

**Minutes
SPECIAL
CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR
AGENCY/PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY
MEETING AGENDA
April 25, 2019**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Council Members Present: Lander, Ramsey, Stolz, Adkisson, Singleton

Others Present: City Manager Marissa Trejo, City Attorney Mario Zamora, Community Development Director Sean Brewer, Interim Police Chief Darren Blevins, Public Works and Utilities Director Pete Preciado, Financial Services Director Jasmin Bains, City Treasurer James Vosburg, Administrative Analyst Mercedes Garcia, Fire Chief Dwayne Gabriel, Assistant to the City Manager / City Clerk Shannon Jensen

Council Members Absent: None

Others Absent: City Manager Marissa Trejo

*Motion by Ramsey, Second by Singleton to Table Ordinance Presentation, Discussion and Potential Action Item No. 6.1 until the May 16, 2019 Council Meeting and Approve the Agenda for the Special Meeting of April 25, 2019. Motion **Approved** by a 5/0 Majority Voice Vote.*

2. AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Presentation by the Fresno County Tobacco Prevention Program
Monique Peralta, Health Education Specialist

Ms. Peralta presented on emerging tobacco products and Fresno County's Tobacco Prevention Program. Ms. Peralta's team is working on partnering with local cities in Fresno County to update their tobacco related definitions, specifically for electronic smoking devices, to match the state of California's definitions. Updating these definitions will help close loopholes in the City's municipal code. Ms. Peralta went on to encourage the Council to adopt an ordinance for "smoke free parks" within the City. If the City chooses to move forward the Tobacco Prevention Program team can assist by providing signage for the parks, Press Releases, and assist with drafting a policy.

Councilman Adkisson asked if what was provided is the definition the Council is being asked to adopt?

Ms. Peralta answered yes, the Model Policy is what the State of California has adopted.

Councilwoman Stolz mentioned she was recently at the Capital lobbying for Senate Bill 3839. Ms. Stolz has also been in contact with the American Cancer Society who has offered their full support.

Mayor Lander suggested Ms. Peralta reach out to the Recreation and Parks District, stating they are a separate district from the City. The City owns and operates only a few parks while the Recreation and Parks District owns and maintains all the others throughout town.

2. Proclamation - 83rd Annual Memorial Day Horned Toad Derby Parade

3. Proclamation - Horned Toad Derby Week

Mayor Lander read both proclamations relating to the Horned Toad Derby into the record.

Mayor Lander announced today is Mr. Benjamin Kahikina's birthday and asked everyone to join-in while we sing happy birthday.

Mr. Kahikina, Executive Director of the Coalinga Chamber of Commerce, thanked the Council and the community for supporting the annual event and invited everyone to come out and enjoy the festivities.

4. Recognition of Coalinga Wrestling Team

Mayor Lander recognized Team Coalinga, a wrestling club, and their performance at the 2019 National Tournament in Reno, Nevada. Mayor Lander individually recognized Mikey Vargas for placing 4th, Patti Medina for placing 2nd, Wyatt Bedrosian for placing 7th, Kyle Rosas for placing 8th, and Leonard Ashley (not in attendance) for placing 5th.

5. Community Development Quarterly Department Presentation

Mr. Sean Brewer, Community Development Director, gave a brief overview of the item, detailing the activity being worked on through the Community Development Department.

Councilman Adkisson expressed concern with the State holding SB1 monies hostage. How do we distinguish whether or not we have enough affordable housing units to please the State so we can receive our money?

Mr. Brewer stated we are not anticipating having that issue with our SB1 funds. The issue with the holding of the SB1 funds as a penalty relates to communities not permitting affordable housing or making it difficult for affordable housing projects to get permitted. The City is not acting as a roadblock for these projects, we actually have a lot of interest from affordable housing builders to build multi-family and senior projects.

Councilman Adkisson asked if there is a ratio that we must meet?

Mr. Brewer answered no, every seven years when we go through our housing element the State determines the number of housing units that need to be built based on affordability. The City has our own allocation and we must do whatever we can to try to meet that number. It really is market-driven so there is only so much we can do, however, as long as we have policies and development regulations in place that make it easy for those who want to build these types of projects, then we will not be on the State's radar. The Hunting Beach lawsuit, they were denying projects that should have been approved.

Councilman Adkisson asked, we will be able to keep approving middle class homes as long as the City also continues to provide an environment that is conducive to building low-income homes?

Mr. Brewer remarked, the State wants to make sure that we have high density residential properties like apartments which are seen as areas for low-income development. It's not feasible to build single-family residence for low-income because it is more expensive to do so. There is enough land within the City for additional growth.

Mayor Lander mentioned this issue was discussed at the last Fresno Council of Governments meeting. There are some entities within our district that are on the State's radar and fortunately we are not one of them.

Mayor Lander remarked how much work is going on within the City of Coalinga.

