

**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, August 09, 2022, at 7:03 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: Andrew Montoya  
Cassandra Siefkas  
Robert Smith  
Lynette Wolfe
- Absent: Troy Abdulla
- Youth Advisor: Grace Gardner

Mayor Scott Peterson declared a quorum present.

**Others Present:**

- Bridgette Brown: Interested Citizen
- Brandon Dittman: City Attorney (by zoom)
- Ronald Clodfelter: Superintendent of Light & Power
- Wyatt Dowell: Acting Public Works Director
- Joseph Frazier: Council Candidate
- Shiela Frasier: Interested Citizen
- Andrew Froese: Auditor
- Richard Gallegos: Deputy City Clerk
- Patrick Hancock: Auditor
- Amanda Leck: Bent County Administrator
- Jaxon Meardon: Interested Citizen
- Rose Prichard: Interested Citizen
- Charmaine Tripp: City Clerk & Treasurer

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilwoman Cassandra Siefkas moved, Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe seconded to approve the Consent Agenda including the Regular Minutes of the July 12, 2022 meeting and the July 2022 vouchers. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

- a. Sara Harrod, US Army Corp of Engineers- Black Bridge Improvements

Scott Peterson recognized Sara Harrod of the US Army Corp of Engineers. Ms Harrod introduced Mike Bullock and Lisa from the US Army Corp of Engineers.

Ms. Harrod presented a slide show highlighting black bridge. Habitat improvements are planned for the area. The area will remain free. Patrols will be stepped up. Tamarisk removal is planned to preserve the habitat. A \$30,000.00 grant and a \$25,000.00 wildlife grant has been received to help with the tamarisk removal. Ms. Harrod stated that National Public Lands Day is September 24, 2022 and a celebration will be held on that day. Mayor Peterson thanked Ms. Harrod for her presentation on the Black Bridge Improvements.

#### **WATER SURCHARGE RELIEF DUE TO WATER LEAKS**

Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe moved, Councilman Robert Smith seconded to give a credit for the water surcharge due to water leaks for Mary Matson at 714 ½ 6<sup>th</sup> Street in the amount of \$37.00 and Jacqueline Alvarado of 426 Poplar Ave. in the amount of \$42.10. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

#### **PRESENTATION OF THE 2021 AUDIT BY HANCOCK FROESE & COMPANY LLC**

Patrick Hancock from Hancock Froese & Company LLC presented the general fund and general related funds and stated that the City of Las Animas was within budget and had no accounting issues. Andrew Froese presented the enterprise funds and stated that the funds were all within budget. Mr. Froese suggested that the City of Las Animas look at raising the rates in the enterprise funds to keep up with increased costs and inflation. The Auditors stated that the City of Las Animas has a clean audit and it is the highest review an auditor can give.

#### **ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2021 AUDIT**

Councilman Robert Smith moved, Councilman Andrew Montoya seconded to accept the 2021 audit presented by Hancock Froese & Company LLC. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

#### **CREATION OF A HIRING COMMITTEE FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR POSITION**

Councilman Robert Smith moved, Councilwoman Cassandra Siefkas seconded to approve a hiring committee for the Public Works Director Position with the following committee members: Lynette Wolfe, Andrew Montoya and Penny Calhoon. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

#### **APPROVAL OF A TRAILER PERMIT FOR ERNEST BECKER**

Councilman Robert Smith moved, Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe seconded to approve the trailer permit for Ernest Becker at 1002 9<sup>th</sup> Street while the home is under construction for a period of three months. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

#### **APPOINTMENT OF JOSEPH FRAZIER TO FILL THE VACANCY ON WARD 3, PRECINCT 8**

Councilman Robert Smith moved, Councilwoman Cassandra Siefkas seconded to appoint Joseph Frazier to fill the vacancy on Ward 3, Precinct 8. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 18-22, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LAS ANIMAS, COLORADO, APPROVING THE PAYMENT OF INVOICE FOR THE WATER PLANT SUPPLIES TO DPC INDUSTRIES, INC.**

Councilwoman Cassandra Siefkas moved, Councilman Andrew Montoya seconded to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 18-22, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LAS ANIMAS, COLORADO, APPROVING THE PAYMENT OF INVOICE FOR THE WATER PLANT SUPPLIES TO DPC INDUSTRIES, INC. On a voice vote, Mayor Scot Peterson declared the Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 19-22, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LAS ANIMAS, COLORADO, REFERRING AND APPROVING A BALLOT QUESTION TO PERMIT THE PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCES BY TITLE ONLY TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS AT THE COORDINATED ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022**

Councilman Andrew Montoya moved, Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe seconded to approve RESOLUTION NO. 19-22, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LAS ANIMAS, COLORADO, REFERRING AND APPROVING A BALLOT QUESTION TO PERMIT THE PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCES BY TITLE ONLY TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS AT THE COORDINATED ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 20-22, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LAS ANIMAS, COLORADO, REFERRING AND APPROVING A BALLOT QUESTION ON WHETHER THE CITY CLERK & TREASURER SHALL BE APPOINTIVE POSITION SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS AT THE COORDINATED ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022**

Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe moved, Councilman Andrew Montoya seconded to approve RESOLUTION NO. 20-22, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LAS ANIMAS, COLORADO, REFERRING AND APPROVING A BALLOT QUESTION ON WHETHER THE CITY CLERK & TREASURER SHALL BE APPOINTIVE POSITION SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS AT THE COORDINATED ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** GOCO grant-Councilman Robert Smith discussed the creation of the GOCO grant and what the City Council and citizens would like to see during the first phase. A Council Work session has been scheduled for August 25, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

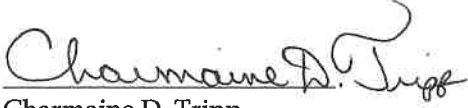
**AUTHORIZATION FROM THE CITY COUNCIL TO HAVE CITY ATTORNEY BRANDON DITTMAN CREATE A FORMAL ETHICS POLICY AND TO DRAFT A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE POLICY**

Councilwoman Lynette Wolfe moved, Councilwoman Cassandra Siefkas seconded to authorize City Attorney Brandon Dittman to create a formal ethics policy and create a resolution to adopt the policy. On a voice vote, Mayor Scott Peterson declared the Motion carried.


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**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Scott Peterson adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

  
Charmaine D. Tripp  
City Clerk & Treasurer

ATTEST:

  
Scott Peterson, Mayor