



Tri - City Council

MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Tri-City Council

Wednesday, July 31, 2019, at 10:00 a.m.

Anderson Auto Group Fieldhouse

3663 Bullhead Parkway, Bullhead City AZ 86442



City of

Bullhead City, Arizona

Tom Brady, Mayor

Annette Wegmann, Vice Mayor

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Mayor Cal Sheehy.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Mayor Sheehy led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL

Lake Havasu City

Council Present

Cal Sheehy, Mayor

Donna McCoy, Councilmember

Gordon Groat, Councilmember

Michele Lin, Councilmember

Staff Present

Jess Knudson, City Manager

Jerri Bracamonte, City Administration

Bullhead City

Council Present

Tom Brady, Mayor

Staff Present

Toby Cotter, City Manager

Sue Stein, City Clerk

Brian Williamson, Police Chief

Angie Johnson, Interim Public Works Director

Anthony Kozlowski, Assistant to the City Manager

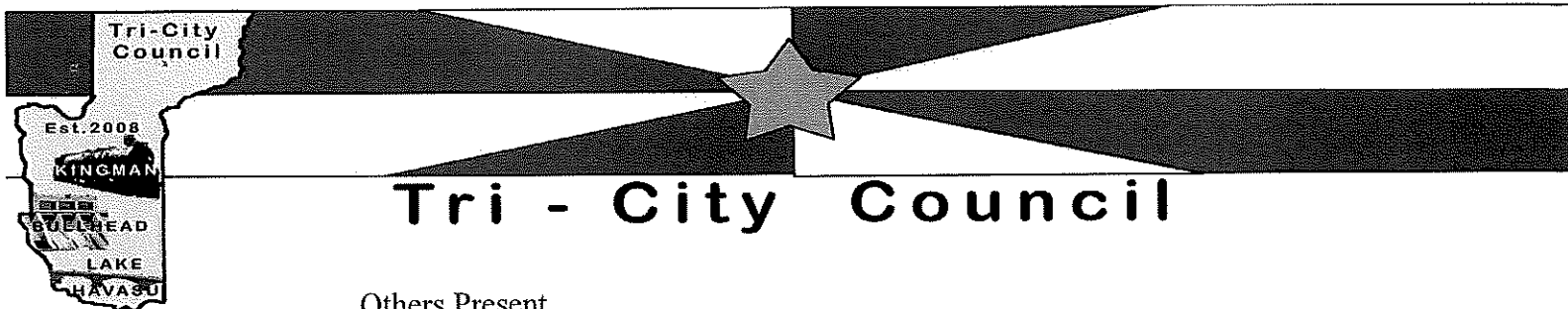
City of Kingman

Council Present

Jen Miles, Mayor

Staff Present

Ron Foggin, City Manager



Others Present

Regina Cobb, Arizona State Representative
Hildy Angius, Mohave County Supervisor
Kristi Blair, Mohave County Recorder
Tami Ursenbach, Mohave County Economic Development
Olivia McCormick, Catholic Charities
Cathy Peterson, Catholic Charities
Stacy Klippenstein, Mohave Community College
Sean Bristle, Mohave Community College
Alvin Stump, Arizona Dept. of Transportation
Michelle Beggs, Arizona Dept. of Transportation
Jaime Hernandez, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Justin Hembree, Western Arizona Council of Governments
Vinny Gallegos, Lake Havasu
Daisy Nelson, Lake Havasu News Herald



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**LAKE HAVASU CITY
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Ed Catalfamo, Manager of the new Anderson Auto Group Fieldhouse, welcomed the group. He said the Fieldhouse was a \$30 million voter approved facility, and said it had the capability for indoor football, soccer, rugby, lacrosse, had four basketball courts, and pickle ball courts. He said they looked forward to a great fall season that included many sporting tournaments, concerts, and other venues.

3. Appointment of Chairperson

Mayor Sheehy said it was his turn to serve as Chairperson during the next year.

4. Call to the Public

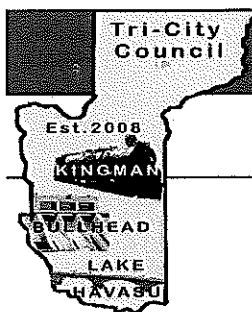
There were no requests to address the Tri-City Council.

