



# **SPECIAL WORKSHOP CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY/PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY MEETING AGENDA**

**July 29, 2020  
6:00 PM**

***The Mission of the City of Coalinga is to provide for the preservation of the community character by delivering quality, responsive City services, in an efficient and cost-effective manner, and to develop, encourage, and promote a diversified economic base in order to ensure the future financial stability of the City for its citizens.***

**Notice is hereby given that the City Council will hold a Special Meeting, on July 29, 2020 via webinar only. The webinar can be accessed by visiting  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86911295379?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86911295379?pwd=VW84OXRiZkZrY003R2VkaUMvQ3d0dz09)**

**pwd=VW84OXRiZkZrY003R2VkaUMvQ3d0dz09 with PASSWORD: coalinga or by telephone at +1 (669) 900-9128 with WEBINAR ID: 869 1129 5379 and PASSWORD: 56057494. Persons with disabilities who may need assistance should contact the City Clerk at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at 935-1533 x113. Anyone interested in translation services should contact the City Clerk at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at 935-1533 x113. The Meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. and the Agenda will be as follows:**

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Changes to the Agenda
3. Council's Approval of Agenda

## **2. AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND PROCLAMATIONS (NONE)**

## **3. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

*This section of the agenda allows members of the public to address the City Council on any item within the jurisdiction of the Council. Members of the public, when recognized by the Mayor, should come forward to the lectern, identify themselves and use the microphone. Comments are normally limited to three (3) minutes. In accordance with State Open Meeting Laws, no action will be taken by the City Council this evening and all items will be referred to staff for follow up and a report.*

**4. PUBLIC HEARINGS (NONE)**

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Approve MINUTES – June 3, 2020 (Special)

**6. ORDINANCE PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS**

1. Discussion and Potential Action: 2020 Water and Sewer Rate Study  
**Dan Bergmann, IGS Services**

**7. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. City Manager's Announcements
2. Councilmembers' Announcements/Reports
3. Mayor's Announcements

**8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**9. CLOSED SESSION (NONE)**

**10. CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

**Closed Session:** A "Closed" or "Executive" Session of the City Council, Successor Agency, or Public Finance Authority may be held as required for items as follows: personnel matters; labor negotiations; security matters; providing instructions to real property negotiators; legal counsel regarding pending litigation; and protection of records exempt from public disclosure. Closed session will be held in the Administration Building at 155 W. Durian Avenue and any announcements or discussion will be held at the same location following Closed Session.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**STAFF REPORT - CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY/PUBLIC FINANCE  
AUTHORITY**

**Subject:** Approve MINUTES – June 3, 2020 (Special)  
**Meeting Date:** July 29, 2020  
**From:** Marissa Trejo, City Manager  
**Prepared by:** Shannon Jensen, City Clerk

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**I. RECOMMENDATION:**

**II. BACKGROUND:**

**III. DISCUSSION:**

**IV. ALTERNATIVES:**

**V. FISCAL IMPACT:**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

File Name	Description
☐ MINUTES_For_Approval_060320.pdf	Minutes - June 3, 2020 (Special)

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL  
CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR  
AGENCY/PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY  
MEETING AGENDA  
June 3, 2020**

**1. CALL TO ORDER 6:09PM** *Meeting conducted via teleconference.*

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

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

Council Members Absent: None

Others Absent: None

*Under Changes to the Agenda, City Manager Marissa Trejo announced the recommended bid for the roof repair project described in Consent Calendar Item No. 5.6 will increase by \$5,000. The City was contacted by the contractor this morning to inform the City he did not originally include prevailing wage figures in the bid.*

*Motion by Ramsey, Second by Adkisson to Approve the Agenda for the Special Meeting of June 3, 2020. Motion **Approved** by a 5/0 Majority Voice Vote.*

**2. AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND PROCLAMATIONS (NONE)**

**3. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

*No public comments at the time they were called.*

**4. PUBLIC HEARINGS (NONE)**

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Approve MINUTES - February 6, 2020
2. Approve MINUTES - February 20, 2020

3. Approve MINUTES - March 5, 2020
4. Approve MINUTES - March 19, 2020 (Amended)
5. Consideration of Bid Award for the Gale Avenue Repaving Project
6. Consideration of Bid Award for the City Hall Roof Silicone Restoration Roof Project

*Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey pulled Item No. 5.6 for discussion.*

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey noted the recommended bid includes a 20-year warranty and the second one has a 50-year warranty. He believes the bid with the 50-year warranty would be better even at the higher price tag.

