

**November 3, 2021
Special Meeting
City of Gaston
Zoom Videoconference**

Present: Mayor David **Meeker**, Council President Bill **Martin**, Mario **DePiero**, Bob **Dooley**, and Don **Richter**.

Absent: Billy **Nice** and Margaret **Bell**

Staff: City Recorder Wenonah **Blanchette** and Public Works Specialist Rick **Mapes**.


Mayor **Meeker** called to order the special meeting at 7:00PM

- I. ROLL CALL:** Recorder **Blanchette** conducted the roll call for the record with:
Councilor Mario **DePiero**: Present
Councilor Billy **Nice**: *absent, with excuse*
Council President Bill **Martin**: Present
Mayor David **Meeker**: Present
Councilor Bob **Dooley**: Present
Councilor Margaret **Bell**: *absent*
Councilor Don **Richter**: Present
- II. 3rd Street Widening Project Update:** Public Works Specialist **Mapes** provided an update on the 3rd Street construction project. Curb and asphalt removed have been replaced with gravel with issues hitting the water main, as it is only 8-12 inches below the ground surface with the water main below the surface only 4 inches. To replace the entire water main from Cottonwood Street to Park Street will cost around \$160,000 but requesting Council consider repairing the main line already exposed by the 3rd Street project. Utilities lines planned to move to new poles were halted needing additional engineering from Comcast and Zply Fiber before changing the location of the lines. Concerns were discussed with the current location of the water main when dug up on 3rd Street citing water lines must be at minimum 30 inches below the surface.
- III. Consider Using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds for 3rd Street Main Water Line Repair:** Discussion heard on replacing the 3rd Street water main from Park Street to Cottonwood Street. The recent Gaston School upgrade in 2017 did not include repairs to the water main resulting with the school improving just half the street. With the City recently receiving American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds, the City has an opportunity to improve the City's water infrastructure by repairing the main water line at the same time construction for widening 3rd Street occurs. This request does not include areas previously improved by the School District and would replace the main line just south of the half street improvement along 3rd Street to Cottonwood Street. Costs for replacing the main line have been estimated around \$85,000 which includes new materials, new service connections and locating the main water line at least 30 inches below the ground surface. Motion to approve the use of ARPA funds for replacing the 3rd Street water main was made by Councilor **DePiero** and seconded by Councilor **Richter**. The main line replacement will be a change order on the 3rd Street project and will provide more information as it comes available. Staff was requested to check with the appropriate personnel for verifying the use of these funds within the project. Motion passed. Aye: **Meeker, DePiero, Martin, Dooley, and Richter**. Nay: None. Councilor **Nice** provided a letter to the Council in his absence, the Mayor read aloud:
(verbatim and this time)
Mayor **Meeker**:
- *To the Council, this is Councilman Nice. I think it's a good idea to replace the main pipeline because its old and it will cost less money now then if it breaks later. I would rather use the money for that then putting radar signs all over Gaston!*

- IV. Councilor **DePiero** asked for an update on the Gaston Heights billings owed to the City beginning October 1st, 2021. Tim **McDonald** received as requested today, an invoice for the amounts agreed upon saying he will pay soon. Further discussion had on current construction occurring and the recent DEQ violation. No action taken.
- V. **ADJOURNMENT:** Councilor **DePiero** motioned to adjourn the meeting, following second heard by Councilor **Richter**. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0. Special Meeting adjourned at 7:25PM.



Mayor David Meeker

Attest: 

City Recorder Wenonah Blanchette