

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Tuesday June 15, 2021**

Mayor Cardenas called the meeting to order at 7:03 p. m.

Councilmembers Present: Cardenas, Rodriquez, Kazarian, Mejia, and Parra (via phone)

City Staff Present: City Manager Quan, City Attorney Cross, Police Chief Alcaraz, Public Works Director Dominguez, Community Development Director Gaffery, Fire Chief Lopez, City Planner Marple, City Engineer Peters, Deputy City Clerk Vasquez

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Fowler resident Ruben Espinosa addressed the council.*

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Councilmember Kazarian made a motion to approve the consent calendar, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Rodriquez. The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Kazarian, Rodriquez, Cardenas, Mejia, Parra.**

**5. PUBLIC HEARING**

**5-A. Joint Meeting of the City Council of the City of Fowler and the Fowler Public Financing Authority to Consider Adoption of Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Budget**

*Finance Director Moreno presented the proposed revised budget.*

**i. Meeting called to order**

- ii. Adopt Resolution No. 2504, A Resolution of the City council of the City of Fowler, acting in its capacity as City Council to the City, successor agency to the former Redevelopment Agency, and as the Board of the Public Financing Authority, adopting the Final Annual Budget of the City of Fowler and providing for the appropriation and expenditure of all sums set forth in said Final Budget for the 2021/2022 Fiscal Year**

*There was no public comment.*

**Councilmember Kazarian made a motion to accept, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Rodriquez. The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Kazarian, Rodriquez, Cardenas, Mejia, Parra.**

- iii. **Adopt Resolution No. 2505, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler Adopting the Annual Appropriations Limit for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 pursuant to Article XIII B of the California Constitution**

*There was no public comment.*

**Councilmember Kazarian made a motion to accept, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Rodriquez. The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Kazarian, Rodriquez, Cardenas, Mejia, Parra.**

- iv. **Adopt Resolution No. PFA 2021-01 A Resolution of the Fowler Public Financing Authority, County of Fresno, State of California, Adopting the Public Financing Authority Annual Budget and Appropriating Revenue of the Authority for the 2021/2022 Fiscal Year**

*There was no public comment.*

**Mayor Pro-Tem Rodriquez made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilmember Mejia. The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Rodriquez, Mejia, Cardenas, Kazarian, Parra.**

- v. **Councilmember Kazarian made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Parra. The motion carried and the regular meeting reconvened.**

## **6. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

### **6-A. CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE**

#### **i. COVID-19 Update**

*City Manager Quan reported Fresno County Department of Public Health (FCDPH) visited last week and they reported Fowler has the highest vaccination rate of all the small cities in Fresno County at 53.4%. City Manager Quan stated FCDPH would like to partner with the City to have a mobile vaccination clinic at the Farmers Market on July 28, 2021 and pass out gift cards from Fowler restaurants.*

#### **ii. City Facilities Reopening Plan**

*City Manager Quan reported City Hall and the Police Station will open to the public Monday, June 28, 2021 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Monday through Friday for thirty days and will re-evaluate after*

*that. The Senior Center will open on June 28, 2021 as well with their regular hours they had prior to the pandemic. City Manager Quan announced the Senior Center will be the designated cooling center on days where the temperature reaches 105 degrees or over from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and council chambers will be open to the public for the next Council meeting July 20, 2021. Community Development Director Gaffery briefed the Council on facilities reopening logistics and masking requirements.*

**iii. Actions pertaining to Fiscal Year 2019-20 and Fiscal Year 2020-21 year-end close of the City of Fowler's financial records and assistance with the completion of the June 30, 2020 and June 30, 2021 audits.**

- 1. Approve the first amendment to the Accounting Consultant Services Agreement with Price Paige & Company, Accountancy Corporation (Price Paige), to provide professional consulting services for the City of Fowler's Finance Department in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.**

