



THREE CITIES, ONE VOICE.

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Tri-City Council

Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.

Bullhead City Council Chambers

1255 Marina Blvd. Bullhead City, AZ



**City of
Bullhead City, Arizona**

Steve D'Amico, Mayor
Rodney Head, Vice Mayor



Lake Havasu City, Arizona

Cal Sheehy, Mayor
David Lane, Vice Mayor



City of Kingman, Arizona

Ken Watkins, Mayor
Cherish Sammel, Vice Mayor

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Bullhead City Mayor Steve D'Amico at 9:30 a.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor D'Amico led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call and Introduction of Special Guests

(*Present via remote conferencing)

Lake Havasu City

Council Present

Nancy Campbell, Councilmember*

Jeni Coke, Councilmember

Michele Lin, Councilmember

Cameron Moses, Councilmember

Staff Present

Jess Knudson, City Manager

Anthony Kozlowski, Assistant to the City Manager

Kelly Williams, City Clerk

Bullhead City

Council Present

Steve D'Amico, Mayor

Dan Alfonzo, Councilmember

Grace Hecht, Councilmember

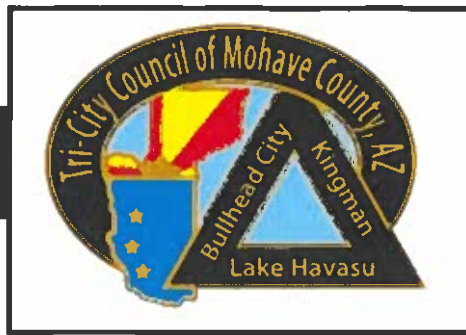
Staff Present

Toby Cotter, City Manager

Edigar Kajirwa, Assistant to the City Manager

Travis Pruitt, Assistant to the City Manager

Sue Stein, City Clerk



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City of Kingman

Council Present

Ken Watkins, Mayor

Staff Present

Ron Foggin, City Manager



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Others Present

Travis Lingenfelter, Mohave County Supervisor District 1
Hildy Angius, Mohave County Supervisor District 2
Sue Ann Mello, Mohave County Treasurer
Dr. Chad Kingsley, Mohave County Health Director
Penny Pew, Representative Congressman Paul Gosar's Office
Kevin Adam, Rural Transportation*
Anthony Brozich, Arizona Department of Transportation
Tom Belshe, League of Arizona Cities and Towns*
Scotty McClure, citizen
Pamela Smith, citizen
Rob DeWeerd, citizen



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3. Call to the Public

Mayor D'Amico opened the call to the public.

Scotty McClure from Bullhead City said the public did not have the opportunity to provide comments on the new homeless shelter before it was completed. He said transients were trespassing on private property and hiding drugs near the shelter. He said the Catholic Charities organization did not operate the shelter properly.

There being no one else from the public requesting to speak, Mayor D'Amico closed the call to the public.

4. Approval of the Minutes from the February 8, 2023, Tri-City Council Meeting

Mayor Watkins moved to approve the February 8, 2023, Tri-City Council meeting minutes. Mayor D'Amico seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

5. Updates from Mohave County Board of Supervisors and other Elected Officials

Supervisor Angius said they were in the middle of the annual budget discussions. She said she would not vote for a property tax increase, as the property owners had shouldered everything for many years. She said there was some controversy over some zoning issues, and said they did their jobs to the best of their ability. She said she attended the grand opening of a new dental clinic in Colorado City.



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Supervisor Lingenfelter said the Board took action on two water related issues. He said the federal government just released the supplemental environmental impact statement on Colorado River operations and said the comment period was open. He said the Mohave County Water Authority would provide comments as well as the Board. He said they would adopt a resolution requesting the Legislature take action to update the Arizona groundwater code and framework to manage ground water basins. He said the community had taken great strides in pushing for fiber broadband, and said the Board will hear a presentation regarding the availability of federal funding for rural broadband. He said they would form a county working group to put together partnerships and urge cities to take advantage of the available funding.