5. Comments from Special Guests

State Representative Regina Cobb said she was pleased there was a more "rural" budget this year; and said they accomplished the Drought Contingency Plan, finalized the Wayfair issue, repealed the licensing fee, had health successes with opioids, and said a behavioral health center in Bullhead City would be opening soon. She said they were able to get more HURF dollars to the cities. She said there was also the \$20 million infrastructure project in Kingman and the completion of the Bullhead City state land swap for land along the river.



City of Kingman, Arizona
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Travis Lingenfelter, Vice Mayor



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6. Approval of the Minutes from the April 17, 2019 TCC Meeting

Bullhead City Clerk Stein said the minutes of the April 17, 2019 meeting would be included on the next Tri-City Council meeting agenda for approval.



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City of Kingman, Arizona
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7. Mohave County Supervisors Update

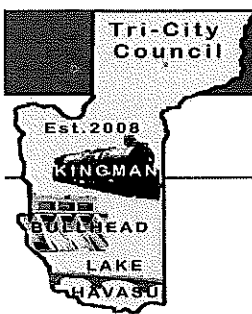
Mohave County Supervisor Hildy Angius said the county was in the process of reviewing next year's budget. She said total preliminary budget was \$311 million with a balanced general fund of \$93 million, and said all other funds totaled \$215 million. She said there was a projected surplus of \$5 million which would offset the current expenditures. She said they reduced the property tax rate from \$1.96 to \$1.94. She said they were giving more to the Sheriff's Office, more to the Courts and County Attorney's Office, and giving the employees a 2.5 percent increase. She said they budgeted money for an animal shelter and said her dream was that it could be built in a location that all cities could benefit from. She said a 28-day drug treatment center would open soon in Bullhead City. She said mental health was the new push by the Trump administration. She said she would visit Washington D.C. and work on getting more funding for a mental health facility in Mohave County. She said the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) changed the name of the "Wild Horse and Burro Conference" to "Free Roaming Equid." She said she was hopeful that more action would be taken in the future to control the burro population.

8. Discussion on Legislative Issues

Mayor Brady said they had a registered sex offender in town driving a taxi. He said the Legislature prohibited sex offenders from driving ubers, but not through a licensed taxi company. He said Representative Cobb was working on this issue.

Mayor Miles said they were working on the ground water issues, and said she served on the state level committee for Mohave County. Representative Cobb said many high volume water users were coming into the county without much control. She said she had budgeted for studies last year, and said the study committees would come out with some recommendations that could be worked toward. Mayor Miles said the City of Kingman would be planting seeds to inform the public of the proactive measures the city was taking regarding local water issues and concerns.

Bullhead City Manager Cotter said Bullhead City would soon have a large trail system completed and asked if there had been any state level discussions on e-scooters. Representative Cobb said when they started seeing problems and having a real issue with the public, something would be done.



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Chairman Mayor Sheehy said they were drafting new ordinance language regarding short term rentals and said they would need some help from the state to fix the law.

Mayor Brady asked what would happen in order to fund DPS in the future now that the registration fees were phased out. Representative Cobb said she was working so it did not come back on the cities, and said DPS should be their own fund. She said her goal was to never move back the HURF dollars again.



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Mayor Brady asked if there would be more dollars for the Heritage Fund in the future. Representative Cobb said some of the appropriations in the former Heritage Fund were not being used for what the fund was meant to do, and said they did not want to put more money into the original fund and got rid of it.

Lake Havasu City Manager Knudson asked if there were issues about negotiations with state parks and ADEQ contracts having to go through the Attorney General's office. He said they had some contracts that were being held up. Representative Cobb said she would look into this.

Kingman City Manager Foggin said road infrastructure needed to be addressed and said user fees had to be increased at the gas pump. He said their roads were in desperate shape. Representative Cobb said there was no tolerance for a new gas tax with the current Legislature. She said until the state felt there was no alternative way to fund road construction, the Legislature would not vote for any tax.

