

TOWN OF WELLTON

Minutes of the November 2, 2021 Regular Meeting

Mayor Cecilia McCollough called the regular meeting to order at 7:00PM on Tuesday, November 2, 2021. Councilmember Blitz led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mayor McCollough gave the invocation. Roll call was taken.

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Cecilia McCollough, Mayor Pro Tem Kenneth Baughman, Councilmembers Scott Blitz, Sylvia Davidson, and Michelle Jones.

Councilmembers Absent: None.

Staff Present: Town Manager Larry Killman, Deputy Town Clerk Sandra Jones, Finance Director Marisol Hernandez, Police Chief David Rodriguez, Public Information Officer David Williams, and Attorneys Andrew McGuire and Michael Goodman (telephonically).

Guests Present: Jim Sampson, Samuel Colton, Allen Lockwood, Bob Ludwig, James P, Shirley Reynolds, Martin Hernandez, Cory Beck, Bob & Peggy Leeper, Ronald & Carol Kobs, and Tadeo De La Hoya.

Call to the Public

Jim Sampson (30313 Mountain View Avenue) – Sales Tax and Property Tax Committees – he would like to volunteer to sit on those committees.

Presentation

AWC Wellton Manufacturing Training Center Update by Professor Samuel Colton, Manufacturing Program Coordinator.

Discussion and Action Items

1. Approval of Minutes:

a. For the Meeting of October 19, 2021 (Regular Meeting).

Motion made by Councilmember Blitz, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to approve the Minutes for the Meeting of October 19, 2021 (Regular Meeting). Voice vote:

Baughman: Yay
Jones: Yay
McCollough: Yay
Davidson: Yay
Blitz: Yay

Motion carried.

2. Discussion regarding:

- a. Increase in City Sales Tax; and
- b. Potential Property Tax.

Town Manager Killman reiterated the reduction in State Shared Revenues is the driving force in pursuit of a Sales Tax increase or a Property Tax. Shared revenues are directly affected by the

fall in the Census numbers. A reduction of an estimated \$237,000 (VLT - \$28,000, HURF - \$51,000, TPT - \$75,000, and SST - \$83,000). Staff expected population growth and the census showed a marked decrease.

A 1% City Sales Tax increase is requested. This will raise an estimated \$400,000. This move would be to stabilize the budget with the estimated loss in revenue plus the \$100,000 loss due to the Ag exemption.

If an excise tax is an option – the attorney will check to see the timeline and procedure for adoption.

ADOR would take an estimated 6-months to institute and start collecting after the tax is passed.

Public Comment

Allen Lockwood (Butterfield Bluff) – “Go for it.”

Property Tax would be a Special Election in 2023. Effective dates would be FY 2024-2025.

City Sales Tax percentages can be lowered by the Council at any time.

Future Agenda Items

- Potential Rezoning request for a 40-acre parcel.
- USDA documents for Sanitation Trucks.
- Tank rehab bids will be forthcoming.
- San Francisco Avenue Road Improvements
- Public Hearing for CDBG will be November 10, 2021 at 5:30PM.

Town Manager Report

- Staff is getting additional bids for the mixers in the tanks to be rehabbed.
- USDA Loan for Sanitation Truck is still in process.
- Coyote Wash Entrance Building (Guard Shack) – project is ongoing.
- Staff is still waiting on additional bids from Conrad’s and Rodriguez on the Pool Project.
- The County is requesting roughly 25% of the Town’s Relief Act monies (roughly \$252,000) to be part of the Countywide Broadband Project. Particulars are to be detailed.
- YCIPTA is currently \$1.5 million upside down. The Town’s current annual contribution is \$15,000. They are asking for \$60,000 as the Town’s share to close up the shortfall.
- The Border is scheduled to open on November 8, 2021.
- The Dispensary is still in process. They are at the State level currently.

Attorney Report

Town Attorney McGuire wanted to reiterate that the Town is prohibited from any advocacy in tax increases, etc.

Council's Report

Mayor McCollough thanked Staff for the Trunk or Treat event.

Executive Session

An Executive Session may be called during the public meeting on any item on this agenda pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) for the purpose of receiving legal advice.

Motion made by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Blitz, to enter Executive Session at 7:44PM. Voice vote:

Baughman: Yay
Jones: Yay
McCollough: Yay
Davidson: Yay
Blitz: Yay

Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilmember Blitz, seconded by Councilmember Jones, to exit Executive Session at 8:01PM. Voice vote:

Baughman: Yay
Jones: Yay
McCollough: Yay
Davidson: Yay
Blitz: Yay

Motion carried.

Adjournment

Motion made by Councilmember Blitz, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Baughman to adjourn.

Baughman: Yay

Jones: Yay

McCollough: Yay

Davidson: Yay

Blitz: Yay

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02PM.



Cecilia McCollough
Cecilia McCollough, Mayor

ATTEST:

Larry Killman
Larry Killman, Town Manager

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the forgoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the regular meeting held November 2, 2021 and the meeting was duly called and posted and that a quorum was present.

Larry Killman
Larry Killman, Town Manager