

## **TOWN OF WELLTON**

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### **Minutes of the March 7, 2023 Regular Meeting**

**Mayor Scott Blitz** called the regular meeting to order at 6:00PM on Tuesday, March 7, 2023. **Mayor Blitz** led the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilmember Barbara Biggs gave the invocation. Roll call was taken.

**Councilmembers Present:** Mayor Scott Blitz, Mayor Pro Tem (Vice Mayor) Cecilia McCollough, Councilmembers Barbara Biggs, Sylvia Davidson, and Michelle Jones.

**Councilmembers Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Town Manager Richard Marsh, Deputy Town Clerk Sandra Jones, Finance Director Marisol Hernandez, Police Chief David Rodriguez, Grants Administrator Yolanda Galindo, and Attorney John Austin Gaylord (via Zoom).

**Guests Present:** Lynda Lake, Connie Mason Bennett, Jim Sampson, Crystal Mendoza, Kenny Ward, Dolores Ward, Rob Murdock, Connie Zimmerman, Lisa Alama, Allen Lockwood, Janet Lockwood, Charles Brunet, Larry Adams, Ron Hansen, Evie Pistone, Lou Landers, Brenda Landers, Paige Souza, Derrick Souza, Catherine Blitz, and Wayne Kerley.

#### **Call to the Public**

**Rob Murdock** (28462 Telegraph Avenue) – He wanted to express his concern regarding Ordinance No. 247 and the potential repercussions it could bring.

#### **Presentation**

Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Presentation by Crystal Mendoza. Requesting a \$1,000 contribution from the Town of Wellton.

#### **Presentation**

Greater Yuma Economic Development (GYEDC) Mid-Year Presentation by Julie Engle, Executive Director.

#### **Presentation**

Recognition of volunteers at Coyote Wash Golf Course, presented by Councilmember Barbara Biggs.

#### **Presentation**

Presentation by Town Manager Richard Marsh with an update on the Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative.

#### **Presentation**

Presentation by Town Manager Richard Marsh on 2022 Accomplishments.

**Discussion and Action Items****1. Approval of Minutes:****a. For the Meeting of February 7, 2023 (Work Session).****b. For the Meeting of February 7, 2023 (Regular Meeting).**

Motion made by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem McCollough, to approve Minutes for the Meetings of February 7, 2023 (Work Session) and February 7, 2023 (Regular Meeting).

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

McCollough: Yay

Biggs: Yay

Motion carried.

**2. Discussion and possible action to adopt Ordinance No. 149 amending the Code of the Town of Wellton, Arizona, by amending certain provisions of Chapter 2, Mayor, and Council, related to the title of the Mayor Pro Tem; and providing for repeal of conflicting ordinances.**

Motion made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to adopt Ordinance No. 149 amending the Code of the Town of Wellton, Arizona, by amending certain provisions of Chapter 2, Mayor, and Council, related to the title of the Mayor Pro Tem; and providing for repeal of conflicting ordinances.

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

McCollough: Yay

Biggs: Yay

Motion carried.

**• Recess Regular Session of the Common Council and open Public Hearing as Board of Adjustment**

Motion made by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Davidson, to recess Regular Session of the Common Council and open Public Hearing as Board of Adjustment at 7:09PM.

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

McCollough: Yay

Biggs: Yay

Motion carried.

**3. Public Hearing for Rezoning Case:**

- a. **Rezoning Case #RZ-23-003: Dahl, Robins & Associates, Inc., agents for G-12, LLC request a rezoning of an 878,733 square foot parcel located at PID 201-07-016 in Wellton, Arizona, from Residential District to Commercial District.**

- **Close Public Hearing.**

Motion made by Councilmember Davidson, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to close the Public Hearing at 7:20PM.

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

McCollough: Yay

Biggs: Yay

Motion carried.

**4. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Mayor to sign Professional Services Agreement between Logan-Simpson Design, Inc. & the Town of Wellton for the Comprehensive Plan Update, in the amount of \$50,000. CDBG Contract #121-23.**

Motion made by Vice Mayor McCollough, seconded by Councilmember Davidson, to authorize the Mayor to sign Professional Services Agreement between Logan-Simpson Design, Inc. & the Town of Wellton for the Comprehensive Plan Update, in the amount of \$50,000. CDBG Contract #121-23.

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

McCollough: Yay

Biggs: Abstain

Motion carried.

**5. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Mayor to sign the following documents: 1) Contract #145-23 between the Town of Wellton and the Arizona Department of Housing for the use of CDBG Regional Account funds in the amount of \$481,912 and 2) All required forms that are necessary for contract execution.**

Motion made by Vice Mayor McCollough, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to authorize the Mayor to sign the following documents: 1) Contract #145-23 between the Town of Wellton and the Arizona Department of Housing for the use of CDBG Regional Account funds in the amount of \$481,912 and 2) All required forms that are necessary for contract execution.