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ms. Alicia Rivera is here on behalf of Senator Ana Caballero's who was recently elected to represent District 12. Ms. Rivera wants the City of Coalinga to know they are here if we need any assistance. She mentioned their office is in Merced, however they are working on opening a satellite office closer to Coalinga.

Mayor Lander mentioned he would like to meet with Ms. Caballero to discuss issues that relate to our area, stating that we are out in the middle of nowhere and often feel that we are forgotten.

Ms. Rivera replied that we don't ever want anyone to feel that way, and again offered their assistance on anything we may need. She mentioned Ms. Caballero will be in the area next month so perhaps the meeting could take place then.

Mr. Nathan Vosburg remarked that he is often asked by those in his district about whether there will ever be a park anywhere near the Coventry Homes subdivision. The Council should think about these things when building new homes. Mr. Vosburg also remarked on Item No. 5.3 regarding the revenues with an increase to the Transient Occupancy Tax. He cautioned the Council and urged them to remember there are hotels near the freeway and if we want people to come into town, an increase may discourage that.

Ms. Amanda Sparks reported the festival for recovery went very well and they had a great turnout. On a personal note, she announced she needs to file a grievance with the Police Department regarding a situation she encountered around April 12th where she believes a citizen was pulled over and was let go on what may have been a DUI. Ms. Sparks stressed the importance of being fair and equal to all. She stated at least three other people heard this over a scanner and the incident occurred within the vicinity of a park where children were present.

Mr. Matthew Apple, aka John Sunlight, commented that people understand why the Council put off the vote (censorship) tonight, however he asks the Council to consider, not only themselves, but the citizens of Coalinga when voting.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public Hearing and Approval of Resolution No. 3893 Electing for the City of Coalinga to Serve as a Groundwater Sustainability Agency Pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
Mario Zamora, City Attorney

Mr. Mario Zamora gave a brief overview of the item, explaining that due to the drought the Governor is requiring every local agency to be a part of a Groundwater Sustainability Act region (a "GSA"). The purpose of these entities is to figure out how we will address the groundwater situation and how the water will be used. Coalinga does not use groundwater; however, we are still required to be a part of GSA. We can either be in a GSA by ourselves and be responsible for reporting to the Governor at our own expense or we can join the Pleasant Valley GSA. If we join the Pleasant Valley GSA it would consist of us, the Pleasant Valley Water District and parts of the County that are also within the water basin but are not serviced by the County. If the Council decides to join the Pleasant Valley agency the water district and the County will do most of the legwork and absorb majority of the cost.

Mayor Lander opened the Public Hearing and asked for comments. Seeing none, he closed the Public Hearing.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey asked for clarification about staff's recommendation to make our own GSA or join another?

Mr. Mario Zamora explained staff recommends the Council partner with Pleasant Valley and form the Pleasant Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

*Motion by Adkisson, Second by Singleton to Approve Resolution No. 3893 Electing for the City of Coalinga to Serve as a Groundwater Sustainability Agency Pursuant to the Sustainability Agency Pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Motion **Approved** by a 5/0 Roll-Call Vote.*

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Check Register: 01/01/2019 - 01/31/2019
2. Check Register: 02/01/2019 - 02/28/2019
3. Information regarding Revenue Projection for an Increase to the Transient Occupancy Tax
4. Approval of the City of Coalinga Military/Veteran's Banner Program Location Map Amendment

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey pulled Item No. 5.4.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey explained PG&E denied the City's request to use their light poles for the Banner Program in the downtown area. The only poles we will be able to use are our own, down by Cambridge Avenue. Supervisor, Buddy Mendes, and I put a letter together requesting PG&E reconsider. Mr. Ramsey urged the Council to approve the item tonight and if we receive an okay from PG&E go back to the original plan and use the additional poles in the downtown area. Mr. Ramsey went on to announce that he has received enough donations to cover the costs of the banners and the hardware.

Mayor Lander asked what the deadline was for banner applications.

Councilman Adkisson responded there currently is no deadline.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey mentioned he personally donated enough money to cover the cost of 3 banners for Christian Vasquez, Joseph Allen and Henry White, all of which were killed in action.

Mayor Lander, as a reminder to everyone, asked what is the cost of a banner?

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey replied the cost is \$67.12.

Councilman Adkisson advised anyone who may interested to contact Kristi Anderson at kanderson@coalinga.com.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey mentioned the information can also be found on the City's website.

5. Authorize the Police Department to Accept Grant funding from the National Police Dog Foundation to Support a Police K-9 Unit

*Motion by Ramsey, Second by Stolz to Approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 5.1 through 5.5. Motion **Approved** by a 5/0 Roll-Call Vote.*

6. ORDINANCE PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

1. Introduce and Waive First Reading of Ordinance No. 830 Establishing Regulations for Backflow Control and Cross Connections
Larry Miller, Public Works

Public Works Coordinator, Larry Miller gave a brief overview of the item.

