



# MINUTES

## Town Council Regular Meeting

6:00PM – Tuesday, October 3, 2023

Wellton, Town Hall Council Chambers

28634 Oakland Avenue, Wellton, Arizona 85356

---

**Mayor Scott Blitz called the regular meeting to order at 6:00PM on Tuesday, October 3, 2023. Mayor Blitz led the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilmember Biggs gave the invocation. Roll call was taken.**

**Councilmembers Present:** Mayor Scott Blitz, 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 Dennis Osuch (via Teams), Police Chief David Rodriguez, Town Magistrate Russell Jones, Grants Director Yolanda Galindo, Coyote Wash Golf Course Superintendent Brian Claar, and Attorney John Austin Gaylord (via Teams).

**Guests Present:** Al Lockwood, Janet Cowell, Evie Pistone, Connie Mason Bennett, Marisol Hernandez, Martin Hernandez, Catherine Blitz, Bob Leeper, Peggy Leeper, Jim Sampson, Darren Simmons, Regina Langford, Brenda Landers, Lou Landers, Bryan Marchek, Mabel L Wall, C Wall, Reyna Curiel, Kathy Schaber, Greg Stewart, Sonia Salcido, and Melissa Navarrete.

### Call to the Public

**Connie Mason Bennett** – 28402 Telegraph Avenue: She represents the Wellton-Mohawk Artisans Guild and would like to join forces with the other local artists groups to create additional classes, etc. at the museum.

**Regina Langford** – Family Liquidators: Discussion regarding: a board member coming to her business and trying to dissuade her from charging sales tax on the sale and the visitation from the police department during business hours to discuss the pallets. She would like the issues addressed.

### Presentations

- Presentation of Employee of the Month: Anthony Ware – postponed until the November 7, 2023 Regular Meeting.

**Discussion and Action Items****1. Workshop****Discussion and possible direction regarding Municipal Court functions/procedures and Municipal Court Fund.**

Discussion opened by Town Manager Marsh. Judge Jones introduced Yuma County Court Staff in attendance: Reyna Curiel, Kathy Schaber, Judge Greg Stewart. Kathy Schaber presented a PowerPoint that detailed the roles and regulations of the Court

**2. Approval of Financial Statement:****a. As of June 30, 2023**

Motion made by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Biggs, to approve the Financial Statement: as of June 30, 2023.

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

McCollough: Yay

Biggs: Yay

Motion carried.

**3. Approval of Cash Disbursements:****a. For the Period: April 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023**

Motion made by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Vice Mayor McCollough, to approve the Cash Disbursements: For the Period: April 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023.

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

McCollough: Yay

Biggs: Yay

Motion carried.

**4. Approval of Minutes:****a. For the Meeting of September 5, 2023 (Regular Meeting).****b. For the Meeting of September 12, 2023 (Special Meeting).**

Motion made by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Vice Mayor McCollough, to approve the Minutes: for the Meetings of September 5, 2023 (Regular Meeting) and September 12, 2023 (Special Meeting) with noted correction.

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

McCollough: Yay

Biggs: Yay

Motion carried.

**5. Discussion and possible action to proclaim October 2023 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.**

Mayor Blitz proclaimed October 2023 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

**6. Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of the Liquor License request for Desert Penguin at 28881 Commerce Way, Suite A.**

Motion made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Vice Mayor McCollough, to approve the Liquor License request for Desert Penguin at 28881 Commerce Way, Suite A.

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

McCollough: Yay

Biggs: Yay

Motion carried.

**7. Update regarding Fire Department EMS Subscriptions and billings.**

Update given by Deputy Town Clerk Jones.

**8. Discussion regarding a 5-day work week.**

Discussion led by Mayor Blitz.

**Future Agenda Items**

- Liquor License request for Desert Penguin.
- Approval to purchase seed for the Golf Course.

**Town Manager's Report**

- IT Assessment from Bryant Hamilton
  - Our current IT, Bryant Hamilton, has created a 6-year tentative plan that encompasses Video, phone systems, internet, cybersecurity, etc. The plan is an ever-changing document, but it gives us a much-needed baseline to start with.
- Staff is in the process of looking at infrastructure grants. Meetings with the Town Manager, Public Works, Grants Director, and the Vice Mayor have been scheduled to review opportunities.
- Tentative Dates for Events –
 

○ Trunk Or Treat	10/28/23
○ Welcome Back Winter Visitor Bash	1/27/24
○ Christmas Tree Lighting	11/25/23
○ Pioneer Day Parade	02/24/24
○ Cinco De Mayo Celebration	5/5/24
○ Community Business Engagement Fair	TBD
○ Tractor Rodeo	TBD
○ Staff, Family And Council Golf Tournament	3/30/23
○ Tour De Fields	01/13/24

- “Farmers Market” Butterfield Park 12/28/23
  - Chamber Mixer (All Businesses) TBD
  - Butterfield Park 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Concert In The Park 02/24
- Town Hall renovations are in process. Please forgive our dust. Carpet and tile replacement in front office. Carpet to be replaced in Council Chambers. The previous discussion about moving walls, etc. would have gained 6 additional seats. The total project price tag of \$30,000 was too much for that minimal gain.
- The Town of Wellton is currently a Sprocket Sponsor (\$750) for the Tour de Fields Yuma. That level of sponsorship also includes 2 entries into the bike race. Joe Grant and Sandra Jones (tentatively) are looking to participate. The bike race will be held in Wellton on January 13, 2024.
  - Staff are currently planning Community Bike Riders for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in October, November, and December to gear up for the event. The kick-off bike ride will be October 14, 2023 at 10:00AM at West Side Open Space.

**Council’s Report**

- Vice Mayor McCollough attended YMPO, the Rural Transportation Summit. September was Hispanic Heritage Month. She will be participating in the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Mayor’s International Bike Ride on October 21, 2023.
- Councilmember Biggs gave an update (as a citizen) on the Links at Coyote Wash Utilities and the ACC.
- Mayor Blitz reminded attendees that the upcoming Yuma County Projects Meeting was going to be at Antelope Union High School. He also informed attendees that the Hoodini Solar had been voted down and that AWC had just been awarded \$50 million.

**Staff’s Report**

- Police Chief Rodriguez reported the golf tournament at Coyote Wash raised \$5,000 for Amberly’s Place.
- Events Coordinator Mary Miranda reported on this year’s Trunk or Treat. It is scheduled for Saturday, October 28, 2023 at 6:00PM. It will be located at Wellton Elementary school (29126 San Jose Avenue). There will be games, food, contests, etc.

**Executive Session**

None requested.

**Adjournment**

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

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

McCollough: Yay

Biggs: Yay

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:24PM.

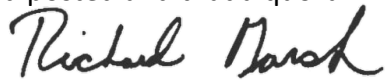
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Blitz, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Marsh, Town Manager

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the forgoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the regular meeting held October 3, 2023, and the meeting was duly called and posted and that a quorum was present.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Marsh, Town Manager