

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 Monday, August 17, 2026, in the City Council Chambers, 1255 Marina Boulevard, Bullhead City, Arizona.

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

Council Present

Alfonzo (via Zoom), Dallman, Newlin, O'Neill, Ring, Smith

Council Absent

None

Staff Present:

CITY MANAGER: Toby Cotter

CITY ATTORNEY: Garnet Emery

CITY CLERK: Debie Ogden

POLICE CHIEF: Paul George (via Zoom)

FINANCE DIRECTOR: Robert Drexler

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR: Angie Johnson

HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR: Jeff Tipton

UTILITIES DIRECTOR: Mark R. Clark

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

Proclamation declaring the month of September 2026 as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

Mayor Dallman read the proclamation declaring the month of September 2026 as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Dallman opened the call to the public.

Harvey Pryor said at approximately 9:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 16th, a truck resembling an F-150 with a roof-mounted pedestal, camera, and flashing yellow lights had been driving through his Rio Vista neighborhood and parked across from his home. He said he was concerned because it appeared someone was surveying or photographing residential streets late at night. He requested the city determine who was conducting this activity. He said he and others involved with RC drag racing hoped to resume races at the Optimum Community Center and on the track at Rotary Park when the weather cools down. He spoke positively about using the facilities to host drag racing events through the winter to provide a fun community activity.

Jessica Adams spoke on behalf of the local Special Olympics and read a statement from the organization's president about its mission to promote inclusion and empower individuals with intellectual disabilities through year-round sports training and competition. She said Special Olympics is the world's largest such organization and said local programs rely on tax-deductible

donations for equipment, uniforms, and travel. She said the local program serves approximately 75 athletes that participate in basketball, cheerleading, bocce, swimming, and bowling. She said there were plans to add softball and pickleball and they are currently working to replace long-used uniforms. She shared her 17-year-old autistic daughter had become less shy and more engaged since joining the Friday swim program and thanked the Council for the positive impact of Special Olympics on local families.

Scotty McClure criticized the Council for not allowing him his full three minutes to speak during a previous meeting's Call to the Public and said this violated his First Amendment rights. He said none of the Council members publicly objected at the time and emphasized his commitment to speaking at meetings. He said he objected to the meeting date change and attributed low public attendance to the meeting not being listed in the Mohave Valley Daily Newspaper and complained that a recycling event was announced too late. He said the responsible staff member needed to publicize such events and meetings more effectively and claimed Supervisor Lettman was allowed to speak past the 30-minute Call to the Public period.

Larry Tunforss said the original owners of Culver's Restaurant and their silent partner from Lake Havasu City hosted an event introducing their new managing partner. He said the silent partner who had developed numerous Culver's locations said the Bullhead City restaurant was the easiest one to build due to how simple and positive it was to work with city staff and management. He said City Manager Cotter had attended the event and shared the comment as a significant compliment to the Council and city administration.

Having no one else present requesting to speak, Mayor Dallman closed the call to the public.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

None

WAIVER MOTION

Council Member Newlin made a motion to waive the reading in full of all ordinances and resolutions presented for adoption at this meeting. Council Member Smith seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Dallman, Newlin, Ring, Smith NAYS: O'Neill

MOTION CARRIED

MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Olive Garden

Development Services Director Chooniyom said there had been public concern that the new Olive Garden Restaurant might be a smaller restaurant with limited service. He said IHOP was approximately 5,248 square feet, Perkins 5,420 square feet, Chili's 5,920 square feet, and Buffalo Wild Wings 6,000 square feet. He said Olive Garden would be about 6,894 square feet and confirmed it would be a full-size, standard Olive Garden Restaurant.

2. Traffic Safety Report

Police Chief George provided a brief traffic safety update and said citations were up despite short staffing. He addressed questions about “camping” in the left lane and said under ARS 28-721(B) it was unlawful to travel in the left lane at a speed slower than the normal flow of traffic when doing so impeded other vehicles. He said drivers in such cases were subject to citation under both that statute and the impeding-traffic law. He reminded the public that school was back in session, urged drivers to slow down in school zones, and said officers were actively enforcing traffic laws in those areas.

