

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL
AND FOWLER PLANNING COMMISSION
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING
NOVEMBER 20, 2012**

Mayor Cardenas called the meeting to order at 5:03 p. m. Roll call was taken.

Councilmembers present: Cardenas, Simonian & Parra
Councilmembers absent: Darling

Commissioners present: Mukai, Monis & Rodriquez
Commissioners absent: Mellon, Fernandez

City staff present: City Manager Elias, City Clerk Davis, Police Chief Brand, Finance Director Wong, Public Works Director Weisser, City Attorney Wolfe, Planning Secretary Burrola, Fire Chief Lopez, Building Official Koch, Senior Center/Recreation Director Hernandez, Planning Consultant O'Neal, Engineering Consultant Peters

Also present: Councilmember-elect Leonard Hammer

AB 1234 ETHICS TRAINING

City Attorney Wolfe conducted the biennial ethics training for elected and appointed public officials, mandated by AB 1234. He gave an overview of various ethics and conflict of interest laws, including those that prohibit officials from participating in discussions or making decisions on anything that materially affects their financial interests. Some of the penalties for violating such laws include fines, imprisonment, and being banned from holding public office. He explained special rules pertaining to campaign contributions, contracts, and the receiving of gifts. The training included a question and answer session on scenarios pertaining to personal financial gain, use of public resources, and governmental transparency. Mr. Wolfe emphasized that officials should analyze every decision they are making to discern whether it involves some type of financial interest, and to always strive to do more than what the law requires.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Simonian, to adjourn. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.