Mayor Lander asked if this will mainly affect commercial businesses?

Mr. Miller explained it is not meant for homes as homes already have backflow protection.

Mayor Lander mentioned he manages a business complex and asked if these businesses will need to be tested? And what will be the cost?

Mr. Miller answered yes, and I will be doing the inspections. Mr. Miller clarified by saying a business will be evaluated and based on the evaluation a business may be required to do certain things. Depending on what those things are, you may need to contact a licensed contractor and if one cannot be found then the City can assist by providing testing, repair and installation services.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey asked if all Cities have this requirement?

Mr. Miller answered yes, it is mandated by the State.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey asked, since it is required why aren't there more licensed inspectors?

Mr. Miller mentioned he has reached out to a few local plumbers, but none of them seemed interested.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey asked how is this ordinance different than the previous one?

Mr. Miller explained, based on the previous criteria if you had a line larger than 1.5 inches, which could be some homes, then you must have a backflow device. Sometimes this resulted in people spending money they didn't necessarily need to spend.

Mayor Lander expressed concern about high costs for business owners.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey asked if someone doesn't agree with the evaluation is there an alternative? Can they bring their own inspector in?

Mr. Miller explained the first inspection will be performed by a cross-connection control specialist, which evaluates the hazards in a facility. The specialist will identify things that need to be done. Then you will have someone who will physically inspect the backflow or install one if they don't have one. This is the second inspection to determine if the device is working and does it meet the current state requirements.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey asked how much will the first inspection cost?

Public Works and Utility Director Pete Preciado explained this is a program the City had, but that was not being performed regularly. Now we have additional staffing to allow us to get the program up and running again. This is a new service that we will providing and when the fee schedule is revised again it will be updated to include this. As of right now, the inspection will be absorbed by impact fees when someone receives water services through the City. We recognize that local plumbers currently do not have the necessary licensing to perform this kind of work. They are reluctant to make that kind of investment as the process is very rigorous. Now that the City is following through with the program, we hope local plumbers will recognize the opportunity to make additional money. The inspection fee varies wildly depending on who does the inspection, it could be \$100 to several hundred. We expect costs will decrease when more plumbers become licensed. Rather than not knowing and, to be safe, defaulting to everyone needs a backflow device, we can evaluate each business and save some people money.

Councilman Adkisson asked if he saw this as less of a burden on business owners.

Mr. Preciado answered yes, especially those where Larry can go in and inspect the facility and make the determination whether they truly need a device or not.

Councilman Adkisson expressed concern over the City saying the backflow device was ok then, but its not ok now.

Mr. Preciado stated they would be considered grandfathered-in until a change was made to the type of business or a new owner takes over.

Mayor Lander mentioned what a great opportunity this is for business owners to save money and have the City perform the inspection now as part of their water service.

*Motion by Adkisson, Second by Ramsey to Approve the First Reading of Ordinance No. 830 Establishing Regulations for Backflow Control and Cross Connections. Motion **Approved** by a 5/0 Roll-Call Vote.*

2. Consideration of Resolution No.3896 Approving Public Censure of Council Member Tanya Stolz
Mario Zamora, City Attorney

Item No. 6.1 was Tabled until the May 16, 2019 Council Meeting.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Manager's Announcements:

None

Council Member's Announcements:

Mayor Lander announced on April 29th between 8:00am to noon and 1:00pm to 5:00pm the City Manager will make herself available for any questions regarding the current utility billing issues.

Public Works Supervisor Eric Deleon announced he will be making a presentation on how to read your meter on April 29, 2019 between 5:00pm to 6:00pm in the Council Chambers.

Mayor's Announcements:

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey announced the ACCAPS Legislative Conference scheduled for May 8, 2019 has been cancelled. It is expected to be rescheduled later in the year.

Councilman Adkisson expressed frustration over tabling the censure item. He requested the item to be discussed at the May 2, 2019 meeting instead of waiting until the May 16th meeting.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey stated he would like to hold the discussion for the meeting on the 16th.

Mayor Lander is also in favor of holding the discussion for the meeting on the 16th.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey asked Public Works and Utility Director Pete Preciado to speak about a proposed new program called Adopt-A-Spot.

Mr. Preciado stated the City was approached by Have-A-Heart, who is interested in the program which would allow them to help maintain the park across the street from their business. He had asked Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey to request the program as a Future Agenda Item.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey would like to expand on the program to include some of the islands throughout town that the City also maintains.

Councilman Adkisson suggested the Council bring back the draft ordinance for truck parking for discussion.

9. CLOSED SESSION (NONE)

10. CLOSED SESSION REPORT

None

11. ADJOURNMENT 7:37PM

Ron Lander, Mayor

Shannon Jensen, City Clerk

Date