Vinny Gallegos said the Rural Transportation Summit would be held on October 16-18. He said the host this year would be the Southeastern Council of Governments. He said this was the 21st year for greater Arizona representatives to gather specifically on the topic of transportation.

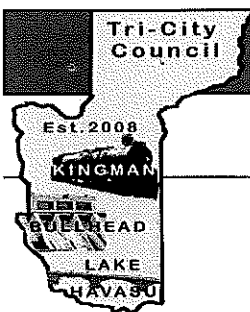
Dr. Stacy Klippenstein said he was the new President of the Mohave Community College. He said he had the opportunity to meet with each city which helped to highlight the importance of having the college facilities located in Mohave County. He said it was all about the communities and the students they served. He said Shawn Bristle would assist him in upcoming community outreach efforts.

9. Update from the Arizona Department of Transportation

Alvin Stump said their funding that included \$20 million for Rancho Santa Fe, the I-17 and I-10 projects was a big win. He said Mohave County funding over the next five years was \$158 million which did not include the \$20 million to the City of Kingman, but said there were still more needs. He said the focus would be on road preservation and modernization. He said two projects were deferred: Cain Springs from 2023 and the Big Jim Wash. He said they were recently awarded a \$90 million grant which would free up more money. He said they were working on projects such as the Kiowa project in Lake Havasu City, Aztec Drive in Fort Mohave, Carrow



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Stephens project near Wikieup, 93 north, Pierce Ferry Road, and median and safety projects in Bullhead City. He said they had about 15 attendees in the stakeholder meeting about the West Kingman TI, and said it was very positive. He said they would provide an update and hold a public hearing this fall, moving into the final design next year. He said they spent \$245,000 to upgrade the signal lights in Bullhead City along Highway 95 with smart detection systems to allow adjustments in programming that improved traffic flow. He said the equipment also gathered data on traffic volumes.

Mayor Brady asked if the programming could be used to control traffic during large events. Mr. Stump said it was his understanding that an event would need to be modeled and then a timing plan could be determined.

County Supervisor Angius thanked Mr. Stump and ADOT for working with the community on the proposed roundabout projects.

Chairman Mayor Sheehy adjourned the meeting for lunch at 11:10 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

10. Economic Development Report/Introduce Tami Ursenbach, Director

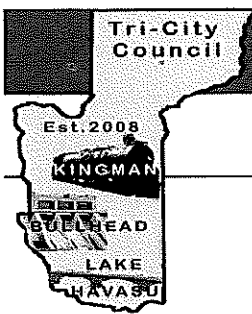
Tami Ursenbach provided a brief history of her former economic development experience in Idaho and Utah. She said she focused on creating relationships with the Chambers and real estate companies in order to bring businesses to the area. She said the I-40 and the future I-11 were attracting development of an industrial park, truck stops, restaurants, and hotels in Yucca, White Hills, and near the City of Kingman. She said two or three RV parks were being developed in that area. She said the Kingman Industrial Park needed the Rancho Santa Fe off ramp opened for business to continue. She said development continued to grow in the Industrial Park. She said she spoke to some developers that were interested in Fort Mohave and Mohave Valley. She said a small manufacturing company that employed 20 people would open soon, and said an auto finisher would also be opening soon along the highway in Fort Mohave. She said on June 1st, they were able to start growing hemp in the county, and said there were two groups starting the process to grow hemp in North Kingman and Colorado City on about 300 acres. She said this opened up the opportunity to attract manufacturing companies for hemp. She said a medical manufacturer would be opening in the near future, and said some distribution warehouses from California would be coming to the Industrial Park. She said a green manufacturing company with a three-year build out that employed 400 would be coming somewhere along I-40 next year. She said she hoped to get a grocery store in Golden Valley and a small store in Dolan Springs. She said an investor would be expanding and improving Oatman with rest rooms and other amenities.



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Ms. Ursenbach said a ground breaking for Project Shield, or the “Hive” would take place on August 6th by invitation only. She said the project was a solar data center that had 1,600 trailers with solar panels, and 350 containers that served as data centers on 717 acres, and they were looking to expand to about 3,000 acres in Mohave County. She said this project would put Mohave County on the map.



