

**MINUTES OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING OF AUGUST 13, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

Date: Tuesday, August 13, 2024
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
Laura Moore-DelRio, Councilwoman
Chris Micheli, Councilman
CR “Beth” Savedra, Councilwoman

Absent: Jonathan Goolsby, Vice-Mayor

Quorum: Yes

Staff Present: Samantha Nance, City Clerk
Glen Shamblin, Public Works Supervisor
Patti Zander, Deputy Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Gary Pollock led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Micheli made a motion to approve the meeting minutes dated July 23, 2024. Savedra provided the second and the motion passed unanimously.

CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Yvonne Stuart was at the meeting to promote the golf tournament being held this weekend, August 17, 2024 in honor of her late husband, Lamont Stuart. This tournament generates funds that go towards improvements at the golf course. The city usually helps with green fees. This year, a donation was received which Stuart thanked the council for. Stuart handed out a list of what has been accomplished at the golf course and reviewed that list which totals around \$25,000 towards improvements at the golf course.

Stuart commented that when she was leaving the golf course the other day, there was a big rig that stopped her and pointed at the flag and stated it was frayed and hanging by one side only. Stuart told him she would take care of it. Stuart asked the council that we stay on top of that flag.

Another suggestion was that for four months, the golf course is idle, and the pro is not there. Stuart asked if the city has ever considered leasing it to a person who might want to open it during those four months for a place to watch football with chili and drinks or various parties. Stuart thought this could produce revenue for the city.

DISCUSSION AND REVIEW OF GRANTS RECEIVED SINCE 2022

DelRio had asked that this list be provided of things management has accomplished since November of 2022. DelRio stated over three million dollars is amazing. People in our community need to be aware of how the city is getting the funds and where it goes. DelRio would like to have this list in our minutes as it will be very beneficial for the people in town that read our minutes to see what is being done for our community. Looking at the projects that have been finished, it is great to see it on paper. DelRio thanked staff for preparing this and thinks it should be reviewed periodically.

Pollock stated the senior center funding was in the already existing portion of the list and is not included in that three million. The number is staggering for a community our size. This is all due to hard work and due diligence. Pengelly and Nance deserve to be publicly acknowledged for that and thanked them. DelRio added that several things have been crossed off the improvement list just recently and that list has been around for quite some time. Progress is now being made on that list. Savedra and Micheli also thanked them for all their hard work.

REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 244, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 3, CHAPTER 6 OF THE WELLS CITY CODE ENTITLED WELLS BROTHEL CODE

Pollock began that there were two different copies of the code; one is allowing a working girl to have a bar card simultaneously and the other is only allowing one card. Pollock can see pros and cons both ways. Pollock stated a lot of the issues have been resolved from when this first started. Bella Cummins thanked Pollock and Pengelly who spent quality time with her to understand the difference and how it pertains to Cummins operating successfully. In 2002, Cummins is sure Tom Coyle wrote the brothel code. Fifteen years ago, Wells lost the employee work pool they had, and it still is the same today, there is no one to hire. The city manager was approached approximately fifteen years ago to see if the city attorney could be addressed regarding the working girls having another work card for emergencies. This is not for a full-time or part-time job. It is to fill in, in the case of an emergency, in case someone is sick. The code was designed so that the workers only had one card for one specific house. Everything is done for a bartender card that is done for the prostitute card and all employees are women.

Cummins would like to keep the ability of having a bartender card and a courtesan card. If someone is bartending, that is all that will be done on that shift and is how it is currently done. The employees understand they aren't going to do both, and they accept that responsibility. This last Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, the bartender got sick, Cummins worked until she got sick and she had a working lady with a bartender's card and everything went well. Cummins sees no reason there would be public health and safety in jeopardy with them having two cards. Pollock does not see any need for any more amendments, feels enough time has been spent on this and is ready to proceed with the first reading.

Savedra does not feel two different cards should be allowed and feels there should be bartenders or working girls, not both. Savedra feels it is a matter of safety for the public, health-wise and for the ladies. Savedra feels if someone has a card for both, the bartender could also be seeing customers on the other side, and no one is there to monitor what is being done in the house. Savedra also added that bartenders don't need to go to the doctor for health clearances. Cummins added the ladies in the house are always medically cleared. As the code would read, if someone is going to bartend, that person will never be in the back room utilizing another card and it has never been that way. Savedra would prefer it to stay with one card.

Pollock spent a couple of hours reading through Ely's brothel code. Ely's code says nothing about not being able to hold two cards at one time and feels maybe this is commonplace. Pollock stated it should be that an employee can carry both cards but can't do both tasks which is the basic premise of this. In that case, Pollock is in favor of allowing both cards and sees no problem having both cards if one job is being done on that shift solely and are not interchangeable within a shift. Micheli made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 244, an ordinance amending Title 3, Chapter 6 of the Wells City Code entitled Wells Brothel Code to allow bartenders and courtesans to have two cards, one for the prostitution side and one for the bartender side but only use one card per shift. DelRio provided the second and the motion passed with Savedra voting nay.

CLAIMS COMMITTEE REPORT: ACTION TO APPROVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Micheli made a motion to approve the check register dated July 1, 2024 through July 31, 2024 in the amount of \$68,870.48. DelRio provided the second and the motion passed unanimously. Micheli made a motion to approve the Warrant Register dated July 25, 2024 through August 13, 2024 in the amount of \$383,599.11. DelRio provided the second and the motion passed unanimously.

COUNCILMEN'S REPORTS

Savedra attended the back-to-school BBQ and thought it was a better turnout than last year. School starts on August 26th with an open house at the elementary school on August 22nd from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Savedra is excited to get back to school. Savedra

Minutes of Wells City Council
Meeting of August 13, 2024

stated there is something neat at the Heritage Park but wasn't sure what it was. Pollock thinks it is a teepee and thinks it is very cool.

