

City Manager's Report

Sept 19, 2024

Council and Colleagues, greetings. We hope that your summer recess was fantastic. These reports will be included in the City Council packet for Council Work Sessions. The reports are intended to be informational, covering miscellaneous events and topics involving the city organization. This report inclusive of the most recent updates from Housing, Human Resources, and Sustainability.

Community Development

For future planning purposes, staff will be providing an update on the Beulah/University capital project and the John Wesley Powell extension at the October 8 Council meeting. It will be very informative, as always.

Housing staff is working on plans for this year's celebration for Housing America Month. Declared by The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO), Housing America Month takes place every October, highlighting the essential role that affordable housing programs play in building and sustaining healthy communities across the nation.

On September 4th, City of Flagstaff Housing Staff hosted the quarterly Arizona Community Development Collaborative meeting. Twelve housing professionals from municipalities throughout Arizona were in attendance to discuss the proposed 106 Rule and review process, NSPIRE inspection standards, and preparations for the NCDCA conference in Washington, DC.

Prop 442 Updates

Housing staff is making updates to the existing Rental Incentive Bond Program Notice of Funding Availability for a second round of funding. The initial awards totaled \$3.33 million dollars and the remaining \$1.67 will again be made available to eligible projects this October.

In addition, Prop 442 identified \$3 million to repurpose existing or vacant buildings for affordable rental units. A tentative timeline for these bond funds is in the works. Staff will also research adaptive reuse program features and best practices as the program is developed.

Water Services

- Recycling used close to one million sandbags to reuse cinders (see photo)
- Water Services staff will be leading middle school students through a tour of the Wildcat plant on September 26th and October 1st



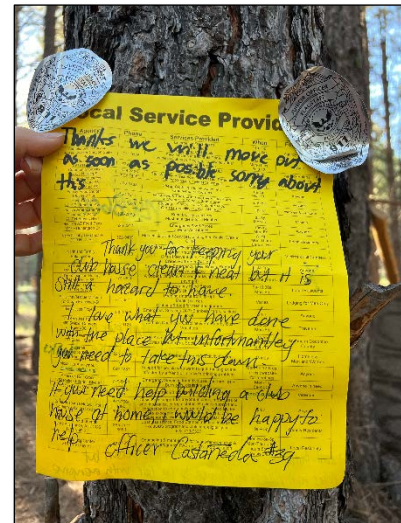
Public Works

- New EV charging stations are operational at Public Works!
- Over the summer Public Works tried some new innovative ways to manage weeds at Core Services. Please let me introduce Phoebe and Monica – experts in the realm of noxious weed eradication.
- Solid Waste staff created a door hanger to explain more about do's and don'ts of bulky pick up to help address challenging piles, but not in my neighborhood.
- The Hazardous Product Center's mixed paint found its way to small-scale charity projects on Navajo Nation, Hualapai Indian Reservation, and the Alano Club. Thanks to all who assisted in this great program.
- The Parks Maintenance building received a face lift with the installation of new metal siding and roof (see picture). It's the small things



Police Department

- Ponderosa Trail residents reported a concerning structure in the forest thinking it was illegal camping. After some investigation Officer Castaneda determined it was a fort and notified the users they could not keep it there while offering to help rebuild something in a better location. See the care Officer Castaneda took in working with these Flagstaff youth (see picture).
- Sgt Oliver and Sgt Seay completed the FBI LEEDA Command Leadership program – congratulations!
- Officer Martin purchased \$250 worth of groceries for an individual who did not have enough money to purchase them – outstanding!



Fire Department

- This just in! The new quint was placed in service at Station 3!
- Congratulations to Nick Ondrejch on this promotion to Fire Captain and Kyle Benedict to Fire Engineer!



Human Resources

- Welcome to Linda Alvarado and Sheila Jewell to the City of Flagstaff's HRRM team!

City Attorney's Office

Colleen Calhoun Retires

Colleen Calhoun was no newcomer to the legal profession. In March 1987, she started her career working for the Honorable Anthony Halas at the Industrial Commission of Arizona as a Legal Assistant. Judge Halas appreciated Colleen so much that he made sure to hire her as part of his team when he left the bench entered private practice. Though she enjoyed the work, she loved Flagstaff so she moved back in 1997.

Over the next twenty years Colleen worked in various areas of the legal world and other work including the Coconino County Attorney's Office as a Legal Assistant, and the Arizona Attorney General as a Legal Secretary II.

Colleen Calhoun joined our City Attorney's Office Prosecution team in January 2017 as a Legal Specialist. Over the last seven years here with Team Flagstaff, she earned several awards including:

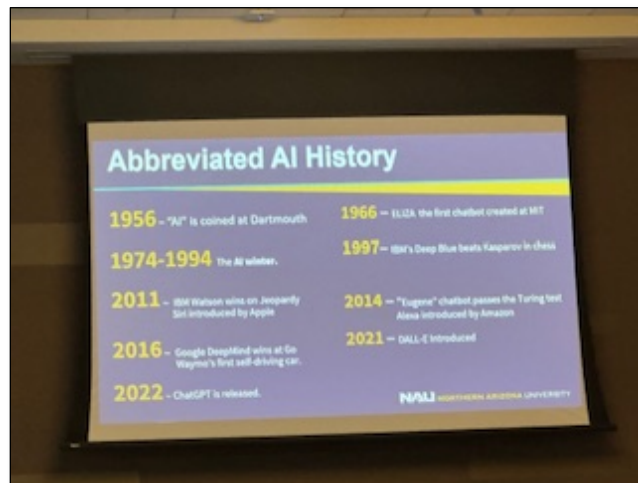
- 2021 - Colleen received the Oak Award for Accountability from the City of Flagstaff. This award is given to individuals excelling in at least one of the Values of the City.
- 2022 - Colleen received the Arizona Prosecuting Attorney Advisory Council's (APAAC) Administrative Professional of the Year award for her hard work and dedication she has shown throughout the years with our office.
- July - 2024, Colleen received the APAAC Professional Lifetime Achievement Award for the overall excellence of her work and public service.

