

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

The City Council of the City of Las Animas, County of Bent, State of Colorado, met in regular session in the City Council chambers on Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. The City Council meeting was in person and on Facebook live. There being present at roll call were the following members:

Mayor: Scott Peterson

Council members: Joseph Frazier  
Andrew Montoya  
Cassandra Siefkas  
Robert Smith  
Troy Abdulla  
Lynette Wolfe (by zoom)

Youth Advisor: Grace Gardner

Mayor Scott Peterson declared a quorum present.

**Others Present:**

Brandon Dittman: City Attorney (by zoom)  
Ronald Clodfelter: Superintendent of Light & Power  
Roy Davis: Interim Public Works Director  
Richard Gallegos: Deputy City Clerk  
Mark Hornberger: GMS Project Leader  
Amanda Leck: Bent County Administrator  
Jake Six: Bent County Sheriff  
Charmaine Tripp: City Clerk & Treasurer  
Jean Wagner: Bent County Cemetery Board  
Lynn Wright: Las Animas Light & Power

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Scott Peterson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilman Robert Smith moved, Councilman Andrew Montoya seconded to approve the Consent Agenda including the Regular Minutes of the December 13, 2022 meeting and the December 2022 vouchers. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:** a. Amanda Leck-Bent County administrator

Bent County Administrator Amanda Leck presented the sidewalk project grant sponsored by Bent County and CDOT. Ms. Leck stated that the grant is 100% and requires no match. Ms. Leck said that the grant would also benefit Mc Clave and the City of Las Animas. Sidewalk installation is planned for the new housing development.

Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe moved, Councilman Robert Smith seconded to allow Mayor Scott Peterson to sign the partnership agreement on the grant proposal. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

b. Jake Six-Bent County Sheriff

Sheriff Jake Six, gave a report stating that he has hired a dog catcher and his name is Tony Jones. Sheriff Six stated that he has an older vehicle that he is going to use for the dogs. Sheriff Six also stated that they did not have a working dart gun. City Clerk Charmaine Tripp asked Mr. Six how much it would cost and asked him for more information so that the City could purchase the gun. Mayor Peterson thanked Sheriff Six for his report.

c. Jean Wagner-Bent County Cemetery District Board Member

Mayor Scott Peterson recognized Jean Wagner. Ms. Wagner wanted to address the letter they received for the Las Animas Light & Power concerning irrigation, pivot systems and wells informing them of rate increases and the additional horse power charge. Ms. Wagner stated that the City said that the rates would not be increased to cover the \$5.00 per hour raise given to the City and Light & Power employees. Mrs. Wagner felt that a 56% was excessive.

**PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

Upon recommendation from the Public Works Board, Councilman Troy Abdulla moved, Councilman Joseph Frazier seconded to approve the water surcharge relief for Mike Herbert at 220 1<sup>st</sup> St in the amount of \$213.55, and Brenda Barber of 1501 Grove Ave. in the amount of \$847.33. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

Interim Public Works Director Roy Davis indicated that the City has received a grant from the Bureau of Land Reclamation to pay for automatic read meters for water consumption.

**SPECIAL CALL CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULED**

A Special Call City Council meeting has been scheduled for January 23, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF DONATION TO THE LAS ANIMAS TRAVEL CLUB IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000.00**

Councilwoman Cassandra Siefkas moved, Councilman Joseph Frazier seconded to approve a donation of \$5,000.00 to the Las Animas Travel Club in 2023. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

**AMERICORP VOLUNTEERS ARE SCHEDULED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2023 PAINT & CONNECT PROJECT**

Councilwoman Cassandra Siefkas announced that the AMERICORP volunteers will be in Las Animas June 3, 2023 through July 7, 2023 to participate in the 2023 Paint & Connect Project.

**DESIGNATION OF BRANDON DITTMAN AS THE OFFICIAL CITY ATTORNEY FOR THE CITY OF LAS ANIMAS, COLORADO FOR THE YEAR 2023**

Councilwoman Cassandra Siefkas moved, Councilman Joseph Frazier seconded to appoint Brandon Dittman as the official City Attorney for the City of Las Animas, Colorado for the year 2023. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

**DESIGNATION OF THE BENT COUNTY DEMOCRAT NEWSPAPER AS THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE CITY OF LAS ANIMAS, COLORADO FOR THE YEAR 2023**

Councilman Robert Smith moved, Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe seconded to designate the Bent County Democrat newspaper as the official newspaper for the City of Las Animas, Colorado for the year 2023. On a voice vote, Mayor Scot Peterson declared the Motion carried.

**DESIGNATION OF THE CITY HALL BULLETIN BOARD AND THE CITY OF LAS ANIMAS WEBSITE AS THE OFFICIAL POSTING PLACES FOR THE YEAR 2023**

Councilman Robert Smith moved, Councilwoman Cassandra Siefkas seconded to designate the City Hall bulletin board and the City of Las Animas website as the official posting places for the year 2023. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

**PERMISSION TO PLACE A BID IN THE NEWSPAPER FOR A WATER LINE INSTALLATION PROJECT LOCATED ON MOORE AVE AND FIRST STREET**

It was the consensus of the City Council to place the bid in the newspaper for a water line installation project located on Moore Ave and First Street.

**APPOINTMENT OF ANTHONY VARELA TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**

Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe moved, Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe seconded to appoint Anthony Varela to the Parks and Recreation Board. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Councilman Robert Smith asked the City Councilors if they were still interested in purchasing the SE/EC Recycling property. The Councilors indicated that they were still interested in purchasing the property.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilman Joseph Frazier moved, Councilman Robert Smith seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

---

Charmaine D. Tripp  
City Clerk & Treasurer

ATTEST:

---

Scott Peterson, Mayor