

**YUMA CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD JUNE 27, 2023
PUBLIC WORKS TRAINING ROOM
155 WEST 14TH STREET
YUMA, AZ 85364**

Chairperson Greg LaVann called the meeting to order at (3:01) p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Chairman, Greg LaVann**
 Vice Chairman, Arturo Morales
 Commissioner, Joanne Mowczko
 Commissioner, Kyla Smith
 Commissioner, Robert Vigil
 Commissioner, Lonna Brazeel
 Commissioner, Deirdre MacDonald

MEMBERS ABSENT: **NONE**

STAFF PRESENT: **Public Works Director, Joel Olea**
 Public Works Manager, Greg Britt
 Public Works Manager, Joe Lopez
 Admin Support Supervisor, Laura Zavala

GUESTS PRESENT: **Police Chief, Thomas Garrity**
 Police Sergeant, Lori Franklin

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

An error in the date was pointed out by Commissioner Vigil. The minutes should read May 30, 2023, instead of April 25, 2023. The correction will be made by Laura Zavala. A motion was made by Vice Chairman, Morales and seconded by Commissioner Mowczko (unanimously), motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Public Safety Discussion:

Chief Garrity and Sgt. Franklin were present and answered the following questions for the commission.

1. The community is concerned with the growth in transient encampments throughout the city that leaves trash and hazardous waste on our streets/parks. What can the public do to help the city curb the spread of littering, illegal drug use, and panhandling in public spaces?

The Chief explained to the commission that it is a constitutional right to panhandle. However, panhandlers do not have the right to be on private property. They encourage private property owners to place signs and trespass them if necessary. Panhandlers are allowed to walk on the side of the road as long as they are not causing a traffic hazard or impeding traffic in any way. If the public comes across a situation where panhandlers are in violation of any laws or city ordinances, they encourage the public to report these incidents through the YPD application, See Click Fix, or call the non-emergency number or 78-Crime if they wish to remain anonymous.

2. Many of our parks have become open-air drug markets (per resident complaints) in the city. How would you suggest we educate the public on the correct steps to report illegal activity?

The police department is making an effort to show more police presence at the city parks, especially during after-hours. The police department encourages the commission to educate the public on the different ways a crime or suspicious activity can be reported such as the YPD application, See Click Fix, or by calling.

3. The city has a graffiti task force, yet gang tagging continues to be prominent throughout the city. How can the public help dissuade taggers from ruining property?

Graffiti is a crime and a person committing this crime can potentially be charged with gang affiliation. The fastest way to get rid of it is to paint over it as soon as possible after taking a picture and reporting it to the city.

4. Would YPD be willing to support new guidelines that all new construction or remodels require aesthetically pleasing walls that would be unattractive to those that partake in graffiti?

This question will have to be deferred to planning and zoning.

5. Do you have examples of other cities that are effectively maintaining aesthetic ordinances for business and residential with Public Safety involvement?

In other cities, certain city codes are in place that help with the aesthetic of the city such as a wall needing to be a certain height or look a certain way. The police department encourages the public to continue reporting circumstances that may violate any city

codes. Code Enforcement with the help of the Police Department will address the matter as soon as possible.

Manager, Joe Lopez talked about illegal dumping in the city. He mentioned needing the community's help reporting any illegal dumping incidents. The city does try to respond to any illegal dumping reports within 24-48 hours. The public can report illegal dumping by calling the front office or reporting it through See Click Fix.

Call to the public:

No members of the public were present.

COMMISSIONER UPDATES

Discuss adding a Communication Subcommittee:

Vice Chairman Morales would like the Promotion and Marketing Subcommittee along with the Chairman to set up a meeting with the city's communication department to discuss ways to advertise See Click Fix. He would like the subject to be touched on, on a monthly basis. The commission discussed different ways to get the word out to the community such as the newspaper, social media, etc.

Main Corridor Beautification Projects discussion:

This item on the agenda was tabled for the next meeting.

BEAUTIFICATION AWARD UPDATE/NOMINATIONS

Presentation of Commercial Award Recipient Dates:

Burger King will be presented with its Beautification Award on July 27th at 11:00 am.
The Vertical Church will be presented with its Beautification Award on July 11th at 9:00 am.

SUBCOMMITTEES

Promotion and Marketing Subcommittee:

Commissioner Smith presented to the commission the final edits made on the Recommendation Form which is now live on the city website for the public to use. The commission would like that the public be made aware of this form during the next publishing of awards on social media in the caption.

Beautification Awards Subcommittee:

The commission discussed adding lettering to both sides of the Beautification Award signs so that they are easily legible for traffic traveling in both directions. A motion was made by Commissioner Mowczko to move forward with the updates on the signs and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Vigil (unanimously), the motion passed.

Adopt-a-Street Subcommittee:

No updates from Commissioner Vigil. Director Joel Olea did mention to the commissioners that during his last cleanup, he scheduled and requested material through See Click Fix for Adopt-a-Street. This is a new method that is being currently tested so that the public can notify Public Works of their scheduled cleanup, request material, and submit their Activity Waiver Form along with pictures through See Click Fix. This saves participants some time from having to make a phone call or send an email and they can use the application for the entire cleanup process.

STAFF UPDATES

Manager Greg Britt reached out to YCAT, and they informed him that a bus shelter at the intersection of Ave A and 32nd St. would be doable.

Greg Britt also informed the commission that Manager Michael Flowers and Asset Program Supervisor Josh Conover would be presenting the new Adopt-a-Street updates to the city council during a work session on July 18th, 2023 at 5:30 pm.

Director Joel Olea will be presenting the Adopt-a-Street updates to the Yuma Rotary on August 15, 2023, at 12:00 pm.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

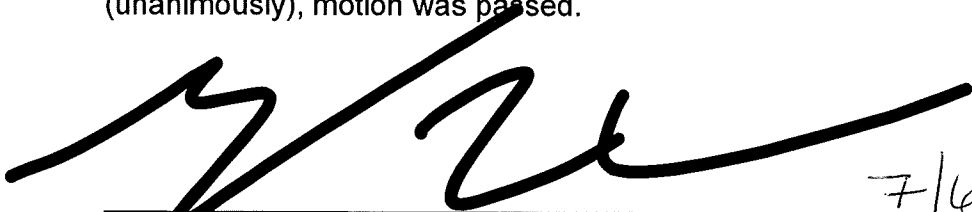
- Main Corridor Beautification Project
- Year End Presentation to Council
- See Click Fix Open-House planning discussion.
- 5-Year Plan Finalization
- Schedule next Adopt-a-Street cleanup.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was entertained by Chairman LaVann to adjourn the meeting at 4:05 pm. A motion was made by Commissioner Mowczko and seconded by Commissioner Vigil (unanimously), motion was passed.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G. LaVann', written over a horizontal line.

Greg LaVann

Chairman

7/6/2023
Date