*City Manager Quan stated Price Paige identified over \$1,000,000 of monies that should have been allocated in the general fund. Staff believes Price Paige will have additional findings should the amendment be approved. Councilmember Kazarian stated he would prefer to approve the contract for FY 2019-20 only or a contract for FY 2019-20 and a limited scope for FY 2020-21. Councilmember Kazarian also expressed his concerns regarding past employee performance having potentially caused the additional expenditures associated with this agreement.*

**Mayor Pro-Tem Rodriquez made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilmember Parra. The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Rodriquez, Parra, Cardenas, Kazarian, Mejia.**

- 2. Approve Budget Amendment Resolution No. 2507 to appropriate \$150,000 for FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21 year-end close of the City of Fowler's financial records and assistance with the preparation of the June 30, 2020 and June 30, 2021 audits.**

**Mayor Pro-Tem Rodriquez made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilmember Parra. The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Rodriquez, Parra, Cardenas, Kazarian, Mejia.**

## **6-B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

### **i. Workshop on Outdoor Dining Survey Results**

*Community Development Director Gaffery reported staff collected feedback from Merced Street business owners and their staff. The next step is to have a walk-and-talk with Councilmembers individually and get feedback and ideas. Community Development Director Gaffery stated after the walk-and-talk a formal recommendation will be shared with Council.*

## **7. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS – (CITY MANAGER)**

### **7-A. POLICE DEPARTMENT**

*Police Chief Alcaraz handed out DOJ crime stats for the month of May 2021. Chief Alcaraz commended officers for their work in identifying the burglary suspects targeting Fowler in March and April.*

### **7-B. FIRE DEPARTMENT**

*Fire Chief Lopez shared April and May call logs for a total of 383 events. Chief Lopez reported two firefighters will be attending basic fire academy in Yuba City through Cal Fire. Fire Chief Lopez stated he has been issuing citations for illegal fireworks. The Council directed staff to communicate the \$1,000 fine with the community through social media. Councilmember Mejia suggested both Fire Chief Lopez and Police Chief Alcaraz participate in the Recreation Commission PSA.*

### **7-C. FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

*Finance Director Moreno reported the American Rescue Plan Act monies has increased to 1.6 million dollars. The acceptance letter was submitted last week. Finance Director also reported she and Account Technician Krystle Woodward attended the California Municipal Finance Officer Chapter meeting last Thursday.*

### **7-D. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

*Public Works Director Dominguez reported staff purchased and installed new umbrellas for the outdoor dining area and have been periodically checking the platforms. Public Works Director Dominguez stated the annual water quality report will be mailed to all residents which will include T.C.P. reports. Public Works Director Dominguez also announced staff received a plaque from Fresno County Supervisor Buddy Mendes for the Fire Station*

*grand opening. City Manager Quan noted staff will look further into planning a grand opening in late summer or early fall.*

#### **7-E. SENIOR/REC CENTER**

*Recreation Coordinator Hernandez reported over twenty thousand meals were served to senior citizens since last March 2020. She thanked all the restaurants, City Council, staff, and volunteers. Recreation Coordinator Hernandez announced swim lessons started yesterday, and staff is working on hiring lifeguards for public swim.*

#### **8. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

*Mayor Cardenas reported he received a call from Max Fleming of Maxco inquiring if Councilmembers and staff would like to have a tour of the Maxco plant. City Manager Quan stated staff will coordinate the tour.*

*Councilmember Kazarian reported he and Mayor Cardenas attended a Memorial Day event and addressed attendees. He and Mayor Cardenas along with staff met with Fresno County Supervisor Buddy Mendes to discuss general issues and potential partnerships. Councilmember Kazarian requested staff explore a fallen soldier's memorial event similar to Kingsburg's memorial event. Councilmember Kazarian stated he supports the Pride Month Proclamation.*

*Councilmember Mejia inquired if it's possible for contractors working near schools to change their set-up and start times as it is creating a conflict with students and parents walking and driving near schools. City Manager Quan stated she will meet with Public Works, Planning, and the City Engineer to research what modifications can be made for future projects.*

*Councilmember Parra stated he supports the Pride Month Proclamation and suggested raising the Pride flag at the next Council meeting.*

#### **9. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilmember Kazarian made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Mejia. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.**