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11. Discussion on Arizona Town Hall in Lake Havasu City

Chairman Mayor Sheehy said they had an opportunity to bring First Things First to Mohave County in support of strong families and thriving children. He said he was on the Arizona Town Hall Board, and said money would need to be raised in order to hold the Town Hall. He asked for comments about possibly holding it in two locations and to determine some possible dates and times.

City Manager Cotter said Bullhead City would be happy to work with the non-profits and support a Town Hall.

A discussion took place regarding possible dates and times to hold the Town Hall. A suggestion was made to hold it in the late afternoon on a Thursday, or during lunch time on a Friday.



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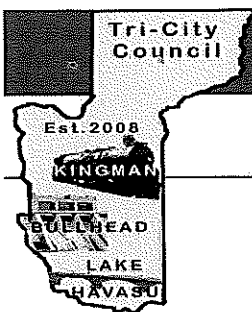
12. Discussion on Homeless Issues

Cathy Peterson said Olivia McCormick and she served on the Board for Catholic Charities. She said a homeless task force began in Bullhead City that also worked with the non-profit organizations. She said a 57-bed shelter was being built for men, women, veterans and three families on North Oatman Drive in Bullhead City. She said they would still have a day center and a medical clinic at the new location. She said the BHHS Legacy Foundation gave them a \$1.4 million challenge grant, meaning they had to raise \$1.4 million. She said they had \$500,000 remaining to raise. She said they were shooting to open in January 2020 and they were on track. She said they believed they would be full every night. She said they would need armies of volunteers and help from the churches.



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Ms. Peterson said Bullhead City would provide some financial assistance in the future, Mohave Electric Cooperative was giving them free solar and cash donation, and said Catholic Charities would also provide assistance. She said they were applying for many grants. She said the name of the facility would be “The Legacy Foundation Christine Stamper Center for Health and Home.” She said Dr. Stamper’s family donated \$500,000 to the shelter.



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City Manager Cotter said this project has taken about six years to evolve, and started with the day center. He said they worked with all the churches and there was some downside; but sometimes people just needed a shower, clean clothes, or help with a resume. He said they had been successfully putting people back into the community with jobs, along with providing daily bus passes to the homes and monthly bus passes to those that transitioned to a job. He said they already knew that 57 beds were not enough.

Mayor Brady said the city handled the homeless issues differently now. He said volunteers were called to encampments, not the police, to try to find people other places to live. He said they could not keep arresting people just because they were homeless in order to fix the problem.

Mayor Miles said they focused on helping veterans and finding alternative ways to work with them if they could not pay their fine. She said construction of the Veterans' Villas had been approved which would house 45 homeless veterans in Kingman.


Chairman Mayor Sheehy said Lake Havasu put together a community resource group with more than 100 organizations and agencies. He said they put all of the players together and recently held their first meeting to discuss the services that were offered, how the services were accessed, if there were any duplications, and determine what areas were left out. He said they planned to have another meeting on August 15th. He said they had a partnership with ASU to take over the administration of this program. He said they met with the county to determine if additional housing resources were available.

Mayor Miles said the Department of Housing had a database that could track the available resources for homeless assistance and housing.

Mayor Brady said Bullhead City made tremendous strides in bringing all of the organizations together and held monthly meetings to make sure the program stayed on track.

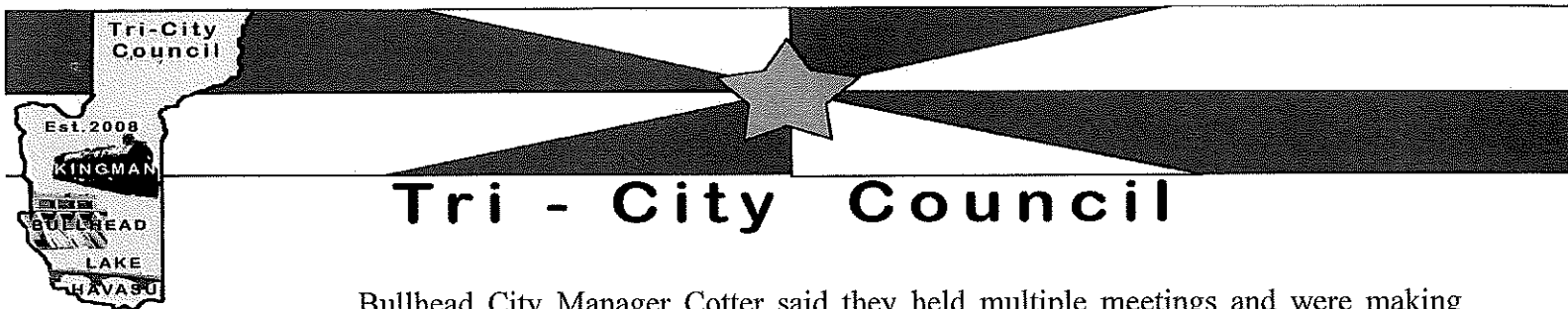
13. Update on the 2020 Census Activities

Kingman City Manager Foggin said they formed a Complete Count Task Force and created a list of major stakeholders to help them. He said training was held at the County Administration Building, and said they planned to hold regular meetings with the task force. He said they had been in contact with the region's census representative from Flagstaff and things were moving along. He said the city budgeted \$25,000 for this effort.


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Bullhead City Manager Cotter said they held multiple meetings and were making progress. He said they diversified to include Hispanic and Mexican members of the community. He said they formed a “Swag” Committee to find giveaway items. He said the three cities and the county should get together in order to not duplicate each other and needlessly spend money on advertising and other things. He suggested forming a sub committee made up of staff members from each municipality’s committee. He said this was a huge problem as an undercount meant a loss of millions of dollars. He said the Census Bureau was hiring and encouraged the cities to find people to apply. He said Bullhead City budgeted \$200,000 in support of this effort.



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Lake Havasu City Manager Knudson said they attended census training and were bringing in the Chamber, School District and other agencies within the community to help spread the word. He said the first step was to convince citizens that it was not the government intruding on privacy, but the census gathering more information to get more dollars into the community. He said collaboration was necessary to get a bigger bang for their dollars. He said they budgeted \$25,000.

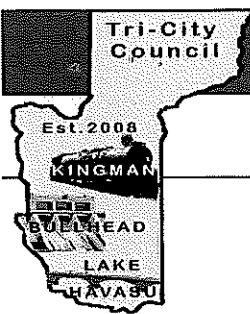
County Supervisor Angius said the county was doing much of the same work as the other cities, and would support the cities’ efforts.

14. Update on Vending Machines



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Mayor Brady provided follow-up information from their previous discussion. He said Ken Strobeck from the League of Arizona Cities and Towns took it upon himself to make this an issue before the League. He said he visited the League and addressed the issue with the representative committee, including the Chandler Parks and Recreation Department. He said Chandler indicated they made \$26,000 in vending machine revenue in their parks before the state contacted them and made them take out their machines and go with their program for the blind. He said they took the next step and talked with the Department of Administration to find out more about the program, how it operated, and if there was any wiggle room for change. He said they were told the program was up and running in Mohave County, but there were no blind people in the program. He said there should be an opt-out provision. He said the State of Texas had the same type of program but instead of having a “shall participate” by the local governments clause; their language was that local governments “may participate” in the program. He said the League was still conducting research and would not put it on the resolution committee for this August, but there was a possibility it would be included in the next legislative session for the following year. He said the vending machine law was not serving the population that it was designed to assist.



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15. Tri-City Booth – League Conference


Bullhead City Management Assistant Kozlowski said all three cities were working to finalize the Tri-City booth that would feature a photo booth and a Kingman brewery.



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16. Mayors' Reports – City Updates

Mayor Miles said Kingman City Clerk Muhle would be retiring and former Deputy Clerk Annie Meredith would transition into the role. She said she was appointed to the League Resolution Committee and would participate during the annual League Conference this year. She said Congressman Gosar would visit Kingman and hold a discussion on opportunity zones and the burros. She said the interchanges were taking a lot of their time as they had been working continuously on the agreements, and said they were approaching some type of closure. She said Kingman had a great downtown. She said they looked forward to having a new staff person who was part of the Vista Program join them. She said the new employee would be dedicated to work with the downtown initiatives and pull together the strategic plan and downtown revitalization study. She said it was gratifying to hear about airport users' group involvement with the airport master plan, which was progressing very well. She said the completion of the master plan would play a key part in opening up the 1,800 acres for phase 2 development. She said there were a lot of good things happening in Kingman.

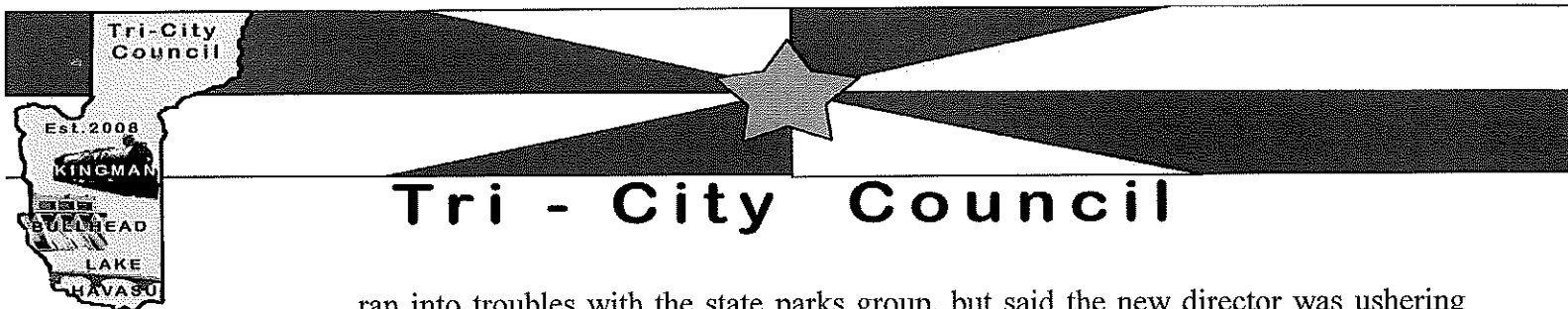

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Mayor Brady said the city went out to bid on the construction of the Heritage Trail project by the Bureau of Reclamation. He said the city received a \$6 million grant to build a trail from the dam to the Laughlin Bridge which would complete the loop around the river. He said the second bridge project had been going on since 2004, and there had been a setback but they were back on track. He said the Bullhead Parkway would continue to the river where the new bridge would be built. He said they expected construction on the \$50 million project to begin in the near future. He said they were at war with EPCOR water. He said the City Council would ask the voters to condemn EPCOR because the water bills had increased more than 86 percent in the last four years. He said EPCOR wanted to consolidate Bullhead City with nine other districts in Maricopa County, but said they were successful in intervening and not get that funded, but expected the issue to come back. He said an all-mail election would take place on November 5th. He said EPCOR said the system was worth \$130 million and the city's consultants indicated it was worth \$55 million. He said they were prepared to move forward once the voters had given their approval.



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Chairman Mayor Sheehy said the community resource group effort had been very positive for the community. He said the Riviera Project along Highway 95 would begin soon which would open access to the state park and some private development. He said the city, a private developer, and the state formed a partnership. He said they



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ran into troubles with the state parks group, but said the new director was ushering through the final documents and they were awaiting a meeting date to sign the documents. He said the Lake Havasu Avenue median project was recently completed. He said work on Swanson Avenue would shrink the roadway width and create a multi-use path and a bike lane connecting to the Pima Wash. He said future phases would continue the roadway when more funds were available. He said the Lake Havasu Unified School District held a back to school rally with the theme, "It starts with us, be a better part of someone's day." He said First Fridays would begin in September with music, entertainment and art vendors. He said the Smithsonian traveling exhibit called "Waterways" would be there in February 2020 for about one month.

County Supervisor Angius said the City of Needles, California declared itself a second amendment sanctuary city. She said she would ask the Board of Supervisors to approve a letter of support.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Tri-City Council, Chairman Mayor Sheehy declared the meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m.



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