Micheli began that the car show went well but was a little low on numbers for the cars. Micheli never heard any complaints about everything being moved to the park. There were a few issues with the burnouts because they ran out of daylight and would like to move them back a block. A lot of the vendors did sell out on food that night. The change of location also allowed all the kids to play in the park and not run around at the street dance. There was a new attraction, the mechanical bull which was nice. Every year the car club does a fundraiser for a cause. All the money selling the beads on Saturday night goes to this cause. This year, MS was revisited again because Micheli's niece was diagnosed a month and a half ago with MS. Hailey has been with the car show since she was a baby, and this is near and dear to Micheli's heart. Micheli's sister also has MS. Micheli would like to start a conversation about having the drag races back at the airport. One car spun out in the brush, and it was scary. Micheli feels the airport is improved, safer and would like to see it back there. Jackpot holds theirs on their runway.

DelRio announced that sign ups for third and fourth grade PAL basketball for boys and girls will be next week as well as fifth and sixth grade PAL volleyball. DelRio has coaches and just needs the teams. Next week is the first home football game. There is a new PTO at the high school with only four members. The PTO is trying to bring back community support for sports. The football game is with Carlin and is a non-league game. At the game, any alumni in the stands will be recognized and would like to get the alumni in the stands for the game. School will be starting so to be aware that there will be children in the streets.

Pollock thanked Micheli and the rest of the car club for the car show. There was a new look and a new feel. A lot of people told Pollock they liked the changes. Pollock realizes it is a lot of work. National Night Out was last week. There seemed to be a larger group this year and hopefully it will continue to grow. Pollock attended the seafood boil put on by the Booster Club last weekend. It was a lot of fun and was for a good cause.

STAFF REPORTS

Pollock gave Pengelly's staff report as he was not able to be at the meeting. Notice to proceed was received from CDBG for the \$300,000 to do sidewalks and paving at the new senior center. The Shoshone Avenue project started breaking ground yesterday. Pengelly had a conversation with Ben Miner, the project engineer for the Woodhills Drainage and let him know the city wanted to go out to bid this winter and break ground on this project in the spring. It has taken way too long to get this project started.

Wilson Construction is interested in possibly leasing fifteen acres in the Industrial Park for a power line project that will last approximately two years. Pengelly showed the property that would work best, and they may address the board in the future as things move along. This is a power line project from Ely into Idaho.

Nance mentioned that the school zone lights have been put up. Pollock stated that Principal Woolsey was very excited about them.

CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

GARY POLLOCK, Mayor

ATTEST:

SAMANTHA NANCE, City Clerk

Grant Information

*Secured Since 11/8/2022

Grant Information	Dollar Amount	Project	Status
Aging & Disability	\$ 324,009.00	Senior Center Building	Funded/Closed
Nevada Gold Mine	\$ 300,000.00	Senior Center Building	Funded/Closed
Aging & Disability	\$ 49,257.67	Senior Center Kitchen Equipment	Funded/Closed
Trap Range Grant	\$ 33,192.00	Trap Range Grant	Funded/Closed
Aging & Disability	\$ 35,848.00	Senior Center Transportation Grant	Funded/Closed
Aging & Disability	\$ 5,787.00	Senior Center Nutrition Grant	Funded/Closed
Aging & Disability	\$ 21,642.04	Senior Center Congregate Grant	Funded/Closed
Aging & Disability	\$ 33,828.30	Senior Center Homebound Grant	Funded/Closed
Aging & Disability	\$ 4,424.00	Senior Center Nutrition Grant	Funded
Aging & Disability	\$ 21,856.00	Senior Center Congregate Grant	Funded
Aging & Disability	\$ 36,162.90	Senior Center Homebound Grant	Funded
FAA Airport	\$ 90,534.00	SRE Building, Vault, Beacon	Funded
Nevada OSG Grant	\$ 795,000.00	Shoshone Curb/Gutter	Funded
CDBG Shoshone Sidewalk Project	\$ 458,537.00	Shoshone Sidewalks	Funded
Splash Pad	\$ 54,894.40	Splash Pad at Pool	Funded
Aging & Disability	\$ 66,066.08	Passenger Van/Homebound Equipment	Funded
NDOT TAP Grant	\$ 826,500.00	Curb, Gutter, Sidewalk Lake Avenue	Funded for FY 25-26
CDBG Senior Center 2024	\$ 300,000.00	Finish New Senior Center	Funded
TOTAL	\$ 3,457,538.39		

*Took Over 11/8/2022

Grant Information	Dollar Amount	Project	Status
CDBG Wood Hills	\$ 80,000.00	Wood Hills Design	Closed
El Rancho CCHCP	\$ 75,000.00	El Rancho Electrical	Closed
EDA Drainage Wood Hills	\$ 2,349,788.00	Drainage Project	Active
FAA Airport	\$ 2,990,416.00	Runway Design/Construction	Active
CDBG Senior Center	\$ 982,000.00	Senior Center Building	Closed
NDEP Brownsfield Grant	\$ 64,000.00	Clear contaminated ground at old Stinker Station	Funded
TOTAL	\$ 6,541,204.00		

*Applications Pending Approval/Denial

Grant Information	Dollar Amount	Project	Status
FEMA Grant	\$ 224,096.10	Fire Department PPE	Pending
Aging & Disability	\$ 33,206.21	Senior Center Transportation Grant	Pending
Aging & Disability	\$ 21,856.00	Senior Center Congregate Grant	Pending
Aging & Disability	\$ 36,162.90	Senior Center Homebound Grant	Pending
Total	\$ 315,321.21		