



ACTION MINUTES OF THE WILLOWS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD JUNE 8, 2021

Meeting audio is available at the City of Willows website. This is not a live feature. Audio recordings are posted the succeeding business day following the scheduled City Council Meeting.

Please visit www.cityofwillows.org for free PodBean recordings.

1. Mayor Domenighini called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Vice Mayor Hansen.

3. Roll Call:

Council Members Present: Council Members Williams, Flesher, Vice Mayor Hansen, Mayor Domenighini

Council Members Absent: Warren

Staff Present: Interim City Manager Wayne Peabody, City Attorney David Ritchie and City Clerk Tara Rustenhoven

4. Public Comment/ Written Communications:

Deana Fleming, let council know of her concerns with the closure of the swimming pool.

Sharon Ponciano, also here to speak about the swimming pool and having Community Service Support for the Willows City Pool.

Jeff Fleck, also having concerns on the closure of the swimming pool.

Joe Hinton, gave his thoughts on sidewalk repairs. Also asked council about getting funds for the Lions Club Gazebo at Jensen Park.

Written Communication regarding the swimming pool. The letter will be attached to the minutes.

5. Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of general checking, payroll & direct deposit check registers Z44914-Z44936, 38893-38904, 051175-051231.
- b. Approval of minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on May 25, 2021.
- c. Approval of minutes of the Special City Council Special Budget Meeting held on May 26, 2021.

Action:

Motion: Council Member Hansen/Second: Council Member Williams

Moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented above and the following item(s).

The motion passed unanimously 4/0 carried by the following voice vote:

AYES: Williams, Flesher, Warren, Vice Mayor Hansen, Mayor Domenighini

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

6. Presentations:

- a. Receive report regarding the City's Credit Rating and the Closing of the City of Willows Taxable Pension Obligation Bonds, Series 2021.

7. Public Hearing:

- a. Conduct a public hearing and allow an opportunity to receive input on the Unmet Transit Needs for Glenn County, and forward comments to the Glenn County Transportation Commission for consideration.

Marty with the Glenn County Planning Commission and a part of the Glenn County Transportation Commission gave his presentation on the Unmet Transit Needs.

Open public hearing at 8:02 p.m.

Closed public hearing at 8:08 p.m.

Doug Ross wanted to

- b. Conduct a public hearing allowing the parcels indicated on the Exhibit "A" to be abated by the City of Willows Contractor. Those persons returning self-abatement notices were allowed a time extension of 10 days to complete the work themselves. If after this date, these parcels have not been abated, the City Contractor will perform the work.

Open public hearing at 8:14 p.m.

Closed public hearing at 8:14 p.m.

Council Member Williams asked Council if the list of properties to abated be listed on the City Website.

By consensus, council declined adding the list to the City Website.

Motion Hansen/Flesher

8. Council/Staff Reports/Comments:

- a. Staff Reports/Comments:

- The Glenn County Board of Supervisors have started a Drought Ad Hoc Committee and will be meeting June 10th at 3:00 p.m. in Orland. Interim City Manager will be attending this meeting and asked if any member of the Council would like to attend.
- We will be flying the Accounting Manager position.

- b. City Council Reports Comments: Council gave comments/reports on activities and various meetings they attended.

9. Closed Session:

- a. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Pursuant to Government Code Section §54954.3, the public will have an opportunity to directly address the legislative body on the item below prior to the Council convening into closed session.

Public Comments are generally restricted to three minutes.

- b. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNCIL-ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to §54956.9 (b)

Number of Cases: One (1)

c. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS** (§54957.6)

Agency designated representatives:

David Ritchie: City Attorney

Interim City Manager: Wayne Peabody

Employee Organization:

United Public Employees of California,

Local 792 (LIUNA / AFL-CIO)

Willows Public Employees Association

Entered into closed session at 8:48

Reconvened into open session at 9:31

Announcement

Mayor Domenighini reported no reportable action and direction was given to staff.

10. Adjournment:

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Dated: June, 8 2021

Tara Rustenhoven, City Clerk

June 7, 2021

Dear Willows City Council Members,

On behalf of parents, children, and concerned citizens, we are here today to urge the council to reconsider the closure of the Willows City pool for a second consecutive summer. There honestly is no other public place in Willows to recreate in hot weather. We have spent months inside our homes and confined to our yards. Now that we understand people can safely be outdoors together, there is no better time to bring our community one piece of normal after this crazy year we all endured.

We are not naïve to the budgetary constraints of the city; however, we feel that it is time to get creative with fundraising opportunities that can help pay for the pool, its expenses, and maybe even support the recovery of the Recreation Department. Donations have been the foundation of the Willows pool. Where did the donations from last year go? How much is in that fund? We do not think it is impossible to hire and train even a limited staff by July. The pool would not need to be open every day. Pools in Orland and Durham opened late last summer on a limited schedule with capacity limits. Increasing fees for programs while instituting a sliding scale could help increase revenue while keeping programs like swimming lessons accessible.

People are having to go elsewhere to find basic needs like swim lessons, camps, and sports teams. This sends precious dollars out of our town though many people would prefer to support Willows services and keep their money local. Many families do not have the means to find lessons in other towns and are the ones most affected by the pool closure. Living near canals and ditches puts kids in our community at a higher risk for water related accidents.

We understand this is a huge ask. We understand this would be a big hill to climb. We would like the council to reconsider the closure of the community pool since its going to be a very long hot summer indoors without it.

Sincerely,

Allyson Smith

allysonsmith
lyss
Jan Brown
Jen Fulkline
Donald Pitt
Jason C. Smith

Deana Lorus
Yvonne King
Sharon P...

Community Support for Willows City Pool
June 8, 2021

Why It is Important

1. Essential cool down place for our children and families.
2. Recreation for all ages.
3. After restrictions of COVID during the last year, exercise, socialization and device-free activities are especially needed.
4. Jobs for lifeguards and maintenance.
5. In addition to open swim times, the pool programs have provided water safety training, swimming lessons, water aerobics and the home to swimming and diving teams.
6. If opened and maintained, the sludge currently in the pool would **not** provide a mosquito breeding haven, or eyesore alongside our tennis courts and parks.
7. If cleaned and made operational now instead of going a third winter unmaintained; we would avoid ongoing and increasing risk to the deterioration of the pool pump and other equipment.
8. A joint effort of City Government, City Council and Community Members could be a much needed show of community spirit for the benefit of many.

What would it take to open the pool on a limited emergency basis during July 2021?

- 1) Collaborative meeting of City Staff, Public Works, Past Afficiates of the City Pool, Community members to work out a comprehensive strategic plan.
- 2) Intensive one week fundraising of \$40K for purposes of the one-time reopening of the pool.



