

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 1, 2017**

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

Councilmembers Present: Cardenas, Parra, Kazarian, Rodriquez. Councilmember Hammer attended by teleconference from the Village Inn - lobby, 6205 Ramada Drive, Clemons, NC 27012

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 followed by an invocation given by Father Adrian Kim of St. Lucy's Catholic Church.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Kelly Crutchfield, of Fowler, stated that he recommends and supports the recycling business on 8th Street, soon coming up for a Conditional Use Permit review, and hopes it becomes a permanent business in Fowler.

APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF RUDY ALCARAZ AS CHIEF OF POLICE FOR THE CITY OF FOWLER

Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion to approve the appointment of Rudy Alcaraz as Chief of Police for the City of Fowler, and placing Mr. Alcaraz at Step A of the Police Chief range of the City's Salary Schedule, \$7,777 per month. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rodriquez, and carried on a 5-0-0 roll call vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer Kazarian, Rodriquez. Noes: None. Abstain/absent: None.

ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO CHIEF OF POLICE

Interim City Manager/City Clerk Davis administered the Oath of Office to Police Chief Rudy Alcaraz. The badge pinning ceremony followed.

RECOGNITION OF INTERIM CHIEF DREW BESSINGER

On behalf of the Council, Mayor Cardenas presented Interim Police Chief Bessinger with a Certificate of Appreciation and thanked him for his valued service to the City in the position of Interim Police Chief.

The meeting adjourned to reception at 7:18 p.m. in honor of newly appointed Police Chief Rudy Alcaraz and outgoing Interim Police Chief Drew Bessinger. Councilmember Hammer left the teleconference at 7:19 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 7:34 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING:

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2372, CONFIRMING DIAGRAM AND ASSESSMENT ANNUAL LEVY – 2017/18 LANDSCAPING AND STORM DRAINAGE FACILITIES MAINTENANCE DISTRICT NO. 1

Mayor Cardenas opened the duly noticed public hearing on the annual Landscaping and Storm Drainage Facilities Maintenance District assessments at 7:36 p.m. With no comments from the public, the hearing was closed at 7:38 p.m.

Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2372, “A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler Confirming Diagram and Assessment Annual Levy – 2017/18 Landscaping and Storm Drainage Facilities Maintenance District No. 1.” The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rodriquez and carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Kazarian, Parra, Rodriquez. Noes: None. Absent: Hammer.

STAFF REPORTS

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2017-02 RELATING TO THE CITY’S WATERING SCHEDULE

Interim City Manager Davis stated that Ordinance No. 2017-02 sets a new watering schedule for even/odd addresses: three days per week during the months of June through September, and two days per week from October through May, with no watering between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Councilmember Kazarian made a motion to waive the second 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 unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Kazarian, Parra, Rodriquez. Noes: None. Absent: Hammer.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2017-03: UPDATE TO CODE ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES

City Attorney Wolfe stated that Ordinance No. 2017-03 is a comprehensive update to the City’s code enforcement regulations that will streamline, clarify and unify the code enforcement process. It defines and updates the City’s list of property related nuisances, provides for minimum landscape requirements, and creates criteria for the upkeep of abandoned residential and commercial properties. In addition, it establishes a uniform and consistent procedure for the conduct of administrative hearings, abatement, and cost recovery, and the addition of a mechanism for the recovery of costs for providing extraordinary department services, such as multiple responses, that are not otherwise covered by user fees.

Councilmember Rodriquez made a motion to waive the first reading and approve Ordinance No. 2017-03, "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Fowler Adding Chapter 21 of Title 5 Pertaining to Nuisances, Chapter 22 of Title 5 Pertaining to Abatement, Appeals, and Administrative Hearings, and Chapter 23 of Title 5 Pertaining to Cost Recovery, and Repealing and Amending Various Sections in the Municipal Code Pertaining to Code Enforcement to Conform with the Adoption of Chapters 21, 22 and 23." The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kazarian and carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Kazarian, Parra, Rodriquez. Noes: None. Absent: Hammer.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Interim City Manager/City Clerk Davis announced that the City will be hosting a Fresno COG Regional Active Transportation Plan meeting to solicit public input on pedestrian and bicycle facilities, on August 8, 2017 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Interim City Manager/City Clerk Davis reported that staff recently met with USDA loan representative Sally Tripp regarding the Fire Station project, to go over the documents and actions needed to complete the loan process before the end of December 2017.

The City hosted a Chamber of Commerce formation meeting the prior week, and Nathan Ahle, CEO of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce offered guidance and suggestions for Fowler businesses to proceed. A core group will start contacting area businesses regarding their interest in membership and support of a Chamber of Commerce.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

◆ Direction on New Fire Station Design

City Engineer Peters introduced architect Jeremy Stevens, and showed a series of design renderings for the new fire station, as requested by the Council. The original plans from 2013 included an 8,400 square foot two-story facility with five truck bays and 3,000 square feet of administrative area. He explained that modifications to the original plans are necessary to bring them up to current building codes. The architectural design chosen could be designed and ready for the project bid and award process in time to satisfy the conditions of the USDA loan. Costs will be developed on the design selected, and Mr. Peters noted that with any of the designs chosen, the aim is to keep construction costs within the original budget. The Council considered the design and facade alternatives, and the consensus was to move forward with a modern design that has four equipment bays and a large windowed area for showcasing the City's antique fire engine.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Public Works Director Weisser reported that he is continuing to have problems with water samples from Wellsite 8A, and they will be performing sterilization procedures. Mr. Weisser was asked if he had an update regarding the request for the City to install a sidewalk near the Monis residence on Adams Avenue. Public Works Director Weisser stated that the City does have the right-of-way but has not pursued the issue further. It was requested that Mr. Weisser provide some cost estimates on installation of a sidewalk

along with removal of the obstruction of a large tree.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No report was given.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

No report was given.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Chief Lopez circulated updated drawings for a new fire truck.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

No report was given.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar consisted of: A) Ratification of Warrants - August 1, 2017; B) Approve Minutes of the City Council Meeting - July 18, 2017; C) Approve Staff's recommendation to reject: Claim against the City of Fowler - Bristol West Insurance/Ramon Robles; D) Adoption of Resolution No. 2373, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler Submitting Claims for Local Transportation Funds Continuing from the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year, Thereby Coinciding with the Fresno Council of Governments Policy Board Approval of TDA Funds Apportionment and TDA Claims Process"; and E) Adoption of Resolution No. 2374, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler of Authorization to Contract" (Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging). Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Kazarian, Rodriguez. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Hammer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Pro-Tem Parra mentioned an upcoming SSJV League Division meeting on August 10, 2017, in Fresno. He spoke of SB 649, the "Verizon Bill," that would allow companies to install cell antennas on street light poles in cities, and asked City Attorney Wolfe to look into the matter.

Councilmember Kazarian reported on the success of the Farmers' Market. He will be attending a South Kings GSA meeting the following week.

Councilmember Rodriguez commented on the Farmers' Market, noting that moving the event to the park has been a great improvement. He provided Recreation Director Hernandez a list of businesses she can contact for produce donations.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Councilmember Kazarian made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez, to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:36 p. m.