

MINUTES
SPECIAL WORKSESSION/LEGISLATIVE DAY
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YUMA, ARIZONA
ARIZONA STATE CAPITOL BUILDING
1700 W. WASHINGTON, PHOENIX, ARIZONA
March 11, 2020
9:30 a.m.

CONVENED IN THE ARIZONA STATE CAPITOL LOBBY AT 9:30 A.M.

Councilmembers Present: Morris, Knight, Shelton, Watts and Mayor Nicholls
Councilmembers Absent: Shoop and McClendon
Staffmembers Present: City Administrator, Philip Rodriguez
Deputy City Attorney, Rodney Short
Intergovernmental Affairs Coordinator, Lucy Valencia

The Mayor and City Council expressed their appreciation to the individual Yuma Legislative Team for the opportunity to meet and discuss issues that affect the City of Yuma. They met with the Yuma legislators at the below noted times and focused their discussions on the following four issues:

1. State of City Infrastructure – Roads
 - By 2022, Yuma will have 128 miles of failed or failing roads
 - Cost to abate conditions and make acceptable is \$84 million
 - Need comprehensive resolution – revenue is matter of statewide concern
 - Larger revenue sources are needed
2. Protections – Military Facilities
 - Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Yuma
 - HB 2310 – Yuma County Fairgrounds relocation funding
 - Zoning (base protection act A.R.S. § 28-8481)
 - Yuma Proving Grounds (YPG)
 - Funding for U.S. Highway 95
3. Governor’s Support for Rural Communities
 - Rural Broadband (Support)
 - HB 2311 – wireless providers, removing exemption
 - HB 2030 – placing another layer of bureaucracy at border inspections
 - HB 2814 – creating a much-needed rural economic improvement programs
4. Local Issues need Local Solutions while Statewide Issues need Statewide Solutions
 - Local Representatives can handle:
 - Zoning; local fees; blight; local police issues; retaining lawyers; rights-of-way
 - Statewide Solutions to Statewide Problems:
 - Keep field even, create opportunities for all communities, including rural; public safety funding

Mayor, City Council and City Administration met with the below noted Legislators:

- Yuma City Council met with Senate President, Karen Fann [approximately 9:30 a.m.]
- Yuma City Council met with Representative, Dr. Gerae Peten [approximately 10:15 a.m.]
- Yuma City Council met with Senator, Lisa Otondo [approximately 11:00 a.m.]

Mayor, City Council and City Administration took a break for lunch that was held in the Leagues' conference room. Attendees included: Senators Kerr and Otondo; Representatives Dunn, Osborne, Fernandez and Peten; Ben Blink and Dawn Wallace of the Governor's Office; Yuma County Judge Mark Reeves; Keith Watkins and Jeff Sobotka from Arizona Commerce Authority; and, members from the Arizona League of Cities and Towns (League) and HighGround, Inc.

At approximately 1:15 p.m. Mayor, City Council and City Administration were jointly introduced at the House by Representatives Fernandez, Peten, Dunn and Osborne; and at the Senate by Senators Kerr and Otondo.

Continuing their meetings and staying with the same discussion topics, Mayor and City Council met with the below noted Legislators:

- Meeting with Governor Ducey and staff members Deputy Chief of Staff, Juan Ciscomani and Policy Advisor, Ben Blink [approximately 2:00 p.m.]
 - Governor Ducey was preparing for a press release of his first Emergency Order due to COVID-19, so City Council and staff were acknowledged by the Governor and then went on to their next meeting.
- Meeting with Representative, Joanne Osborne [approximately 2:30 p.m.]
- Meeting with Representative, Charlene Fernandez [approximately 3:15 p.m.]

Mayor, City Council and City Administration left the State Capitol at approximately 4:30 p.m. and traveled to 830 N. 4th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ where HighGround held a reception in their honor. Other attendees included members of the Governor's staff, Arizona Commerce Authority, members of the League and HighGround. No formal presentation was made and no discussion or deliberation of specific City business was conducted.

Lynda L. Bushong, City Clerk

APPROVED:

Douglas J. Nicholls, Mayor