City Manager Cotter said Chief George’s traffic safety report was in response to Mr. Pryor’s concerns about left-lane traffic. He urged the public to follow Chief George’s guidance on roadway safety and increased enforcement.

3. Burro Population

City Manager Cotter said while burros had long been an issue near Laughlin Ranch, they were now increasingly appearing in areas such as Davis Camp and Arroyo Vista. He said approximately 30 burros had been removed and relocated in recent weeks and said the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) was planning to relocate approximately 100 more. He said burros are federally protected and management of the herd is a federal responsibility, and said the city is prohibited from providing food or water, trapping, or independently moving the animals. He acknowledged residents’ frustrations, particularly around the Laughlin Ranch Golf Course. He said federal guidelines call for approximately 500 burros in the entire Black Mountain Range and said the actual population was likely in the thousands.

4. Section 10 Wastewater Plant Expansion and Nature Center

Utilities Director Clark provided an update on the Section 10 Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion in response to resident complaints about ground disturbance near the facility. He said the city owns approximately 60 acres at the site, including an unfenced 37-acre area designated for future expansion. He said the expansion project would increase capacity from 4 million gallons per day to 6 million gallons per day while remaining within the existing fenced footprint. He said the use of adjacent city-owned land as a construction staging area for a new circular clarifier was necessary. He showed slides indicating the disturbed area marked in red and yellow just south of the existing plant lies entirely within city property reserved for future plant use. He confirmed that no Colorado River Nature Center property was being disturbed.

Council Member Newlin asked what year the 37-acre area was established as part of the Section 10 Wastewater Treatment Plant. Utilities Director Clark said it had been over 25 years.

Council Member O’Neill said if the entire wastewater plant property had been fenced from the beginning, the public would not have been using the unfenced area. He said although residents had been using it, the land in question was always intended for future plant expansion and was not fenced as a cost saving measure.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS ON CURRENT EVENTS

Council Member Smith thanked the City Manager and Public Works staff for repairing the driveway into the Senior Center and said the improvement would now allow the bus to stop there.

Council Member O'Neill thanked all volunteers at the Food Bank and said they were short of daytime help. He invited anyone with free time to volunteer Mondays 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Wednesdays 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Thursdays 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Fridays 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

ITEMS WITHDRAWN FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Newlin made a motion that Item 1 on the Consent Agenda be approved in accordance with the reports, certifications and recommendations furnished each Council Member and without further discussion. Council Member Smith seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES: Alfonzo, Dallman, Newlin, Ring, Smith NAYS: O'Neill

MOTION CARRIED

Item on the Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

1. Approved the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on August 4, 2026. (City Clerk Ogden)

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS

None

ACTION ITEMS

Building, Planning and Zoning Items

None

Bid Awards, Contracts, Intergovernmental Agreement, and Purchases

2. Discussion and possible action to approve the purchase of a 2026 Caterpillar CB2.7 Double Drum Vibratory Compactor from Empire Caterpillar (quote dated July 14, 2026) under the Omnia Cooperative Purchasing Network in an amount not to exceed \$71,414.00 plus any applicable freight. (Public Works Director Johnson)

Public Works Director Johnson said this item was to purchase a new Caterpillar CB2.7 Double Drum Vibratory Compactor for the Roads Department. She said the Caterpillar quote was approximately \$77,000 without the OMNIA Cooperative contract and approximately \$71,000 purchased under the OMNIA Cooperative contract. She said two other manufacturers' quotes were approximately \$87,750 and \$99,337. She said the purchase was budgeted for the current fiscal year and included a requested extended warranty of five years/12,500 hours or approximately 2,500 hours per year.

Vice Mayor Alfonzo thanked Public Works Director Johnson for obtaining the warranty in the amount of \$1,925 and said it will save a lot of money in the long run.

