

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Mayor Daggett called the meeting of the Flagstaff City Council held May 30, 2023, to order at 3:01 p.m.

NOTICE OF OPTION TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the City Council and to the general public that, at this work session, the City Council may vote to go into executive session, which will not be open to the public, for legal advice and discussion with the City's attorneys for legal advice on any item listed on the following agenda, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3).

2. Roll Call

NOTE: One or more Councilmembers may be in attendance telephonically or by other technological means.

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

MAYOR DAGGETT
VICE MAYOR ASLAN
COUNCILMEMBER HARRIS
COUNCILMEMBER HOUSE
COUNCILMEMBER MATTHEWS (virtually)
COUNCILMEMBER MCCARTHY
COUNCILMEMBER SWEET

Others present: City Manager Greg Clifton; City Attorney Sterling Solomon.

3. Pledge of Allegiance, Mission Statement, and Land Acknowledgement

The Council and audience recited the pledge of allegiance, Councilmember Harris read the Mission Statement of the City of Flagstaff, and Councilmember McCarthy read the Land Acknowledgement.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the City of Flagstaff is to protect and enhance the quality of life for all.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Flagstaff City Council humbly acknowledges the ancestral homelands of this area's Indigenous nations and original stewards. These lands, still inhabited by Native descendants, border mountains sacred to Indigenous peoples. We honor them, their legacies, their traditions, and their continued contributions. We celebrate their past, present, and future generations who will forever know this place as home.

4. Public Participation

Public Participation enables the public to address the council about items that are not on the prepared agenda. Public Participation appears on the agenda twice, at the beginning and at the end of the work session. You may speak at one or the other, but not both. Anyone wishing to comment at the meeting is asked to fill out a speaker card and submit it to the recording clerk. When the item comes up on the agenda, your name will be called. You may address the Council up to three times throughout the meeting, including comments made during Public Participation. Please limit your remarks to three minutes per item to allow everyone to have an opportunity to speak. At the discretion of the Chair, ten or more persons present at the meeting and wishing to speak may appoint a representative who may have no more than fifteen minutes to speak.

Connie Folsom addressed Council with concerns about Pickleball at Bushmaster Park.

Jill Stephenson addressed Council in opposition to the NAH rezone stating that the project needs more evaluation.

Tom Pearson addressed Council about carbon neutrality.

Stefan Sommer addressed Council in opposition to the NAH rezone stating that the project is inadequate in terms of sustainability.

Kathy Flaccus addressed Council in opposition to the NAH rezone stating that the project will cost taxpayers too much.

Paul Haro submitted a written comment regarding police brutality.

5. Review of Draft Agenda for the June 6, 2023 City Council Meeting

None

6. Proclamation: Two Spirit Day

Mayor Daggett read and presented the proclamation. Katt Jim and Holly Figueroa made a few remarks in support of the proclamation.

7. Proclamation: Gun Violence Awareness Day

Mayor Daggett read and presented the proclamation. Mary Grove made a few remarks in support of the proclamation.

8. Proclamation: LGBTQIA2S+ Month

Councilmember House read and presented the proclamation and presented it to Jean Toner on behalf of the Commission on Diversity Awareness. Ms. Toner made a few remarks in support of the proclamation.

9. May Work Anniversaries

Senior Deputy City Manager Shannon Anderson provided a PowerPoint presentation that covered the following:

MAY EMPLOYEE WORK ANNIVERSARIES!
FIVE YEAR ANNIVERSARIES
ROBERT WALLACE, OPEN SPACE SUPERVISOR
KEITH CHAMBERLAIN, GRANTS AND CONTRACTS SPECIALIST
DANIEL LOGAN, PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER
TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARIES
KEVIN SAPP, POLICE SERGEANT
MARIANNE SULLIVAN, SENIOR ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY
TWENTY YEAR ANNIVERSARIES
RYAN CHURCH, FIRE ENGINEER
25 YEARS PLUS!!!
MARION LEE, WATER SERVICES ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST
GRANT KELLY, POLICE SERGEANT

10. Resource Planning for Electric Grid Reliability

Climate Program Manager Jenny Niemann introduced APS Managers Mike Eugenis and Judson Tillinghast who provided a PowerPoint presentation that covered the following:

APS INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN
COMMITTED TO A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE
2023 APS RESOURCE DIVERSITY
SALES FORECAST UPDATE
MAINTAINING A DIVERSE ENERGY MIX IS IMPORTANT
CUSTOMER TO GRID SOLUTION
OUR STRATEGY
ELECTRIC VEHICLES
COOL REWARDS PROGRAM
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
KEEPING IT RELIABLE

Councilmember Matthews asked how APS will handle the increased power demands if Flagstaff reaches its goal by 2030. She is concerned about power outages, particularly in the winter months when there may be no other heating source available to people. Mr. Tillinghast stated that there are different teams that focus on the reliability of the transmission system and distribution systems. There are plans from a resource planning perspective that determine what resources are needed to meet peak load and plans to ensure that the transmission system and distribution system is built out accordingly. APS Public Affairs Manager Janet Dean stated that outages happen on the system, and the goal is to be as reliable as possible to get customers restored as fast as possible. There are redundancies through loops so they are able to get many customers back online quickly.

