

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL, FOWLER SUCCESSOR AGENCY AND
FOWLER PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY JOINT MEETING
JUNE 18, 2013**

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

Councilmembers/Directors Present: Cardenas, Parra, Monis, & Simonian.
Councilmembers/Directors Absent: Hammer

City/Agency/Authority Staff Present: City Manager/Executive Director Elias, City Clerk/Secretary Davis, Finance Director/Treasurer Wong, Public Works Director Weisser, City Attorney Wolfe, Fire Chief Lopez, City Engineer Peters

The Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Fowler Cub Scout Pack 390. Councilmember Simonian gave an invocation. Roll call was taken.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Fowler Cub Scout Pack 390 leader Kelley Crutchfield introduced members in attendance, noting that Scout Vincent Manganaan, a first grade student at Marshall Elementary, was named in the Fresno Bee as a 2013 Academic All-star.

**CONSIDER AND APPROVE COMMUNITY YOUTH SPORTS FUNDING REQUEST -
FOWLER GIRLS YOUTH SOFTBALL (FGYS)**

FGYS representative Janeen Cervantes asked for approval of a request for funding in the amount of \$4,000, which will be used for purchasing needed equipment. City Manager Elias said that the funds will come from the Recreation portion of the Utility Users Tax in the current year's budget.

Councilmember Simonian made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Parra, to approve the request from FGYS for youth sports funding in the amount of \$4,000. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote, with Councilmember Hammer absent.

**PUBLIC HEARING: TO CONSIDER AND ADOPT ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS FOR
LANDSCAPE AND STORM DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE DISTRICT NO. 1**

City Engineer Peters said that a public hearing was set to consider approval of the annual levy and collection of the landscaping and storm drainage maintenance district assessments, as provided in the May 2013 Engineer's Report.

Mayor Cardenas opened the duly noticed public hearing on the matter at 7:20 p. m. There were no public comments and the hearing was closed at 7:20 p. m. Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Monis, to approve Resolution No. 2275, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler, California, Confirming Diagram and Assessment Annual Levy 2013-14 Landscaping and Storm Drainage Facilities Maintenance District No. 1." The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Elias mentioned the upcoming 4th of July fireworks event, and an invitation to meet with Assemblymember Henry T. Perea on June 28, 2013. He reminded the Council that a special meeting is scheduled on June 25, 2013 for adoption of the F. Y. 2013-14 budget. He suggested that no meetings be held in July unless there were necessary items of business that came up. The consensus was to cancel the July meetings.

STAFF REPORTS:

DISCUSSION: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 BUDGET

City Manager Elias gave an overview of the draft F. Y. 2013-14 budget for the City and the Fowler Public Financing Authority. A General Fund (GF) summary page showed anticipated revenues and expenses, with a reserve of \$125,000 allocated for contingencies, which is \$75,000 less than what was reserved in prior years. The reduction is due to significant financial hits the City recently suffered with the Department of Finance's "clawback" of funds from the unwinding of the Fowler Redevelopment Agency. The summary page also showed a projected GF negative fund balance of \$16,070 as of June 30, 2014. As discussed at a prior meeting, contractual services with California Consulting, LLC and the Fowler Chamber of Commerce were reduced by half. To balance the budget, further elimination of contractual services could be considered, or department budgets would need to be reviewed for further reduction.

The Council discussed the contractual services and how best to balance the budget. City Manager Elias stated that the cost of California Consulting's services has been exceeding the actual grant funding they have secured for the City. The consensus was to eliminate the contract with California Consulting, and reduce other expenditures to close the \$16,070 gap. Staff will make the changes and prepare the budget for adoption at the special meeting the following week.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

No report was given.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **Approve Award of the 2013 Street Maintenance Project to Graham Contractors, Inc.**

City Engineer Peters said that the second rebidding of the 2013 Street Maintenance Project, with an option not to use the reclamation material, resulted in receiving lower bids than at the two prior bid openings. Staff recommended awarding the contract to the low bidder, Graham Contractors, Inc.

Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Monis, to award the contract for the 2013 Street Maintenance Project to Graham Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$222,507.37. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

City Engineer Peters gave a brief update on negotiations with Consolidated Irrigation

District (CID) concerning their proposed groundwater impact fees. CID has notified the City that they will challenge any land use entitlements until the City reaches an agreement with them. A future workshop will be scheduled to discuss the matter in more detail.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Finance Director Wong circulated a sales tax report and an informational guide on sales, use and transaction taxes.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Brand gave a statistical report for May 2013. The Police Department applied for a grant that will help fund a school resource officer.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Lopez gave a report of calls for May 2013, with 6 active fires and 46 medical aid calls. He will be meeting with an ISO representative to discuss Fire Department operations and improvements, with the goal of lowering the City's fire suppression rating.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney Wolfe reported on cases concerning open meeting laws, noting the importance of clearly identifying items that will be discussed on a public meeting agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar consisted of: A) Ratification of Warrants - June 18, 2013; B) Approve Minutes of the Fowler City Council Meeting - May 21, 2013; C) Adoption of Resolution No. 2276, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler, County of Fresno, State of California, in the Matter of Authorizing the Submittal of a Targeted Employment Area Application to the California Department of Housing and Community Development"; D) Adoption of Resolution No. 2277, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler, California, to Declare 2013 The Year of the Child"; E) Approve Dispatching Services Agreement - Fresno County Sheriff's Office - F.Y. 2013-14; F) Approve Non Exclusive Water Tower Use Agreement between the City of Selma and the City of Fowler; and G) Adoption of Resolution No. 2278, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler Concerning Local Transportation Purpose Funds Extension (Measure "C" Extension)."

The Council discussed Item F, an agreement with City of Selma for their Police Department to use the City's water tower for emergency communication system equipment. The consensus was for the City Attorney to add language that Selma Police Department's use of the tower can be terminated in the event their equipment should ever interfere with the City's equipment or other use of the tower.

Councilmember Simonian made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Parra, to

approve the Consent Calendar with the change to item F. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Cardenas made a motion to re-appoint Jim Martin, Janet Daniels and Joe Alvarez to another term on the Recreation Commission, seconded by Councilmember Simonian. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Mayor Pro-Tem Parra mentioned upcoming legislation related to big box stores.

Councilmember Monis reported on the Recreation Commission's preparations for the 4th of July fireworks event at Fowler High School.

Councilmember Simonian received a request for the City to name a street in the new Woodside Homes subdivision as Bournazian Street, in honor the of the former Bournazian Ranch in the area.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Monis, to adjourn. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p. m.