

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER 20, 2020**

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

Councilmembers Present: Cardenas, Hammer, Kazarian, Rodriquez and Parra (via Teleconference)

City Staff Present: City Manager/City Clerk Davis, City Attorney Cross, Finance Director Uyeda, Police Chief Alcaraz, Public Works Director Dominguez, Fire Chief Lopez, Deputy City Clerk Burrola, City Engineer Peters (Via Teleconference)

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

There were no public presentations.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**STAFF REPORTS**

**Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2020-06**

City Manager Davis said on October 6, 2020, the Council considered the first reading of Ordinance No. 2020-06. The Ordinance was introduced to the Council to clarify some of the inconsistencies and problematic text for clarifying certain uses and standards in the Zoning Ordinance.

Councilmember Kazarian requested to pull the item from the agenda to amend and to reintroduce the ordinance as a first reading. He proposed to add a provision for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for grocery stores in the Form Based Code to provide more flexibility on sales square footage. He is proposing to amend Section 1707 of Title 9, Chapter 5, of Article 17 of the Form Based Code area with use of subject to Conditional Use Permit to add grocery stores not exceeding 10,000 square feet of sales area.

Councilmember Kazarian made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2020-06 as amended, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hammer. The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Kazarian, Hammer, Cardenas, Parra, Rodriquez. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

**CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT**

**Approve Award of Bid for the Panzak Park Improvements – ADA Compliant Restroom Facilities CDBG Project No. 19231 to Flex-Pro Inc.**

City Engineer Peters said on October 9, 2020 the City received three bids ranging from \$231,689.00 to 343,850.00 the low bid was submitted by Flex-Pro Inc. The engineer's estimate for the project was \$277,000.000. A summary of the bids were attached. He said the bid information is currently being reviewed by Fresno County staffs, who administer

the CDBG funding. The City anticipates that the Fresno County staff will approve the bid award.

Mr. Peters added that the project should be completed by the end of the year.

Councilmember Rodriquez made a motion to approve the award of bid for the Panzak Park Improvements – ADA Compliant Restroom Facilities CDBG Project No. 19231 to Flex-Pro Inc. in the amount of the \$231,689.00; seconded by Councilmember Kazarian. The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Rodriquez, Kazarian, Cardenas, Hammer, Parra. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

## **CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

### **COVID-19 Update**

City Manager Davis said the numbers have not gone up too much; there were 243 total cases last week and this week the total is 346. There are 167 closed cases, 2 are under investigation and 3 total deaths. Ms. Davis said she has been in contact with the County of Fresno Health Department and there are some concerns that cases may slightly rise again. The County is currently at 6.5 per 100,000 new cases per day, County wide. The County is constantly monitoring the numbers.

### **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

Public Works Director Dominguez said the resolution approved at the last Council meeting for the water grant has been submitted to the State for approval.

Mr. Dominguez said he submitted an advertisement for Request for Qualification (RFQ) for the Energy Conservation project, which is due October 30, 2020 and is hoping to award the project by mid-November.

Councilmember Kazarian spoke about the handicap parking in front of CVS Pharmacy that was discussed during the last meeting. He expressed the need to start off with temporary signage and asked for direction from the Council to evaluate where an appropriate spot would be for additional handicap parking. A discussion took place and the direction of the Council is to look into the additional parking in front of ACE Gift Shop and if there are any issues to bring it back to the Council for further review and discussion.

A discussion took place on the reopening of City parks and playgrounds. City Manager Davis said she has been in contact with the Fresno County Health Department to pursue guidelines and recommendations on reopening the parks and playgrounds.

### **FINANCE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

No report was given.

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Police Chief Alcaraz circulated the DOJ crime statistics for the month of September 2020.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

No report was given.

## **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

No report was given.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

The consent calendar consisted of: A) Ratification of Warrants – October 20, 2020; B) Approve Minutes of the City Council Special Meeting and City Council Meeting – October 6, 2020; C) Approve Agreement Between County of Fresno and City of Fowler – Fowler Senior Meals, CDBG 19321-CV; D) Approval of City Manager Job Description; E) Approve Proclamation “Condemning Azerbaijan’s Aggression, with the Support of Turkey, Against the Artsakh Republic and Urging the President and Congress of the United States to Recognize the Artsakh Republic as a Free and Independent Nation

Councilmember Kazarian made a motion to approve the consent calendar, seconded by Councilmember Rodriquez. The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Kazarian, Rodriquez, Cardenas, Hammer, Parra. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mayor Cardenas said on October 10<sup>th</sup> the Central Valley Latino Mayors Coalition, Nisei Farmers League and the City sponsored a free cotton mask and hand sanitizer giveaway at Panzak Park.

Mayor Pro Tem Hammer said Trunk or Treat is scheduled for next Thursday, October 29, 2020 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Elwin Blyney Senior Center. This will be a drive thru event.

He said the Veteran’s Memorial Flag Raising event is canceled this year due to the current event.

Councilmember Kazarian attended the Employee Appreciation Luncheon last Friday. The luncheon was catered by Robles BBQ; they’re local and are interested in opening a BBQ restaurant business in the City of Fowler.

Councilmember Parra also attended the Employee Appreciation luncheon and commended Robles BBQ catering.

He attended the League of California Conference virtual meeting.

Councilmember Rodriquez said he received some complaints on the Jill Johnson property. He also received a complaint on a cement truck doing business in the City.

The meeting was adjourned to closed session at 7:49 p.m. to discuss Government Code Section 54956.9(a) – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – Name of Case: Gordon Panzak vs. City of Fowler

The meeting reconvened to open session at 8:10 p.m. with no reportable action taken. Direction was given to legal counsel.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, Mayor Pro Tem Hammer made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Kazarian to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.