Colleen retired in early September to spend more time with family in Texas where she now lives, and she is participating in this Council Meeting via Teams today. Colleen's positive attitude and great work have been vital; she was a valued member of our City Attorney's Office Team and she will be greatly missed. We wish Colleen luck and happiness with her family and future!



NAU Community Breakfast

Many of us attended the NAU Community Breakfast on September 9th. It was a wonderful event that featured comments by President Cruz Rivera, and an interesting presentation on the topic of AI by Dr. Steven Burrell, Chief Information Officer with the University. I pasted one interesting slide below, showing a brief history of the development of AI, ending with the introduction of Chatgpt in 2022. That seems like a distant breakthrough, with current generative technology allowing for creation of new content not just text based, but imagery, audio and video creation. We had a sampling of this during Dr. Burrell's presentation. Fascinating, and somewhat frightening, at the same time!



Airport Exercise

Flagstaff Pulliam Airport (FLG) hosted the simulated aircraft incident on Sept. 9th and many staff and elected officials were involved in this full-scale exercise, "Operation Ready FLG." The exercise was conducted in compliance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations.

The primary objective of "Operation Ready FLG" was to test and enhance the airport's emergency response capabilities. The exercise involved local, state, and federal agencies, with a focus on improving interoperability and coordination.

Many thanks to our Emergency Management team and all the emergency responders, airport personnel, law enforcement, and agency partners for this amazing collaboration. Over 60 community members volunteered to participate as injured and non-injured passengers, contributing to the realism of the exercise.

Council will be hearing the outcomes of the exercise in the near future. Stay tuned.



9/11

Speaking of emergency responders, the annual ceremony at City Hall honoring the fallen from the horrific attack on September 11, 2001, was well attended and very impactful. Twenty-three years later, we remember, and will never forget, the nearly 3,000 who lost their lives. The ceremony was moving. Thanks to our Fire and Police Department for the remembrance, and of course, for their dedication and service to our community.



Candidate Forum

Under the guidance of our Communication and Civic Engagement Division, staff prepared an orientation program for our candidates for City Council which was held in the Council Chambers on September 12th at 4pm.

A special thanks to Chris Rhode and the Leadership Team for hosting this “Introduction to City Operations” meeting for the candidates. The meeting was facilitated by Chris and each Director provided a high-level overview of their Division’s core programs and functions to allow candidates to get

familiar with all the great things that Team Flagstaff provides to the community. There were five candidates in attendance and there was great questions and conversations that occurred. Candidates were also provided a 2024 Candidate Orientation Guide contains a high-level summary of the City's organization and other pertinent information and rules that could be pertinent to their candidacy and potential tenure on City Council. This guide is available digitally or in print, if you are interested in a copy, please contact Chris Rhode.



DCC Tour

Thanks to Mountain Line and Loven Contracting for the tour of the new Downtown Connection Center on September 18th. The building is really taking shape and it will be an amazing facility once opened and operational.





Meeting w Army Corps of Engineers

On Sept 17th we had a very good meeting with representatives from the ACOE to discuss the Rio de Flag Flood Control Project. Focus was on two key items: (1) contract format and procedures between ACOE, BNSF, and the City; and (2) real estate acquisitions by the City. Thanks to Christine Cameron and the team for orchestrating a very important meeting as we develop next steps in this important project. With delays largely attributed to pending real estate acquisitions, we are now looking at a likely construction target of early 2026.



Meade Lane Flooding

We will be having a staff update, and discussion, on this during the Council meeting.

Hooghan Blessing

The below invitation provides the narrative for this wonderful event which occurred on September 18th and was very well attended. It was a beautiful ceremony on a blue-sky September morning, and the students and helped with this amazing project were excited and quite engaging. It was exhilarating to say the least.

Enjoy the pictures that follow. Many thanks to Rose Toehe for her involvement in this amazing event.

Kindly join us for a
Hoghan Blessing



**FLAGSTAFF HIGH SCHOOL
 (NEAR DOME)
 400 WEST ELM AVE.,
 FLAGSTAFF, AZ 86004
 SEPTEMBER 18, 2024 |
 WEDNESDAY
 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

BACKGROUND
 Flagstaff High School senior student Justina Slim presented this AP Capstone project idea in 2018 to give back and provide a meaningful cultural experience to the upcoming generations of Flagstaff High School Students. She wanted to partner with the school community to build a traditional hoghan on the FHS campus. The intention is to bring forth the original project idea and plan for completion with new and current stakeholders.

PURPOSE
 This structure on the FHS campus will bring education and awareness of Indigenous communities for all students through a cultural revitalization process. We can affirm and uplift the identity of our Indigenous students in FUSD by having a traditional space that honors culture and heritage. Students learned valuable skills by engaging in the planning and design needed to build and honor the hoghan structure. The presence of this hoghan will now provide an even richer cultural experience for all the students who are able to engage inside and outside the space.



That's all for now. Onward and Upward!