

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 7, 2017**

Mayor Cardenas called the meeting to order at 7:01 p. m. Roll call was taken.

Councilmembers Present: Cardenas, Hammer, Kazarian, Rodriquez, Parra

City Staff Present: Interim City Manager/City Clerk Davis, Police Chief Brand, Public Works Director Weisser, City Attorney Wolfe, Fire Chief Lopez, Finance Director McDonald, City Planner Marple

The Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance were followed by a moment of silence and reflection.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Ralph Kazarian, owner of the former Bank of America building, and contractor Chuck Ferreira, spoke to the Council about the possibility of converting the building into a new police station.

John Anderson, a representative from Senator Anthony Canella's office, stated that the Senator would like to help with any needs in the community.

PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 1-2, 2017, AS "RELAY FOR LIFE WEEKEND" IN FOWLER, KINGSBURG, & SELMA

Kim Wallace, a representative of the American Cancer Society in Fresno, invited the Council to their Relay for Life event to be held at Fowler High School on April 1-2, 2017, and requested a proclamation commemorating the event. Similar events will be taking place in Kingburg and Selma. The event helps provide funding for cancer patients and honors and recognize cancer survivors and caregivers. She thanked the Council for its support of Relay for Life over the past years.

FRESNO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING: UPDATE ON THE COUNTY'S PARTNERSHIPS WITH THE CITY

Christy Johnson, representative, gave an overview of the County's programs in partnership with the City, including the Community Development Block Grant program that provides funding for ADA improvements, and public improvements such as streets, sidewalks, and recreational facilities. She noted that the County offers down payment assistance and other programs for first time home buyers.

COMMUNICATIONS

Interim City Manager Davis announced an upcoming League Citipak golf tournament Friday, June 2, 2017 in Dinuba, the Fowler Improvement Association's annual spring luncheon on March 16, 2017, and the City's upcoming rabies clinic on Saturday, March 11, 2017.

STAFF REPORTS

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A WAIVER OF THE PARKING STUDY REQUIREMENT FOR JOCY'S RESTAURANT

City Planner Dawn Marple explained that Jocy's restaurant, located at 228 South 8th Street, has submitted expansion plans, and are applying for a variance for required landscaping setbacks and parking requirements. A parking variance can be allowed if it is supported by a parking study prepared by a registered traffic engineer, however, the applicant has requested a waiver of the study due to the cost being approximately \$4,000. City Attorney Wolfe clarified that parking analysis for the restaurant's expansion will still need to be considered, but a study conducted by a certified traffic engineer is perhaps not necessary. Jocelyn Arteage, representing the applicant, said that the restaurant expansion plans will provide a much needed banquet facility in the community.

After discussion, Councilmember Hammer made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Rodriquez, to waive the parking study requirement for Jocy's restaurant. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Kazarian, Rodriquez. Noes: None. Abstain/absent: None.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

— Adoption of Resolution No. 2363 - Credit Card Policies and Procedures

Interim City Manager Davis stated that at the last meeting, the Council discussed an update to the City's credit card policy, and asked that further revisions be made, including: removing the Council as authorized credit card holders; providing more guidelines for business related meal expenditures; and that a summary report of credit card expenditures be furnished to the City Council at regular intervals.

Councilmember Kazarian made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Rodriquez, to approve Resolution No. 2363, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler, County of Fresno, State of California, Adopting Credit Card Policies and Procedures." The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Kazarian, Rodriquez. Noes: None. Abstain/absent: None.

— Update: Police Chief Recruitment

Interim City Manager Davis gave an update on the police chief recruitment, noting that additional applications were received, and that interviews are being set.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Public Works Director Weisser spoke of repairs needed for Wellsite No. 8. Staff has been working on pothole patching due to the recent rainstorms.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Finance Director McDonald circulated an HDL quarterly sales tax report.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Brand circulated a statistical crime report for February 2017.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Lopez reported on training recently attended by the volunteer firefighters along with Fresno County Fire.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney Wolfe reported on a court case where it was determined that city related emails and texts on personal devices are considered public records. He mentioned that he has been working on a comprehensive update to the City's code enforcement ordinances that will soon be provided to City staff for review.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar consisted of: A) Ratification of Warrants - March 7, 2017; B) Approve Minutes of the City Council Meeting - February 21, 2017; C) Accept the City of Fowler 2016 Street Maintenance Project constructed by JT2, Inc. dba Todd Companies and authorize the City Engineer to file the Notice of Completion; and D) Accept the City of Fowler South Fowler Avenue Sidewalks Project constructed by RJ Berry Jr., Inc. and authorize the City Engineer to file the Notice of Completion.

Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Kazarian, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Kazarian, Rodriguez. Noes: None. Abstain/absent: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Cardenas attended the Heart of the Horse fund raiser event at Sutter School. He mentioned an upcoming Selma, Kingsburg, and Fowler joint Chamber of Commerce mixer on March 15, 2017, to be held at the S.K.F. Sanitation District facility.

Councilmember Kazarian attended a Five Cities meeting where he discussed the matter of Consolidated Irrigation District's (CID) proposed GSA. The general consensus was that members from each Council should meet to discuss the matter, followed by a meeting with CID to determine if an agreement can be reached.

CLOSED SESSION

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p. m to a closed sessions pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 - Conference with Real Property Negotiators: Property: 130 S. 6th Street, A.P.N. 343-171-09. Agency Negotiators: Jeannie Davis. Negotiating party: Kevin Draughon and Rodney Hayes. Under Negotiation: Price, terms. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 - Public Employee Performance Evaluation. Title: Interim City

Manager.

The meeting reconvened to open session at 8:56 p. m. with no reportable action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Councilmember Kazarian made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Parra to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:56 p. m.