

Upon notice duly given under Arizona Revised Statutes, Section 38-431, et seq., as amended, the City Council of the City of Bullhead City held a special meeting on Tuesday, June 5, 2018, in the Council Chambers, 1255 Marina Blvd., Bullhead City, Arizona.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brady called the special meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Present

Brady, Bruck, D'Amico, Ring, Wegmann

Council Absent

Clark, Shutts

Staff Present:

CITY MANAGER: Toby Cotter

CITY ATTORNEY: Garnet Emery

CITY CLERK: Susan Stein

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR: Keegan Littrell

DISCUSSION ITEM

1. Update on Highway 95 Improvements - Arizona Department of Transportation District Engineer Alvin Stump.

Alvin Stump, Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) District Engineer, said funding was approved for construction of a right turn lane onto Marina Blvd. slated for 2021 construction. He said they would upgrade the signal technology through the city on 41 signals which would take about two years. He said they submitted a request for funding median construction on the north end of the city but had not heard back at this time. He said accident data for the highway corridor from Teller to Aviation Way indicated almost 1,900 crashes, 21 fatalities, and 79 incapacitating injuries within a five-year period from 2012 to 2017. He said they felt they could reduce the number of accidents by adding raised medians at that location, as well as the location running from Valencia to Rainbow Drive. He said these two projects were strong candidates to receive funding. He said they wanted to begin discussions now and start the process. He said this was an opportunity to improve safety, aesthetics, coordinate with the downtown planning efforts, and support economic development. He said they were supportive of rockscaping in the medians, but not vegetation.

Mr. Stump displayed slides and explained various types of intersections.

Mayor Brady asked about the timing of the stop lights along Highway 95. Mr. Stump said their area signal manager indicated the current technology was outdated. He said they planned to update each signal with new technology, which would take some time; but said it would manage traffic much better.

Mayor Brady asked why some left turn signals did not operate more efficiently. Mr. Stump said loops were exposed in some areas due to pavement condition, and said those areas were not functional. He said they would replace some of the loops with radar detection which would function much more efficiently.

City Manager Cotter said this was an opportunity for the city to partner with ADOT to improve the area and reduce traffic accidents with the construction of medians similar to the medians constructed along Casino Blvd. in Laughlin that included decorative rocks and artwork. He said the artwork in Laughlin was not cheap, and said it could cost \$50,000 to \$75,000.

Mr. Stump said ADOT would provide the rocks and boulders in the proposed medians.

Council Members Bruck and Ring agreed the medians would provide some continuity between the roads in Laughlin and Bullhead City.

City Manager Cotter said Vice Mayor Clark wanted to make sure that business access was intensely studied at the project proposed for the south end of the city. Mr. Stump said ADOT would work with the city in talking with the businesses.

Mayor Brady asked if it would be possible to construct a right turn lane for westbound traffic off Bullhead Parkway onto Highway 95 at the bridge. Mr. Stump said he would discuss the possibility with his team at ADOT.

2. Report on upcoming road projects in Bullhead City: Corwin Road Traffic Signal and Mohave Drive/Miracle Mile Intersection Improvements.

Public Works Director Littrell discussed the proposed Corwin Road traffic signal. He said, at a recent ADOT public meeting, a truck driver made a comment that it would be difficult to get his truck up to speed if he had to stop at a light at the bottom of the hill on the highway. He said they went back to the design team and looked at other options. He provided a preliminary design that included two contiguous lanes going up the hill southbound on Highway 95 without stopping. He said left turns from Corwin would have a third lane enabling them to merge onto the highway both ways. He said their design engineers thought the updated design was better than the original proposed design.

City Manager Cotter said they needed to discuss the issues with Cocktails. Public Works Director Littrell said the recommendation was to close off Wolf Road. He said traffic would not be allowed to make a left turn into Cocktails off the highway with the new design. He said people leaving Cocktails would only be able to make a right turn heading south onto the highway. He said there was a 12-foot driveway that could be widened to enable traffic to come in and out from Cocktails.

Mr. Stump said the proposed signal took care of the east side of the highway, and said they should look at taking care of the west side. He said a "T" intersection could be constructed at Sterling which would address the left turn concern to the restaurant and allow the residents on the west side to enter and exit the highway. He said the proposed design had a safety benefit, and said they needed to plan the work in two phases.

Mayor Brady asked Mr. Stump about the time frame for a final design and approval from ADOT. Mr. Stump said there had been a lot of discussions to date, and said they needed to decide on a future plan for Sterling. He said he did not think the process would take much more time.

Public Works Director Littrell said they were ready to start working on the plans with the city's go-ahead. He said they also had the bid document ready to go.

The consensus of the Council was to move forward with the design and construction bid process.

Council Member Wegmann asked how drivers would be made aware of the new traffic improvement. Public Works Director Littrell said they planned to have a flashing light and sign that would alert traffic to the new intersection.

Mayor Brady asked if anyone from the public would like to speak.

Steve Slatt asked about the proposed stop light timing to allow left hand turns from both sides of Corwin Road. Public Works Director Littrell said northbound traffic would stop to allow left hand turns onto Corwin Road.

City Manager Cotter said the traffic safety enhancements installed at the intersection of Mohave Drive and Miracle Mile in 2012 had not been widely accepted, and said a new design was required in order to create a safer intersection. He said staff had been working with ADOT over the past year on some alternative designs.

Public Works Director Littrell said after the last Council work session, it was decided to look into installing a four-way stop and adding a right turn lane off Highway 95. He said some additional right-of way would be required to construct the additional turn lane, and said the owners had been contacted and were in favor. He said the existing "porkchop" and extruded curb would be removed.

Mayor Brady asked about the location of the eastbound stop sign on Mohave Drive. Public Works Director Littrell said they were planning on adding additional enhancements and installing the sign in the road.

Mr. Stump said he had not reviewed the traffic data regarding the queuing, and said he would rather not have the eastbound traffic stop. He said they would discuss the options with staff, and said he agreed the right turn lane would be beneficial.

Council Members Bruck and Wegmann both said they would like to see a four-way stop at the intersection.

Mayor Brady asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak. No one from the public spoke.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Council Member Wegmann made a motion to adjourn the special meeting and convene into executive session at 4:26 p.m. Council Member Bruck seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Bruck, D'Amico, Ring, Wegmann NAYS: None
ABSENT: Clark, Shutts

MOTION CARRIED

3. Discussion or consultation with the attorney of the public body for legal advice pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) concerning EPCOR Water of Arizona and the City's intervention in the rate case before the Arizona Corporation Commission and further legal advice and consultation concerning the City Council's ongoing directive into the study of the possible acquisition of EPCOR's assets in the Bullhead City area.

MOTION: Council Member Wegmann made a motion to adjourn from executive session and the special meeting at 5:09 p.m. Council Member Bruck seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Brady, Bruck, D'Amico, Ring, Wegmann NAYS: None
ABSENT: Clark, Shutts

MOTION CARRIED

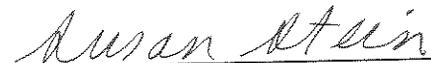
ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Brady declared the special meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct record of the special meeting of the City Council of the City of Bullhead City held on the 5th day of June 2018. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 19th day of June 2018.



Susan Stein, MMC, CPM
City Clerk