

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 15, 2019**

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

Councilmembers Present: Cardenas, Hammer, Kazarian, Parra, Rodriquez  
Councilmember Parra left at 7:10 p.m.

City Staff Present: City Manager/City Clerk Davis, Public Works Supervisor/Fire Chief Lopez, City Attorney Wolfe, Finance Director Uyeda, Police Chief Alcaraz, City Planner Marple, Planning Commissioner Fernandez, Deputy City Clerk Burrola

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

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

Andy Gonzales, local business owner, expressed this concern on hiring more police officers and suggested Council go on ride-alongs with the officers. There have been many officers killed in the line of duty.

Jason Webb and Gabriel Sepeda, business partners of Fat Gabe's Mobile Kitchen, stated that they operate a mobile food vending trailer that serves BBQ foods. Several months ago, they looked into leasing property from Nick and Art Ramirez at 226 S. 8<sup>th</sup> Street to place their mobile trailer there as a permanent food vending operation. They discussed with the City's Planning Department about being allowed to operate under the City's mobile food vending ordinance regulations, and were given verbal confirmation that they could have a permanent food vending operation under those regulations. They signed a five year lease with the property owner. Thereafter, they received information from staff that their proposed business plans would conflict with certain regulations of the mobile food vendor ordinance. Mr. Webb expressed that if they had that clarification from the beginning, they wouldn't have proceeded with the project. They asked for assistance so they could proceed with their business proposal.

Art Ramirez, property owner, expressed concerns regarding the situation with the mobile food vendor applicants he leased the property to. He stated that the City would benefit from the business. He also spoke of his dissatisfaction with the progress on a construction project he submitted to the City and the length of time it has been taking for the related setback variance, plan reviews and permits.

The consensus of the Council was to bring the mobile vending trailer matter back to the next agenda for discussion

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**COLOR RUN – FOWLER HIGH SCHOOL PUNJABI CLUB – ANIKA ARYA**

This item will be rescheduled for another meeting.

## **HEART OF THE HORSE THERAPY RANCH – LEA STEELE**

Lea Steele, 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at John Sutter Middle school, and four of her civic program students, spoke on their goals in helping veterans and military families in the community. The students will be sponsoring a benefit concert for Heart of the Horse Therapy Ranch, Thursday, February 7, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Fowler Improvement Association Hall. Heart of the Horse Therapy Ranch is committed to providing therapeutic riding as an efficacious treatment modality for those who suffer from physical, mental or emotional disorders by developing community awareness of equine assisted/ facilitated therapy.

### **COMMENDATIONS:**

Chief Alcaraz gave commendations to three Fowler officers; Sgt. Joseph Miranda, Officer Michael Allison and Officer Fong Yang. Each officer was presented with a Letter of Commendation and a challenge coin for their commitment to excellence above and beyond duty.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

City Manager Davis mentioned the Blossom Trail opening ceremony will be held on Friday, February 8, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at the Selma Arts Center.

League of California Cities, South San Joaquin Valley Division will be having a general membership meeting on Thursday, February 7, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the City of Madera.

She mentioned that next Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. will be the groundbreaking ceremony for the new fire station project.

### **STAFF REPORT**

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

City Manager Davis mentioned the City has been working on several subdivision projects. Randy Hill submitted his application; the map is being reviewed by City staff.

She mentioned the burnt house located at 5<sup>th</sup> and Vine Street has been demolished.

Ms. Davis said the bi-annual ethics training will need to be scheduled soon, possibly in February.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

Public Works Supervisor Lopez said they have been doing major pot hole patching along the southbound lane of Golden State Boulevard between Adams and Manning Avenues. He also mentioned they have been doing trash clean up along Golden State Boulevard near the railroad tracks and oleander bushes.

The neon sign on Merced and Golden State Boulevard has been repaired.

**FINANCE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

No report was given.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Police Chief Alcaraz said the Fresno County Sheriff’s Department has transitioned over to a new records management program, Mark 43, it will require all department personnel to attend 20 hours of training.

He said the Police Department is accepting applications for a full time peace officer; the application deadline to submit is February 1, 2019.

He also mentioned they began week one of a four week Explorer Program.; they currently have five explorers who have joined the program.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Fire Chief Lopez circulated Fire Department activity report for 2018.

**CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT**

No Report was given.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

The consent calendar consisted of: A) Ratification of Warrants – January 15, 2019; B) Approve Minutes of the Fowler City Council Meeting – December 11, 2018; C) Approve Mayoral Proclamation “A National Day of Racial Healing”; D) Approve Public Health Advocates and Kounkuey Design Initiative Agreement for Technical Assistance Services with City of Fowler – Public Health Advocates / Kounkuey Design Initiative; E) Adoption of Resolution No. 2418, “ A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Agreements with the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration for Implementation of a Local Transaction and Use Tax”; F) Adoption of Resolution No. 2419, “A Resolution Authorizing the Examination of Transactions (Sales) and Use Tax Records”; G) Adopt of Resolution No. 2420, “ A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler Approving Development and Planning Fees for 2019.”

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

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

Mayor Cardenas confirmed Council assignments to various committee and boards:

Fresno County Council of Governments (COG)... David Cardenas – alternate: Dan Parra  
Highway 99 Beautification Committee..... Mark Rodriquez – alternate: Leonard Hammer  
S.K.F. Sanitation District..... David Cardenas – alternate: Dan Parra  
Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District..... David Cardenas

Five Cities Economic Development Authority.....Karnig Kazarian – alternate: Mark Rodriquez  
Southeast Regional Solid Waste Commission.....Mark Rodriquez – alternate: Dan Parra  
Fowler Recreation Commission.....Leonard Hammer  
Friends of the Fowler Library.....Mark Rodriquez  
San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District  
Special City Selection Committee.....Leonard Hammer– alternate: Karnig Kazarian  
Finance Committee.....Dan Parra and Karnig Kazarian

Mayor Pro-Tem Hammer made a motion to approve the Committee Assignments to remain as stated, seconded by Councilmember Rodriquez. The motion carried by voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Hammer, Kazarian, Rodriquez. Noes: None. Abstain/Absent: Parra.

### **REAPPOINTMENT OF PLANNING COMMISSIONERS**

Mayor Cardenas recommended reappointment of Henry Fernandez and Juan Mejia to another term on the Planning Commission, as their terms expire December 31, 2018. Councilmember Rodriquez made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Hammer, to reappoint Henry Fernandez and Juan Mejia to a new term on the Planning Commission. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote: Ayes: Cardenas, Hammer, Kazarian, Rodriquez. Noes: None. Absent/Abstain: Parra.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mayor Cardenas attended an S.K.F. Sanitation District meeting. A special presentation was given by Lystek Fairfield Organic Material.

Mayor Pro-Tem Hammer mentioned he attended the Fowler Unified School luncheon.

Councilmember Kazarian attended a Five Cities Economic Authority meeting last week. They received some extra monies from Fresno County for economic development plans. He also attended the grand opening of the new Taco Bell.

Councilmember Rodriquez also attended the Fowler Unified School District luncheon and the grand opening for the new Taco Bell.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, Mayor Pro-Tem Hammer made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Rodriquez to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.