

PUBLIC HEARING-CDBG APPLICATION FOR WASTEWATER FORCE MAIN IMPROVEMENTS

Mayor Scott Peterson opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. for the CDBG application for wastewater force main improvements. Mayor Scott Peterson recognized Mark Hornberger of GMS Engineering, Inc. Mr. Hornberger went over the project in extensive detail with the type of loan, the amount of the loan forgiveness loan, and the amount of the grant requested. Mr. Hornberger went over the environmental impacts and well as how the funds will be utilized. Mr. Hornberger then invited the constituency for comments regarding the project. After a brief pause, with no public comment, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Public Hearing closed at 7:12 p.m.

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, February 14, 2023, at 7:13 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 Lynette Wolfe
Absent:	Troy Abdulla
Youth Advisor:	Grace Gardner

Mayor Scott Peterson declared a quorum present.

Others Present:

David Armstong:	Chairman of the ARCD Levy Board
Brandon Dittman:	City Attorney (by zoom)
Ronald Clodfelter:	Interested Citizen
Roy Davis:	Interim Public Works Director
Richard Blake Elliott:	Candidate for Public Works Director
Richard Gallegos:	Deputy City Clerk
Jennifer Grimaldo:	Interested Citizen
Mark Hornberger:	GMS Project Leader
Brad Johnston:	Contractor for pivot project
Tony Jones:	Animal Control Officer
Kim MacDonnell:	Bent County Commissioner
Christian Monahan:	Bent County Sheriff's Office
Charmaine Tripp:	City Clerk & Treasurer
Stace and Kendra Davis:	County Residents
Lynn Wright:	Superintendent of 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 Joseph Frazier seconded to approve the Consent Agenda including the Regular Minutes of the January 10, 2023 meeting, the Special Call Minutes of January 23, 2023 and the January 2023 vouchers. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

BENT COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

Mayor Scott Peterson recognized Deputy Christian Monahan. Deputy Monahan gave a report on the statistics that were provided to the City Councilors. Deputy Monahan also introduced the new animal control officer Tony Jones. Mr. Jones introduced himself and indicated that he was the new animal control officer. The City Councilors welcomed Mr. Jones and stated that they would be looking forward to working with him.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: a. Stace and Kendra Davis-Bent County electric rate payers

Mayor Scott Peterson recognized Stace and Kendra Davis. Ms. Davis addressed the City Council about the current rate increase to the meter charge and the addition the horse power charge. Ms. Davis was concerned about the increase to the utility bills. She stated that she has several accounts that this will affect. Ms. Davis would like to see the horse power charge taken off. She stated that the horse power applies even when the wells are not in use.

b. Brad Johnson-Contractor for pivot project

Mayor Scott Peterson recognized Brad Johnson from the pipe yard. Mr. Johnson stated that they were ready to start the pivot project and were told that there were not enough transformers available for the project. Mr. Johnson asked the City Council to get involved in searching for the addition transformers to do the project. Mr. Johnson stated that this is a big project for Bent County and would bring in additional revenue to our area. Commissioner Kim MacDonnell stated that they were in favor of the project and would do what they could to help solve the problem.

c. David Armstrong-Chairman ARCD Levy Board

Mayor Scott Peterson recognized David Armstrong. Mr. Armstrong gave a report on the levy board. Mr. Armstrong gave a brief history of the levy. Mr. Armstrong stated that they have hired someone to do an assessment on the levy in the amount of \$420,000.00. They are working on gathering the funds for the assessment. They are requesting part of the funds form governmental agencies. The Board will be able to move forward with any repairs after the assessment has been completed.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Upon recommendation from the Public Works Board, Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe moved, Councilman Robert Smith seconded to approve the pay requests from G M S Engineering, Inc. and the Change Order request prepared by G M S Engineering, Inc. The amounts of the requests are \$35,503.41 and \$252,143.13. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

APPROVAL AND OFFICIAL COUNCIL ACTION TO SUBMIT THE CDBG APPLICATION FOR WASTEWATER FORCE MAIN IMPROVEMENTS

Councilman Robert Smith moved, Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe seconded to approve with official Council action to submit the CDBG application for wastewater force main improvements. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

Upon recommendation from the Public Works Board, Councilwoman Cassandra Siefkas moved, Councilman Andrew Montoya seconded to approve the water surcharge relief for the following:

