

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 2, 2018**

Mayor Cardenas called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Roll call was taken.

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

City Staff Present: City Manager/City Clerk Davis, Public Works Director Weisser, City Attorney Cross, City Engineer Peters, Police Chief Alcaraz, Fire Chief Lopez

The Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance were followed by a moment of silence and reflection led by Mayor Cardenas. There were no public presentations.

COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Davis announced an invitation to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors Designation of Officers Ceremony on January 9, 2018. She circulated a list of dates for 2018 City events provided by Recreation Coordinator Yvonne Hernandez.

STAFF REPORTS

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- **Adoption of Resolution No. 2386 - Nominating Drew M. Bessinger to the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) Special City Selection Committee (SCSC) for appointment on the Governing Board**

City Manager Davis explained that there is a vacancy for a large city representative on the SJVAPCD Governing Board, and Clovis City Councilmember Drew Bessinger submitted an application for the position. Mr. Bessinger recently served as an interim police chief for Fowler. SJVAPCD requests that the Council take action to nominate him to the SCSC, for appointment to the SJVAPCD Governing Board, or to reject the applicant.

Councilmember Kazarian made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2386, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler Nominating Clovis Councilmember Drew M. Bessinger to the SCSC for Appointment to the SJVAPCD Governing Board." 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.

CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT

— Adoption of Resolution No. 2387 - Adopting a Traffic and Engineering Speed Survey Pursuant to California Vehicle Code Section 40802

City Engineer Peters explained that several months ago a radar speed study was performed pursuant to requirements of the California Vehicle Code. The study indicated that the 35 miles per hour (mph) speed limit on Adams Avenue between Golden State Boulevard and Highway 99 be increased to 50 mph, and the new speed limit was adopted. At a subsequent Council meeting, nearby residents expressed concern with the higher speed limit, and staff was directed to revisit the matter. A verification study was performed, and the results support the reduction of the speed limit to 40 mph. An addendum to the radar speed study has been prepared, and a resolution adopting the addendum to adjust the speed limit to 40 mph, was before the Council for consideration.

After discussion, Councilmember Rodriguez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2387, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler Adopting a Traffic and Engineering Speed Survey Pursuant to California Vehicle Code Section 40802" - modifying the speed limits on Adams Avenue between Golden State Boulevard and State Route 99. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kazarian and carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Kazarian, Rodriguez. Noes: None. Abstain/absent: None.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Public Works Director Weisser presented the Water Production Report for the month of November. He gave an update on the progress of the Valley Children's medical clinic project. They are working on the water and sewer tie-ins, and nearby residents will be notified of a brief water shut-down while they work on the water connection.

Union Pacific Railroad is in the midst of their railroad tie replacement project. They propose to work on two crossings at a time, with Adams and South Avenues being done first, and Merced Street last. It is projected to begin in approximately three weeks.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

City Manager Davis reported that staff has been trained on the new accounting software. The auditors will be coming the following week to work on the 2016/2017 audit. Interim Finance Director Sanchez will present a budget summary at the next meeting.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Chief Alcaraz reported that a third new full-time police officer will be starting at the end of the month, which will bring the department back up to a full staff. He will be introducing the officers at a February Council meeting. On Friday, January 5th, from 7:00

- 10:00 a.m. they will be holding their third “Coffee with a Cop” event at Starbucks.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

— Adoption of Resolution No. 2388 - Updating the City’s Volunteer Firefighter Stipend Schedule

Fire Chief Lopez explained the need for an update to the Volunteer Firefighter stipend schedule. The main adjustment to the schedule calls for a \$5.00 per hour stipend for firefighters to stand-by during certain City events, rather than receiving a flat \$5.00, per the current schedule. A small increase to the base stipend for the chief and captain positions was included, due to expanded duties for the positions since the schedule was approved in 2008.

Councilmember Hammer made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2388, “A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler, County of Fresno, State of California, Updating the City’s Volunteer Firefighter Stipend Schedule.” The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez, and carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Kazarian, Rodriguez. Noes: None. Abstain/absent: None.

CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT

City Attorney Cross mentioned that he will be attending the next Council meeting and one meeting in February.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar consisted of: A) Ratification of Warrants - January 2, 2018; and B) Approve Minutes of the City Meeting - December 5, 2017. Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by Councilmember Kazarian. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Parra, Hammer, Kazarian, Rodriguez. Noes: None. Abstain/absent: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Cardenas mentioned that the City received a plaque from the Fowler/Malaga Youth Football group, in recognition of the Council’s support for the past two years.

Councilmember Kazarian attended GSA meetings and a Five Cities meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Mayor Pro-Tem Parra made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Hammer. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.