

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Winslow City Council held on March 23, 2021 at 6:30 P.M. in the main hall of the Winslow Visitor's Center, 523 West Second Street, Winslow, Arizona.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Cano, Councilmember Boyd, Councilmember Cake, Councilmember Crisp, Councilmember Jackson, Councilmember MacLean, Councilmember Nelson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF:

John Barkley City Manager, Trish Stuhan City Attorney, Suzy Wetzel City Clerk, David Coolidge Assistant City Manager, Elias Jouen Finance Director, Ken Arend Police Chief, Ernie Cano Police Lieutenant, James Hernandez Fire Chief (via Zoom)

Mayor Cano called the meeting to order. The Pledge was given and the Invocation was offered by Councilmember Boyd. Roll call was taken and Councilmember Nelson was absent. Motion: Moved by Councilmember Boyd, seconded by Councilmember Cake, to excuse Councilmember Nelson. Motion passed unanimously with Mayor Cano and Councilmembers Boyd, Cake, Crisp, Jackson and MacLean voting yes. Councilmember Nelson arrived at 6:40 p.m.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Laurie LaShomb spoke as a business owner to a newly established non-profit thrift store and commented on the positive impact that an Economic Development Manager would have on both current and potential businesses in the community. Ms. LaShomb asked that the Mayor and City Council aggressively look for an Economic Development Manager that can partner with small businesses, as well as be a recruiter for bigger businesses. In response to Mayor Cano requesting that there be an open discussion to include this position in the budget, the City Manager stated that a solid recruiting program is a priority for staff.

Michelle Pennington spoke in honor of Fair Housing Month and requested that a task force be established to assist renters with landlord issues. Mayor Cano requested that staff look into this request. The City Manager stated that there has been past discussion regarding establishment of a Rental Inspection Program.

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS REPORTS

A. Current Events and Announcements

Mayor Cano thanked everyone for their support during the recent loss of her mother.

Councilmember Cake recognized Councilmember MacLean and his wife for working on the landscaping along the First Street Walkway. Councilmember Cake also encouraged property owners to keep their property clean.

Councilmember Crisp referred to the Facebook post on the Police Department's page and provided the non-emergency phone number (928-289-2422) for the police department. Councilmember Crisp also announced the following:

- In-person and online registration details for Little League
- Community food distribution event scheduled for Thursday, March 25th
- Farmers Market season beginning April 10th from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the First Street Gazebo

In response to a question from Mayor Cano, Councilmember Crisp stated that food vendors will be participating in the Farmers Market.

Mayor Cano stated that she would like to schedule a Community Cleanup next month in conjunction with Earth Day. There was a brief discussion regarding placement of dumpsters for the event. The City Attorney reminded the Council that discussion regarding this item is limited under the Open Meeting Law.

Mayor Cano stated that she would like for the savings from the jail tax to be used to bring police officer salaries into a range that is more competitive with Navajo County. In response to a question from Mayor Cano, the City Manager stated that the public will be invited to provide their suggestions regarding the Capital Improvement Plan at the budget work session.

Mayor Cano referred to a recent Facebook post stating that she was advocating for a minimum wage increase and stated, for the record, that the post is inaccurate. Mayor Cano further stated that she realizes that such an increase would be detrimental to Winslow businesses.

B. Future Agenda Items

Councilmember Nelson requested that an update regarding the tree planting campaign be provided at an upcoming meeting.

Mayor Cano referred to her previous request for the lighting costs at the 3B's Truck Stop and requested that the information be included on an upcoming agenda.

Councilmember MacLean requested that an update regarding the splash pad be provided at an upcoming meeting.

SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

A. Proclamation Proclaiming April as Fair Housing Month

Mayor Cano read the proclamation into the record.

B. Presentation from Navajo County Health Director Janelle Linn and Emergency Manager Catrina Jenkins

Navajo County Health Director Janelle Linn extended her sympathy to those who were negatively impacted or suffered a loss due to COVID-19. Ms. Linn provided a PowerPoint presentation showing current case counts, cases per week from January 1, 2020 to present and per 100,000 rate and percent positivity. Ms. Linn discussed the three variant strains and stated that the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are showing efficacy against all three.

Ms. Linn also discussed the vaccination rate in Navajo County stating that 10,893 complete doses have been administered and 19,244 first doses have been administered. Ms. Linn responded to a question from Mayor Cano regarding whether the number of doses administered includes those who were vaccinated at the Indian Health Care Center.

Navajo County Emergency Manager Catrina Jenkins provided information regarding multiple vaccination sites throughout Navajo County wherein it has not been necessary to open Point of Distribution (POD) sites at this time. Ms. Jenkins stated that some POD sites may be activated in the future depending on the number of vaccines that are provided to Navajo County.

C. Presentation from Arizona Route 66 Association Regarding Route 66 Grant Opportunities

Rhett Butler, speaking on behalf of the Historic Route 66 Association of Arizona, provided a PowerPoint presentation detailing Route 66 grant opportunities being offered through the association. Mr. Butler

explained that they are looking for projects that will preserve, promote and protect Route 66 in Arizona. The presentation included information regarding the grant projects awarded to the City of Williams and CUNY/Queens College in 2020.

