

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING**

**February 13, 2024**

**7:00 PM**

**City Hall**



**CITY OF MILLS**  
EST. 1921

**Mayor:**

Leah Juarez

**Council President:**

Sara McCarthy

**Council Members:**

Cherie Butcher

Brad Neumiller

Tim Sutherland

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**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

Present:

Mayor Juarez

President McCarthy

Council Butcher

Council Neumiller

Council Sutherland

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Financial Approvals**

1. Treasurers Report January 2024
2. Court Income Report January 2024
3. Investment Accounts January 2024
4. Financial Breakdown Report
5. Regular/Police Payroll
6. Fire Payroll
7. Fire Payroll
8. Transmittal Checks

**Minutes**

9. Council Meeting Minutes from 1-23-2024

**City Licenses**

10. New and Renewal Business and Contractors Licenses 2-13-2024

Motion made by Council Member Sutherland, Seconded by Council Member Butcher.

Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Neumiller, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Sutherland

## **OPEN DISCUSSION**

Haley Tennant came to council to bring up the issues of harassment she is having with her neighbor. Haley provided document (pictures) that were directed to our City Attorney. The City Attorney explained to Haley that the City Prosecutor repeatedly told her that her claims are not worth prosecuting. The City Attorney reminded her that she is bringing a civil complaint to the council meetings and this is not the proper court to prosecute these claims. Haley asked why the Mayor is ignoring her request for help. The Mayor responded stating that if she submits a letter to the courts it would say that both parties need to stop interacting with each other. The Mayor continued to explain to Haley that the reason she doesn't respond to her emails is because Haley does not like what the Mayor respond with. The City of Mills has gone to the ends of what we have and will provide for a civil matter between personal property owners. We have provided time with both our City Attorney and Prosecutor, both who do not represent Haley. The Tenants have spoken with the DA, the Sheriffs, and with our Police Chief regarding these issues. Everyone has told them the same thing. The Mayor made it clear that Ms. Tenants avenue is not here. The Mayor is not an enforcement body, she has no legal right to arrest anyone.

Kotas Mark came forward to discuss the issues the Tennant Family is having with Justin Smith. He said that he has been there to deescalate situations and noted that none of them talk to Justin. Kotas knows Justin's wife Liz and stated that Liz confirmed that Justin shot out camera with a pellet gun. The Mayor asked he believes this is criminal? Explained that standing at a property line and screaming is not illegal. Kotas said he is worried about the threats. The City Attorney asked the Police Chief if there has been anything new in this situation with would rise to anything that can be charged? The Police Chief stated no. The City Attorney again stated that they are not taking it to the proper parties to investigate it and charge it if there is anything chargeable offence.

Janette Tenant asked if death threats are illegal. The City Attorney told Jeanette if you have received a death threat, you need to report it to the proper authorities. Jeanette stated they have reported it to the police over and over again and why have they not done anything? The City Attorney told her that in their judgment there is not a prosecutorial offense. If you really have a death threat, report it to the police. He asked the Police Chief if there was a report made for a death threat. The Police Chief said no, the prosecutor hasn't found anything worth prosecuting.

Haley Tennant spoke out in from the gallery, stating he is harassing us now. He is recording us. The City Attorney said he isn't doing anything wrong. It is not illegal to make a video.

Justin Smith, lives at 786 Badger Lane and stated that these people have been harassing him for the past 6 months. Justin said we have landlords in town harassing homeowners to sell their places for dirt cheap so they can buy them.

## **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

~~11. LESSEE RESOLUTION—Schedule No. 2 Exhibit E~~

~~Patrol Vehicles and Equipment~~

## **COUNCIL APPROVALS**

Motion made to un-table by Council Member Neumiller, Seconded by Council Member Sutherland.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Neumiller, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Sutherland

12. 257 Business Park Resolution 2024-03 Plat

Motion made to approve by Council Member Neumiller, Seconded by Council Member Butcher.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Neumiller, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Sutherland

13. Approve bid for the Riverfront Infrastructure project

Motion made to approve by Council President McCarthy, Seconded by Council Member Butcher.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Neumiller, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Sutherland

## **NEW BUSINESS**

14. ~~Neva's Chicken & Waffles—food truck by the fire department~~ (Absent) No Action

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

15. Executive Session – Legal

Mayor asked for a motion to go into an Executive Session at 7:22pm

Motion made by Council Member Neumiller, Seconded by Council Member Butcher.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Neumiller, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Sutherland

Council returned from executive session at 7:37pm

The City Attorney asked for a motion to authorize Council authority on a legal matter

Motion approved by Council Member Neumiller, Seconded by Council Member Butcher.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Neumiller, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Sutherland

16. Executive Session - Property Matter

Council Neumiller asked for a motion to go into an Executive Session at 7:38pm

Motion made by Council Member Neumiller, Seconded by Council Member Butcher.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Neumiller, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Sutherland

Council returned from executive session at 7:43pm

Council Sutherland asked for a motion to authorize a certain amount on a property matter

Motion made by Council Member Neumiller, Seconded by Council Member Butcher.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Neumiller, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Sutherland

17. ~~Executive Session – Legal~~ (not needed)

18. Executive Session - Personnel Issue

Mayor asked for a motion to go into an Executive Session at 7:44pm

Motion made by Council President McCarthy, Seconded by Council Member Neumiller.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Neumiller, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Sutherland

Council returned from executive session at 7:50pm

No action needed

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member Neumiller as for a motion to adjourn Council Meeting at 7:51pm, Seconded by Council Member Sutherland.

Voting Yea: Mayor Juarez, Council President McCarthy, Council Member Neumiller, Council Member Butcher, Council Member Sutherland

## **AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE**

**NEXT MEETING** - FEBRUARY 27, 2024 AT 7:00PM / MARCH 12, 2024 AT 7:00PM

**NEXT WORK SESSION** - MARCH 11, 2024 AT 9:00AM / MARCH 12, 2024 AT 6:00PM

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons who need accommodation in order to attend or participate in this meeting should contact City Hall at 307-234-6679 within 48 hours prior to the meeting in order to request such assistance.

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Mayor, Leah Juarez

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City Clerk, Sarah Osborn