

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YUMA, ARIZONA  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, YUMA CITY HALL  
ONE CITY PLAZA, YUMA, ARIZONA  
**DECEMBER 4, 2019**  
**5:30 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Mayor Nicholls** called the City Council meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE**

**Pastor Tyrone Jones**, Church for the City, gave the invocation. **Adriana Del Rio**, Public Affairs Coordinator, led the City Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: Shelton, Watts, Thomas, Knight, McClendon, Miller, and Mayor Nicholls  
Councilmembers Absent: None  
Staffmembers Present: City Administrator, Philip A. Rodriguez  
Deputy City Administrator, John D. Simonton  
Director of Engineering, Jeffrey Kramer  
Various Department Heads or their representative  
City Attorney, Richard W. Files  
City Clerk, Lynda L. Bushong

**FINAL CALL**

**Mayor Nicholls** made a final call for the submission of Speaker Request Forms for agenda related items from members of the audience.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Recognition of Interim City Administrator John D. Simonton

**Mayor Nicholls** thanked **Simonton** and recognized him for his hard work and leadership while acting as Interim City Administrator during the City's transition to a new City Administrator.

Crane Middle School Ag-Science Class Presentation

**Ryan Tyree**, Principal of Crane Middle School (Crane), explained that two years ago a committee was formed with the mission to make Crane the most innovative middle school in Yuma with a vision to develop the whole child. A part of that mission and vision is to provide students with career and technical education as part of their learning experience. Last year students were offered courses in business, marketing, entrepreneurship, digital media, animation, coding, and robotics. This year Crane has partnered with the Arizona Business and Education Coalition (ABEC) to bring students educational and career exploration opportunities and has expanded their offerings to include construction trades, engineering, public service, health professions, and agriculture science. Crane has also been asked to pilot a new curriculum in cyber security when it becomes available and has been recognized as the model for ABEC middle school

exploration projects for the entire state. He concluded by thanking ABEC for bringing this opportunity to Yuma, Tanya Hodges at the University of Arizona for her support, and Clay Harrington of Pilkington Construction for donations of supplies and time spent consulting with staff and students.

**Ali Waldrop**, teacher of business, marketing, and entrepreneurship at Crane, highlighted the career exploration opportunities Crane students have had thanks to the partnership with ABEC and Arizona Career Information Systems (AZCIS):

- Partner with business and industry professionals,
- Complete interest inventories designed to help align students with careers that match their personal interests, learning styles, and personalities
- Learn about career opportunities in various geographic locations, the educational requirements for different careers, and the job outlook that is expected at the time the students will graduate
- Create resumes and cover letters to be added to the student's digital portfolio, and interview with Yuma area business and industry leaders

**Kaitlin McGill**, teacher of agriculture science at Crane, explained that the agriculture science course was designed this year to introduce students to the field of agriculture and to see if they have an interest in pursuing it further. The anchor of the course is a hydroponic garden the students designed and created. **McGill** introduced four Crane students – Marie, Dominic, Gael, and Christopher (The Students) – who presented an overview of the course and what they learned:

- Made a map and marked the locations of crops and animals raised throughout the US
- Learned that Yuma grows around 90% of the nation's leafy greens during the winter
- Played a game called 'Farm vs. Factory' to identify where goods are produced
- Studied various farming practices
- Planted donated desert Boston lettuce seeds indoors under grow lights
- Created their own 'chinampa', or Aztec floating garden

**McGill** stated that her vision for the course is to expand the student-led hydroponic garden and have it become a closed system that will utilize fish to provide nutrients for the plants.

**Watts** asked if the students ate the lettuce. **The Students** stated they ate a lot of lettuce, with varieties including desert Boston lettuce, red leaf lettuce, green leaf lettuce, and romaine.

**Shelton** asked if any of the students would like to grow a hydroponic garden of their own. **The Students** stated they were interested, but did not believe they had the resources for this type of project at home.

**Mayor Nicholls** asked if the students would attempt to grow crops other than lettuce. **McGill** replied that the next crop that will be added to the students' hydroponic garden is broccoli. Eventually the garden will be a four-tier system which will include tilapia and possibly tomatoes.

**Thomas** asked for more information on the digital portfolio being created by the students. **Waldrop** explained that students create both a traditional resume as well as a digital resume in Adobe Spark. The digital resume can include digital media and links, for example to a project completed in another class or artwork created by the student.

**Mayor Nicholls** thanked The Students and Crane staff for their efforts in the presentation.

**I. MOTION CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion Consent Agenda Item B.3 – Intergovernmental Agreement: City of Somerton Traffic Engineering (provide traffic engineering support including annual review of signal timing and operation of signalized intersections and other traffic engineering analysis and minor design) (Eng)

**Knight** asked if the fees stated in the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) cover the City's costs for the services rendered. **Kramer** replied that the fees were confirmed today and stated that he is confident they will cover the City's costs for the duration of the five-year agreement.

**Thomas** asked how long it is expected to take to complete the traffic model. **Kramer** stated that 18-20 man hours are being estimated during the first year of the agreement for everything, including completing the model. Subsequent years will probably reduce down to 12-16 man hours.

**Motion** (Knight/McClendon): To approve the Motion Consent Agenda as recommended. Voice vote: **approved** 7-0.

A. Approval of minutes of the following City Council meetings:

Regular Council Meeting	January 16, 2019
Council Citizen's Forum	November 19, 2019

B. Approval of Staff Recommendations:

1. Executive Sessions may be held at the next regularly scheduled Special Worksession, Regular Worksession and City Council Meeting for personnel, legal, litigation and real estate matters pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03 Section A (1), (3), (4), and (7). (City Attny)
2. Approve a Series #6 Bar Liquor License/Owner Transfer application submitted by Debra Ann Davis, agent for Double D's Sports Bar located at 1300 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street. (Clerk)
3. Authorize the City Administrator to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) to provide traffic engineering services to the City of Somerton. (Eng)

**II. RESOLUTION CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion** (Thomas/McClendon): To adopt the Resolution Consent Agenda as recommended.