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

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve the purchase of a 2026 Caterpillar CB2.7 Double Drum Vibratory Compactor from Empire Caterpillar (quote dated July 14, 2026) under the Omnia Cooperative Purchasing Network in an amount not to exceed \$71,414.00 plus any applicable freight as presented. Council Member Ring seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

3. Discussion and possible action to approve, pursuant to Bullhead City Municipal Code 3.37.040(B), the purchase of a used 2024 Ford F-550 Crane Service Truck from Automobile Consulting Services, including the optional extended warranty, for a total amount of \$179,835.52. (Public Works Director Johnson)

Public Works Director Johnson said this item was for the purchase of a used 2024 Ford F-550 Crane Service Truck in the amount of \$179,835, including the cost of an extended warranty. She said staff had compared new and used options from multiple vendors and said comparable new units were quoted at approximately \$199,925 and \$213,180. She said the purchase was budgeted for the current fiscal year and said the price included a 48-month/100,000-mile bumper-to-bumper extended warranty.

Vice Mayor Alfonso said the vehicle had low mileage and he thanked staff for securing a 48-month/100,000-mile extended warranty.

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

Harvey Pryor asked how many miles were on the used truck being considered for purchase. Public Works Director Johnson said 30,030 miles.

Council Member Smith made a motion to approve, pursuant to Bullhead City Municipal Code 3.37.040(B), the purchase of a used 2024 Ford F-550 Crane Service Truck from Automobile Consulting Services, including the optional extended warranty, for a total amount of \$179,835.52 as presented. Council Member Ring seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

4. Discussion and possible action to approve the purchase of 30 taser bundles including the Taser 7, holsters, and battery packs under quote #Q-786042-46240DG dated August 6, 2026 in the amount of \$103,399.93 as a cooperative agreement purchase under State of Arizona contract #CTR074570, and authorize the City Manager to issue resulting payments. (Police Chief George)

City Manager Cotter said this item was to purchase 30 Taser 7 basic bundles to continue transitioning from the older Taser XP/X26P models nearing end-of-life and would no longer be supported by the manufacturer. He said the bundles included Taser 7 units, holsters, battery packs, and an extended warranty through June 2031.

Police Chief George said purchasing the 30 Taser 7 units would move the department to the current model supported by Axon. He said the total price included all ancillary items needed for operation and said the acquisition would allow the department to phase out older models, improve officer capability, and standardize all officers on the same platform.

Council Member O'Neill asked what would be done with the old tasers. Police Chief George said the existing tasers would remain city property and would continue to be utilized for training purposes and potentially issued to Community Service Aide (CSA) positions.

Vice Mayor Alfonzo asked what the typical service life was of a taser and the expected lifespan of its battery pack. Police Chief George said the service life of a taser and its battery pack depended on usage and exposure to the elements and said units could fail sooner under harsh conditions. He said with proper maintenance and the extended warranty in place, the tasers were expected to last approximately three to five years.

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

Council Member Ring made a motion to approve the purchase of 30 taser bundles including the Taser 7, holsters, and battery packs under quote #Q-786042-46240DG dated August 6, 2026 in the amount of \$103,399.93 as a cooperative agreement purchase under State of Arizona contract #CTR074570, and authorize the City Manager to issue resulting payments as presented. Council Member Newlin seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

5. Discussion and possible action to approve the Turf Reduction Water Conservation Grant Reimbursement Agreement Laughlin Ranch between the City of Bullhead City and the Laughlin Ranch Homeowners Association, Inc., and direct the City Manager to execute the agreement and take all actions consistent with its implementation. (Assistant City Manager Kajirwa)

Assistant City Manager Kajirwa said this item was for a Turf Reduction Water Conservation Grant Reimbursement Agreement with Laughlin Ranch. He said it was the final project under the Water Conservation Grant Fund received from the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) approximately two and a half years ago. He said this was similar to prior projects at Palo Verde and Arroyo Vista subdivisions. He said Laughlin Ranch had already completed the work by removing approximately 6,300 square feet of turf and replacing it with low-water-use xeriscape landscaping. He requested Council approval of the reimbursement so the city could submit it to WIFA for reimbursement.