City Manager Marissa Trejo explained the second bid, from 914 Coatings, which includes the 50-year warranty would be \$87,310.50.

Councilman Adkisson asked where the money was coming from.

Mrs. Trejo stated it will come from the General Fund. It was budget under the building maintenance line code.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey suggested approval to move forward with the second bid from 914 Coatings.

*Motion by Adkisson, Second by Singleton to Approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 5.1 through 5.5. Motion **Approved** by Roll-Call 5/0 Majority Vote.*

*Motion by Stolz, Second by Adkisson to Accept the bid from 914 Coatings for the completion of the City Hall Silicone Restoration Roof Project. Motion **Approved** by Roll-Call 5/0 Majority Vote.*

## **6. ORDINANCE PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS**

1. Discussion and Direction regarding FY2020-2021 Budget  
**Jasmin Bains, Financial Services Director**

City Manager Marissa Trejo explained this draft budget now includes projected revenues. We are projecting a deficit of \$273,494. We have some suggestions on how we can lower that number and adopted a balanced budget. At the last meeting Council approved two cannabis related items, a consumption lounge and outdoor cultivation. The outdoor cultivation is expected to bring in \$1.5 million in additional tax revenue. If they plant in September as expected that would be \$1.1 million that is not currently accounted for. If we used the extremely conservative figure of \$275,000 that would be enough to cover the deficit. Another option would be to revisit the budget at the end of October, and if cannabis revenue does not come through, to cut the Deputy Fire Chief and 3 Firefighter / Paramedic positions that are set to be filled in January. These positions total approximately \$245,000. I would not recommend cutting the positions now as they were listed as Measure J priorities.

Mayor Lander asked if the positions were cut, would we do that at a mid-year budget review?

Mrs. Trejo explained we would probably do it as a separate action item in October since we would need to begin the recruitment process to fill the positions in November.

Jasmin gave brief overview of the revenue projections for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget.

Mrs. Trejo commented that the cannabis revenue projections are conservative and only include cannabis related companies that are currently in business.

Councilman Adkisson asked how much revenue was brought in by the ambulance thus far? Are we justified in using the projected number?

Ms. Bains explained the number was received by Fire Chief Gabriel and he was comfortable with that number.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey appreciated staff being conservative with the projected numbers.

Councilman Adkisson asked about the discrepancy on the Cannabis Revenue Fee between the 2019 Actual and the 2019 Adopted.

Assistant City Manager Sean Brewer explained there were a lot of companies that started the process to open their businesses, but for whatever reason, delayed opening or just did not open at all. At the time we budgeted based on applications and businesses estimated times for opening. The next year, understanding how the industry was progressing and how slow the process was for a business to open, we were much more conservative. After going through two full fiscal years we can now see a pattern of progression and we are being ultra conservative with our projections, only including companies that are currently in business.

Councilman Adkisson asked, there is a difference of \$800,000 between 2019 budgeted and actuals, where did that \$800,000 go?

Ms. Bains explained the audit is performed on actuals not on our budgeted numbers.

Councilman Adkisson asked, did we spend that money? It shows that we had \$1 million in the budget, but we only collected \$266,000. Where did the difference go?

Ms. Bains directed the Council to page 1 of the budget and explained the 2019 budget was adopted with a surplus of \$1.1 million and the that was due to the \$1.7 million transfer that came in from the General Capital Project Fund to the General Fund. You can see we ended the fiscal year better than what we had originally anticipated. Our ending fund balance was better. However, these numbers are unaudited.

Mr. Brewer believes the \$266,000 may be higher based on the companies he knows were open in 2019.

Ms. Bains explained, page one shows we budgeted \$7.3 million in expenditures for 2019, however we only spent \$6.7 million.

As Ms. Bains continued with her review of the budget, she mentioned staff would be bringing an item back to Council for a need to increase water rates.

Mayor Lander asked when the Council could expect that from staff?

Ms. Bains stated, sometime in July or August. Ms. Bains mentioned revenue for untreated water sales has dropped significantly from the previous year.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey asked, are people just not buying water from us anymore?

Mr. Brewer explained, it is due to a reduction in allocation. Normally we would sell 10,000 acer feet to Harris Ranch and/or Pleasant Valley Conveyance Partners, however we are now limited to 60% of our historical use only.