Councilmember Matthews asked if there are fee increases during peak times to encourage reduced demand. Mr. Tillinghast stated that he is not aware of that. There are energy efficiency programs that seek to reduce energy consumption in general, the rate structures of time of use rates are developed to encourage people to use more energy outside of the demand hours to reduce cost.

Councilmember Matthews asked about diversity in the power system and what is being done to build the infrastructure for that diversity. Mr. Eugenis stated that there is an interconnected grid that has the ability to transport energy as needed. There are quite a few projects planned in this area over the next ten years.

Councilmember Matthews stated that clean energy comes with a hefty price tag. She noted that Tucson citizens recently turned down an energy conversion due to the cost. She asked if the commitment is to convert 65% to clean energy if that would mean an increase in rates. Mr. Eugenis stated that the bids that come in for renewable energy are the most economical and that is where they are investing. Ms. Dean added that there are a lot of rate plans available to customers that allow them to choose how and when they use their energy to fit their needs and budget.

Councilmember Harris asked what outreach is being done to help residents understand what they can do in case of an outage. Ms. Dean stated that it is a partnership with APS and emergency management to communicate with customers and establish warming centers when necessary. Ms. Niemann added that it would be much the same as it is today. Currently, heating and water heating is done through a dual fuel system where both gas and electricity are needed to run a furnace or water heater, so the preparedness components are the same. Electric homes can be more resilient because only one fuel source is needed.

Tom Pearson and Laura Kessler addressed Council regarding the presentation. The following comments were provided:

- The goal should not be to convert everything to electric.
- It is important to maintain energy diversity.
- The goal of 100% renewable energy is not viable for the safety of the community.
- An all-electric focus can leave the community vulnerable during times of outages.
- Things like large backup generators for homes and businesses will be needed and people are not thinking about those expenses when going to a fully electric environment.

Sustainability Director Nicole Antonopoulos stated that the focus is to obtain as much electricity as possible from renewable resources. The goal was for 100% of municipal energy to be from renewable energy by 2025 and that goal has already been met. Another goal was for 68% of the community electricity use would be from renewable energy, nowhere in the plan does it call for every resident to be net zero or carbon-free. To reach this goal, more aggressive building codes will increase renewable energy installation and usage in new buildings. The third goal is to support solar installation on existing residential buildings. The intent is to take advantage of the superior efficiency of electricity and support the reduction of natural gas usage by 62% in the residential sector. This does mean that everyone immediately goes to all electric but rather when appliances need replacing that they are replaced with electric appliances.

Vice Mayor Aslan asked for a history of how the effort came to be. Ms. Antonopoulos stated that the conversation to be 100% reliable on renewable energy started in 2016 with a former City Council. In 2017 Sustainability staff were directed to achieve 100% clean energy for the city organization and the Flagstaff community. This prompted the draft of the

community-wide Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. Following that, there was a call to action from the community to declare a climate emergency. This was followed by the development of the Carbon Neutrality Plan to get the city as an organization and the community at carbon neutrality by 2030.

Councilmember McCarthy noted that many people say that implementing the plan will cost a lot of money, while that is true, it will cost even more if nothing is done. He is very supportive of the work that is being done. He also mentioned that a majority of homes in Flagstaff with natural gas appliances do not have a system that will heat their home if the power goes out. The reliability on electricity is already standard practice.

Councilmember Harris stated that there needs to be more involvement in getting the information to the public. It is a disservice to assume that everyone is reading and educated about the Carbon Neutrality Plan. It is also important to be sensitive to the language being used when talking about limited resources.

Councilmember Matthews reiterated her concern about reliability and protecting the most vulnerable. Many of the plans have unforeseen consequences and after reading more about what Tucson went through, at some point, the matter should be put out to the citizens to see what they want. While this has gone through multiple years and multiple Councils, it may not be a true representation of the community as a whole.

Councilmember McCarthy stated that ultimately this is about grid reliability. The biggest takeaway is that it is very important that APS have their transmission lines set up for redundancy to lessen the number of people impacted by a power outage. There needs to be a bigger focus on redundancy.

11. Annual Report for MOONSHOT at the Northern Arizona Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology (NACET) - 2023

Community Investment Director David McIntire provided opening comments and introduced Executive Director Diana White who provided a PowerPoint presentation that covered the following:

MOONSHOT AT NACET
2021-2022 REVIEW
A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS
TOTAL INVESTMENT FUNDS
TOTAL REVENUE GENERATED
JOBS
2022 OCCUPANCY RATES AND NEW TENANTS
CURRENT OCCUPANCY RATE AT NACET
A LOOK AT A FEW MOONSHOT AT NACET EVENTS
4TH ANNUAL PIONEER PITCH STATE-WIDE TOUR
WINNERS TOOK HOME THEIR SHARE OF \$30,000 IN CASH PRIZES!
THE 3RD ANNUAL SHOEMAKER AWARDS
WE MEAN BUSINESS

Vice Mayor Aslan asked if Ms. White could speak about the Shoemaker Awards. Ms. White stated that the Shoemaker Awards were something started three years ago as a celebration of the progress of the tenants but to also incorporate a Northern Arizona pitch event that provides an opportunity for entrepreneurs to compete for financial prizes.