Penny Pew, Representative from Congressman Paul Gosar's Office, said their office was busy with coordinating veteran roundtables and a resource fair. She said they had seen the transformation of Colorado City and business was growing there. She said they held a water roundtable that was very well attended to address the water issues. She said cities needed to fight for their water rights. She said the Downwinders Act was reintroduced to try and offer individuals up to \$50,000 for medical expenses. She said Congressman Gosar was active in terminating the COVID emergency act which was recently signed. She said he reintroduced the federal death penalty for fentanyl resulting in a death under HR1212, and would continue to fight for that. She said the proposed social security fairness act HR82 would increase social security benefits for those with pensions. She said they are holding the annual congressional district high school art competitions, and said they looked forward to seeing more creativity from rural Arizona.

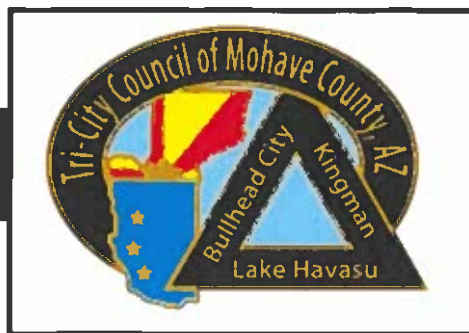
6. Legislative Update - League of Arizona Cities and Towns

Tom Belshe, Executive Director of the League, said there was not a lot going on at the Capitol at that time, as it was in the process of replacing two Legislators. He said they expected the budget to go to the wire but now it looked like it would be finalized sooner. He said they did not like SB1268 with bad requirements for the approval of annexation petitions needing 60 percent from the assessed valuation and the property owners. He said they were close to having a negotiated settlement with Mr. Kaiser on his housing bill. He said they were meeting with the Governor's office this week and hoped Mr. Kaiser would go along with the provisions offered. He said a lot of the bills remaining were money bills associated with the budget and it looked like there was no indication that any revenue reductions would be in the budget. He said they were working on other bad bills, but they did not rise to the level of "four alarm" bad bills. He said they were in a pretty good situation, especially if the budget was finalized in May.

Lake Havasu City Manager Knudson asked about the 1321 bill regarding regulation of backyard chickens. He said the laws should be under local control and not a statewide concern.

Mr. Belshe said if larger lot sizes were proposed, the bill might pass. He said they thought the Governor would veto the bill if it made it that far.

Rene Guillen, League Deputy Director, said the language in 1321 did not have the statewide concern language that was on the original bill. He said the language was not included in the striker.



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7. Arizona Department of Transportation Update

Anthony Brozich, District Administrator for ADOT, provided a PowerPoint presentation on current construction projects. His presentation included a review of the following projects:

I-40 East Kingman TI Bridge Deck Replacement, SR 95 Needles Bridge Deck Rehabilitation and Bearing Pad Replacement, I-40 California border pavement preservation, I-40 Willow Bridge replacement, and US 93 pavement preservation projects. He said the Bullhead City SR 95 pavement preservation project was advertised; the I-40 Lake Havasu TI pavement preservation was programmed for the second quarter of fiscal year 2024, the I-40 Walnut Creek to Holy Moses pavement preservation was advertised, and the SR95 I-40 to Sara Park was advertised and programmed. He said the county was administering the project at Bullhead Parkway and Silver Creek Road for median and street lighting, and said it was programmed for the first quarter of fiscal year 2024. He said the London Bridge Road safety improvements were programmed for 2024, and the Northern Avenue street improvements was programmed for 2024. He said future expansion projects included the West Kingman I-40/US93 traffic interchange, and said the design was at 95 percent (Stage IV). He said the project was expected to be under construction in early 2024 through 2025. He said projects also moving forward were the new I-40 Kingman crossing traffic interchange, I-40 Rancho Santa Fe traffic interchange, and the US93 Cane Springs four lane divided highway. He said they adjusted the traffic signalization software on Highway 95 in Bullhead City, and Lake Havasu would be next. He said they recently had a design kick-off meeting to install fiber from the California border to Flagstaff, and said that work would be moving on their end.



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8. Rural Transportation Update - Kevin Adam

Kevin Adam, Legislative Liaison with the Rural Transportation Advocacy Council, said things seemed encouraging and the state had a significant balance to work with this year. He said HB2543 gained a lot of momentum so far. He said they did a good job of prioritizing transportation with available one-time funding, and said a billion dollars was directed to projects last year. He said they expected a comparable sized appropriation this year. He said individual legislators would support specific projects in their districts, and said they had come a long way in obtaining funding for pavement preservation projects.

9. Mohave County Department of Public Health Presentation on Senior Center and Meals on Wheels – Dr. Chad Kingsley

Dr. Kingsley provided a PowerPoint presentation. He said 30.4 percent of the county's population was over 65 years old, 27.1 percent between 45-64 years, 22.2 percent of residents were living with a disability, and 14.3 percent were veterans. He said the average percentage of the veteran population in the United States was 7.1 percent. He said the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) Division of Aging and Adult Services' (DAAS) mission was to support and enhance the ability of at-risk older adults to meet their needs to the maximum of their ability, choice, and benefit. He said the Western Area Council of Governments (WACOG) received state funding that supported the county's programs and services. He said the four senior centers throughout the county were managed either by the County Department of Health or Bullhead City.



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Dr. Kingsley said the four senior centers were located in Lake Havasu City, Kingman, Bullhead City, and Golden Shores. He said the centers provided congregate eating, socialization, meals on wheels, education and well-being for individuals. He provided statistics on the number of congregate meals and homebound meals provided over the last seven years. He said congregate meals were available Monday through Friday, and Meals on Wheels/Mom's Meals were delivered from three to seven days per week, depending on the location. He said the meals helped improve older adults' health, helped them feel secure, and helped them live independently. He said a senior could be served for an entire year for roughly the same cost as a day in the hospital or ten days in a nursing home. He said significant challenges for the program were lack of funding to pay for meals, recruiting and retaining volunteers, rising food prices, hiring and retaining staff, and gas prices. He said other challenges encountered included waiting lists, snowbirds, seniors not currently served, facilities and utilities.



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10. Mayors' Reports – City Updates

Kingman Mayor Ken Watkins said this week was "Work Zone Awareness Week" and today was "Wear Orange" Day. He said he was wearing orange to support those exposed to traffic working on the roads and highways. He said the Route 66 Fun Run would be held on May 5 and 6.



Lake Havasu City, Arizona

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Lake Havasu Council Member Jeni Coke said the Desert Storm Boat Show and Poker Run events were taking place that weekend. She said the courthouse construction was going smoothly and they hoped to be in operation by the end of the year. She said a new ramp was being installed at Site 6 on the island and the dredging on the south side of the channel was complete. She said the Council completed their first budget meeting, and discussed the opportunity for Fire Station No. 7 resurfacing and updating the island walking path, and said the roads were their priority. She said the airport runway replacement was underway and the nomadic building was now open. She said they looked forward to the updated utility rate study.



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Bullhead City Mayor Steve D'Amico said the city recently closed on the Mohave Daily News Building and would convert it into the largest animal shelter in the area. He said the senior center expansion would begin soon. He said the Governor recently signed HB 2375 which was unanimously approved through the House and Senate. He said the bill provided for the transfer of approximately 10 acres of state land to the city. He said the city was back on the list to obtain more military equipment for the Veterans' Memorial Park.

ADJOURN- Mayor D'Amico adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

11:30 A.M. – TRAVEL/TOUR - THE CHRISTINE STAMPER CENTER FOR HEALTH AND HOPE, 1594 N. Oatman Road, Bullhead City