

## **Slide 1 – Welcome**

## **Slide 2 – Thank You**

- Stella Roy – National Anthem
- Pastor David Graham
- Boulder City Residents and Attendees
- City Council
- Honored Guests
- Boulder City Staff
- City Clerk and Staff
- Communications Staff
- Boulder Creek Staff

Thank you notes for staff and vendor efforts  
- Teena Pickens for the wonderful Centerpieces  
- More on the centerpieces later

## **Slide 3 –**

The pandemic has been an enormous burden on all of us and continues to influence much of what we do.

I looked back to the remarks I made in January of 2020 at the State of the City event that year. I spoke then of looking forward to the coming year with new projects and a sound outlook.

I had also recently recovered from what would become known as COVID-19

- and within a few more weeks we would be isolating from one another in the attempt to keep each other safe.

## **Slide 4 – Test Numbers**

The Omicron variant certainly had an impact as the number of tests administered and the number of positive results increased dramatically.

## **Slide 5 – Declining Numbers**

The fact that we are able to gather this evening is an indication of the progress that has been made.

The trend has been a rapid decline

- We hope that will continue

## **Slide 6 – Community Response**

Boulder City responded

→ Fire Department and Hospital

Testing and vaccinations have been a key to fighting the virus

The Fire Department was front and center in this effort along with our local hospital

→ Police Department, Businesses and Employees

With guidelines and requirements changing continuously, our Police and Code Enforcement worked with businesses to implement the changes for safety while understanding the need to use safe practices.

→ Volunteers and Non-Profit Organizations

→ Boulder City residents exemplify the spirit of volunteering at all times but this challenge was met with an enormous effort from the community.

Emergency Aid stepped up the support they have always provided to the community and in addition quickly adjusted to being a conduit for federal aid the City had received for rental and mortgage assistance, utilities and child care.

→ Senior Citizen Facilities

Lend-A-Hand and the Senior Center continued their efforts providing essential services to the community. The Senior Center significantly increased the delivery of meals to senior citizens as well as providing much needed supplies.

→ Parents and Schools

While children may not have been as susceptible to serious illness, they have been severely affected by the pandemic.

Kitchen tables became classrooms and parents became IT professionals.

Teachers had to quickly find new ways to educate their students and adjust to changing requirements.

It will likely take years to adjust schooling to recover from the time lost and the disruptions to their schedules. For some students, options beyond high school are needed.

There is a divide in Nevada between school districts and local governments. That is often for the good of students. But we can look for new ways for our local government to help students recover from the pandemic. I look forward to having a dialogue with parents and teachers for ideas on how this might work.

→ City Staff

I want to thank all our staff for their efforts to step up in ways that had not been asked for in the past. From organizing supplies donated by the community to making calls to residents. Helping schedule vaccine appointments and having to reschedule those appointments when supplies were made not available.

Making City facilities available for various needs at different times. Taking on other tasks to insure City services continued to help our residents. All departments stepped up helped the community.

→ All of Us

As I said at the beginning, the pandemic has been hard on everyone. And that burden has come to each of us in different ways.

But we did respond and we are resilient.

### **Slide 7 – Vaccines and Treatment**

Vaccines and treatments have become available to reduce the incidence of serious illness.

Many people have at least some level of immunity from having had the virus.

New Treatments are being tested and approved for use.

We can now have more control on the direction of our community if we follow the science and work together rather than apart.

### **Slide 8 – Financial Programs**

There has been an unprecedented amount of financial support from the Federal government. President Trump, President Biden and Congress have been able to work together on several programs.

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)

- This program provided a financial support to a wide range of businesses

### **Slide 9 through 20 – PPP payments**

### **Slide 21 – Financial Programs**

Direct Stimulus Checks

- Each of us received up to \$1400 under this program to help with increased costs from the pandemic.

Increased and Extended Unemployment

- Provided much needed financial help to those displaced from their jobs and allowed them to maintain their homes and families

CARES Act

- Continued to provide financial assistance to businesses and individuals

American Rescue Plan Act

- Boulder City will receive more than \$21 million dollars to be used for infrastructure and other needs that have arisen from the pandemic

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

- These funds insure our City will be able to continue the high level of services we provide to our residents.

### **Slide 22 – City Finances**

Land Lease Revenue – Solar Projects

Sales Tax

Property Tax

Consolidated Taxes

Retained Employees and Salary Levels

Paused Projects

Lowered Utility Rates

### **Slide 23 – Land Lease Revenue – Solar Projects**

The revenue from land leases continues to benefit all us in so many ways.

It was very fortunate that a one-time payment last year of \$4 million dollars from the start of the most recent Townsite project came during the pandemic.

This resulted in the City budget being higher than in recent years even with the decreases in some tax revenue.

There is a reality check with regard to these leases.

The Energy Zone has room left for a couple more large projects but the land available for these projects is nearing capacity.

The leases have clauses to increase at a moderate rate each year.

But we need to recognize that the increases we have seen for several years now will be slowing significantly over the next several years.

### **Slide 24 – Conservation Area**

Much of the land we see to the south of I-11 is Wildlife Conservation Area that cannot be developed.

