

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 20, 2014**

Mayor Cardenas called the meeting to order at 7:01 p. m.

Councilmembers Present: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Monis & Simonian

City Staff Present: City Manager Elias, City Clerk Davis, Finance Director Wong, Police Chief Brand, City Attorney Wolfe, Public Works Director Weisser, Fire Chief Lopez, City Engineer Peters, Planning Consultant O'Neal

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

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

Nathan Alonzo, representative for Senator Andy Vidak, presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Mayor Cardenas for his outstanding public service, and commending him for recently assisting a motorist stranded in Fowler with young children.

**PRESENTATION BY REEDLEY COLLEGE**

Reedley College President Dr. Sandra Caldwell, and Trustee Ron Nishinaka, gave an update on campus activities and efforts to help Fowler High School graduates transition into college. She noted the importance of having an educated citizenry to develop the local workforce.

**PUBLIC HEARING: APPROVAL OF TENTATIVE TRACT MAP (TTM) NO. 6027**

Planning Consultant O'Neal explained that TTM No. 6027 is for an industrial subdivision composed of originally 10 lots, located in an M-1 (light industrial) Zone District near Manning Avenue and Highway 99. The map was recently approved by the Planning Commission with a change, requested by the applicant, to merge two lots into one for a prospective tenant. Staff recommends approval of the map, now with 9 lots, and the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project.

Mayor Cardenas opened the duly noticed hearing on the matter at 7:25 p.m. There were no comments, and the hearing was closed at 7:25 p. m.

Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Simonian, to adopt Resolution No. 2295, "A Resolution Before the City Council of the City of Fowler, County of Fresno, State of California, Approving a Mitigated Negative Declaration for Tentative Tract Map No. 6027 (Three Crowns Industrial Park, LLC)." The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Monis, & Simonian. Noes: None. Abstain/Absent: None.

Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Monis, to adopt Resolution No. 2296, "A Resolution Before the City Council of the City of Fowler, County of Fresno, State of California, Approving Tentative Tract Map No. 6027 (Three Crowns Industrial Park, LLC)." The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Monis, & Simonian. Noes: None. Abstain/Absent: None.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

City Manager Elias announced upcoming events: the annual Mayor's Breakfast on May 23, 2014; the Recreation Commission's Springfest event on May 31, 2014; and the Fresno County Fruit Trail Opening Ceremony on May 21, 2014. He asked that the June 3, 2014 meeting be canceled and to schedule special meetings on June 10th and 24th to discuss the 2014-15 budget. City Clerk Davis reminded the Council about the June 3, 2014 primary election and polling places.

## **STAFF REPORTS:**

### **ACTION TO SELECT VOTING DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE**

City Manager Elias said that the League of California Cities asks that cities select a voting delegate and alternates for their business meeting at the League's Annual Conference in Los Angeles, September 3-5, 2014.

Councilmember Simonian made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Parra, to select David Cardenas as the Voting Delegate, Dan Parra as the alternate, and Jim Simonian as the second alternate. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Monis, & Simonian. Noes: None. Abstain/Absent: None.

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

### **— Direct Staff to Cease Activity and De-obligate HSIP Funds for a Traffic Roundabout for the Merced and 10th Street Intersection**

City Manager Elias said that after discussions on information received from a Federal Highway Administration roundabout expert, staff recommends notifying CalTrans to cease activity and de-obligate the HSIP funds awarded for a roundabout at the Merced and 10th Street intersection. The project requires acquisition of property that will likely be opposed, and if the roundabout diameter is reduced to avoid property acquisition, it will not be compatible with truck traffic. Staff will continue to evaluate other means for mitigating traffic at the intersection.

After a discussion, Councilmember Simonian made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Parra, to cease activity and de-obligate HSIP funds for a traffic roundabout for the Merced and 10th Street intersection. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Monis, & Simonian. Noes: None. Abstain/Absent: None.

City Manager Elias reported that staff recently met with representatives of Denny's Restaurant, to be built next to the La Quinta Hotel. Also, a Dollar General Store is planned for property near 8th and Tuolomne Streets.

— **Selection of Two Councilmembers to Serve on the Finance Committee**

City Manager Elias asked that two Councilmembers be selected to serve on a Finance Committee to discuss and make recommendations on budget issues, such as the intention of CalPERS to increase employer contributions due to revised mortality rates.

Councilmember Simonian made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Parra, to appoint Leonard Hammer and Dan Parra to the Finance Committee. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Monis, & Simonian. Noes: None. Abstain/Absent: None.

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

— **Authorize City Manager to Execute an Amendment to the Tract No. 5090 Subdivision Agreement**

Councilmember Hammer and Mayor Pro-Tem Parra left the Chamber and did not participate in the discussion due to owning property near the subject property.

Public Works Director Weisser said that Woodside Homes requested an 18 month extension to complete the public improvements on Tract No. 5090. The majority of improvements are already completed with the exception of sidewalks and driveway approaches on homes that are yet to be built. Since additional inspection costs will be incurred, the City will require additional fees to cover the costs.

Councilmember Simonian made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Monis, to authorize the City Manager to execute an amendment to the Tract No. 5090 Subdivision Agreement for an 18 month extension for completion of public improvements, and requesting additional inspection fees associated with the delayed completion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Monis, & Simonian. Noes: None. Absent: None. Recused: Hammer & Parra.

## **FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

No report was given.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Chief Brand reported that through the "Avoid the 21" program, \$11,000 in extra funding will be available to pay for overtime for DUI detail.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

No report was given.

### **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

City Attorney Wolfe said that the City Manager's Amended Contract had just one change, a provision for a vehicle allowance in lieu of a take home vehicle. Councilmember Hammer made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Monis, to approve the Amended City Manager Supplemental Agreement. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Monis, & Simonian. Noes: None. Abstain/Absent: None.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

The Consent Calendar consisted of: A) Ratification of Warrants - May 20, 2014; and B) Approve Minutes of the Fowler City Council Special Meeting and Regular Meeting - May 6, 2014. Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Monis, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Monis, & Simonian. Noes: None. Abstain/Absent: None.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilmember Monis said that the EOC will be providing a summer lunch program at the Fowler Library in conjunction with the Library's summer reading program.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

The meeting was adjourned to a closed session at 8:07 p. m. to discuss, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 - Public Employee Performance Evaluation - Title: City Manager. The meeting reconvened to open session at 8:16 p. m. with no reportable action taken.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, Councilmember Monis made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Simonian, to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:19 p. m.