



**City Council
Successor Redevelopment Agency
Financing Authority
Housing Authority**

AGENDA

Wednesday

Regular

Regular Session 6:00 p.m.

June 3, 2015

**City Hall
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest CA 93555**

(760) 499-5000

**Peggy Breeden, Mayor
James Sanders, Mayor Pro Tempore
Lori Acton, Vice Mayor
Eddie B. Thomas, Council Member
Mike Mower, Council Member**

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LAST ORDINANCE NO. 15-03
LAST RESOLUTION NO. 15-49

CITY OF RIDGECREST

CITY COUNCIL REDEVELOPMENT SUCCESSOR AGENCY HOUSING AUTHORITY FINANCING AUTHORITY

AGENDA

Regular Council
Wednesday June 3, 2015

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS CITY HALL

100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Regular Session – 6:00 p.m.

This meeting room is wheelchair accessible. Accommodations and access to City meetings for people with other handicaps may be requested of the City Clerk (499-5002) five working days in advance of the meeting.

In compliance with SB 343. City Council Agenda and corresponding writings of open session items are available for public inspection at the following locations:

1. City of Ridgecrest City Hall, 100 W. California Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555
2. Kern County Library – Ridgecrest Branch, 131 E. Las Flores Avenue, Ridgecrest, CA 93555
3. City of Ridgecrest official website at <http://ci.ridgecrest.ca.us>

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

REGULAR SESSION – 6:00 p.m.

- Pledge Of Allegiance
- Invocation

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

- Other

PUBLIC COMMENT

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation Of Employee Service Award Council

CONSENT CALENDAR

2. Receive And File The Investment Report For Four Month Period Ending April 30, 2015 McQuiston
3. Adopt A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing The Application For And Acceptance Of The Department Of Alcoholic Beverage Control, Grant Assistance Program Strand
4. Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council/Successor Redevelopment Agency/Financing Authority/Housing Authority Meeting Dated May 20, 2015 Ford

COMMITTEE REPORTS

(Committee Meeting dates are subject to change and will be announced on the City website)

City Organization and Services Committee

Members: Lori Acton; Mike Mower
Meeting: 4th Wednesday each month at 5:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Council Conference Room B

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Jim Sanders; Mike Mower
Meeting: 2nd Thursday each month at 5:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Council Conference Room B

❖ Ad Hoc Water Conservation Committee

Members: Jim Sanders; Peggy Breeden
Meeting: 1st Monday each month at 5:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Conference Room B

Parks, Recreation, and Quality of Life Committee

Members: Eddie Thomas; Lori Acton
Meeting: 1st Tuesday each month at 12:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Kerr-McGee Center Meeting Rooms

❖ Ad Hoc Youth Advisory Council

Members: Eddie Thomas
Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of each month, 12:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Kerr-McGee Center Meeting Rooms

Activate Community Talents and Interventions For Optimal Neighborhoods Task Force (ACTION)

Members: Eddie Thomas; Lori Acton
Meeting: 3rd Tuesday every other month at 4:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Kerr McGee Center Meeting Rooms

Ridgecrest Area Convention And Visitors Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Lori Acton and Eddie Thomas
Meetings: 1st Wednesday Of The Month, 8:00 A.M.
Next Meeting: To Be Announced

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

CITY MANAGER REPORT

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

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**CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY/
FINANCING AUTHORITY/HOUSING AUTHORITY AGENDA ITEM**

SUBJECT:
Service Award Presentations

PRESENTED BY:
Mayor and City Council members

SUMMARY:
Service recognition awards presented by the Ridgecrest City Council to employees who have reached milestones of five (5) or more years of employment during the second quarter (April-June) 2015 with the City of Ridgecrest.

15 Years
Elizabeth Franco
Karen Harker
Ryan Marrone

5 Years
Loren Culp
Lorenzo Hernandez

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE
Reviewed by Finance Director

ACTION REQUESTED:
Presentation of certificates to the employees by City Council members.

CITY MANAGER / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECOMMENDATION:
Present Service Awards

Submitted by: Ricca Charlon

Action Date: June 3, 2015

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**CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY/
FINANCING AUTHORITY/HOUSING AUTHORITY AGENDA ITEM**

SUBJECT:

Investment Report for four month period ending April 30, 2015

PRESENTED BY:

Rachelle McQuiston, Finance Director/City Treasurer

SUMMARY:

Government Code Section 53646 and the City's Investment Policy require that Treasurer of the City of Ridgecrest submit a quarterly investment report to the City Council on a quarterly basis. The attached reports show the summary of investments for the four month period ending April 30, 2015. The reports show where the City's money is invested, value, yield and interest accrued.

Majority of the City's cash is invested in the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) which is a money market fund that is administered by the State Treasurer. LAIF is a high quality investment in terms of safety, liquidity and yield which are the primary objectives of the City's investment policy. In February 2015, the City hired Government Portfolio Advisors (GPA) to invest the 2010 TAB bond proceeds that are still unused. So far they have invested \$6.3 million.

