

CITY OF WILLIAMS CITY COUNCIL

ANNOTATED MINUTES
AGENDA ITEM

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JULY 28, 2011
COUNCIL ACTION

I. PROCEDURES:

- A. Call to Order Mayor Moore called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- B. Pledge and Invocation Dennis Nelson led the pledge of allegiance, and Ruth Sanzari offered the invocation.
- C. Roll Call Mayor John Moore and Councilmen Don Dent (Vice-Mayor), Bernie Hiemenz, Frank McNelly, Bill Miller, Lee Payne, and James Wurgler were present and constituted a quorum.
Present from City Staff were Interim City Manager/Finance Director Joe Duffy, Police Chief Herman Nixon, Public Works Director Glenn Cornwell, Water Department Supervisor Billy Pruett, and City Clerk/HR Director Susan Kerley.
City Attorney Kellie Peterson and Gioia Goodrum, Williams-Grand Canyon Chamber of Commerce President/CEO were present.
- D. Approval of Minutes: July 19, 2011, and July 14, 2011 Councilman McNelly made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilman Miller seconded the motion, and it carried 6-0.
- E. Adoption of Agenda Councilman Dent made a motion to adopt the agenda, and it was seconded by Councilman Hiemenz. The motion carried 6-0.

II. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Presentation regarding WUSD Bond Election: Tristan Heisley and Becky Nelson
Tristan Heisley offered a Power Point presentation covering *What is a bond? and Benefits of the Bond*. He pointed out that kids deserve better, safer facilities, and the bond can help provide this. Uses of the bond proceeds at Williams Elementary-Middle School would include ridding the ball field of prairie dogs and installing a synthetic field, an access lane going all the way around the school to provide a much safer circulation of vehicles, a bus barn reconfiguration that would allow driving buses through the barn rather than backing them into it, and strengthening the steel in the auditorium roof. Uses of the bond proceeds at Williams High School gymnasium would include eliminating the vapor problem between the ceiling and the roof, remodeling the boys' and girls' locker rooms and showers, constructing new public restrooms and concession area, correcting safety issues and bringing the stage area into ADA compliance along with replacing the stage curtains, installing energy-efficient fixtures, and refinishing the wood floor. District-wide projects would include installing security technology, and purchasing five new buses. The bond would cost an annual, average tax of \$32.00.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

IV. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

- B. Approval of Purchase Orders: J. Duffy Councilman Wurgler made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Councilman Miller seconded the motion,
- C. Request for waiver of Rodeo Grounds' fees for Arizona Junior Rodeo Association, September 10th and 11th.

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and it carried 6-0.

V. *NON-CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:*

- D. Discussion and decision on Ordinance No.923 regarding the levying of taxes on the assessed valuation of property within the City of Williams for the fiscal year 2011-2012: J. Duffy
- Joe Duffy noted that approvals of the two ordinances are the last two items to complete the budget process for 2011-2012.
- Councilman Dent made a motion to read Ordinance No. 923 by name and title only. The motion was seconded by Councilman McNelly, and it carried 6-0.
- Joe Duffy read Ordinance No. 923 by name and title only.
- Councilman Dent made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 923, setting the tax rate at 1.2778. The motion was seconded by Councilman Payne, and it carried 6-0.
- E. Discussion and decision on Ordinance No. 924 regarding the primary property tax rate and levy for the fiscal year 2011-2012 for the Williams Community Facilities District: J. Duffy
- Joe Duffy explained that the Community Facilities District members voted to increase their primary property tax rate sufficient to raise the sum of \$5,000 to the sum of \$7,500. This tax is just levied on the people of this District.
- Councilman Dent made a motion to read Ordinance No. 924 by name and title only. The motion was seconded by Councilman Payne, and it carried 6-0.
- Joe Duffy read Ordinance No. 924 by name and title only.
- Councilman Dent made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 924, and the motion was seconded by Councilman Payne. It carried 6-0.
- F. Discussion and possible action regarding City Council's direction to staff and approval of Resolution No. 1270, expressing the Council's position regarding Arizona's Legislative Redistricting: J. Moore
- Councilman Dent pointed out that three scenarios regarding redistricting have been created, A, B, and C. In Scenario C, everything north of here would be in a separate district.
- Kellie Peterson, who attended a meeting that afternoon, said the Board of Supervisors voted to support Scenario A and asked the City of Williams to submit a resolution. She added that Scenario C would break up the existing voting precincts, which is against their guidelines. Four of five Supervisors voted to support a revised A and asked for a resolution from the City before this outcome is presented. The Resolution is now written to take anything but C; Council could change the Resolution to support A. The final decision will be made at the September 27th meeting of the Board of Supervisors. There may be more changes to A, but they should not impact the Williams' area.
- Councilman McNelly said that he had spoken with Supervisor Matt Ryan, who said 5,500 persons need to be cut out of the District. Councilman McNelly suggested cutting out Northern Arizona University.
- Ms. Peterson suggested more input from Council and then revising

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the Ordinance as there is time to accomplish this.

