

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 regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, in the City Council Chambers, 1255 Marina Boulevard, Bullhead City, Arizona.

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Head called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and invited Pastor Tim Eighmy of Community Lutheran Church to deliver the invocation. Mayor Head led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Council Present

Alfonzo, Dallman, Head, Newlin, O'Neill, Ring, Smith

Council Absent

None

Staff Present:

CITY MANAGER: Toby Cotter

CITY ATTORNEY: Garnet Emery

CITY CLERK: Debie Ogden

INTERIM POLICE CHIEF: Daniel Sharp

FINANCE DIRECTOR: Robert Drexler

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR: Angie Johnson

UTILITIES DIRECTOR: Mark R. Clark

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

None

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Head opened the call to the public.

Barbara Pape spoke about the upcoming Colorado River Republican Women's luncheon to be held on December 3rd at the Chaparral Restaurant.

Diana Lestat, Loyal Knight of the Bullhead City Elks Lodge, spoke about the upcoming Hoop Shoot event that is taking place at the Bullhead City Boys and Girls Club on December 13th.

Sean Regan spoke about a negative interaction he had with the staff at Mohave Electric. He said there are big monopolies in Bullhead City, but that does not give their staff the right to treat customers badly.

Scotty McClure said he did not like the new flags outside City Hall. He said Southwest Gas has steel plates all over his neighborhood, and said they need to be removed. He asked for an item to be placed on an agenda to discuss a new road to be built in the vicinity of the Anderson Field House to Rainbow Drive.

Gary Genovese spoke about the upcoming Honey Baked Ham fundraiser for the Colorado River Museum.

Bid Awards, Contracts, Intergovernmental Agreement, and Purchases

4. Discussion and possible action to approve a contract with KP Ventures Well Drilling and Pump Company, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$838,033.86 for the 6-1 Well Drilling Project No. 26-U-001, and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement and issue resultant payments. (Utilities Director Clark)

Utilities Director Clark said this item was a request to drill a new well in the northern water system serving the North Mohave and Lake Mohave Highlands areas. He reported that the area currently relied on five wells, three of which produced 100 gallons per minute (GPM) or less, with a combined production of approximately 400 GPM. He said those wells had been operating over 23 hours per day, and additional construction was expected in the area. He noted that EPCOR had not expanded production facilities there in previous years, leaving the system behind in meeting current and future demand. He stated that the new well would provide needed backup and additional capacity, with an anticipated production of at least 400 GPM, and potentially 800 to 1,000 GPM, depending on final results after drilling. He said the well design included a larger casing and deeper drilling to improve the chances of achieving higher output. He reported that the bid received was significantly lower than engineering estimates, approximately half of what staff initially expected, and that the selected driller could begin work quickly. He emphasized that well drillers were typically difficult to schedule, often requiring a 6–8 month wait, making the timely availability of this contractor especially beneficial. He said the chosen company was reputable and had completed work for Tucson, Prescott, Prescott Valley, and Kingman. He stated although this would be the first time the city used this firm, staff were confident in their capabilities. He added that the city had drilled several wells in the area previously, including many drilled by Yellowjacket, and that staff believed the proposed location was well suited for a new production well.

Vice Mayor Alfonzo said 4 other bids were received, and said KP Ventures came in \$200,000 less than the next bidder.

Mayor Head asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak on this item.

Scotty McClure said he supported the city taking over EPCOR. He said he did not realize that all the money that has been spent was going to cause rate increases. He said he thought that the city was going to pay for all the expenses out of the general fund. Utilities Director Clark explained to Mr. McClure that the Utility Department is an Enterprise Fund. He said there is a Utility Department Enterprise Fund and a Wastewater Enterprise Fund. He explained that they do not receive any funding from the general fund, unless it is loaned to them. He said if the funds are loaned to them, they must pay it back. He said the Utilities Department must operate from the revenues that are received from the customers. He said any monies that are charged are put back into the system to maintain and operate it.

Sean Regan asked if the water is being effected by the gold mine's leach pits. Utilities Director Clark said they perform over 3,000 water tests per year on all the water systems. He said when they drill a new well, they are required to do new source sampling, and said there is a battery of tests they must do to make sure the well water is able to be put into production.