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Gordon Nehls-657 St. Vrain Ave | \$452.72 |
| 2. Stace Ridgeway-524 Bent Ave | \$437.15 |
| 3. Stace Ridgeway-526 Bent Ave | \$38.35 |
| 4. Froilan Lopez-405 Maple Ave | \$497.62 |
| 5. Larry Elmore-342 Moore Ave | \$93.41 |
| 6. Megan Torres-632 Oak Ave | \$32.71 |
| 7. Trisha Galindo-650 Locust Ave | \$34.72 |
| 8. Amy Jean Maldonado-205 St Vrain Ave | \$19.24 |

On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION SCHEDULED

Mayor Scott Peterson scheduled a City Council work session for February 28, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the Public Works Department equipment and a multiyear plan.

ORDINANCE NO. 735, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAS ANIMAS, COLORADO APPROVING THE SALARY OF THE MANAGER OF THE LAS ANIMAS MUNICIPAL LIGHT & POWER COMPANY

Mayor Scott Peterson opened a Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 735 at 8:35 p.m. Mayor Peterson asked the audience if there were any comments regarding the Ordinance. Hearing none, Mayor Scott Peterson closed the Public Hearing at 8:36 p.m. Councilman Robert Smith moved, Councilman Joseph Frazier seconded to adopt on second reading ORDINANCE NO. 735, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAS ANIMAS, COLORADO APPROVING THE SALARY OF THE MANAGER OF THE LAS ANIMAS MUNICIPAL LIGHT & POWER COMPANY. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

RATIFICATION OF MAYOR SCOTT PETERSON'S SIGNATURE FOR THE CDPHE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROGRAM GRANT

Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe moved, Councilwoman Cassandra Siefkas seconded to ratify Mayor Scott Peterson's signature for the CDPHE Environmental Justice Program Grant. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

REQUEST FROM CARLTON MCKAY, PASTOR OF THE NAZARENE CHURCH CONCERNING 704 VIGIL AVE

The City Council considered a letter from Mr. Carlton McKay, Pastor of the Nazarene Church. Mr. Mc Kay is interested in acquiring 704 Vigil Ave for a church parking lot. There are several weed abatement liens and a house demolition abatement. The City Council discussed the issue and stated that if the house demolition abatement was paid he could go ahead and purchase the lots. City Clerk & Treasurer Charmaine Tripp stated that she would call Mr. McKay with the information.

APPOINTMENT OF SCOTT PETERSON TO THE LAS ANIMAS/BENT COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD

Councilman Robert Smith moved, Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe seconded to appoint Mayor Scott Peterson to the Las Animas/Bent County Housing Authority Board for a period of one year. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Councilwoman Cassandra Siefkas moved, Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe seconded to appoint Richard Blake Elliott as the Las Animas Public Works Director. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAS ANIMAS, COLORADO AMENDING REGULATIONS CONCERNING VACANT PROPERTY/BUILDING REGISTRATION

Councilman Robert Smith moved, Councilman Joseph Frazier seconded to approve on first reading AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAS ANIMAS, COLORADO AMENDING REGULATIONS CONCERNING VACANT PROPERTY/BUILDING RESITRATION. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

STAFF DIRECTION OF AWARDING BID FOR WATER LINE PROJECT

Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe moved, Councilwoman Cassandra Siefkas seconded to award the bid to Gardner Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$178,000.00 for the lowest qualified bid. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-23, A RESOLUTION APPROVING SUBMISSION OF THE GOCO GRANT

Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe moved, Councilman Joseph Frazier seconded to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 01-23, A RESOLUTION APPROVING SUBMISSION OF THE GOCO GRANT. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

MODIFICATION OF PREMISES APPLICATION FOR PETE'S FAN ZONE FOR SANTA FE TRAIL DAY WEEKEND

Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe moved, Councilman Andrew Montoya seconded to approve the modification of premises application for Pete's Fan Zone for Santa Fe Trail Day weekend. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Mayor Scott Peterson informed the City Council that the second phase of the Grant for the CDOT Downtown Revitalization Grant in the amount of \$150,000.00 is due by the end of February. The consensus of the City Councilors was to apply for the grant.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Joseph Frazier moved, Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 p.m. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

Charmaine D. Tripp
City Clerk & Treasurer

ATTEST:

Scott Peterson, Mayor