A break was held from 5:09 p.m. through 5:23 p.m.

12. J.W. Powell Specific Plan Study Update

Senior Project Manager David Pedersen, Coconino County Public Works Director Christopher Tressler, and Planning Director Michelle McNulty provided a PowerPoint presentation that covered the following:

J.W. POWELL BLVD SPECIFIC PLAN STUDY
VICINITY MAP
KEY STAKEHOLDERS
JWP BLVD COUNCIL-APPROVED ALIGNMENT
JWP SPECIFIC PLAN STUDY PROJECT TEAM
UPDATE
FLOODING UPDATE – HEROLD RANCH ROAD
WHAT IS A SPECIFIC PLAN?
CHANGE ORDER 5

Jennifer Kotalik submitted a written comment urging the Council to revert back to the original alignment.

Mary Norton submitted a written comment asking for the Open Space Commission to be involved in the study.

Vice Mayor Aslan stated that there was a request from an Open Space commissioner to include open space and parks and recreation as the plan moves forward, specifically related to Hoffman Tank. Ms. McNulty stated that staff has already been meeting with Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Events staff on acquisitions they are interested in that area. There is quite a bit of scope addressing the open space and trails in the area, and they can add a presentation to the Open Space Commission as part of the scope. Mr. Pedersen added that they have also been coordinating with Arizona Game and Fish about the area as it is a wildlife corridor.

Councilmember Matthews asked when construction is set to begin. Mr. Pedersen stated that now that the final route has been determined, they are looking at three to five years for construction to start. While there is not a definitive plan, they are excited to be closer to a buildable design.

13. Wildland Fire Preparedness Briefing

Wildland Fire Manager Paul Oltrogge introduced Fire Department Engineer/Paramedic and Southwest IMT Situation Unit Leader Katie Brown, USFS Flagstaff Ranger District Forest Fire Planner Jesse Causer, and APS Northeast Division Manager Joe Weathersby. The group provided a PowerPoint presentation that covered the following:

2023 WILDLAND FIRE PREPAREDNESS UPDATE
PARTNERS AND PRESENTERS
WFM WITHIN COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION
FLAGSTAFF FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE
FLAGSTAFF FIRE DEPARTMENT – SEVERITY STAFFING
AVIATION RESOURCES
PRECIPITATION
DROUGHT MONITORING

SEASONAL OUTLOOK
NATIONAL PREDICTIVE SERVICES
SIGNIFICANT WILDFIRE POTENTIAL OUTLOOK
APS WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE
APS HAS A PLAN
APS WILDFIRE PREVENTION
APS MITIGATION PROTOCOLS
APS WILDFIRE RESPONSE
THE EVOLUTION OF THE EVACUATION MAP
EVACUATION MAP
BE SET – BE AWARE
EVACUATING FROM WILDFIRES
HIGHLIGHTS
FFD RISK MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT

Councilmember Matthews thanked the presenters. She stated that the city is surrounded by forest, and this should be the number one focus. Flagstaff has been recognized nationally for its innovation and leadership in fire mitigation efforts.

14. Public Participation

None

15. Informational Items To/From Mayor, Council, and City Manager; future agenda item requests

Councilmember Sweet reminded everyone that Friday is First Friday Artwalk, Hullabaloo is happening at Wheeler Park on Saturday, and the Farmers Market is on Sunday.

Councilmember McCarthy reported that MetroPlan had an advance last week to discuss their work plan for the next year.

Vice Mayor Aslan reported that he was in San Antonio with Discover Flagstaff for a convention where they highlighted how Flagstaff is packaged and presented to international tourist groups. He attended the Tourism Commission meeting and Sustainability Commission meeting and was invited to a meeting at Grand Canyon to discuss a protected area that is being proposed for national monument status. Lastly, he reported that he chaired the Colorado Plateau Water Advisory Committee meeting where City Manager Clifton provided an update on the Rio de Flag project.

Councilmember Harris reported that she participated in a session with NALA at the Museum of Northern Arizona. It was an opportunity to talk to Flagstaff Leaders about city issues. She reported that Juneteenth events are coming up on June 17, 2023 at South Beaver School.

Councilmember Matthews reported that she was also a speaker at the NALA event. It was a great event that was well attended; it was great to hear from the community and share thoughts and ideas.

Mayor Daggett reported that she gave opening remarks at the Water Utility Leadership forum, she was impressed with the event and applauded the efforts of Water Services Manager Erin Young who oversaw half of the day. She also reported that she was on Radio Sunnyside to talk about water. Last week she attended the Helios Education Foundation in Phoenix for the Arizona Mayor's Education Roundtable where they discussed a variety of

data related to all aspects of education in Arizona.

16. Adjournment

The Special Meeting of the Flagstaff City Council held May 30, 2023, adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK