

**MINUTES OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING OF OCTOBER 24, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Date: Tuesday, October 24, 2023  
Time: 7:00 P.M.  
Place: Council Chambers, Wells City Hall  
525 Sixth Street Wells, Nevada  
Type of Meeting: Regular Meeting of City of Wells Board of Councilmen  
Presiding Officer: Gary Pollock, Mayor

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Gary Pollock, Mayor  
Jonathan Goolsby, Vice-Mayor  
Laura Moore-DelRio, Councilwoman  
Chris Micheli, Councilman  
CR Beth Savedra, Councilwoman

Absent: None

Quorum: Yes

Staff Present: Jason Pengelly, City Manager  
Samantha Nance, City Clerk  
Glen Shamblin, Public Works  
Patti Zander, Deputy Clerk

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Pollock led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

Savedra made a motion to approve the meeting minutes dated October 10, 2023.  
Goolsby provided the second and the motion passed unanimously.

**CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

Lt. Fisher from the Elko County Sheriff's Office was at the meeting to give an update on activities within the county. Fisher announced that Deputy Stevens will be leaving the Sheriff's Office as of November 5<sup>th</sup>. Active recruiting for the Wells area will open for a deputy. ECSO is in the final stages of hiring four that will be starting in November. Two will be in the jail and two will be on patrol. A second animal control officer has also

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been hired. Animal control will possibly be available seven days a week pending scheduled days off. There has been discussion of animal control covering other cities in the county. Over the weekend, there were two suspected overdose deaths, both suspected to be fentanyl related. Domestic violence calls of service are down. There is a high-risk domestic violence team that meets once a month who will work on identifying high risk people. The team will provide information on local resources available to hopefully break that cycle of violence. Nevada is one of the highest intimate partner states with intimate partner deaths. Mental health calls of service are up.

## **DISCUSSION OF IDEAS FROM THE PUBLIC FOR THE T-MOBILE HOMETOWN GRANT**

Nance stated this grant is presented every quarter and is a onetime grant. Mayor Pollock's goal since being elected is to have a community garden with raised beds. There could be some city property that may be able to be used for this. DelRio thought it would be nice to use one of the city lots near the senior center. The seniors could help take care of it and teach children about self-sustainability. Pollock thought it would be great to include the seniors. There has also been discussion of a pavilion and picnic/BBQ area by the pool. This would enhance the splash pad that will hopefully be put in and some playground equipment. Savedra thought this would draw more people towards the pool. This would also provide shade there as well. Savedra liked that there are no matching funds for this grant.

DelRio liked the idea of doing something that is low maintenance in the long run. DelRio thought it would be a great partnership that can be built between teaching science at school and having them partner with the senior center, the ag classes, woodshop classes and greenhouse classes for support. Pollock thinks this would be a way for our community to work together and be involved together for the common good. Pollock continued that this grant also talks about public trails and parks. Micheli suggested new bathrooms at the park or soccer field. Pengelly thinks this grant should be used for something new. Pengelly thinks bathrooms can be budgeted for overtime. DelRio likes the idea of the pavilion because it is not a lot of maintenance. Nance thought more people would rent the pool with the enhancement of the pavilion and BBQ. Pengelly will do some research and get some pricing on this as well as the community garden. Playground equipment is expensive but will look at that as well.

## **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO CHOOSE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL TO PERFORM EMPLOYEE EVALUATIONS**

Pollock has reviewed the example evaluations that were provided by staff and feels they cover every aspect of the city manager and assistant city manager position and are more than adequate to evaluate performance. Pollock would love to be part of the evaluation process. Pollock continued that the county has started a new process where the employee evaluates themselves as well as the supervisor evaluating the employee so a side-by-side comparison can be made. This helps the person be more self-aware. DelRio would like them to evaluate themselves. DelRio added that she is not aware of what Pengelly does

everyday to be able to evaluate him. Pollock likes the Pool/Pact evaluation forms. Pollock feels the ones from Pool/Pact are specifically for city manager and assistant city manager. It breaks it down to where it is not universal and defined by position. DelRio also feels it is more detailed. Pollock asked if the council wanted to choose two people to perform the evaluations. Goolsby thought choosing two council members would keep it simpler and less complicated than having the entire council. Goolsby continued that council members aren't here every day and it is difficult to evaluate someone you aren't with all the time. DelRio would like those that do the evaluations to put comments as well as listing achievements. There are a lot of things being done that go above and beyond that no one knows about behind the scenes.

The meeting was recessed at 7:33 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 7:38 p.m.

DelRio recommended Goolsby; Pollock recommended Savedra and Savedra recommended Pollock. Pengelly asked if a time frame would be set and if the evaluations would be brought back to the board. Pollock thought the evaluations would be done then meet with both, one on one. The final performance review will be brought before the council. The hire date was November 9, 2022. Pollock thought within thirty days after the hire date to have the evaluations done. The first council meeting in December is the 12<sup>th</sup> and would meet that time frame. DelRio made a motion to appoint Gary Pollock and Jonathan Goolsby as the members of the council to perform the employee evaluations for Pengelly and Nance. Micheli and Savedra provided the second and motion passed unanimously.

## **CLAIMS COMMITTEE REPORT: ACTION TO APPROVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

DelRio made a motion to approve Warrant Register dated October 12, 2023 through October 24, 2023 in the amount of \$109,946.47. Savedra provided the second and the motion passed unanimously.

## **COUNCILMEN'S REPORTS**

Savedra attended the ECSD capital improvement advisory committee meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Savedra always makes sure they don't forget about Wells and is pushing to try to get anything she can for Wells. Since CJ was principal in Wells, he is aware of what is needed in Wells and has pushed to get the football field and track redone. There isn't a whole lot that can be done right now as they are trying to get the Owyhee school completed which is number one on their list. The Halloween carnival is at the elementary school on Thursday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The money that is raised will go towards an outdoor classroom for all classes to use. Savedra will be attending the NNRDA meeting tomorrow.

Micheli has been at the golf course a lot this year and it has been a good year for the golf course. There have been a lot of out of towners due to the fact there are no tee times. The course is still in very good shape and is still playable.

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Goolsby stated that the last junior football game is this Saturday in Elko and wrestling starts the second week in November.

Pollock stated the flag football team is undefeated and currently in first place. There is one regular season game left. There are two flag teams from Wells and the only two undefeated teams in the league. They could play each other for the championship.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Pengelly began that the biggest complaint he has had from people on Cobre is semis on the side streets. Getting on google maps coming north on US 93 to get to the Maverik, google is telling people to turn off US 93 on to Cobre by the Hampton Inn and the trucks are ending up south on Shoshone to the railroad tracks and pulling into people's property to turn around. Pengelly has tried to contact google and has also talked to Maverik to try to get that changed to I 80.

DelRio inquired about the arrow pointing to Angel Lake off the I-80 exit and Humboldt. People are merging to turn into the Maverik and realize that turn is to Angel Lake and cut people off in the other lane. DelRio has almost been hit a few times. DelRio wondered if there was a way to put a straight arrow to help with traffic. Pengelly will contact Rhonda with NDOT as that is their right-of-way to see if there is something that can be done.

Goolsby also mentioned the school zone sign by the Resource Center has been requested to be moved past the Resource Center. There have been three complaints this week about cars going too fast by the Resource Center and two have ran the stop sign. Highway Patrol has also had complaints about people running the stop sign coming down First Street. This will be moved.

Pengelly stated that MGM poured the concrete for the ADA ramps at the medical center. The cabinets and a few other things need to be completed then the clinic will be done.

Pengelly asked Goolsby if there was a way to get the speed limit trailers set on Main Street due to the number of people that are seen speeding on Main Street. Goolsby stated that both speed trailers are down.

Nance mentioned Trunk or Treat will be on Tuesday at the park from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Pengelly stated that Nance put in and received another grant for \$49,800 for new appliances for the new senior center from Aging and Disability. Savedra asked how Elko Sanitation was doing and if complaints are still coming into the office. Pengelly thought it was getting better. Charles is in constant contact with Pengelly and asking questions.

Shamblin mentioned that the crew has been doing a lot of crack sealing and patching. All systems have been blown out for the winter and been busy with equipment maintenance.

**CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

There were none.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

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**GARY POLLOCK, Mayor**

ATTEST:

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**SAMANTHA NANCE, City Clerk**