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

McCollough: Yay

Biggs: Yay

Motion carried.

**6. Discussion and possible action to approve Resolution No. 703 designating the Chief Fiscal Officer for officially submitting the Town's Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Expenditure Limitation Report.**

Motion made by Vice Mayor McCollough, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to approve Resolution No. 703 designating the Chief Fiscal Officer for officially submitting the Town's Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Expenditure Limitation Report.

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

McCollough: Yay

Biggs: Yay

Motion carried.

**7. Discussion and possible action to authorize Staff to negotiate the sale of town property located at 29249 San Jose Avenue (PID 709-13-030), Wellton Annex, Block 42, Lot 3.**

Motion made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Vice Mayor McCollough, to authorize Staff to negotiate the sale of town property located at 29249 San Jose Avenue (PID 709-13-030), Wellton Annex, Block 42, Lot 3 with Council's final approval.

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

McCollough: Yay

Biggs: Yay

Motion carried.

**Future Agenda Items**

- The approval of lien for the Alice Street Project.
- SeeClickFix app demonstration.

**Town Manager Report**

- **Reminder:** Effective February 17, 2023, the Wellton Town Council will hold one meeting per month. It will be the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00PM at the Council Chambers. Additional Special Meetings and Work Sessions will be scheduled as needed.
- Yuma County Public Works will be assisting Staff on some much-needed road maintenance.
- Code Enforcement and Animal Control have been working diligently to mitigate the animal abandonment situation on Carney Drive. I am happy to report that all 20+ dogs have been taken to Yuma County Humane Society.

- Brandon Howard has submitted his resignation. He will remain on staff for 30-days to aid with the transition. The Deputy Director position which Brandon held will remain vacant. Staff has posted in multiple arenas for a Water System Operator vacancy and are anticipating a very smooth change-over. Being a member of the State ADEQ Operators Committee it has afforded me the opportunity to obtain a great working relationship with the ADEQ. They have provided a list of potential candidates, a recruiting agency contact, and they will be helping me secure a suitable candidate. We are interviewing our first candidate on March 13, 2023. Salvador Arcos, Deputy Director of DPW has over 24 years' experience, awesome work ethic and a vast amount of institutional knowledge. He will be promoted to Assistant Director of the Department of Public Works.
- City of Yuma Mayor Nichols held a luncheon meeting on February 27, 2023, with Governor Hobbs and local entities to discuss pertinent issues that are affecting the area.
- The Town posted a Notice of Intent on the Town's website (pursuant to A.R.S. § 9-499.15) to give notice that it may increase the fees charged by the Wellton Municipal Court and provided this written Notice of the proposed increase. The town strives to match the amounts of the Town's Municipal Court Fees to the amounts of the equivalent fees charged by the Wellton Justice Court. Having the same fee schedule for the Wellton Municipal and Justice Courts creates a more equitable system for the disposition of cases and simplifies court operations. Currently, the Town plans to revise the descriptions of its Court Fees in Town Code to clarify the total amount of each fee. this revision will not increase the amount of any town fee currently collected. Still, this notice is being issued in an abundance of caution to ensure that Town residents and visitors are well informed. The proposed fees will be considered for approval at the Regular Council Meeting on May 2, 2023, at 6:00 PM.

### **Council's Report**

- Mayor Blitz challenged the Council to list a task/project they would like to see tackled:
  - Councilmember Jones would like to see water issues addressed.
  - Mayor Blitz would like to see dog licensing, neighborhood watch, and improvements at the golf courses.
  - Councilmember Biggs would like the continued improvements on landscaping and a potential dog park and/or park.
  - Vice Mayor McCollough is interested in continued training and understanding of grant writing, community meetings, creating partnerships, etc.
- Councilmember Biggs readdressed the IPMC. She has had a change of heart regarding this issue, in particular codes concerning the interior of residences' homes and would like to review at a future date.
- Mayor Blitz participated in the group discussion with the Governor regarding water, the border issue, and other items of concern for this area.
- Mayor Blitz and Vice Mayor McCollough will participate in the discussion regarding the future of Colorado River water on March 8, 2023.
- Mayor Blitz wanted to congratulate Staff for the successful turnout at the Pioneer Day Parade and Fiesta.

- Mayor Blitz also wanted to mention the Yuma Air Show is upcoming on March 11, 2023.
- Mayor Blitz questioned the attorney as to who reviews the agenda packet before distribution.
- Vice Mayor McCollough also discussed the regional funding to widen Highway 95, the pursuit of Direct Congressional Funding, and GoFundMe Grants.

**Executive Session**

- None requested.

**Adjournment**

Motion made by Vice Mayor McCollough, seconded by Councilmember Jones to adjourn.

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

McCollough: Yay


Biggs: Yay

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51PM.


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Blitz, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Richard Marsh, Town Manager

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the forgoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the regular meeting held March 7, 2023, and the meeting was duly called and posted and that a quorum was present.

  
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Richard Marsh, Town Manager