

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 18, 2017**

Mayor Cardenas called the meeting to order at 7:00 p. m. Roll call was taken.

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

City Staff Present: Interim City Manager/City Clerk Davis, Interim Police Chief Bessinger, Public Works Director Weisser, City Attorney Wolfe, Fire Chief Lopez, Finance Director McDonald, City Engineer Peters

The Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Interim Police Chief Bessinger, followed by an invocation by Pastor Bryan Mays.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Dolores Serrato of Fowler, asked if the City could provide more activities for children such as a splash park at one of the City's parks. Mayor Pro-Tem Parra requested that the matter be added to a future agenda, and asked staff to also check into the missing workout stations that were in the original plans for Donny Wright Park.

Andy Gonzales, Fowler business owner, asked about the bike trails planned for Selma, Kingsburg, and Fowler. Public Works Director Weisser said that construction of Golden State Corridor improvements, which includes bike trails, should begin within the next two years.

Patric Jones of Fowler, asked for additional funding for Fowler Youth Football, as they still owe a balance on purchases for the group. The organization received \$2,000 in sports funding from the City earlier in the year. It was stated that the City is in a new budget cycle and Mr. Jones should submit a funding application request.

Jacob Villagomez and Juan Carranza, of the Fresno County EDC and 5 Cities Economic Development Authority, mentioned an upcoming P. G. & E. Trade Pro energy workshop, hosted by the City of Fowler, on Thursday, July 27, 2017. The program offers resources to small and medium sized contractors who install lighting, HVAC, windows, insulation and other energy efficiency items, and gives them inclusion in P. G. & E's online directory for becoming a direct install contractor.

Diane Bellion of Fowler, asked about the City installing shade covers over the play structures in the parks. She inquired about the possibility of ponding basins being utilized as park space, such as in the City of Turlock.

Veronica Soza of Fowler, spoke of concerns with the outdated bathroom facilities in Panzak Park, and would like them to be upgraded with new toilets, sinks, and diaper changing stations.

PRESENTATION TO POLICE OFFICER MICHAEL ALLISON: FOWLER POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR - REEDLEY ELKS CLUB

Interim Police Chief Bessinger announced that Officer Michael Allison was recommended by the Fowler Police Department to be awarded Police Office of the Year, by the Reedley Elks Club. Fire Chief Lopez also thanked Officer Allison for his assistance during a recent vegetation fire.

The meeting adjourned to a brief reception in honor of Officer Allison.

COMMUNICATIONS

Interim City Manager/City Clerk Davis mentioned that the City's Farmer's Market begins Wednesday, July 19, 2017, and will be held every Wednesday until October 26th. Also, the next SSJVD League of California Cities meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 10, 2017, in Fresno.

STAFF REPORTS

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Interim City Manager Davis said that staff will be meeting with representatives of USDA the following week regarding completion of the fire station loan documents. Also, the Planning Department received a site map for a Taco Bell Restaurant proposed for 10th and Merced Streets.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

◆ Adoption of Resolution of Intention to Levy and Collect the Annual Assessments for Landscaping and Storm Drainage Facilities Maintenance District No. 1

City Engineer Peters gave background information on the City's annual Landscaping and Storm Drainage Facilities Maintenance District assessments, used for the upkeep of various landscape and storm drain facilities within the City. In reviewing the original assessment document he found that no annual cost escalator had been factored in, so the 2 percent annual cost increase that is normally assessed will be credited back this year. He will reevaluate and possibly propose an increase in next year's assessments. The Resolution of Intention sets a public hearing on August 1, 2017 to approve the levy and collection of the annual assessments.

Councilmember Rodriquez made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2369, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler of Intention to Levy and Collect the Annual Assessments for Landscaping and Storm Drainage Facilities Maintenance District No. 1." The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Parra, and carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Kazarian, Rodriquez. Noes: None. Abstain/Absent: None.

◆ **Adoption of Resolution No. 2370 - Final Parcel Map 2016-01**

City Engineer Peters explained that Parcel Map 2016-01 concerns the Valley Children's/Adventist Health Clinic that will be constructed at Fresno and 10th Streets. The 15.1 acres is comprised of a nine lot business park, with the major anchor being the Clinic, and includes a common area, park, and pedestrian trail. The final parcel map and improvement plans have been submitted and approved by City staff. A parcel map agreement was developed and has been signed by the applicant, for construction of the offsite improvements.

Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2370, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler Approving Final Parcel Map 2016-01 and Accepting Street Dedication and Easements." The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rodriquez, and carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Kazarian, Rodriquez. Noes: None. Abstain/Absent: None.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

◆ **First Reading of Ordinance No. 2017-02, Amending the City's Watering Regulations**

Public Works Director Weisser explained that the ordinance update, as previously discussed by Council, will amend the City's existing watering regulations to set an even/odd address watering schedule of three days a week from June through September, and two days a week from October through May.

Councilmember Hammer made a motion to waive the first reading and approve Ordinance No. 2017-02, "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Fowler Amending Section 6-4.1107 of Article 11, of Chapter 4, of Title 6 of the Fowler Municipal Code Relating to the City's Watering Schedule." The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rodriquez, and carried by a unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Kazarian, Rodriquez. Noes: None. Abstain/Absent none.

◆ **Water Production Report**

Public Works Director Weisser provided a water production history from 2006 through 2016. Through monitoring of water production software, he noted that Thursday, July 13, 2017 was one of the highest water consumption days ever registered in the City.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Finance Director McDonald met with the auditors, who plan to schedule their field work in January 2018. The financial statement will be completed in about February or March. In the future, staff will try to schedule the field work earlier.

— **Update on Status of CDBG Revolving Business Loans**

As requested by Council, Mr. McDonald gave a status report on the City's CDBG business loans with several local businesses, which included information on the balance owing on each loan. Mr. McDonald contacted delinquent businesses, and is still waiting to hear back from some of them.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Interim Police Chief Bessinger explained the Department's Citywide Code Enforcement Project. The purpose of the project is to implement stronger enforcement of the City's nuisance abatement ordinances to help keep neighborhoods clean. It is a three stage program: They will first target and cite abandoned vehicles on city streets; stage two will target and cite inoperable vehicles in public view; and stage three will be citing deteriorated conditions on properties such as abandoned appliances and broken windows. He noted the importance of keeping neighborhoods clean, as it increases property values, enhances pride in one's home and community, and promotes a safer environment.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Lopez gave the emergency response report and call breakdown for the month. He circulated drawings of the proposed new fire engine.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney Wolfe reported on a prevailing wage case, where the court determined that prevailing wages must be paid when a city assists with a private development project.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar consisted of: A) Ratification of Warrants - July 18, 2017; B) Approve Minutes of the City Council and Fowler Public Financing Authority Joint Meeting - June 20, 2017, Minutes of the City Council and Fowler Public Financing Authority Special Joint Meeting - June 20, 2017; and Minutes of the Fowler City Council Special Meeting - June 30, 2017; C) Approve and authorize Interim City Manager to execute Agreement for Bond Counsel Services by and between City of Fowler and Lozano Smith, LLP (USDA Loan - Fire Station); D) Adoption of Resolution No. 2371, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler Concerning Local Transportation Purpose Funds Extension (Measure "C" Extension); and E) Accept the City of Fowler ADA Improvements Project constructed by RJ Berry Jr., Inc. and authorize the City Engineer to file the Notice of Completion.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Cardenas attended a Fresno County Rural Transit Agency meeting where he was provided a display sign for City Hall, that shows all electric car charging stations located in Fresno County. He attended an SKF Board meeting where the annual budget, and a two year sewer rate increase, was approved.

Mayor Pro-Tem Parra attended a League of California Cities Board meeting. The topics of discussion were the upcoming change to the CalPERS discount rate from 7.5 percent to 7 percent, and the AB 649 "Verizon Bill" that will allow placement of wireless equipment on city light poles.

Councilmember Hammer reported on the success of the 4th of July event, attended by about 4,500 people, and also mentioned the upcoming Farmer's Market opening.

Councilmember Kazarian attended a 5 Cities EDA Board meeting, noting that the Fresno County EDC recently hired a retail specialist that will be working with local cities. He reported that the City held a Fowler Business Mixer, and several businesses gave their contact information for attending an upcoming Chamber of Commerce formation meeting. The executive director of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce will be assisting. He commented that the South Kings GSA has officially formed with the cities of Fowler, Sanger, Parlier, Kingsburg, and the Del Rey Community Service District. The City of Selma withdrew and joined the Central Kings GSA. A joint meeting of GSA's will be held to develop groundwater sustainability plans.

CLOSED SESSION

The meeting adjourned to a closed session at 8:22 p. m. pursuant to Government Code Section 54957: Public Employee Appointment/Employment - Title: Chief of Police. The meeting reconvened to open session at 8:32 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 8:32 p. m.