - Opening General Session: How to Hurdle Adversity – Embrace the New Normal Mindset
 - Arizona is So HOT Right Now: The Housing Lessons in Our Communities
 - What Lies Ahead: Arizona's Water Supply

- IJJA Track: Broadband
- Small Community, Big Opportunity: Staff Recruitment and Retention in Rural Communities
- Presidents Update: Cathy Carlat, Mayor, Peoria, President, League of Arizona Cities and Towns
- Small and Strategic: Tools for Economic Development in Small Cities
- Building and Maintaining Effective Mayor, Council and Manager Relationships
- Sharing Services: How Small Communities Can Leverage Big Possibilities
- Retail Development and Incentive Implications Post Schires
- Showcase
- Speed Networking Breakfast for Municipal Officials

This event allowed for enhancing relationships among our team members, as well as learning about best practices in other communities.

- The Community Engagement meeting hosted by the Arizona Community Foundation of Yuma was a huge success. Thank you to Veronica Shorr Regional Director of the Foundation. Seven two residents participated in the event resulting in ideas and suggestions such as: more street sweeping, trimming palm trees, sewer upgrades, business development, more recreational activities, and more activities for our youth. A follow up meeting will be arranged in December of 2022.
- The Town of Wellton will monitor revenue provided to ADOR for the effects of the sales tax increase on local businesses and on Town of Wellton residents. Also, a reminder of the sales tax increase will be sent to local businesses.
- Our first annual review of sales tax increase and revenue projections will take place in May of 2023 during the budgeting process. The review will help to determine if the ordinance should be dissolved. This review will take place annually.
- Staff is currently in the process of compiling information of Arizona towns and cities with both a property tax and sales tax. The list will also include towns and cities with lower sales tax than Wellton. During our initial review we have discovered that in most cases other communities sales tax rates are in place as a permanent stream of revenue. Wellton's sales tax increase was put in place temporarily due to the results of the 2020 Census Count.
- During the month of October, we will commence cutting palm trees and recruiting volunteers for assistance.
- A Thank you to Councilmember Blitz for your donation of the two televisions for the Council Chambers and the huge monitor for the police department. The televisions will allow the attendees of the Council meetings to view presentations, etc. more clearly.
- Notifications to begin the abatement process were mailed to two absentee property owners whose property has remained abandoned for decades and have created a health hazard and public nuisance in our community. The property addresses: 28565 San Francisco Avenue and 10526 Alice Street. Additional work will be done in the near future to address absentee property owners and ordinance violators.

- Public Works Director Joe Grant and I will be meeting with the Arizona Parks Department this week regarding some grant possibilities for the Town.
- I met with Colleen Lownds (National Bank of Arizona) to discuss the Business Roundtable meetings and Chamber of Commerce in Wellton.
- I attended the 23rd Annual Rural Transportation Summit September 14th, 15th on behalf of the Town of Wellton. I also attended the ADOT Board meeting on September 16th in the same location. I was able to establish some meaningful connections with the following:
 - Arlando S. Teller (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Tribal Affairs for the US Department of Transportation);
 - Tim Dunn (member of the Arizona House of Representatives)
 - Brian Fernandez Arizona House Member of the legislature and
 - Robert Miguel (Chairman Ak-Chin Indian Community).

Council's Report

- None reported.

Executive Session

- None requested.

Adjournment

Motion made by Councilmember Blitz, seconded by Councilmember Davidson to adjourn.

Baughman: Yay

Jones: Yay

McCollough: Absent

Davidson: Yay

Blitz: Yay

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08PM.



Cecilia McCollough, Mayor

ATTEST:



Richard Marsh, Town Manager

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the forgoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the regular meeting held September 20, 2022 and the meeting was duly called and posted and that a quorum was present.



Richard Marsh, Town Manager