

MINUTES

Town Council Regular Meeting

6:00PM – Tuesday, March 5, 2024

Wellton, Town Hall Council Chambers

28634 Oakland Avenue, Wellton, Arizona 85356

Mayor Scott Blitz called the special meeting to order at 6:00PM on Tuesday, March 5, 2024. 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, Ann Fang for Finance Director Dennis Osuch (via Teams), Grants Director Yolanda Galindo, Public Works Director Greg Ellingson, Assistant Public Works Director Adolfo Ponce, Police Chief David Rodriguez, Code Enforcement Officer Belen Medina, Events Coordinator Mary Miranda, Coyote Wash Golf Course Superintendent Brian Claar, Grants Coordinator Nancy Ngai (via Teams) and Attorney Michael Goodman (via Teams).

Guests Present: Lou Landers, Brenda Landers, Toni Marchuk, Richard Guyer, Audrey Zingler, Jason Hollingsworth, Dolores Ward, Kenny Ward, Jim Sampson, Bruce Elford, Lilia Wilson, Elston Grubaugh, Bonnie Hunt, Marisol Hernandez, Martin Hernandez, Shirley Reynolds, Donna Brown, Larry Campbell, Dawn Campbell, Angela Gundry, Jenny Sterenby, Patricia Winters, Robert Vierra, Monia Vierra, Bob Leeper, Peggy Leeper, Catherine Blitz, Jeff Moore, Raul Garcia, Ralph Davidson, Debra Burnett, Julie Forsyth, and Harold Forsyth.

Call to the Public

Ralph Davidson – 10773 S Avenue 28E: He submitted a Public Records Request 5 months ago for audio files of Council meetings. He has not yet received them. He would like his information in a timely matter.

- **Presentations**

- A. Update: Elston Grubaugh, Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District General Manager on water and power in the Wellton-Mohawk Valley.
- B. Tour de Fields 2024 Proceeds presentation to Shirley Reynolds, Pioneer Museum Director by Ricky Rinehart, Yuma Bicycle Coalition
- C. GYEDC Mid-Year Report by Greg LaVann, Interim President/CEO
- D. Pioneer Day 2024 Parade Entry Winners
- E. Introduction of New Assistant Public Works Director: Adolfo Ponce
- F. Employee of the Month: Richard Guyer
- G. Code Enforcement Update: Chief David Rodriguez and Code Enforcement Officer Belen Medina

Discussion and Action Items**1. Approval of Minutes:****a. For the Meeting of February 6, 2024 (Regular Meeting).**

Motion made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to approve the Minutes: for the Meeting of February 6, 2024 (Regular Meeting).

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

Biggs: Yay

McCullough: Yay

Motion carried.

2. Discussion and possible action to approve Christian Casteneda Lugos request to have ducks on his property located at 30112 Quail Trail.

Discussion regarding the neighbors' feelings on the subject of ducks in the neighborhood. The neighbors to the west of the resident are not in favor. They also indicated there are 5 additional neighbors in the neighborhood who do not support the request.

Motion made by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Biggs, to approve Christian Casteneda Lugos request to have ducks on his property located at 30112 Quail Trail.

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Nay

Biggs: Yay

McCullough: Yay

Motion carried.

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

Motion made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Vice Mayor McCullough, to recess Regular Session of the Common Council and open Public Hearing as Board of Adjustment at 7:13PM.

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

Biggs: Yay

McCullough: Yay

Motion carried.

3. Public Hearing for Rezoning Cases:

- a. **Rezoning Case #RZ-24-002: Raul Garcia, Agent for Sylvia Avila, requests a rezoning of a 36,750 square foot parcel located at PID 709-21-022 in Wellton, Arizona, from Residential District to Industrial District.**

Discussion

- b. **Rezoning Case #RZ-24-003: Raul Garcia, Agent for Sylvia Avila, requests a rezoning of a 36,324 square foot parcel located at PID 709-21-023 in Wellton, Arizona, from Residential District to Industrial District.**

Discussion

- **Close Public Hearing.**

Motion made by Councilmember Biggs, seconded by Vice Mayor McCollough, to close Public Hearing at 7:22PM.

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

Biggs: Yay

McCollough: Yay

Motion carried.

4. Discussion and possible action to prioritize proposed project(s) for the FY2024 Community Block Grant (CDBG) applications to the Arizona Department of Housing.

Discussion to prioritize CDBG projects. The Clarifier Project was placed as top priority.

Motion made by Vice Mayor McCollough, seconded by Councilmember Biggs, to prioritize the clarifier project for the FY2024 Community Block Grant (CDBG) applications to the Arizona Department of Housing.

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

Blitz: Yay

Biggs: Yay

McCollough: Yay

Motion carried.

5. Discussion regarding financing options for the Clarifier.

Agenda Item 5 was skipped.