We will need to recognize that it is important to begin looking at a very good but not always expanding City budget.

### **Slide 25 – Assessed Property Value**

The value of homes and businesses in Boulder City has steadily increased even during the pandemic.

### **Slide 26 – Property Tax**

There was a decrease in this revenue even as home values continued to increase.

I have said before – if there is someone who can explain how property taxes in Nevada are calculated in 500 words or less I invite them to write it up and we will get it out.

### **Slide 27 – Property Tax Rates**

The good news is that the property tax rate for Boulder City remains the lowest in Clark County by a significant amount.

### **Slide 28 – Consolidated Tax**

This is a group of taxes such as sales taxes and cigarette taxes.

That these taxes increased during the second year pandemic is most certainly the result of all the financial programs the Federal government has put in place.

### **Slide 29 – Utilities**

You have probably noticed there are a few things going on around town. New power poles (and yes these are tall) and new transformers.

These long needed upgrades will make our electrical system more reliable and more efficient. Plastic water pipe and original meters are being replaced.

The American Rescue Plan funding will further help with the needed improvements in the Utility Fund.

Utility Rates have been reduced by 3% and the automatic annual rate increases of 2.5% were repealed resulting in a total reduction of 10%.

Rates may now be reviewed in a clearer fashion that is more transparent to the public.

And Joseph Stubbitz was recently named as Utilities Director. We look forward to his knowledge and experience as well as the volunteers on the Utility Advisory Committee.

### **Slide 30 – Growth – Housing Permits**

- We are growing – Conservatively
- But some say we can build 120 houses per year
- But a limit is not a goal
- Adding approximately 600 residents over the past few years is significant for a town of 16,000
- The land around Boulder Creek may result in another 177 homes.
- And it may now be time to take another break and let things settle out

### **Slide 31 – Henderson Annexation**

- The laws in Nevada have made such radical changes easy for some and hard for anyone else to oppose.
- It is Nevada and conservative growth is not how things get done here
- This was a subterfuge in a wide ranging bill in Congress
- Maps and descriptions never identified this area as “disposal area”
- It was identified as conservation area
- What is clear now is that the City of Henderson had worked for years toward annexing that land.
- Anyone enamored of seeing the mountains torn down?
- How about sprawling signs on the side of the mountains?
- Yes we have used a lot of Eldorado Valley for solar energy production.
- It is potentially recoverable and it is in line with the roots of our City for green energy production.
- We can protect areas that are important while developing areas that are needed
- This area needs to remain one that is protected and not permanently given over to development
- We are working to have this area remain an Open Space for recreation but there is a lot of money stacked up against us.

### **Slide 32 – Population and demographics**

- We are an older community
- Who is surprised by that and please don't hate us because we made it this far
- And that isn't a bad thing

Boulder City has an older population

We also have families and children

We know there are few homes available

Boulder City is not a grow or die community

### **Slide 33 – Schools**

The increases in elementary school grades is encouraging

The decrease in middle school grades at Garrett is not in line with other trends

It does not appear though that we are a dying community or that big changes are needed

It actually appears to be on the upswing

What does appear clear is that there is not much correlation between new homes and children in schools

### **Slide 34 – Businesses**

Businesses and their employees have had a very tough couple of years.

And Government stepped up to help businesses in ways never seen before

Some businesses did fail - And some new businesses opened their doors

Anyone starting a business takes on an enormous amount of risk but it is being done with success.

### **Slide 35 – Business Licenses**

These remained fairly stable during the pandemic

### **Slide 36 – Employees**

And let's not forget the employees that have worked so hard and been at such risk

They showed up for work to keep our community functioning

They had to deal with the mandates

Businesses are the sum of their employees

And the efforts of employees have gotten us through to today

### **Slide 37 – Projects**

Upgraded Wastewater Treatment Facility

City Staff has Implemented Many Changes

Continue to Improve Police and Fire Service

Museum Road and Railroad Museum Expansion

Continued Street Improvements

Developing Renewable Energy for the City

Water Conservation

- Request to voters for land sale to attract another grocery store.

### **Slide 38 – Outlook**

- The pandemic is still with us but progress is being made and I believe will continue
- We can improve our City in ways that benefit the majority of residents.
- We have a new City Manager and City Attorney
- We have a new but very experienced City Clerk
- Our City Staff is very experienced and dedicated

Teena Pickens for the wonderful Centerpieces

- Boulder City does not need to turn brown for us to be smart about how we manage living in a desert.
- We can maintain the beauty of our City while conserving water.
- This is an election year so we will be hearing many things.
- It is Boulder City after all.

### **Slide 39 – Conclusion**

What is important about Boulder City to you?

What needs to change about Boulder City?

The efforts of so many in the past deserve respect because we would not have what we now enjoy.

And it is hard to beat the success we enjoy!

What we treasure about our community can be lost.

- Jack in the Bean Stalk – if we sell what we have for 3 Magic Beans, we may find the Giants will swallow us up.

We are a strong and resilient community.

We are emerging from the pandemic and have already begun projects and planning that will make us better than we were before.

### **Slide 40 –**

And we are still the best City By A Dam Site!