Vice Mayor Alfonzo asked if Laughlin Ranch was using any gray water. Assistant City Manager Kajirwa answered affirmative.

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

Council Member Newlin made a motion to approve the Turf Reduction Water Conservation Grant Reimbursement Agreement Laughlin Ranch between the City of Bullhead City and the Laughlin Ranch Homeowners Association, Inc., and direct the City Manager to execute the agreement and take all actions consistent with its implementation as presented. Council Member Smith seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Other Business

6. Discussion and possible action to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 2026-14 by reference, approving the addition of Section 12.12.051, No Smoking at Pickleball and Tennis Courts, and amending Chapter 12.12, Public Parks, Title 12, Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Places, of the Bullhead City Municipal Code; and adopting RESOLUTION NO. 2026R-26 declaring the code amendment a public record. (City Manager Cotter)

City Manager Cotter said the ordinance is a proposal to prohibit smoking at the city's pickleball and tennis courts because of the reported complaints that one or more players were smoking while playing. He said citizens had attempted to resolve the issue directly, and contacted police who advised the current law did not prohibit smoking on the courts. He explained the proposed restriction would apply only to the pickleball courts, tennis courts, adjacent bleachers, and extending 25 feet from those areas. He said there was no general smoking ban in city parks.

Council Member Smith said she was a smoker herself and said she could not imagine someone playing pickleball while smoking. She expressed support for the proposed ordinance.

Vice Mayor Alfonzo said a 25-foot buffer for the no-smoking area did not seem sufficient and said smokers are often required to be 50 to 100 feet away from buildings such as restaurants. He suggested increasing the distance to 50 feet and said with local wind conditions, smoke from 25 feet away could still significantly affect others.

City Manager Cotter said staff had aimed for a common-sense buffer that would move smokers a reasonable distance from the pickleball and tennis courts and the adjacent bleachers. He said at the Optimum Community Center and Rotary Park facilities, a 25-foot setback would place smokers into the parking lot. He said the intent was to reduce the need for strict enforcement or measuring exact distances.

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

Harvey Pryor said he was a former smoker of more than 30 years and suggested rather than prohibiting smoking on all pickleball courts, the city could designate one court at the end of the complex where smoking or vaping would be allowed while playing. He said this would be fair to smokers and vapers while keeping the air around the other courts cleaner.

Jacqueline Edge asked if the proposed no-smoking ordinance at the pickleball and tennis courts would also apply to vaping. She said she works at Fox Creek Junior High School, and said many 5th to 8th graders vape and said existing laws largely addressed cigarettes rather than vaping. She said children deserve clean air during their developmental years.

City Manager Cotter said the proposed ordinance language in Section 12.12.051(A) would prohibit the use of tobacco, marijuana, or any other substances through any device including electronic devices that facilitate inhalation of smoke, aerosol, or vapor. He said the ordinance would cover vaping as well as traditional smoking.

Council Member O'Neill said he supported the no-smoking ordinance and said his primary concern was damage to the courts and litter from cigarette butts if people smoked while playing.

Council Member Newlin said because the courts are an athletic area, a 25-foot buffer from the courts was a reasonable distance.

Mayor Dallman said she was a pickleball player and said she could not imagine smoking while playing. She expressed concern about protecting the condition of the courts from ash and cigarette debris and said she supported the no-smoking ordinance.

Council Member Smith made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2026-14 by reference, approving the addition of Section 12.12.051, No Smoking at Pickleball and Tennis Courts, and amending Chapter 12.12, Public Parks, Title 12, Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Places, of the Bullhead City Municipal Code; and adopting Resolution No. 2026R-26 declaring the code amendment a public record. Council Member Ring seconded the motion.

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

MOTION CARRIED

COUNCIL REQUESTED ITEMS

None

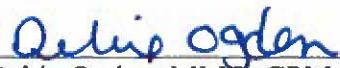
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Dallman declared the meeting adjourned at 6:20 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 17th day of August 2026. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 20th day of August 2026.



Debie Ogden, MMC, CPM
City Clerk