Mr. Butler responded to questions and comments from the Council and provided his contact information for anyone who would like to reach out to him regarding the grant process.

STATUS REPORTS

A. Verbal Status Report on Current City Activities by City Manager

The following reports were provided under the City Manager's Status Report:

The City Manager commented on details of the budget process including a capital improvement project and equipment wish list that has been received from various departments and the impact that sales tax revenues will have on the upcoming budget.

The City Manager referred to the most recent Governor's Executive Order that allows for local approval of gatherings of 50 or more individuals and stated that he will approve those administratively and inform the Mayor & Council of the events.

The City Manager commented on the pandemic and reminded citizens to not get complacent with regard to COVID-19. In closing, the City Manager asked for the public's assistance by reporting street light issues to the city.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Crisp requested that Items C & E be pulled for discussion and Councilmember Nelson requested that Item H be pulled for discussion. Motion: Moved by Councilmember Cake, seconded by Councilmember Boyd, to approve the Consent Calendar minus Items C, E & H. Motion passed unanimously with Mayor Cano and Councilmembers Boyd, Cake, Crisp, Jackson, MacLean and Nelson voting yes.

A. Check Register

B. Minutes – City Council Regular Meeting – March 9, 2021

C. Little League Agreement for 20/21 Season

Jimmy Curnutte, Little League President, discussed their Physical Distancing and Safety Plan for the upcoming season. After Mr. Curnutte responded to questions and comments from the Mayor and members of the Council, Councilmember MacLean made a motion to approve the Little League Agreement for the 20/21 season. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Boyd and passed unanimously with Mayor Cano and Councilmembers Boyd, Cake, Crisp, Jackson, MacLean and Nelson voting yes.

- D. Umpires Association Agreement for 2021 (Sandra Knight)**
- E. Interlocal Contract for Cooperative Purchasing with Houston Galveston Area Council (HGAC)**

The City Manager explained that this contract is required to allow cooperative purchasing through the Houston-Galveston Area Council Cooperative Purchasing Program and will result in considerable savings when purchasing equipment.

Motion: Moved by Councilmember Crisp, seconded by Councilmember Cake, to approve the Interlocal Contract for cooperative purchasing with Houston Galveston Area Council. Motion passed unanimously with Mayor Cano and Councilmembers Boyd, Cake, Crisp, Jackson, MacLean and Nelson voting yes.

- F. Acceptance of Governor's Office of Highway Safety Proposition 207 Funding**
- G. Ordinance No. 1359 Amending Article VII, Additional Tax, of the City Tax Code and Section 4.08.050 of the Municipal Code Extending a Special One Percent (1%) Transaction Privilege Sales Tax for an Additional Five-Year Period from July 15, 2021**
- H. Ordinance No. 1360 Extending the Development Agreement for Hancock Estates Subdivision for an Additional Three Years**

The City Manager explained that Hancock Estates Subdivision is a residential subdivision located on East Hillview that went through the Development Review Board process in 2012. The City Manager further explained that Mr. Hancock experienced, and continues to experience, difficulties with financing due to floodplain issues affecting the property wherein he is requesting another three-year extension of his Development Agreement.

In response to a question from Mayor Cano, the City Manager explained the ramifications of not approving the extension. Mr. Hancock also commented on the actions that would be necessary to develop the subdivision in the future if this extension is not approved. Mr. Hancock responded to a question from Mayor Cano regarding the impact that the floodplain issues have with regarding to moving forward with development of the property.

After Mr. Hancock responded to further questions from the Mayor and members of the Council, the City Manager commented on the process and timeline for recertification of the levee.

Motion: Moved by Councilmember MacLean, seconded by Councilmember Boyd, to approve Ordinance No. 1360 extending the Development Agreement for Hancock Estates Subdivision for an additional three years. Motion passed by roll call vote with Councilmembers Boyd, Cake, Jackson and MacLean voting yes and Mayor Cano and Councilmembers Crisp and Nelson voting no.

COUNCIL CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding City Attorney Services

The City Attorney explained that she has accepted a position with Pierce Coleman PLLC, whom the city has worked with through the risk pool. The City Attorney stated that one of the reasons she decided to move to Pierce Coleman is the resources the firm has with regard to municipal law.

The City Attorney discussed the options available with regard to city attorney services, one of those being to approve an assignment of the city's legal services contract to Pierce Coleman so that she would continue to serve as the City Attorney. After the City Attorney responded to questions from the Council and the City Manager regarding the process for reassignment of the contract, the following motion was made:

Motion: Moved by Councilmember Boyd, seconded by Councilmember MacLean, to approve the assignment of the City Attorney legal services contract to Pierce Coleman effective April 1, 2021. Motion passed unanimously with Mayor Cano and Councilmembers Boyd, Cake, Crisp, Jackson, MacLean and Nelson voting yes.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Moved by Councilmember Cake, seconded by Councilmember Boyd, to adjourn at 8:26 p.m. Motion passed unanimously with Mayor Cano and Councilmembers Boyd, Cake, Crisp, Jackson, MacLean and Nelson voting yes.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Winslow City Council held on March 23, 2021 at 6:30 P.M. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and that a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2021.

City Clerk