

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 5, 2016**

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

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

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

The Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance were followed by a moment of silence called for by Mayor Cardenas. Roll call was taken. There were no public presentations.

**PRESENTATION BY STATE CENTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**

Dr. Claudia Habib and Mr. Tom Crow, representatives of State Center Community College District, gave a presentation on some of the new programs offered on their campuses. They spoke of an upcoming June 7, 2016 bond measure to provide funding for the expansion of programs and facilities, such as a new agricultural research facility and farm store.

**PUBLIC HEARING: ADOPTION OF THE 2015-2023 HOUSING ELEMENT AND PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

Consultant Veronica Tam gave an overview of the update to the City's Housing Element (HE) 2015-2023. Several cities in Fresno County joined together in a regional effort to update their respective Housing Elements. The HE identifies and analyzes existing and projected housing needs to ensure adequate housing exists for all economic segments of a community. Ms. Tam stated that Fowler's HE provides for 524 units during the eight year planning period. The draft HE was submitted to the State of California Housing and Community Development for review and comments, and revisions were made to address their comments regionally. The HE update was considered and approved by the Planning Commission at a recent public hearing.

The Mayor opened the duly noticed public hearing on the matter at 7:32 p.m. There were no comments and the hearing was closed at 7:32 p. m.

→ **Adoption of Resolution Nos. 2344 - 2345**

Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Monis, to approve Resolution No. 2344, "A Resolution Before the City Council of the City of Fowler, County of Fresno, State of California, Adopting a Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring Program for the City of Fowler Housing Element 2015-2023." The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, & Monis. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Simonian.

Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Hammer, to adopt Resolution No. 2345, "A Resolution Before the City Council of the City of Fowler, County of Fresno, State of California, Making Findings and Adopting the 2015-2023 Housing Element." The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, & Monis. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Simonian.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

City Manager Elias mentioned an upcoming Relay for Life event at Fowler High School.

## **STAFF REPORTS:**

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

#### **➤ Approve the Final SW Area Traffic Impact Analysis**

City Engineer Peters presented the final Southwest Area Traffic Impact Analysis, which evaluates existing, near term and future conditions for 21 intersections and 13 roadway segments. He said that the report validated proposed Golden State Corridor improvements; recommended making the Adams interchange a full interchange; and recommended future measures for the Merced Street Corridor such as a raised median and additional travel lanes. The report had been given to Fresno County and CalTrans, who provided their comments. Mr. Peters said that the next phase will be to conduct a fee study for future traffic impacts.

After discussion, Councilmember Monis made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Hammer, to approve the Final SW Area Traffic Impact Analysis and authorize the City Engineer to prepare a draft traffic impact fee study to be submitted to the Council for review and approval. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, & Monis. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Simonian.

City Manager Elias attended a Fowler Improvement Association meeting where representatives of Valley Children's/Adventist Health gave a presentation on their proposed regional facility.

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

No report was given.

### **FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

#### **➤ Discussion/direction: San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority (SJVWIA) membership contribution**

Finance Director McDonald asked for direction on a membership invoice the City received as part of the SJVWIA. City Manager Elias said he has reached out for more information through Fresno COG, but there is no indication the City has formally joined the JPA. The consensus was to seek further information and clarification on the matter.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Chief Brand circulated a statistical report for February and March 2016. He reported that the hiring process for a new full time police officer was completed and the officer is now on board.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

No report was given.

## **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

City Attorney Wolfe mentioned legislation being developed to help govern sober living homes.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

The Consent Calendar consisted of: A) Ratification of Warrants - April 5, 2016; B) Approve Minutes of the City Council Meeting - March 15, 2016; C) Consider and approve Consulting Services Agreement with the Adams Ashby Group to Provide Assistance for the Community Development Block Grant Program; and D) City of Fowler Proclamation Declaring April 16-17, 2016 as "Relay for Life Weekend." 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. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Simonian.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mayor Cardenas attended a Fresno County Transportation Authority meeting where they assigned an ad hoc committee to help with the search for a new executive director.

Mayor Pro-Tem Parra noted that he will be traveling to Washington, D. C. the following week with the One Voice group.

Councilmember Hammer attended a San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Special City Selection Committee meeting where the Mayor of Hanford was appointed to the Board.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

Mayor Cardenas adjourned the meeting to a closed session at 8:20 p. m. to discuss, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 - Conference with Real Property Negotiators: Property: 1) Assessor Parcel Number 343-233-03. Agency Negotiators: David Elias. Negotiating party: City of Fowler. Under Negotiation: Price, terms. The meeting reconvened to open session at 8:31 p. m. with no reportable action taken.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, Councilmember Hammer made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Parra, to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:32 p. m.