Council Member Newlin made a motion to approve a contract with KP Ventures Well Drilling and Pump Company, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$838,033.86 for the 6-1 Well Drilling Project No. 26-U-001, and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement and issue resultant payments. Vice Mayor Alfonzo seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Dallman, Head, Newlin, O'Neill, Ring, Smith NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED

Other Business

5. Discussion and possible action to authorize the City Manager to make a one-time contribution of \$25,000 to the Bullhead Regional Food Bank to provide food assistance during the holiday season and to offset increased demand caused by the federal government shutdown; and further, to authorize a transfer of \$25,000 from contingency funds to make the contribution. (City Manager Cotter)

City Manager Cotter said staff received word that the demand for food increased at the Bullhead Regional Food Bank during the government shutdown. He said upon further discussions and analysis, it was found that \$25,000 was an adequate dollar amount to make a direct allocation to the food bank for a one-time contribution to help them through the holiday season. He said another factor to the increased need is the cost of groceries is still high and people are still struggling.

Terri Tomlinson from the Legacy Foundation said she believed that the food bank acted as SNAP for their clients during the government shutdown. She said in one day they served 390 clients using all volunteer help except for 1 paid staff member. She commended Stephen Brown for calling all over the tri-state area to gather food. She said they connected with Three Square in Las Vegas and said they are now an official partner with them. She said the increased demand tapped them out physically, financially, and emotionally.

Stephen Brown, Executive Director of the Bullhead City Regional Food Bank, said last year they served 34,103 families (77,466 individuals) out of their food bank. He said in the last month alone, they fed 7,121 families (17,231 individuals). He said a lot of their clients are seniors, and said they have had over 100 home deliveries twice per month. He said many seniors have told him that this is the only way they can eat and still afford their medications. He thanked the Council for considering this item and helping them to continue keeping their operation open.

Vice Mayor Alfonzo said he and Council Member Smith visited the food bank last week and said they watched over 300 families go through the food bank. He said there was a family with a baby that did not have any money or food and said one of the ladies at the church was able to help them obtain some of the things they needed for their baby. He said he will vote in favor of this item because he has seen firsthand how well Praise Chapel is managing the program. He briefly explained the program and how people receive food.

Council Member Newlin said Stephen Brown and all the volunteers do a fantastic job, and said he fully supports this item.

Council Member O'Neill said he volunteered at the food bank in the past, and said they would serve 120 people per day. He said at that time those were record numbers, and said the numbers have tripled in just a year and a half. He said the need is not going away; it is getting bigger. He encouraged the public to volunteer and said it is a great program.

Council Member Dallman said Stephen Brown and all the volunteers do an amazing job. She thanked them for everything they do.

Mayor Head asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak on this item.

Sean Regan said Stephen Brown and Teri Tomlinson do great work, and said he appreciated everything they do. He said the food bank has helped many veterans in the area.

Scotty McClure said he has driven by the food bank during pickups hours, and said he has seen people standing outside in the heat and the rain to get food. He said a shade structure was needed to help protect people from the elements as they wait in line for their food.

Terri Tomlinson said they are very close to solving the issue of people standing in the elements as they wait for their food.

Mayor Head said he has known Pastor Cates, Stephen Brown, and Terri Tomlinson for a very long time. He said if this item is approved, he trusts that they will do the right thing for the community. He said he is in full support of this item.

Council Member Smith said this program is ran very efficiently. She explained how people get checked in, are given a token, and receive food.

Council Member Smith made a motion to authorize the City Manager to make a one-time contribution of \$25,000 to the Bullhead Regional Food Bank to provide food assistance during the holiday season and to offset increased demand caused by the federal government shutdown; and further, to authorize a transfer of \$25,000 from contingency funds to make the contribution. Council Member O'Neill seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Dallman, Head, Newlin, O'Neill, Ring, Smith NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED

6. Discussion and possible action to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 2025-13 by reference, approving amendments to Chapters 16.12, 16.24 and 16.28 of Title 16, Subdivisions, of the Bullhead City Municipal Code concerning administrative review of plats and amendments thereto; and adopting RESOLUTION NO. 2025R-50, declaring the code amendment a public record. (City Attorney Emery)

City Manager Cotter said the State of Arizona, in some of their legislative efforts, are trying to force cities in Arizona to be more efficient in their planning process. He said Bullhead City is already very efficient in the planning process, and said he hears nothing but accolades from builders and developers about how nice it is to work with the city. He said this legislation is not meant for Bullhead City in any way, shape, or form, and said staff believe that through the adoption of this ordinance,

the city is complying with state law. He said the current planning process will not need to change if this ordinance is adopted. He said this is a timing issue because there are developers and real estate developers, primarily in the Valley, complaining that the process sometimes takes years. He said Bullhead City's internal reviews are usually complete in approximately 15 days. He said the city will continue with the current process with the Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council; however, the state law requires City Attorney Emery to forward the code amendment to the Council.