6. Discussion regarding The Links at Coyote Wash Utilities.

Discussion. It was reported the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) approved The Links at Coyote Wash Utilities rate increase request.

7. Discussion regarding Golf Course.

Discussion and presentation regarding current condition of Coyote Wash Golf Course.

8. Discussion regarding Community Events.

Update provided.

9. Update on Fire Department EMS.

Update provided.

Future Agenda Items

- Evaluation for Town Manager.
- Financials and Cash Disbursements.
- Audit.
- WIFA Funding Resolution for approval.
- Update on CDBG projects.
- Crack sealing to begin in Coyote Wash Subdivision, Phase 3.

Town Manager's Report

- We anticipate receiving a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) allocation of \$506K towards the installation of the Clarifier. Thank you, Yolanda, for your work on this project.
- We also intend to apply for a WIFA loan/grant in the amount of \$ 1.5 million. We will present detailed information at the April 2, 2024 Town Council meeting for your review and consideration.
- Thanks to Nancy Ngai, Grant Consultant the Town of Wellton has been invited to the next Rural Water Infrastructure Committee (RWIC) March 12, 2024, virtual meeting agenda in Phoenix.

During this meeting our team will also request funding assistance to install the Clarifier. RWIC members in attendance will be North American Development Bank (NADB), USDA, CDBG, DEQ and other funding sources.

We have applied for a \$ 800,000 FEMA grant for a new Fire Truck. Thank you, Mark, Nancy, and Mary, for your work on this.

- The Town of Wellton received a \$500.00 donation from Wheezy's Restaurant for the park and recreation department.
- Upcoming Events:
 - March 18, 2024: Sal, Joe, and Jesus Retirement Party
 - Time: 1:00PM
 - Location: Wellton Community Center
 - March 15, 2024: Moana in the Park
 - Time: 7:00PM
 - Location: Butterfield Park
 - March 23, 2024: Easter Egg Hunt Family Fun Day
 - Time: 9:00 AM – 12:00PM
 - Location: Butterfield Park
- Thank you, Cindy Rockwell, for donating the amazing Easter Bunny Costume for the Easter Egg Hunt. The Town of Wellton is truly grateful for your awesome contribution.

- The volunteers and ground crew at the Coyote Wash Golf Course finished the cleanup and brush removal job. Several large sprinkler heads have been uncovered from under the tree line so the irrigation shall be greatly improved. This will aid in the turf restoration on that hole. These heads were completely covered and not useful in any way at all before this project. These heads are Rainbird 750's and throw about 30 gallons per minute with an optimal arc range of 70' with the proper nozzle implemented.
- The Justice and Municipal Court Staff have been working with Finance Director Dennis Osuch and Deputy Town Clerk Sandra Jones to hone inhouse procedures, etc. to ensure we are compliant and up to date.
- Mary Miranda was on Channel 11 to promote the Town of Wellton and community events.
- Town Hall mini renovations are completed. The carpeting in the Council chambers and offices has been installed. The tile has also been replaced.
- Movie at the Park – Encanto was a success. Approximately 160 people were in attendance. Some vendors reported to have sold out of food. Great community spirit of unity and harmony among those there, with some individuals attending giving an applause at the end of the movie. Great team effort lead by Mary and Volunteers.
- This year's Pioneer Day Parade and Fiesta Day was a huge success, thank you Mary, Ashley, and all the team members for all your hard work. We are looking forward to next year. It was nice to see Representative Tim Dunn, and County Supervisor Darren Simmons and Town Councilmembers that were able to attend.
- Fake \$20.00 bill received at Town Hall. Chief Rodriguez will help our team with detection procedures to avoid future problems.

Council's Report

- Councilmember Biggs reported palm tree trimming is scheduled for March 7, 2024 at 8:00AM.
- Vice Mayor McCollough reported she attended the WACOG Strategic Planning Workshop on February 16, 2024. She has been the Vice Chair and is now the Chairwoman for WACOG. She is also Chairwoman of the YMPO Executive Board. She is also encouraging anyone interested in researching Project Central. It is a great opportunity to network, etc.
- Mayor Blitz reminded the audience of Night Golf at Butterfield Golf Course on March 16, 2024, Movies at the Park on February 16, 2024, Pioneer Day Parade and Fiesta on February 24, 2024, and Yuma Air Show on March 9, 2024.

Executive Session

None requested.

Adjournment

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

Davidson: Yay

Jones: Yay

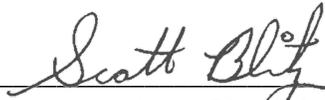
Blitz: Yay

Biggs: Yay

McCollough: Yay

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52PM.



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 March 5, 2024, and the meeting was duly called and posted and that a quorum was present.



Richard Marsh, Town Manager