



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL AND
RIDGECREST REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

**City Council Chambers
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, California 93555**

**December 6, 2006
6:00 p.m.**

**Tape Recorded
Tape 06-30 and 05-31**

This meeting was tape recorded and will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk for a certain period of time from date of approval by City Council/Redevelopment Agency. Meetings are recorded solely for the purpose of preparation of minutes.

CALL TO ORDER – 6:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Marshall Holloway, Mayor Pro Tem Richard Martin, Vice Mayor Daniel Clark, Council Members Steven Morgan and Ronald Carter; and Council Member Elect Thomas Wiknich

STAFF: Harvey Rose, City Manager; Scott Navé City Attorney; Rita Gable, City Clerk; Jim Winegardner, Director Administrative Services Department/City Treasurer; Jim McRea, Deputy City Manager, Public Services; Gary Parsons, Community and Economic Development Department Director; Dennis Speers, Public Works Director; Joe Pollock, Assistant Public Works Director; Jim Ponek, Parks and Recreation Department Director; Michael Avery, Chief of Police; and other personnel

REGULAR SESSION – 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Vice Mayor Clark

INVOCATION – Reverend Jean Throckmorton, Ridgecrest Presbyterian Church

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Council Member Morgan, second Council Member Carter TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

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PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation Honoring Council Member Duke Martin

Craig Peterson, Assistant to Kern County First District Supervisor Jon McQuiston, presented a Certificate of Recognition to Duke Martin for his years of community service.

Presentation from City Council to Duke Martin

Mayor Holloway and the Council presented a proclamation to Duke Martin for his service on the Council from November 16, 2001 to December 6, 2006.

2. Presentation Honoring Council Member Duke Martin

City Manager Harvey Rose presented a pen desk set to Duke Martin from the City Staff.

3. Presentation By Ridgecrest Citizens for Constitutional Government

Mike Neel and Al Huey, on behalf of the Ridgecrest Citizens for Constitutional Government made a presentation of copies of the United States Constitution and the California State Constitution to Council Member Elect Thomas Wiknich and to Mayor "Chip" Holloway to assist them in their duties of administering our City Government. A few comments of the importance of the Oath of Office will also be offered.

PUBLIC COMMENT 6:58 p.m.

1414 N. Palm Linda Bosek

- Addressed lack of nursing homes in city
- Lack of beds for those needing long term care
- Beds are empty at Ridgecrest Health Care but people are being turning away
- They have to seek out of time accommodations
- Quality of Life Committee and mayor and vice mayor
- Asked Council to improve this situation and to meet with administrator at Ridgecrest Health Care
- Asked Economic Development Committee to encourage another facility to come
- Competition would help encourage better care
- Left article addressing problem nation wide with the Mayor

Dawn Watson, 120 Pasa Rosa

- Working with staff to acquire facility to offer low cost animal care

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- Will continue with our rescue operations
- She is being evicted from current location and need new home for animals
- Asked if Redevelopment Agency could help with start up

Jennifer Sweren, 1108 Yorktown

- Asking community and Council for support
- IWV Youth Football and Cheerleaders need help
- Have increased teams from 4 to six
- American Youth Football encourages a 2.4 point average
- Level competition and learning
- One team remained undefeated
- 4 cheer squads have gone to regionals and placed 2nd
- they will represent Ridgecrest at Nationals in Florida this coming weekend
- Need help with donations to sent the 14 girls and coaches – cost is over \$10K
- Contact her or Karen Daring 608 5541

Al Huey, 1128 Windy Lynn

- Congratulated Chip and Tom on the election
- Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
- Spoke about taxes that will be upcoming
- He pays his federal, state and county taxes
- Quoted Thomas Jefferson
- Picked on the Ridgecrest Cares Program
- Government to solve all social problem is socialism
- RRA dollars are directed to alleviate some of those problems
- Any law that usurps the treating all persons equally is unconstitutional

CITY CLERK

4. **Resolution No. 06-84, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Reciting The Fact Of The Consolidated General Municipal Election Held On November 7, 2006, Declaring The Result And Such Other Matters As Provided By Law** **Gable**

The City Clerk certified to the Council the result of the Consolidated General Municipal Election and presented the Certificate of Canvass as required by law. The proposed resolution was distributed prior to the meeting. The exhibit attached to the resolution shows all totals (votes cast) and by precinct.

Moved by Council Member Morgan, second Council Member Carter to ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 06-84, A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL RECITING THE FACT OF THE CONSOLIDATED GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD ON NOVEMBER 7, 2006, DECLARING THE

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RESULT AND SUCH OTHER MATTERS AS PROVIDED BY LAW. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

5. Introduction Of Council Elect And Administering Of The Oath Of Allegiance

City Clerk Gable administered the Oath of Allegiance to Council Members Elect Marshall Holloway and Thomas Wiknich.

6. Election Of Mayor For A Two Year Term Of Office Ending In November 2008 And Reorganization Of The City Council

The City Clerk called for nominations for Mayor

Carter nominated Clark
Wiknich nominated Holloway
Carter nominated Morgan

Moved by Council Member Wiknich, second Council Member Morgan to close nominations.

Votes were verbal and taken alphabetically

Carter voted for Clark
Clark voted for Clark
Holloway voted for Holloway
Morgan voted for Holloway
Wiknich voted for Holloway

Holloway was elected Mayor by a majority vote of 3 ayes

City Clerk returned the meeting to Mayor Holloway

Mayor Holloway called for nominations for Mayor Pro Tempore

Holloway nominated Morgan

no other nominations received

Moved by Council Member Wiknich, second by Council Member Carter to close nominations

Voice vote of 5 ayes for Morgan for Mayor Pro Tempore

Mayor Holloway called for nominations for Vice Mayor

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Holloway nominated Clark – Clark declined

Clark nominated Wiknich

no other nominations

Moved by Council Member Carter, second Council Member Morgan to close nominations

Voice vote of 5 ayes for Wiknich for Vice Mayor

Reorganization of City Council was completed with the following results

Mayor Holloway
Mayor Pro Tempore Morgan
Vice Mayor Wiknich
Council Member Clark
Council Member Carter

CONSENT CALENDAR

7. Resolution No. 06-85, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Approving The Classifications Of Deputy Chief And Police Captain Avery
8. Resolution No. 06-86, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Requesting Authorization To Award A Contract In The Amount Of \$27,547.00 To JWC Environmental For A Model CDD-3210-AD Auger Monster To Replace The Existing Auger Monster Grinder At The Waste Water Treatment Plan Pollock
9. Resolution No. 06-87, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing The Destruction Of Certain Accounting Records Winegardner
10. Council Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated November 10, 2006 In The Amount Of \$325,060.61 Winegardner
11. Council Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated November 24, 2006 In The Amount Of \$321,994.16 Winegardner
12. Agency Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated November 10, 2006 In The Amount Of \$13,681.48 Winegardner
13. Agency Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated November 24, 2006 In The Amount Of \$12,076.23 Winegardner

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Moved by Council Member Morgan, second Council Member Carter TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

14. **Ordinance 06-17, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City of Ridgecrest Adopting Zone Change No. 06-04, Changing The Zoning District From Low-Density Multi-Family Residential (R-2) To Single Family Residential (R-1) For A Portion Of TTM 6869 And From Professional Office (PO) To Medium-Density Multi-Family Residential (R-2) For TTM 6870: Applicant: Benchmark Opinions** Alexander / McRea

Moved by Council Member Morgan, second Council Member Wiknich TO WAIVE READING IN FULL AND TO ADOPT, BY TITLE ONLY, ORDINANCE 06-17, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST ADOPTING ZONE CHANGE NO. 06-04, CHANGING THE ZONING DISTRICT FROM LOW-DENSITY MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (R-2) TO SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (R-1) FOR A PORTION OF TTM 6869 AND FROM PROFESSIONAL OFFICE (PO) TO MEDIUM-DENSITY MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (R-2) FOR TTM 6870: APPLICANT: BENCHMARK OPINIONS. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

15. **Ordinance No. 06-18, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Amending The Ridgecrest Municipal Code Regarding Medical Marijuana Dispensaries** Rose

This ordinance was introduced for first reading, by title only, at the regular Council meeting of November 15, 2006. It is brought to the Council at this time for second reading and adoption.

City Manager Rose read the changes requested by council at the November 15 meeting and incorporated into this final draft of the ordinance.

Council Member Clark – has spoken with Walt Maurer also talked with Chief Avery regarding residual effects of the dispensary in our community.

Chief Avery – noted the difference between being in the city or county and he said it made no difference - has since received a 55 page report of the California Police Chiefs. Will be more impact on the police force. As an example recently a maintenance worker found prescription container for medical marijuana at the skate park. Our kids are already affected. Noted incidents of armed take over of dispensaries in other cities, most have more product than they should have and become targets. Concerns him that our kids have readily available access to medical marijuana.

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Everett W. Wetzel M.D. (also has many other degrees)

- Sad day for health if indeed our city has a dispensary for marijuana
- Charlton's throughout history touted benefits of many drugs that at one time were readily available
- Marijuana causes more, and more quickly, emphysema in smokers
- Sad day when we permit an illegal action against the federal government

Don Blakemore, Epicurean Delights

- Dispensary has been up and running since last July
- Thanked Council for their service stating they had done their home work and thoroughly
- Seldom seen such thoughtful consideration
- Seen a lot of this throughout southern California
- Thanked them again and truly honored to be a citizen in this City of Ridgecrest
- He is available at their convenience for any discussions
- This was made legal in 1996 by Prop 215 that changed the California Constitution
- Certified patients only are serviced
- Has worked on education programs

Fr. John Paul Wadlin, St. Michael's Episcopal Church

- Church is right next to Mesquite High School
- Outgoing President of Christian Ministers Association and they are opposed to any distribution of marijuana within this city
- As a pastor he counsels many families and marijuana has been very involved in those
- Please vote against this measure

All Huey

- Does not believe Prop 215 was an amendment to the California Constitution
- Federal does not refer to marijuana either
- Appreciates the decision Council labors under and the possibility of being sued if you do or you don't
- Stay under moratorium may be best at this time
- Personally do not want to see it in the community

Don Post

- 23 year Veteran In Navy and also his wife who served 20 years
- Wife is a cannabis patient
- Has taken other drugs but marijuana has been the one that has helped her
- Sees that the dispensary sends mixed messages to our kids

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- Asks Council to support

Robert Dodson, Mariposa

- 24 years without drinking and marijuana helped
- 60% of Californians voted it in so the majority wanted it
- Cancer patients have used it, ms patients, it helps many different ailments
- Thanked Council for consideration

John Seen, Farragut

- Police officer in San Bernardino and Los Angeles and law school graduate
- Do you know how difficult you will make an officers job to judge if the 215 Card is legal
- Forged and illegal papers are rampant
- If you say ok you have made his (the officers) job almost impossible
- Federal law preempts state law
- The law is in conflict with federal law - it is null and void

Lisa Woods

- Talked about the benefits of marijuana
- Brother had aids and died – marijuana was the only thing that allowed him to eat
- It medically helps many ailments
- Eat it, vaporizer, or smoke it – many ways to use it
- Has been on a number of other drugs will less favorable results
- It is expensive \$70 for 1/8 of an ounce
- Does not do it recreational – it is medicinal
- Thanked Nick Hall owner and operator
- Is a patient seeking relief - had used OxyContin in the past
- Dispensary has 21most 200 patients now

James Frazer, 1775 W Dolphin

- Will get some of it whether you pass this or not
- If he wasn't smoking wouldn't be here
- Broke his neck serving in armed forces
- It does help the pain so is not phony
- Only crime is if some one gets it illegally

Jean Blakemore

- An ER nurse for 25 years
- Never did have a patient come in as OD or emergency or beat up because of marijuana
- They get sleepy and lazy
- Dispensed in sealed baggies and told to take home to medicate

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- Also many ways to use it
- You keep it like other meds under lock and key so kids cannot get into it
- Over 25 years have seen numerous people suffering form many forms of pain
- Such an outcry against this seems unreasonable
- We don't have gangs that wander our streets or loitering

Jean Throckmorton

- Member of the clergy but not speaking as that
- She is a person with chronic pain
- Has had physical therapy for years
- Minor meds for sleep has kept her going
- 8 major surgeries since 1999 fibermialgia'
- Does not believe marijuana deals with the pain
- A couple of good drinks at a party helps reduce the pain but you suffer the next day
- Proper diet and exercise and therapy is the best way
- Shutting down the nervous system is not the answer to controlling pain
- Making marijuana available in the city will only make it more available to everyone
- Feels the law allows growing a small amount the best way
- Feels it will become a significant problem if dispensaries are allowed in City
- Feels the name of the dispensary is giving confusing message

Bill Logan, 1231 Robert

- Sympathize with those who are in chronic pain
- The things the Chief brought to the ministers chilled him and hopes it does to the Council
- This brings the drug closer to our kids
- Relayed a story about a young man who has attention deficit disorder and whose meds do not work and he brags about smoking marijuana
- Asked Council to take the high road and not approve this

Harold Bennett, Physicist

- Been here since 1956
- Remembers the difficulties after Vietnam war and the vets being hooked on marijuana and other drugs and the problems the Navy and our police had dealing with this
- Feels this is choosing between our kids and people who think they need marijuana
- They can go to Bakersfield to get their meds just as they have been doing
- Moratorium still appears to be the best way
- Urged council not to take action to make it legal in Ridgecrest

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Tim Lafromboise, 800 S. Chesapeake

- Is an analyst on base and has been through the schools here
- Asked them not to make it more available to our kids
- Read letter from Pastor of Reform Baptist Church
- Look at all the data and facts before you proceed

Michael Neel

- Cited news articles - Livermore and Contra Costa and San Pablo in second year in moratorium – magnets for crime and illegal activities
- They can get it whether we allow it or not
- So why do we need to put forth that this dispensary is ok to have here

Myron King, 847 Bighorn

- Learned a lot here tonight – has sympathy for those who feel they need it for chronic pain
- Cost of this product gives us a clue – someone here is bringing in big bucks
- We don't have a dispensary for cocaine or OxyContin - you go to a doctor to get that
- Urged Council not to pass this

Bryan Danielson, Dentist - 680 Kendall – Sanders Street

- Concerned about second hand smoke - it is there in marijuana too
- Why is the age 18 instead of 21
- Alcohol impairs judgment in auto accidents and so does marijuana
- There are other drugs that are easier to regulate
- Growing plants can be stolen
- Epicurean Delights is not a name that conjures up medical help

Dorothy Brown, N. Gold Canyon

- Has sent packets of her research into marijuana dispensaries and coops to all Council except Mr. Wiknich
- Recently Discovery Channel had program on history of marijuana
- States rights are what brought about Prop 215
- Sheriff is the one who know what is what and what is happening in licensing of dispensaries
- Asked if Chief would rather have control of a dispensary in his jurisdiction rather than in the county where he has no say
- We have a drug war to pay for – lets get the hard drugs first

Tory Neel, 726 Randall

- A lot of people want this drug
- Is it ever right to do wrong to do good

Walt Maurer, 210 Mariposa

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- Thanked those with whom he disagrees - it is a tough issue
- Statement made that we do not have gangs – we do – he has seen them
- Compassionate Rights Acts brought this about
- No one has said that it does not work for some people
- Riverside says illegal under federal law
- Dispensaries have been attacked and robbed -crime does go up where dispensaries are present
- Susanville has successfully forbidden dispensaries and defended itself in a lawsuit
- We need to focus on community safety

Recessed at 8:35 p.m. to reconvene at 8:47 p.m.

Council comment

Morgan

- His opinion is unchanged
- Not appropriate within the confines and borders of Ridgecrest

Carter

- Spoken for months on this and conferred with an expert physician on marijuana
- Just had a friend call who is bedridden in serious pain asking for info and working with the doctor he has spoken with
- He is addicted to the drugs he has been given
- There are a lot of people who can go out of town and those who cannot drive
- Feels there is a need for medical marijuana

Clark

- Was opposed to it originally
- If we said no we would be sued – have written and re-written an ordinance of guidelines
- Talked with Mr. Blakemore about dispensary operations
- Chief has given them a 55 page report and now am confused again
- Need to find out what are the residual effects on the community
- More confused than ever
- Would like to not vote on this tonight

Wiknich

- Sympathizes with those who need this for medical conditions
- Have followed it for several months
- Many statements have made him uncomfortable
- Have a problem putting police into situation where feds say you can't and state says you can

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Holloway

- Have had three major discussions with public comments and about six full hours of comments
- Would rather be able to regulate it myself and not have it in the county
- A lot of the public was totally unaware of the existence of this dispensary in past meetings
- The 55 page report seems to say don't do it
- Hate to fall back on BRAC but it plays into this too
- Have hired three police chiefs in his time in the City and each time we drop the drug problem on them
- Big loophole in the way the prescriptions and cards are obtained or regulated
- Not willing to say no yet
- Hope there is a solution somewhere
- Willing to table this evening

Questioned what happens when the business license runs out and the moratorium continues. Answer is the business license expires.

Moved by Council Member Carter, second Council Member Clark TO TABLE THIS ORDINANCE UNTIL A FUTURE MEETING. Public comment was heard. Carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

Item 17 moved to this point

17. Introduction And First Reading, By Title Only, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Adding Article 23 To Chapter IV Of The Ridgecrest Municipal Code Regarding Food Establishment Grading Rose

Mr. Rose gave the staff report

- This is an ordinance adding Article 23 to Chapter IV of the Ridgecrest Municipal Code
- This ordinance will enable the Environmental Health Department of Kern County to inspect and grade restaurants within the City at no cost to the City. Is of benefit in tourist industry as well as other economic development.

Matt Constantine Kern County environment health made a quick presentation. Restaurant grading is not new to California – 7 districts use it presently. The County would do the inspections with no cost to the City. He explained the grading system. The policy manual has been made available to Council and the public and restaurant owners.

Council comment

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Clark

- Wondered about why the inspections had lagged in years past
 - No comment as he felt the inspections had been the same since 1985.

Morgan

- If the only violation was a refrigerator failure but restaurant passed how could that be.
 - Food would be thrown out and refrigerator embargoed.

Wiknich

- How does this affect non-profit's
 - they would not be graded – but they are still inspected

Dorothy Brown

- Asked if facilities pre warned
 - Inspections are not scheduled or announced in advance

Michael Neel

- Need a tutorial about if inspections are now being done
 - They are
- Will these be additional inspections
 - No just placing a final grading that will be posted for all to see
 - Costs will be reviewed and costs may be adjusted

Walt Maurer

- Again dependence on the government
- Says no cost to city - of course there is a cost involved
- How are we dependent upon more bureaucracy
- If I get sick I will not go back again
- Will defer to restaurant owners

Holloway

- We are getting inspected now
- There are points earned to reach certain grade designations
- Related several personal incidents

Moved by Council Member Clark, second Council Member Carter TO WAIVE READING IN FULL AND TO INTRODUCE, BY TITLE ONLY, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST ADDING ARTICLE 23 TO CHAPTER IV OF THE RIDGECREST MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING FOOD ESTABLISHMENT GRADING. Public comment heard. Carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

16. **Ordinance No. 06-19, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Amending The Ridgecrest Municipal Code As It Relates To Controlled Games** **Rose**

This ordinance was introduced for first reading, by title only, at the regular Council meeting of November 15, 2006. It is brought to the Council at this time for second reading and adoption.

Mr. Rose noted the Perez bill regarding controlled games placing a moratorium until 2010 beginning in January 2007. He proposed Council take action prior to January 1, 2007 to have more card tables in City. Became aware that the Attorney General did not like our wording of not setting table limits and have also amended the number of tables per establishment and in the City.

Public comment

Michael Neel

- Why do we think we need to increase or do away with card games
- Why did this state bill come about there must be problems
- Wondering why now (that was explained by Mr. Rose)

Dorothy brown

- Has anyone spoken to the Chief about how many fights occur at the card rooms, etc.
- Is he going to be able to handle more

Walt Maurer

- Not a question - it is fact if you increase gambling crime goes up
- Why would you want to do this
- Is this for increased revenue

Council comment

Holloway

- Question of why so many – why not
- Perez bill took away all ability to control locally
- Debate is are you for or against this activity
- Would allow the possibility of a quality facility being brought in with a quality restaurant, etc.

Morgan

- Before he was a council member, many years ago in another community he was a card dealer
- You will support only so many facilities and tables

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- Proposing to have local control over the gaming

Moved by Council Member Morgan, second Council Member Clark TO TABLE THIS ORDINANCE TO FUTURE MEETING. Public comment heard. Carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

17. **Introduction And First Reading, By Title Only, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Adding Article 23 To Chapter IV Of The Ridgecrest Municipal Code Regarding Food Establishment Grading** Rose

18. **Introduction And First Reading, By Title Only, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Adding Article 5 To Chapter I Of The Ridgecrest Municipal Code Regarding Eminent Domain** Rose

Introduction and first reading of an ordinance adding Article 5 to Chapter I of the Ridgecrest Municipal Code.

Mr. Rose

- Proposition 90 failed at the November General Election
- If it had only dealt with eminent domain it might have passed
- In San Bernardino County an ordinance was introduced and approved
- These ordinances will control the level of the exercise of eminent domain – for public use only
- Eminent domain can be used on parcel with intent to sell or give to private developer if original owner agrees to it
- You could still use eminent domain in a friendly way
- This prevents using eminent domain in unfriendly way
- There are instances when eminent domain should be used even against the wishes of the owner
- Ordinance would not allow that

Council Members Morgan and Wiknich both like it

Public comment

Mike Neel

- Surprised you are doing this
- Assumed this is under constitutional status
- Against taking from one person and giving to another even friendly
- Believe there are ordinances that pertain to dilapidated buildings and hazards

Morgan – friendly condemnation has a tax advantage to the property owner

Wiknich – supreme court ruling said cities could take private property for private use

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Holloway

- He and Council Member Clark brought this up to Economic Development Committee when we first heard of Prop 90
- Then read it and became terrified by it
- This shows the value of being part of the League of California Cities

Moved by Council Member Morgan, second Council Member Wiknich TO WAIVE READING IN FULL AND TO INTRODUCE, BY TITLE ONLY, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST ADDING ARTICLE 5 TO CHAPTER I OF THE RIDGECREST MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING EMINENT DOMAIN. Public comment heard. Carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

19. Introduction And First Reading, By Title Only, An Ordinance Of The City Of Ridgecrest Amending Section 22.3 And Adding Section 22.4 To Chapter XXII Of The Ridgecrest Municipal Code Regarding Exercising Eminent Domain By The Redevelopment Agency Of The City Of Ridgecrest Rose

Mr. Rose stated this is the first reading of an ordinance amending section 22.3 of the Ridgecrest Municipal Code regarding the time when the Redevelopment Agency meets, and establishes conditions under which the Redevelopment Agency may exercise Eminent Domain

Moved by Council Member Morgan, second Council Member Carter TO WAIVE READING IN FULL AND TO INTRODUCE, BY TITLE ONLY, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST AMENDING SECTION 22.3 AND ADDING SECTION 22.4 TO CHAPTER XXII OF THE RIDGECREST MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING EXERCISING EMINENT DOMAIN BY THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

CITY MANAGER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS

20. Appointment to Local Area Formation Commission (LAFCO)

Mr. Rose – every county has this commission – it is one of the most important appointments we can make – the appointee will serve out Duke's term that ends in May of 2008 – meetings are in Bakersfield – 4th Tuesday at 5 pm – seeking someone to serve. Council Member Thomas Wiknich stated he would be willing to serve on this Commission.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS

Mr. Navé stated that Keith asked him to come but didn't tell him why

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COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Economic Development Committee

Members: Chair Dan Clark, Chip Holloway, Mike Biddlingmeier, Howard Laire

Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m.; Council Conference Room

Next meeting January 4 – will be dark in December

Legislative Committee

Members: Chair Duke Martin, Chip Holloway

Meetings: probably quarterly - at 8:00 a.m.; Council Conference Room

Next meeting to be announced

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Chair Steve Morgan, Tom Wiknich (temp), Jim Smith, Lois Beres

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 4:00 p.m., Council Conference Room

Next meeting December 12

Planning and Zoning Ad Hoc Committee

Members: Chair Steven Morgan, Vice Chair Jerry Taylor, Chip Holloway, and Jim Smith

Meetings: 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Next meeting December 21 – there will be a special all day closed meeting to review proposals for the General Plan Amendment consultant

City Organization Committee

Members: Chair Ron Carter, Steve Morgan

Meetings: 2nd Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m.; Council Conference Room

Next meeting December 13 - January 11

Quality of Life Committee

Members: Chair Dan Clark, Ron Carter, Howard Laire,

Meetings: 4th Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m.; Kerr-McGee Center

Next meeting - dark in December - January 25

Discussed the agreement for Sister City and it looks like a federal document - Juan Carlos is not comfortable with it either and they want to keep it at local level with the two community groups

Redevelopment Advisory Committee

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Members: Chair Mike Hogan, Vice Chair Nicole Guerrero, Bob Peoples, Gary Charlon, Ron Ketcham; Ex-officio Members Council Members Steven Morgan and Ron Carter, Planning Commissioner Lois Beres
Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month at 5:15 p.m., Council Conference Room
Next meeting to be announced

RACVB

Council Member Duke Martin (new member needed)
Council Member Steve Morgan- Alternate
Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of the month, 8:00 a.m., RACVB Office
Next meeting December 20

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS OR COMMISSIONS

Clark - Arts council met and came up with a fund raising committee with some fine people and youth involved - next meeting January 24

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Morgan

- Thanked fellow Council Members for electing him to Pro Tem
- Elks Lodge hosting a Pearl Harbor breakfast at 7:30 a.m. December 7 with program to follow
- Cost is \$6 or \$5 for active duty military
- Elks Christmas parade this Saturday
- Santa will be here all day at Salvation Army and Coldstone Creamery in the evening
- Carl and Louise have helped so many things in this community and are now closing their Hallmark store – enjoy your retirement

Carter

- Welcomed Tom Wiknich to the Council
- Has a lot of the same philosophy as he has
- Always good to have a full house at our meetings
- May have differences but we treat each other with respect

Clark

- Congratulated Chip and Tom on their election
- Has been a pleasure to work with Chip past 4 years
- Suggestion – Legislative Committee should consider eliminating it or folding into City Organization Committee
- Suggested putting Council comment at beginning rather than end
- Consider that a lot of people come to hear our comments

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- Committee assignments are up again - we get pigeonholed and encourage you to select another to get involved and learn
- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas

City Organization Committee will look at committee organizations

Wiknich

- Commended Duke for his service to the City and community
- Thanked Council for welcoming him
- Thanked staff for helping him acclimate
- Thanked all those who voted for him and who just voted
- Thanked fiancé Shannon who was here earlier but has now gone home
- The voter survey questions have some been answered
- Did the survey to find out what community is thinking and how he can serve their needs
- Plans to keep doing it and will bring results to council
- Merry Christmas to everyone

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Holloway adjourned the meeting at 10:47 p.m.

Rita Gable, City Clerk