Ms. Bains stated the Gas Enterprise Fund has a shortfall of \$428,000.

Mayor Lander asked, will that call for another increase?

Ms. Bains said no, not in the gas fund. There may be a need to do capital improvements within the fund which would result in a rate increase. However, currently the funds will be able to cover the overage in expenditures.

Mr. Brewer mentioned, we have had a fairly hefty fund balance in the gas fund, however over the years we have been drawing on that balance. We are getting to the point where the curve is leveling out and we will be looking at an increase in the next year or so.

Mayor Lander asked if staff could arrange for Dan Bergmann to make a presentation since we are looking at water and gas increases?

Mrs. Trejo said, he will be out to make a presentation sometime in July.

Ms. Bains said we are showing a shortfall in Wastewater Collection of \$507,000. This is another fund that Mr. Bergmann has identified as needing a rate increase due to the debt service ratios related to the bonds.

Mr. Brewer explained, there has not been an increase in sewer rates for several years now. Much of the shortfall is attributed to increased personnel cost over the years. It has been about 15 years since we have had a rate increase.

Ms. Bains reported the Transit Fund includes a budgeted amount of \$325,000 with expenditures being the same. All expenditures are reimbursed to the City through the Fresno County Rural Transit Agency.

Mayor Lander asked Mrs. Trejo is there have been any additional meeting with Noah?

Mrs. Trejo answered, we have. As a City, we still feel that keeping the transit system in-house is best. There is a big push for them to take it over, however some of our functions would be absorbed into the General Fund if we do that. We also have two drivers who are local full-time City employees. The Council could always turn that over to them, but that would not be our recommendation.

Mayor Lander requested an item be placed on the agenda, so the Council, as a whole, could be aware of the situation.

Councilwoman Stolz believes we need to trim some more fat.

Mrs. Trejo explained, at the June 18th meeting we would like Council to approve the budget which would be placed on the Consent Calendar. We do not want to adopt with a \$273,494 deficit so we are requesting direction from the Council on how to balance the budget. We need to look at how we can increase our revenues. We currently have two school resources officers, one for the School District and one for the College. Will they fund the positions if they do not know if they will have classes? That may be a revenue loss, however it is directly tied to an expense. Staff would need to know what the Council would like to do in that situation. Cut the expense if the revenue is cut? Or do you want the expense absorbed into the General Fund to continue funding the positions? Make cuts? Assume additional revenues from cannabis? We were also very conservative with our Measure J sales tax revenue, maybe Council would prefer to increase that figure to more closely match HdL's projections.

Mayor Lander wondered if we could rely on the cannabis revenue.

Mrs. Trejo suggested, a good backup plan is to revisit funding the vacant Deputy Fire Chief and 3 Firefighter/Paramedic positions in October and decide then whether to postpone them until next fiscal year. That would leave a \$30,000 General Fund deficit, which truly may not be a deficit as we currently have vacant positions and because we conservatively budget for positions. Meaning I assume the highest cost to the City with regard to benefits. Most of the time those higher expense options are not always chosen by the new hire.

Councilwoman Stolz asked, if the School Resource Officers are ultimately not funded by the schools, do we still have Measure J funds for the officer positions that were not filled?

Chief of Police Darren Blevins said, if we lose the contracts with the schools then we would lose the positions. It would reduce the positions from 17 to 15.

Councilwoman Stolz asked, so you are fully stocked right now?

Chief Blevins indicated he had 3 positions currently open. Two Measure J positions and one vacant position.

Mrs. Trejo clarified, if the two school positions were not funded and those positions went away, Police would only fill one of the 3 open positions.

Councilwoman Stolz asked, so no one would not be laid off, we would absorb them into the General Fund?

Chief Blevins said yes, we would use the school positions as the two Measure J positions.

Mayor Lander asked, how long would it take for us to know how much cannabis revenue we could expect?

Mrs. Trejo explained, we would know based on the square footage planted, as it is a square footage tax. They plan to plant in early September. Council would have until late October to make the decision on funding the Deputy Fire Chief and 3 Firefighter/Paramedic positions starting January 1, 2021.

Mayor Lander suggested we do a Mid-Year Budget Review if necessary. I am not for cutting Fire or Police. Public Safety should be our primary focus for our community.



Mayor Ramsey believes we are in a good position with the recent plans to move forward with the cannabis lounge and outdoor cultivation.

