

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 19, 2015**

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, City Attorney Wolfe, Police Chief Brand, Public Works Director Weisser, Fire Chief Lopez, City Engineer Peters

The Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance were followed by an invocation given by Mayor Cardenas. Roll call was taken. There were no public presentations.

PUBLIC HEARING:

APPROVE ANNUAL LEVY - LANDSCAPING AND STORM DRAINAGE FACILITIES MAINTENANCE DISTRICT ASSESSMENTS

City Engineer Peters stated that Resolution No. 2320 approves the annual levy of the City's Landscaping and Storm Drainage Maintenance District assessments, as set forth in the Engineer's Report. The assessments increased by 2 percent from the prior year.

Mayor Cardenas opened the duly noticed public hearing on the matter at 7:08 p. m. There were no comments from the public and the hearing was closed at 7:08 p. m.

Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Monis, to adopt Resolution No. 2320, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler, California, Confirming Diagram and Assessment - Annual Levy - 2015/16 Landscaping and Storm Drainage Facilities Maintenance District No. 1." The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Monis, & Simonian. Noes: None. Abstain/absent: None.

SECOND READING - ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT NO. 15-02, EMERGENCY HOUSING

City Manager Elias stated that Zoning Text Amendment No. 15-02 provides a zone district for supportive and transitional housing facilities and emergency shelters in the M-1 Zone District, as required by Senate Bill 2.

Councilmember Monis made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Hammer, to waive the second reading and approve Ordinance No. 2015-03, "An Ordinance Before the City Council of the City of Fowler, County of Fresno, State of California, Approving Zoning Text Amendment No. 15-02 Related to Senate Bill 2 - Emergency Housing." The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Monis, & Simonian. Noes: None. Abstain/absent: None.

SECOND READING - ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT NO. 15-03, A-BOARD SIGNS

City Manager Elias said that Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment No. 15-03 allows the use of A-Board sidewalk advertising signs for businesses, by a permit process. As directed by Council at the prior meeting, conditions were added to only allow one sign per business address, and that such signs only advertise goods or services of the adjoining business.

Councilmember Hammer made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Parra, to waive the second reading and approve Ordinance No. 2015-04, "An Ordinance Before the City Council of the City of Fowler, County of Fresno, State of California, Approving Zoning Text Amendment No. 15-03 Relating to A-Board Signs." The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Monis, & Simonian. Noes: None. Abstain/absent: None.

COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Elias mentioned the annual Mayor's Breakfast on Friday, May 22, 2015; the Fresno County Board of Supervisor's joint meeting with cities on June 22, 2015; and a special study session on June 16, 2015 at 6:00 p. m. for presentation of the Fresno County Multi-Jurisdictional Housing Element update. Public notice of the workshop will be sent with the June water bills.

STAFF REPORTS:

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2015-06

City Attorney Wolfe stated that Ordinance No. 2015-06 provides that during a drought or other emergencies, additional water usage restrictions may be adopted by resolution.

Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Simonian, to waive the second reading and approve Ordinance No. 2015-06, "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Fowler Adding Section 6-4.1109 to Article 11 of Chapter 4 of Title 6 of the Fowler Municipal Code Relating to Drought and Water Shortages." The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Monis, & Simonian. Noes: None. Abstain/absent: None.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Elias said that staff received a site plan application from the Fresno County Housing Authority to build 60 new units at their current location in town. Staff is in the process of reviewing the Southwest Area Traffic Study, recently received from Omni Means Engineering.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **Consider and Take Action: Providing Emergency Water Assistance to Nearby Communities**

City Manager Elias said that the City received a letter from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) asking the City's interest in providing emergency water assistance to nearby communities, as they are implementing a database with agencies that can provide potable water to communities in need. The City has the ability to set thresholds, and the amount provided will not count towards the City's total water production subject to conservation standards.

After discussion, Councilmember Simonian made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Parra, that the City do its share in being a good neighbor and consider the SWRCB's inquiry on the City's interest in providing emergency water assistance to nearby communities, after staff obtains more information and specifics. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Monis & Simonian. Noes: None. Abstain/Absent: None.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No report was given.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Brand gave a statistical report for April 2015, with 70 case numbers and 12 citations issued for the month.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Lopez reported on a recent fire incident in town.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney Wolfe reported that the Fresno County District Attorney's office recently formed a public integrity anti-corruption unit.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar consisted of: A) Ratification of Warrants - May 19, 2015; and B) Approve Minutes of the Fowler City Council Meeting - May 5, 2015. Councilmember Hammer 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

Mayor Cardenas recently attended an anniversary celebration at the Golden Living Center, a meeting of the Fresno County Latino Mayors Coalition, and a Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District board meeting.

Councilmember Monis attended a meeting to discuss the upcoming free lunch program at the Fowler Library.

Councilmember Hammer attended the recent kick-off of the Fresno County Fruit Trail.

CLOSED SESSION

The meeting was adjourned to a closed session at 8:08 p. m. to discuss: 1) Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 - Public Employee Performance Evaluation - Title: City Manager; and 2) Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 - Conference with Real Property Negotiators: Property: A.P.N. No. 343-171-09, 130 S. 6th Street. Agency Negotiators: David Elias. Negotiating party: Fowler Grange No. 481, Inc. Under Negotiation: Price, terms.

The meeting reconvened to open session at 8:46 p. m. with no reportable action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Councilmember Hammer made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Monis, to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:47 p. m.