

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 16, 2021**

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

Councilmembers Present: Cardenas, Rodriquez, Mejia, Parra. Kazarian joined via Zoom.

City Staff Present: City Manager Davis, City Attorney Wolfe, Public Works Director Dominguez, Fire Chief Lopez, Police Chief Alcaraz, Deputy City Clerk Burrola. City Engineer Peters joined via Zoom.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

Cheryl Hudspeth, Fowler resident, asked when Rezone Application 20-01 and Site Plan Review 20-08 will be placed on the City Councils agenda for further review.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**STAFF REPORTS**

**CITY ENGINEER'S REPORT**

**Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2020-01**

Councilmember Parra made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-01 " An Ordinance of the City of Fowler Amending the Title of Chapter 2 of Title 7, and Adding Chapter 4 to Title 7 of the Fowler Municipal Code Pertaining to Requirements for Installation and Relocation of Utility Facilities Underground", seconded by Councilmember Mejia. The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Parra, Mejia, Cardenas, Rodriquez, Kazarian. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

**COVID-19 Update**

City Manager Davis said the City is currently at 995 total cases. She said the Fresno County Health Department has administered 130,000 vaccines doses, and with the administering of these vaccinations cases are decreasing.

**PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

**Energy Conservation Project Update**

Councilmember Parra recused himself due to doing business with Sitelogiq in the past.

Public Works Director Dominguez introduced Jessica Ritter and Eddie Jordan of Sitelogiq, and Hector Gannon of Advanced Lighting Services

Ms. Ritter said Sitelogiq is the nation's largest privately held energy and infrastructure solutions for State and Local Governments. She provided a PowerPoint presentation of the energy conservation project update. She said they have been working diligently to develop an energy project for the City which includes lighting, HVAC replacements, and solar. Ms. Ritter said the program goals include achieving long-term cost savings through reduced energy usage and Solar PV, upgrade antiquated and inefficient HVAC and lighting equipment, reduce the risk of airborne transmission of Covid-19 in city facilities, and provide comprehensive funding solutions. Ms. Ritter provided information on the bipolar ionization device that is integrated into HVAC systems that inactivate the virus. She said the presentation tonight is to provide information to the Council and gather feedback and direction.

Hector Gannon with Advanced Lighting Services spoke about the study of the lighting solutions for the City. Mr. Gannon said detailed studies were conducted for interior and exterior lighting and controls and to reimage the old lighting fixtures.

A discussion took place on the current lighting issues throughout the City and the need for more lighting in the older established areas. Mayor Pro-Tem Rodriquez asked about converting the FOWLER sign from neon to LED.

Ms. Ritter said many sites were reviewed for installation of solar. One location is a ponding basin located off of Highway 99; the only issue is there is no existing meter and very little grid capacity at this location. As a result, the City would be responsible for upgrading PG&E's infrastructure. A discussion took place on looking into other possible locations.

### **Approve Request to Close Fresno Street and Walter Street – Fowler High Cross Country Club**

Public Works Director Dominguez said the Fowler High School Cross Country Club will be having a track meet on February 17<sup>th</sup> and February 24<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and are requesting to close Fresno Street and Walter Street for this event.

Councilmember Mejia made a motion to approve the request to close Fresno Street and Walter Street for Fowler High Cross Country Club – February 17<sup>th</sup> and February 24<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Rodriquez. The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Mejia, Rodriquez, Cardenas, Parra, Kazarian. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

### **FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

No report was given.

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

No report was given.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

No report was given.

## **CITYTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

### **Consider/Approve City Manager Employment Agreement and Appoint Wilma Quan as City Manager Effective March 1, 2021**

City Attorney Wolfe said the City Council has been searching for a New City Manager for several months since City Manager Jeannie Davis announced her retirement in September 2020. The recruitment process has concluded, and the City Council has selected Ms. Wilma Quan to serve as the new City Manager. He said tonight's appointment is for City Council to approve the proposed City Manager Employment Agreement with Wilma Quan, and appoint Wilma Quan as City Manager effective March 1, 2021. Mr. Wolfe said under the terms of the contract agreement Ms. Quan will be placed on Step E of the current City Manager salary schedule of \$13,092.33 per month. Ms. Quan is eligible for a \$5,000.00 performance bonus at the end of her first year of employment if approved by the City Council. She will receive an initial allocation of 96 hours of leave upon hire, a \$750.00 monthly automobile allowance, vacation leave accrual of 20 days per year and receive Executive Management health benefits.

Wilma Quan spoke and expressed her gratitude and said she is excited to start her new position as City Manager and is looking forward to working with the community.

The Mayor opened for public comments. There were no public comments.

Councilmember Parra made a motion to approve the City Manager Employment Agreement and Appoint Wilma Quan as City Manager effective March 1, 2021, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Rodriguez. The motion carried by roll call vote: Ayes: Parra, Rodriguez, Mejia, Cardenas, Kazarian. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

The consent calendar consisted of: A) Ratification of Warrants – February 16, 2021; B) Approve Minutes of the City Council Special Meetings – February 2, 2021, February 4, 2021, and City Council Meeting, February 2, 2021.

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

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mayor Cardenas announced that the Mosquito Abatement District will be celebrating their 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Councilmember Kazarian attended a South Kings GSA meeting.

He said he met with land owners regarding future development opportunities near American Avenue and Highway 99.

Councilmember Mejia said the Recreation Committee is preparing for a post COVID environment and planning and preparing events for the City.

He said the City wide Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, Councilmember Kazarian made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Rodriguez to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.