Councilman McNelly made a motion to direct Counsel to revise Resolution No. 1270, supporting Scenario A, with the ability to change it if new developments occur. Councilman Hiemenz seconded the motion, and it carried 6-0.

- G. After review of the estimate and materials lists and discussion regarding a community stage, Council may make a decision to fund the construction of the community stage:
Dennis Nelson

Mayor Moore introduced Dennis Nelson by saying that a few months ago, Mr. Nelson pointed out the benefits of having a community stage and has led the effort to accomplish this project.

Dennis Nelson showed renderings of the proposed stage that would be adjacent to the Babbitt-Polson Warehouse in the Visitors' Center parking lot. As early as 1996, a report suggested a shade structure or community stage in this location. He said that the 20' x 30' stage would be built with materials that would be compatible with the warehouse, and it would be accessible for musical equipment, lighting, and electrical. He already has more than \$2,000 in committed materials and labor, and Tim Pettit (Building Inspector) is prepared to issue a permit for construction. He believes they can bring in the project for approximately \$13,000. Plays, skits, musical bands, small orchestral groups and pageants could appear there. He is prepared to move forward next week if the project is approved, and his goal is to have it done by Labor Day.

Mayor Moore asked Joe Duffy if funds were available. Mr. Duffy said that it could be paid from BBB funds because \$30,000 was budgeted to pave the additional parking area north of the Visitors' Center. The paving could be moved into next year's budget.

Mayor Moore suggested using allocated Main Street funds and holding off on the paving.

Councilman Dent suggested that more planning is needed for utilities before the paving is started. Also, fences must be erected.

Councilman McNelly asked if the City intends to charge a fee for use of the stage. Mr. Nelson said it would be legitimate to charge for private use of the facility.

Councilman Miller assumed that its management and scheduling would be put under the Parks and Recreation Department. Joe Duffy concurred.

Mayor Moore added that we may want an Entertainment Committee to handle these functions. He also asked Joe Duffy to get the cost of fencing as soon as possible.

Yvette Hudson, chairperson of the Historic Preservation Commission, added that from their perspective, this is a perfect use for this location, and it will be an asset to the community.

Councilman Dent made a motion to fund \$13,000 for the construction of the stage at the Babbitt-Polson Warehouse. The motion was

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seconded by Councilman Hiemenz, and it carried 6-0.

- H. After a review of Labor Day's Fireworks Plan, Council may make a decision whether or not to have fireworks during Labor Day weekend: G. Goodrum

Mayor Moore said that he spoke with Gioia Goodrum, and she felt that quite a few events were already planned for Labor Day weekend. She thought it would be a good idea to do the fireworks at the Christmas parade.

Joe Duffy said we would be using up a credit for fireworks, but they have not yet been picked up. He does not know if the credit will extend until Christmas, but it has been offered for the past three years. The Grand Canyon Railway plans to use about \$500 of the fireworks for the Bicentennial celebration. He added that he met with Staff this week, and everyone is ready to go on Labor Day weekend. He hopes that this becomes an annual event.

Gioia Goodrum said that the Chamber prefers having the fireworks during the Parade of Lights to add more lights to the occasion.

Councilman Dent suggested it might be a possibility to have the fireworks during one of the several fall weekends when Grand Canyon Railway is planning Pumpkin Runs.

Mayor Moore and Councilman Payne expressed concern for the safety of horses present for the Labor Day Rodeo if fireworks were shot off then.

Mayor Moore noted that we are trying to bring people to town with simultaneous events. He asked the Chamber to take a look at events and how they're done. He suggested not adding events to a time that is already busy, like July Fourth. Councilman Miller made a motion to leave it to the Chamber of Commerce to decide when fireworks would be done. Councilman Wurgler seconded the motion, and it carried 6-0.