Council Member Newlin said he likes that Bullhead City will continue doing business as it always has. He said the current development process is very efficient and said he understands why they need to add the code amendment.

Mayor Head said sometimes the legislators try to make changes that are "one size fits all". He said he did not think the city needs to change the way business is done, and said they will comply with state law.

Mayor Head asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak on this item. No one spoke.

Council Member Newlin made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-13 by reference, approving amendments to Chapters 16.12, 16.24 and 16.28 of Title 16, Subdivisions, of the Bullhead City Municipal Code concerning administrative review of plats and amendments thereto; and adopting Resolution No. 2025R-50, declaring the code amendment a public record. Vice Mayor Alfonzo seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Dallman, Head, Newlin, O'Neill, Ring, Smith NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED

7. Discussion and possible action to approve the City's legislative Priorities for 2026, and authorize the Mayor, City Manager, and Assistant City Manager to advocate on the legislative priorities as approved by Council (Assistant City Manager Pruitt)

Assistant City Manager Pruitt said every year he, City Manager Cotter, and Assistant City Manager Kajirwa discuss strategies for the legislative sessions. He said this item is a representation of the priorities they have been discussing. He said the list of priorities are as follows: 1. Focus on pursuing roadway funding; 2. Pursuing public safety funding; 3. Advancing continued support for State Lake Improvement Funds; 4. Improve the legislation on short term rentals to allow for more local control; 5. Pursue any legislation that benefits the City of Bullhead City and its residents.

Vice Mayor Alfonzo said he would like to add an item to pursue any and all available funding and grants for water and wastewater improvements and replacements. He said this is one of the city's major expenses, and said they need to keep looking for grants.

Council Member Newlin said he would like to have continued discussions to identify dangerous intersections. He said with regards to item 2, he would like to add the word "training" to pursuing public safety funding. He said with regards to item 4, he was definitely in favor of more local control of short term rentals.

Mayor Head asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak on this item. No one spoke.

Vice Mayor Alfonzo made a motion to approve the City's legislative Priorities for 2026, and authorize the Mayor, City Manager, and Assistant City Manager to advocate on the legislative priorities as approved by Council, and add "to pursue any and all available funding and grant for water and wastewater improvements and replacements" to be placed as item 2 on the list. Council Member O'Neill seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Dallman, Head, Newlin, O'Neill, Ring, Smith NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED

8. Discussion and possible action to approve extending the leash-free hours at the Sandy Toes Beach in Rotary Park from 4:30 a.m. until 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m., and authorize the City Manager to make further adjustments to the hours as user and community needs may reasonably require. (Recreation Superintendent Heath)

Recreation Superintendent Heath said the leash-free dog beach at Sandy Toes Beach has been a huge hit. He said staff has received many requests from citizens using the beach that it remains open until 9:00 a.m. instead of 8:00 a.m.

Council Member Dallman said she liked the line item that authorizes the city manager to make any further adjustments in the future without having to come before the Council.

Council Member Smith said she has receive many emails from one individual and photos of dog messes that are not being picked up. She said she has also had people approach her and complain about people not picking up after their dogs. She said she is struggling with this item because people are not picking up after their dogs.

City Manager Cotter said more enforcement needs to be done, and said they have talked about having the park rangers educate people about cleaning up after their dogs. He said they can also make people lose the park privileges if they do not pick up after their dogs. He said they can also put up more signage and add more trashcans to make it more convenient for people to keep the park clean. He said if people are going to abuse the park in any way, shape, or form, there is a process in place to eject those people from the park or have them lose their park privileges for a period of time.

Mayor Head said the biggest issues he has heard from residents are the hours. He said people are requesting the park stay open a little bit longer because the weather is beginning to cool down and people would like to be out with their dogs after the sun comes up. He said he agreed that they need to put in more effort into trying to encourage responsible pet ownership.

Mayor Head asked if anyone from the public wanted to speak on this item. No one spoke.

Council Member Newlin made a motion to approve extending the leash-free hours at the Sandy Toes Beach in Rotary Park from 4:30 a.m. until 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m., and authorize the City Manager to make further adjustments to the hours as user and community needs may reasonably require. Council Member Dallman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Dallman, Head, Newlin, O'Neill, Ring, Smith NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED

COUNCIL REQUESTED ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Head declared the meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct record of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Bullhead City held on the 18th day of November 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 21st day of November 2025.



Debie Ogden, MMC, CPM
City Clerk