

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CITIZEN'S FORUM
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YUMA, ARIZONA
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - YUMA CITY HALL
ONE CITY PLAZA, YUMA, ARIZONA
April 17, 2018
5:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Nicholls called the City Council Citizen's Forum to order at 5:30 p.m.

Councilmembers Present: Shelton, Watts, Thomas, Knight, McClendon, Miller and Mayor Nicholls
Councilmembers Absent: None
Staffmembers Present: City Administrator, Gregory K. Wilkinson
Various department heads or their representatives
City Attorney, Richard W. Files
City Clerk, Lynda Bushong

I. STREET IMPROVEMENTS: 2ND AVENUE

Juan Rubio, 1025 S. 2nd Avenue spoke to City Council regarding the need for improvements in his neighborhood on 2nd Avenue between 10th and 12th Street. He read the below petition signed by several the neighborhood property owners:

Petition:

We the undersigned property owners and or residents of the City of Yuma wish to bring to your attention the lack of street improvements in our neighborhood. Our neighborhood is located on 2nd Avenue and lacks some critical street improvements between 10th Street and 12th Street which is the project area. Even though the project area is located centrally in the City of Yuma, 2nd Avenue lacks critical street improvements such as curb, gutters, sidewalks and street lighting. The lack of these road improvements on 2nd Avenue not only devalues our property but creates flooding problems and some muddy conditions in residential driveways when it rains. The lack of street lighting also costs us security issues during night hours. We really don't know why the City of Yuma has neglected this area or maybe has not attempted to improve this segment of 2nd Avenue considering the neighborhood is within an organized area and is centrally located in the city limits. We feel neglected, we feel the City hasn't given the attention that we deserve and we ask that the City put our tax dollars to work for the betterment of our community.

Rubio mentioned reasons to improve 2nd Avenue with the first being safety. Lack of sidewalks creates safety concerns for children walking to the bus stop located on 10th Street and 2nd Avenue, and the lack of street lights creates safety concerns at night with the neighborhood being located by the Mission. He stated there is also a flooding concern during the monsoon seasons due to the lack of curb gutters.

In conclusion, **Rubio** made a final plea to City Council urging that his neighborhood be given the attention and priority it deserves by including 2nd Avenue in the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) for critical street improvements.

Discussion:

McClendon inquired what Mr. Rubio's first priority of improvement would be if approved. **Rubio** stated streetlights would be the most cost effective for the City.

Shelton asked if the neighborhood is currently in a planning process. **Wilkinson** stated the City does not normally put curb gutter sidewalks in an area that does not have them, but instead helps residents from those neighborhoods to form an improvement district. **Rubio** responded that an improvement district functions in an area that serves a specific subdivision. This should not be the case for this area, as 2nd Avenue is a bypass route and serves a larger community.

Thomas suggested placing the 2nd Avenue improvement in the CIP discussion. **Knight** questioned why the adjacent streets from 2nd Avenue have curbs. **Rubio** stated prior to the City annexing this property in 2007, half of 2nd Avenue was in the City and the other half was in the County making for confusion on which organization would handle the improvements. **Knight** agreed that adding a discussion to the CIP in hopes to have improvements done to 2nd Avenue in the near future would be a good idea.

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion (Knight/Thomas): To adjourn the meeting into Executive Session. Voice vote: **approved** 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

Lynda L. Bushong, City Clerk

APPROVED:

Douglas J. Nicholls, Mayor