- I. Discussion and decision authorizing the issuance of the Public Report and publishing the Notice of Intention to Increase Electric Rates: J. Duffy

Joe Duffy asked Council members to refer to his handout. On August 25th, there would be a Public Hearing to discuss rates. At that time Council would decide whether or not to go forward with an increase. There is no real guidance on rates, but the public should be given a lot of notice. The Notice of Intention simply says that Council is reviewing the rates. This is the third time he's brought an increase in rates to Council. He needs authorization to put it on the website and to publish it in the newspaper. He will add to the report the rates charged by other Arizona municipalities that own their electric systems. He would like to mirror the APS rate categories. They have about 200 categories while we have only eight. We can adjust rates by existing classifications or create new classifications. Mr. Duffy said he is asking for authorization to release his rate analysis.

Mayor Moore said that an expert at the recent AMPUA (Arizona Municipal Power Users Association) meeting said that a lot of municipalities and coops are increasing rates but reducing revenues.

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He wants to make sure we have a public hearing that is well advertised.

Councilman McNelly made a motion to release the public report on rates. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller, and it carried 6-0.

- J. Update from Staff on current status of water system, including the status of the existing pumps and wells, water tanks, distribution system, water plant, and plans for repairs and system updates: G. Cornwell

Mayor Moore introduced this item by saying that he has been inundated with questions about the water system, and he has no answers. There is a lot of information floating around in the community.

Glenn Cornwell asked if Council preferred a question and answer session or a report.

Councilman McNelly felt that the issues had been discussed thoroughly at Council's special meeting (July 19, 2011), but he wanted an update on the wells.

Glenn Cornwell replied that he anticipates having a new system up within two weeks to take care of the manganese. The wells have been down so well water could not be mixed into the water. He gave Council members a handout from the Oklahoma vendor, providing an overview/evaluation of the equipment that was sent to them.

Joe Duffy said that all the above-ground well equipment was sent to this vendor for evaluation with the goal of getting a pump operational for Dogtown III. Central Lift has not been responsive to our urgency. ESP, a subsidiary of General Electric, committed to picking up our equipment at Central Lift and testing it within two days of picking it up. The estimates for a Dogtown I pump are \$147,000 from Central Lift and \$131,000 from ESP; for a Dogtown III pump, they are \$173,000 and \$161,000. He said we need to send someone to ESP to evaluate the equipment and get Dogtown III up and running. Then we could evaluate Dogtown I while the equipment for III is being mobilized.

Public participant, Pat Carpenter, said that Central Lift is busy because they have better equipment. He maintained that we had the equipment for the well that was to be stored vertically and sent back to its manufacturer for service.

Mayor Moore agreed with Councilman McNelly that we were remiss somewhere, but the bigger issue is that it is affecting the whole community and is impacting hotels and motels. It sounds like it will cost about half a million to get the system up and running. He asked for resolution, the faster the better.

Councilman Payne asked that a Water Department representative accompany Patch Carr to the vendor's.

Councilman Wurgler said he was hearing that, if we do the best we can, it will be six weeks till the pump and wells are up and running,

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and that the brown water problem should be resolved within two weeks.

Billy Pruett said that the equipment to correct the brown water will be delivered on Monday, and it should be installed by next week. After Labor Day, they plan to flush the lines. There may be some residual for a week or so after that.

It was determined that Staff could arrange for Patch Carr and a Water Department representative to go to the vendor's without an action by Council.

Mayor Moore said that the City needs to stop saying the water will clear within two weeks. We need to be up front and say that the water will clear over time.

VI. REPORTS AND INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. Mayor and Council The Mayor said that the wind farm construction company will have 400 workers at its peak of operation.

He and Councilman Hiemenz attended an AMPUA meeting on Wednesday. They discussed power from the Hoover Dam. He thinks we should request Hoover Dam power. Michael Curtis will contact Joe Duffy for a letter.

B. Staff Reports Joe Duffy said that Staff will be ordering new audience chairs for Council Chambers.

Susan Kerley reported that 83 resumés for the City Manager position have been received. Copies of all resumés will be available for Council members' review on Tuesday, August 2nd. Determination of those to be interviewed will be made in Executive Session at the August 11th Council meeting. Then appointments for interviews will be set on August 12th.

Mayor Moore asked the Chamber of Commerce to plan a social event once Council narrows it down to several candidates.

VIII. ADJOURN:

Councilman Dent made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Councilman Payne. It carried 6-0, and the meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

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ATTEST

City Clerk

DRAFT