**Bushong** displayed the following title:

**Resolution R2019-050**

**A resolution of the City Council of the City of Yuma, Arizona, adopting an Enforcement Response Plan pursuant to Yuma City Code, Title 19, Chapter 191 Industrial Wastes and Other Wastewater Discharges** (pursuant to the Environmental Protection Agency requirement that all Publicly Owned Treatment Works adopt an Enforcement Response Plan) (Utilities)

Roll call vote: **adopted** 7-0.

### III. ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES CONSENT AGENDA

**Motion** (Knight/McClendon): To adopt the Ordinances Consent Agenda as recommended.

**Bushong** displayed the following titles:

#### **Ordinance O2019-038**

**An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Yuma, Arizona, repealing and replacing Yuma City Code Title 13, Chapter 137: Trees, to promote and protect the public health, safety, and general welfare by providing for the regulation of the planting, maintenance, and removal of municipal trees, shrubs, and cacti and providing a penalty for violations thereof (to clarify the applicability of the code to municipal trees and add requirements for their removal and replacement) (P& Rec)**

#### **Ordinance O2019-039**

**An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Yuma, Arizona, amending Chapter 154 of the Yuma City Code, rezoning certain property located in the General Commercial/Infill Overlay (B-2/IO) District to the Medium Density Residential (R-2) District, while maintaining the existing Infill Overlay (IO) District, and amending the zoning map to conform with the rezoning (rezoning approximately 0.32 acres of property located at 1146 and 1154 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue) (DCD)**

#### **Ordinance O2019-040**

**An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Yuma, Arizona, amending Chapter 154 of the Yuma City Code, rezoning certain property located in the Agriculture (AG) District to the Low Density Residential (R-1-6) District, Medium Density Single-Family Residential (R-2-5) District, and the General Commercial (B-2) District, and amending the zoning map to conform with the rezoning (rezoning approximately 455.88 acres of property located at Avenue 7E and 44<sup>th</sup> Street) (DCD)**

Roll call vote: **adopted** 7-0.

### IV. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

Introduction of Ordinance O2019-041 – Acquisition of Real Property: 1100 S. 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue (reacquire the property from The Salvation Army for continued use and support of local youth programs) (Attny)

**Colleen Langewisch**, 1158 E. 23<sup>rd</sup> Place, stated that she has questions and concerns regarding the reacquisition of this property as very little information has been made public about how the property is being acquired, what will be done with the property, and what will happen to the Boys and Girls Club.

**Mayor Nicholls** responded that because there is pending litigation regarding this matter not much can be said other than that this ordinance is part of the resolution of that case. **Files** confirmed this is correct, adding that an ordinance is required for the City to acquire any real property other than a lease that is less than five years in duration.

**Motion** (Mayor Nicholls/Knight): To recess to Executive Session. Voice vote: **approved** 7-0. The meeting recessed at 6:02 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 6:05 p.m. with the above-noted parties present.

**Mayor Nicholls** explained that at this point he is very limited in what he can say because the agreement with the Salvation Army is still being negotiated. The City does not plan to run the Boys and Girls Club program; however, this property will be dedicated for future use by an outside agency. More information will be made available as the agreement is finalized.

**Bushong** displayed the following title:

**Ordinance O2019-041**

**An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Yuma, Arizona, authorizing and directing that a certain parcel of real property, hereafter described, be acquired by the City of Yuma, and authorizing payment and costs for the acquisition thereof** (property located at 1100 S. 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue) (City Attorney)

**V. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND RELATED ITEMS** - There were no public hearings scheduled at this time.

**FINAL CALL**

**Mayor Nicholls** made a final call for the submission of Speaker Request Forms from members of the audience interested in speaking at the Call to the Public.

**VI. APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SCHEDULING**

Oath of Office – City Administrator Philip Rodriguez

**Mayor Nicholls** administered the Oath of Office for newly appointed City Administrator Philip Rodriguez. **Rodriguez** stated that he appreciates the opportunity to serve as City Administrator and is looking forward to making the City of Yuma his home and getting his family settled into the community.

Appointments

**Motion** (Thomas/Knight): To appoint Sean Allen to an unexpired term on the Merit System Board with a term expiration of December 31, 2020. Voice vote: **approved** 7-0.

Announcements

**Knight, Watts,** and **Mayor Nicholls** reported on events and meetings they have attended during the last two weeks and upcoming events of note.

Scheduling

**Motion** (Shelton/Thomas): To schedule a Special City Council Meeting for Tuesday, December 10, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Voice vote: **approved** 7-0.

**VII. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS**

**Rodriguez** reported the following events:

- December 5<sup>th</sup> – Community Conversations Neighborhood Meeting at the Yuma Readiness Center
- December 7<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Lighting on Main Street
- December 13<sup>th</sup> – Application deadline for the 2020 Neighborhood Leadership Academy

**Rodriguez** announced that during the holiday season the Yuma Police Department will be implementing ‘Operation Scrooge Stopper’ at the Yuma Palms Shopping Center to deter criminal activity, with increased police presence including detectives in plain clothes and unmarked vehicles.

**VIII. CALL TO THE PUBLIC** - No speakers were scheduled at this time.

**IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION/ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, **Mayor Nicholls** adjourned the meeting at 6:18 p.m. No additional Executive Session was held.

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Lynda L. Bushong, City Clerk

APPROVED:

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Douglas J. Nicholls, Mayor

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