

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2012**

Mayor Cardenas called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Councilmembers Present: Cardenas, Darling, Parra & Simonian

City Staff Present: City Manager Elias, City Clerk Davis, Police Chief Brand, Public Works Director Weisser, Finance Director Wong, Fire Chief Lopez, City Attorney Wolfe

The Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance were followed by an invocation given by Councilmember Darling. Roll call was taken.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

Murray McManus, a member of the COG Measure C Citizens Oversight Committee, commented on Fowler's Measure C projects and asked about related reports that were possibly overdue.

**APPROVE CLOSING CITY STREETS - GURNANAK PARKASH GURDWARA ANNUAL PARADE**

Representatives of the Gurnanak Parkash Gurdwara gave information on their annual parade in the City, scheduled for Sunday, October 28, 2012. The Council discussed their arrangements for notifying the citizens, road closures, and police patrol.

Councilmember Simonian made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Parra, to approve closing City streets for the parade on Sunday, October 28, 2012. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mayor Cardenas read a thank you letter from the family of Alfred Licon, whom the City recently presented a Certificate of Recognition to in honor of his years of notable military service, including fighting in the Battle of the Bulge.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

— **Update on Meeting with Business Owners Concerning Downtown Parking**

City Manager Elias reported on a recent meeting held with business owners to discuss the lack of parking in the downtown area. They spoke of options, such as using the

Grange Hall parking lot. It was recommended that the Fowler Chamber continue to work with businesses to get their cooperation in having employees of downtown businesses park in alternate areas.

## **PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Public Works Director Weisser reported that the pump for the Veterans Monument fountain has failed and is being repaired. Woodside Homes is now working on their subdivision project near Temperance and Adams Avenues.

## **FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Finance Director Wong reported that the 2011-12 fiscal year audit is underway.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

### **— Approve COPS Grant Expenditure Plan - Fiscal Year 2012-2013**

Chief Brand explained that the COPS Grant allocation for F.Y. 2012-13 would be used to fund the salary and benefits of two full-time officers, one being a sergeant's position. Any extra funds, if applicable, would be used for special detail.

Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Darling, to approve the COPS Grant Expenditure Plan - Fiscal Year 2012-2013. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Chief Brand reported that the Police and Fire Departments participated in a September 11th memorial service earlier that day.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Fire Chief Lopez gave a report of emergency calls for the month of August, and mentioned that the training schedule would be adjusted so that staff can be present at high school football games and sporting activities.

## **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

No report was given.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

The Consent Calendar consisted of: A) Ratification of Warrants - September 11, 2012; B) Approve Minutes of the Fowler City Council and Fowler Public Financing Authority Special Joint Meeting - August 21, 2012, and Fowler City Council Regular Meeting - August 21, 2012; C) Receive and file report on status of the City's Conflict of Interest Codes; D) Approve granting Deeds of Easement from the City of Fowler to: Pacific Gas and Electric Company; Comcast of Fresno; and Verizon California, Inc. - for Underground Utility District 07-01; E) Acceptance of Grant Deed from Port Properties,

LLC (RPM Transport) to the City of Fowler for a ponding basin near Golden State Boulevard/East Valley Drive; F) Approve Quitclaim Deeds from the City of Fowler to: Fowler Development LLC; J.S.T., LLC; and Donald and Sonia Williams - related to Fowler Avenue abandonment. Councilmember Simonian made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Parra, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mayor Cardenas, Mayor Pro-Tem Parra, and Councilmember Simonian each reported on their attendance at the recent League of California Cities Annual Conference in San Diego.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

The meeting adjourned to a closed session at 8:09 p.m. to discuss, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b), Conference with Legal Counsel-anticipated Litigation: Significant Exposure to Litigation: One Case; Consideration of claim filed by Derek Thomason on August 27, 2012. Councilmember Darling left the Council Chamber and did not participate in the closed session.

The meeting reconvened to open session at 8:21 p.m. with the following action taken: On a motion by Councilmember Simonian, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Parra, the Council rejected the claim against the City of Fowler filed by Derek Thomason. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote, with Councilmember Darling absent.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Simonian, to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p. m.