Mayor Lander asked, when will Measure C expire?

Ms. Bains said she was not sure.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey commented, every time it comes up, it is always extended.

Mr. Brewer indicated Measure C was extended through 2027.

Councilman Adkisson stated the college does not plan to renew the School Resource Officer contract this next fiscal year.

Mrs. Trejo asked, then the direction of the council would be, if the contracts are not renewed, then we have two less bodies?

Chief Blevins asked Councilman Adkisson if it was just one school or both?

Councilman Adkisson indicated, just one so far, but the other one is not scheduled to have classes through the fall semester.

Mrs. Trejo said, we do not know for sure on either one. We will need direction from the Council should we find ourselves in that situation. Does Council want the positions cut if the contracts are not funded? Or have the two positions absorbed into the General Fund?

Mayor Lander said he would like to see them absorbed into the General Fund. We cannot lose those bodies.

Councilman Adkisson asked, what expense would that add per body?

Mrs. Trejo said, give or take, about \$85,000 per body.

Councilman Adkisson said, that is \$170,000, not enough to close the gap.

Mayor Lander suggested we wait until October to see if the cannabis revenue pans out.

Mrs. Trejo said, the only issue with that, is we are actively recruiting for those 3 vacant positions in the Police Department and if you wait until October, and you have already filled them, then you would be looking at layoffs.

Mayor Lander asked, you will spend the money in overtime anyway?

Chief Blevins said, correct. If we do not fill two of the vacant positions, then I will not be able to fill the detective position as planned.

Councilwoman Stolz stated, we need our officers. Not only because of what is going on locally, but all over the United States.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey asked, if we absorb them, what happens if we do not end up with the additional revenue come October?

Mrs. Trejo said, you would be looking at laying people off since the positions would already be filled.

Councilman Adkisson asked, if we hire the ones you are talking about, are we adding more debt?

Mrs. Trejo said, no it is already included in the budget. The two School Resource Officer positions are a wash. If the revenue goes away (the two school resource officer contracts), but you want to keep the expenses (the two officer positions) then you are adding \$170,000 to deficit presented.

Ms. Bains stated the associated revenue for the two School Resource Officer contracts is \$185,000.

Mrs. Trejo said, the additional drain on the General Fund is for the absorption of the two officer positions which would be \$170,000.

Chief Blevins said that revenue also covers vehicle maintenance, uniform allowance, training, overtime.

Councilman Adkisson is concerned that neither contract will be renewed the next fiscal year.

Mrs. Trejo stated, if the positions are absorbed then we are looking at an approximate deficit of \$460,000.

Mayor Lander wants to keep a full staff but knows the overtime will increase if we do not.

Councilman Adkisson is concerned with relying on the additional cannabis revenue.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey is in favor of absorbing the positions.

Councilwoman Stolz is in favor of absorbing the positions.

Councilman Singleton is in favor of absorbing the positions.

Councilman Adkisson stated, I am not in favor of absorbing them for a \$458,000 deficit. We do not know what businesses are going to make it through this, there are just too many unknowns. We do not know what will come from Claremont's outdoor cultivation.

Mayor Lander asked, why would Mrs. Dalton commit to those numbers during the last meeting?

Councilman Adkisson said, I do not know. They may make that much I am just concerned with relying on it. Have-A-Heart may close since they are opening in Hanford.

Councilwoman Stolz is concerned with the deficit but is also concerned with leaving the City vulnerable if we do not maintain our public safety numbers.

Councilman Adkisson asked how long can we sustain it?

Councilwoman Stolz asked, how long did the City run on a deficit before I came on? And before you came on? You came on board when the debt was already cleaned up.

Mayor Lander said, for many years and some how we continued to operate. I want to maintain our public safety numbers. We will have a substantial increase in crime if we do not.

Chief Blevins mentioned receiving a request today for officers to assist the San Francisco Sheriff's Department with riots. We cannot fulfill that because we are already shorthanded here.

Mayor Lander is in favor of absorbing the positions until we see what happens with the cannabis revenue.

Councilman Singleton asked, if we absorb them, then where do we cut?

Mayor Lander suggested we wait to see what happens with the cannabis revenue in October.

Mrs. Trejo asked, to clarify, you are recommending to adopt the budget with a deficit of \$273,000, with the understanding that it may increase if the schools choose not to fund the school resource officer contracts and we absorb those two positions into the General Fund?

Mayor Lander said, that is correct.

Chief Blevins stated, I just received a response from the Coalinga-Huron School District Superintendent Lori Villanueva, she says they do not plan to fund the contract the first part of the year since they are expecting the school to be closed, but will revisit it in January.

Mrs. Trejo commented, the budget is a spending plan and lays out the plan for spending. It does not mean that it will be the true cost. In the past we have had budgets where we have gone line by line to see where we can cut, but it really serves no purpose. We are presenting the lowest numbers we can operate with. The only thing left to cut is personnel. Those costs are fixed with the current staff. The only way to change those numbers is to change the staffing. You can find ways to cut costs or increase revenue to balance the budget. I would recommend anticipating the additional revenue that can be plugged in, not to show that we have a surplus, but to balance the budget. Mrs. Dalton presented \$1.5 million for a full year and if planting in September that would be \$1.1 million. I am suggesting we only count on \$275,000 then that would balance the budget. Worst case scenario, we can always fall back on not funding the Deputy Fire Chief and 3 Firefighter/Paramedic positions in October, which is about \$245,000. That would leave a \$30,000 deficit. But again, I assume the highest cost when filling vacancies, so we will more than likely end up with a balanced budget.

Councilwoman Stolz suggested cutting Council's training and travel budget by half to \$10,400. We all paid to attend the ICSC conference this year before everything was cancelled. Instead of being reimbursed we rolled our attendance fees over to the next year. I would anticipate in-person conferences to be cancelled through the fall so we can do with a lighter number.

Councilman Adkisson suggested eliminating it all together. If we do have something come up in the spring, then we can bring it before Council.

Mrs. Trejo would prefer to keep some amount in there since only the cost of attendance will be covered. You will still incur mileage, meal, and hotel expenses.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey agrees with reducing the travel, but I do not see the point in going line by line trying to cut.

Ms. Bains agrees, this is our best guess. If it is budgeted and you do not spend it then that is residual that is available to add back.

Councilwoman Stolz mentioned the Treasurer position accounts for \$15,000.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey asked, that is an elected position, wouldn't that need to go through an election?

Councilwoman Stolz said, all cities do not have treasurers.

City Attorney Mario Zamora said, correct. It is not a position that all cities have, but it is allowed for in the government code. The municipal code talks about the position and the compensation, but it is not required. The current term would have to end and then you would have to revise the ordinance.

Councilwoman Stolz asked, would that be like what we did with the former Clerk's position?

Mr. Zamora answered yes, very similar.

Mrs. Trejo asked when the City Treasurer's term will expire.

City Clerk Shannon Jensen stated the Treasurer's term will expire in November this year.

Mayor Lander commented that the Treasurer's position went to the voters in the past and they elected to keep it. I think we should research it before deciding.

Councilman Singleton asked, what does the Treasurer do?

Councilwoman Stolz asked Ms. Bains if her former Council had a City Treasurer?

Ms. Bains said, no.

Mr. Zamora stated the duties of the Treasurer are laid out in the municipal code.

Councilwoman Stolz asked, does this position currently assist the Finance Director?

Ms. Bains said, no.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey said, the people wanted someone in place to do an unofficial check on the budget.

Councilman Adkisson asked, would the position have to be taken away by a vote of the people?

Mr. Zamora stated, it cannot be eliminated during the term. The office is created by ordinance and the ordinance can be revised. It appears the ordinance was last revised in 1996.

Mayor Lander asked, so we can do it by revision of the ordinance?

Mr. Zamora said, yes you can.

Councilman Adkisson asked, what would the actual savings be since his term goes into the next fiscal year?

Mrs. Trejo answered, for the next fiscal year it would be about \$7,600 with an additional \$15,300 moving forward with each subsequent fiscal year.

Mayor Lander said, he receives \$300 per month as well as health insurance.

Mrs. Trejo stated, we would need to bring back an item to revise the ordinance.

Councilwoman Stolz commented, Planning Commission makes up about \$4,000.

Mayor Lander asked what the Commission receives each month?

Mrs. Trejo said, they are paid \$50 per meeting.

Mayor Lander asked, how often does the Planning Commission meet?

Mr. Brewer said, we are averaging regular meetings about three-quarters of the year. We recently started our 5-year Zoning Code Update so we are meeting a little more regularly than we normally would. It is really hit or miss since we never know when we are going to get a development application or need amend an ordinance, like the recent changes to the cannabis ordinances.

Mrs. Trejo explained there are 5 Planning Commissioners. They are paid \$50 per meeting and if they met twice per month as scheduled it would be a total of \$6,000 per year.

Councilman Adkisson asked, if there is no meeting, they do not get paid?

Mrs. Trejo said, that is correct.

Councilwoman Stolz asked, why not cut out the middleman since Sean does all the work and the Council can override any decisions the Planning Commission makes?

Mr. Brewer explained, not everything the Commission does comes through to the Council. There are several things, such as Conditional Use Permits and Site Plan Reviews that requires a specialized review of planning and zoning. They do serve a purpose. If eliminated it would add to the City Council agendas. The Planning Commission basically serves as an advisory board to the Council for development applications and planning and zoning.

Councilwoman Stolz asked, do all cities have Planning Commissions?

Mr. Brewer said, I believe the majority do.

Mr. Zamora stated, I am aware of one, however it does cause issues. Under certain instances land use applications may require an appeal and when that happens it becomes difficult to determine who, for the applicant, will hear the appeal of the Council. It becomes a tricky situation. Under normal circumstances the Council is the one who hears the appeal from the Planning Commission if an applicant wants to take it a step further.

Councilwoman Stolz asked, how often has that happened in Coalinga?

Mr. Brewer said, he is not aware of an instance of that occurring, however the Adventist Health project could have when the Commission made a negative recommendation.

Councilwoman Stolz is in favor of eliminating the Planning Commission to help balance the budget.

Mayor Lander mentioned he served on the Planning Commission many years ago. They do a lot and they are more specialized with planning and zoning than the Council. I believe they are an asset to the community. They do a lot that the Council is not aware of.

Councilwoman Stolz asked, yes but do they do it or does Sean do it?

Mayor Lander explained, Sean does it just like staff would prepare items for the Council to hear. Staff does the research and puts it all together and then we make a decision based on what they present to us. It is the same for the Planning Commission.

Councilman Adkisson asked, it is just the \$6,000?

Mrs. Trejo answered, yes.

Mr. Brewer added, the planning and zoning fees are based on absorbing those costs. When we start reducing our expenses, we will have to look at reducing our fees as they will need to represent the cost associated with processing applications.

Councilman Adkisson asked, can we request they forfeit their pay for the year? Or amend the ordinance and not pay them this year?

Mr. Brewer was unsure.

Councilwoman Stolz asked, why would we need to amend our fees? Wouldn't the fees be the same since it would come through the Council? We would just be eliminating that other board.

Mr. Brewer explained some items would then require less hearings if we eliminated the Commission.

Mayor Lander recalled that the Planning Commission did not receive pay when he was a Commissioner.

Mr. Zamora stated the Ordinance section that states the compensation of the Planning Commission is set by Council Resolution and could be amended.

Councilman Adkisson said, if we eliminate the Commission's pay then the Council should also take a pay cut.

Mayor Lander is in opposed to eliminating the Commission but would be in favor or eliminating their pay.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey is opposed to eliminating the Commission.

Councilman Singleton is opposed to eliminating the Commission.

Councilwoman Stolz is concerned with the cost associated with the Commission but would be in favor of keeping the Commission but eliminating their pay.

Councilman Adkisson suggested suspending the Commission's pay for one-year and at the same time the Council take a pay cut for one-year.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey agrees.

Councilwoman Stolz asked, is the Council's pay mandatory and based on population?

Mr. Zamora stated Council's pay is not necessarily determined by population, however it is capped by population.

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey said, so it can be decreased, it just cannot be over a certain number.

Councilwoman Stolz asked, is it not mandatory that the Council receives a stipend for our services?

Mr. Zamora stated, your pay is capped by population so you cannot exceed that, but I believe you can take less.

Councilwoman Stolz asked the City Attorney to verify for more concrete information.

Mr. Zamora stated he would need time to research it and can bring it back as a Future Agenda Item.

Mayor Lander asked the City Attorney to go ahead and read the public's comments he had received.

Mr. Zamora read a comment (no name provided), Mayor Lander had made a comment about Public Safety and this person is asking if you felt the same way about the Fire Department as you do about the Police Department.

Mayor Lander said yes, I feel the same way, both Police and Fire are essential, and I do not want either cut.

Mr. Nathan Vosburg commented, you are proposing a \$400-\$500 deficit and relying on cannabis money that has not been approved yet. I suggest you do not kick the can down the road again, as this is what got you in trouble in the past. When you add people, you add costs and the costs on people go up each year. You need to start thinking about how you can cut if you are going to stay afloat. The cannabis numbers have never been on target. It is not fair to blame the cannabis industry when you fail because you are just spending too much. I disagree that expenses are high just because of the cost of personnel. I look at the check register every time and there is a lot of overspending. You should budget for your personnel and then look at cutting

3%-4% across the board for each department. It is interesting that during a time where a person who is living with a certain Councilmember is making racist comments and now that Councilmember is suggesting the Council cut the City Treasurer's position which is currently being held by my dad. I think this is political. This is how it works, when someone is angry at someone, they reach out and try to hurt other people. By removing the City Treasurer position, you are not hurting me, you are hurting the public. This is a position that was voted on by them. It is the same thing with regard to the Planning Commission. The Commission does a lot of work and they should be compensated for what they do. If you want to make these types of cuts, then look towards your self and cut your health insurance benefits. Do not cut services that benefit the people. Do not cut the positions responsible for oversight. I would suggest you start attending the Planning Commission to see what they do before trying to cut them. And tonight, you have decided that you can all get together, but the public cannot be there. November is coming.

Councilwoman Stolz commented, I have been discussing the City Treasurer position with the City Manager for over a month.

Councilman Adkisson asked, we are currently budgeted for the \$245,000 for the additional positions, correct?

Mrs. Trejo said yes, that is correct.

Councilman Adkisson suggested the positions be taken out for now and revisit later.

Mrs. Trejo asked, then the Council is agreeable to staff bringing back a budget with a deficit of \$195,000? I see what Mr. Vosburg is saying with regard to cutting expenses, but if you cut 4% from vehicle repairs and maintenance, we are still going to have the vehicles repaired and it will only end up making us look like we didn't know what we were doing when we estimated our expenses. The proposed budget will be placed on the Consent Calendar for the June 18th meeting for the Council's vote. The changes to the budget will reflect the following:

*Consensus of the Council is to move forward with eliminating the Treasurer's position.*

*Consensus of the Council is to cut Council's Training, Travel and Conference down by 50% to \$10,400.*

*Consensus of the Council is to suspend the Planning Commission's pay for one fiscal year.*

*Consensus of the Council is to remove the Deputy Fire Chief and 3 Firefighter / Paramedic positions from the budget and revisit funding them next fiscal year.*

## **7. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### City Manager's Announcements:

None

### Council Member's Announcements:

Mayor Pro-Tem Ramsey mentioned there will be a COVID-19 vaccination.



Mrs. Trejo said, yes on June 11, 2020 and advised the public to look for information on it from West Hills Medical Group.

Mayor's Announcements:

Mayor Lander thanked the community for being diligent and being aware of the COVID-19 pandemic. We have had an increase in cases and one death. The community is still thriving, and people are back to work. Let us all continue to be careful.

**8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Councilman Adkisson requested a Future Agenda Item to discuss reducing City Council pay by \$50 per month for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

Councilwoman Stolz requested a Future Agenda Item to eliminate the City Treasurer position.

Councilwoman Stolz requested a Future Agenda Item for a Resolution to suspend the Planning Commission's pay for one-year.

Mayor Lander requested a Future Agenda Item on the Fresno County Rural Transit Authority and their request to take over versus the City wanting to keep it and why.

**9. CLOSED SESSION**

1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS – Government Code 54957.6. CITY NEGOTIATORS: City Manager, Marissa Trejo; and City Attorney, Mario Zamora. EMPLOYEE (ORGANIZATION): Coalinga's Police Officer's Association

**10. CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

None

**11. ADJOURNMENT 8:14PM**

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Ron Lander, Mayor

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Shannon Jensen, City Clerk

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June 29, 2020

Date

**STAFF REPORT - CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY/PUBLIC FINANCE  
AUTHORITY**

**Subject:** Discussion and Potential Action: 2020 Water and Sewer Rate Study  
**Meeting Date:** July 29, 2020  
**From:** Marissa Trejo, City Manager  
**Prepared by:** Sean Brewer, Assistant City Manager

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**I. RECOMMENDATION:**

**II. BACKGROUND:**

**III. DISCUSSION:**

**IV. ALTERNATIVES:**

**V. FISCAL IMPACT:**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

File Name	Description
No Attachments Available	