The investments in the reports meet the requirements of the City of Ridgecrest's adopted investment policy.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

ACTION REQUESTED:

Receive and file the attached investment report.

CITY MANAGER / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECOMMENDATION:

Action as requested:

(Rev. 2-14-07)

Action Date: June 3, 2015

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City of Ridgecrest
INVESTMENT REPORT
For the period of January 1, 2015 to April 30, 2015

Investments	Balance 1/1/2015	Deposit	Withdrawals	Balance 4/30/2015	Current Yield	Interest Received
Union Bank of California-Checking	1,706,908.81	24,602,885.09	(24,375,393.46)	1,934,400.44		
GPA Investments**	-	6,296,890.21	-	6,296,890.21		
LAIF Accounts-City	11,056,677.42	6,016,228.91	(2,800,000.00)	14,272,906.33	0.24%	8,374.19
LAIF Accounts-Assessment Dist	450,031.63	577.15	-	450,608.78	0.24%	288.79
LAIF Accounts-RDA	17,812,433.27	2,521,979.21	(7,000,000.00)	13,334,412.48	0.24%	10,126.72
Total Cash Balances	31,026,051.13	39,438,560.57	(34,175,393.46)	36,289,218.24		18,789.70

GPA INVESTMENT BREAKDOWN:	Amount Invested	CUSIP ID	Maturity Date	Date Purchased	Yield
Sacramento Cnty CA SF MTGE	779,099.22	786149GJ7	7/1/2016	2/11/2015	0.470
Los Angeles Cnty CA Met Trans	856,979.56	5447123P5	7/1/2016	2/12/2015	0.261
Alameda Cnty CA JT PWRS Auth	841,192.20	010831BJ3	12/1/2015	2/12/2015	0.181
San Mateo CA Gen Obligation	715,332.95	798866YU7	8/1/2015	3/3/2015	0.082
Los Angeles CNTY CA Pub Wrks	629,815.33	544738FW2	10/1/2015	3/2/2015	0.052
Los Angeles CA Harbor Dept	1,160,308.64	544552LZ3	8/1/2016	3/17/2015	0.390
SF City & County PUC Bond	1,314,162.31	79765RJW0	11/1/2019	4/8/2015	0.201
	6,296,890.21				

To the best of my knowledge, there are no misstatements of material amounts within this Treasurer's Cash Summary Report; or omissions of material amounts to cause the Treasurer's Cash Summary Report to be misleading.

I certify that this report accurately reflects all City of Ridgecrest investments and complies with the investment policy of the City as approved by the governing board.

Reviewed by Rachelle McQuiston
Finance Director

Prepared by Tess Sloan
Assistant Finance Director

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**CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY/
FINANCING AUTHORITY/HOUSING AUTHORITY AGENDA ITEM**

SUBJECT:

Grant Acceptance for a California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) grant through the Grant Assistance Program (GAP).

PRESENTED BY: Ron Strand, Chief of Police

SUMMARY:

The California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control has awarded one-time grant funding to the City of Ridgecrest Police Department in the amount of \$39,723.00. This grant is designated as a multi-agency grant covering the Eastern Sierras from California City to Bishop, CA. This grant is to be administered by the Ridgecrest Police Department with reimbursement to allied agencies through the City of Ridgecrest Finance Department under pending agreements/MOU's. The grant goal is to implement an comprehensive ABC Enforcement Program with a strong emphasis on deterring minor/juvenile access to alcohol by:

- Targeting problematic ABC licensed establishments.
- Updating current ABC enforcement procedures with training to patrol personnel.
- Conducting IMPACT Operations at licensed establishments within the jurisdiction of the Ridgecrest Police Department, California City Police Department, Bishop Police Department, and Inyo County Sheriff's Department.
- Increase communication and involvement with community groups.
- Conducting "Shoulder Tap" operations in the Owens and Indian Wells Valleys.
- Conducting "Minor Decoy" operations in the Owens and Indian Wells Valleys.
- Issuing press releases regarding the grant and activities conducted under the grant.
- Conducting "TAPPED" (Party Patrol) operations to curb alcohol consumption at juvenile parties.
- Train neighboring Law Enforcement Agencies in ABC enforcement procedures and operations.
- Send two officers to ABC training with specific emphasis on alcohol violations and enforcement.

The grant period begins July 1, 2015 and ends June 30, 2016. The Police Department plans to use approximately 75% of the grant funds to fund overtime for sworn personnel to implement and conduct the enforcement programs and to purchase limited equipment to assist in the project within the City of Ridgecrest. The remaining grant funds would cover operations conducted in allied agency jurisdictions.

Past history and statistics have shown that strong enforcement against alcohol related crimes and specifically juvenile related alcohol crimes, have dramatically reduced calls-for-service, reports, and arrests in several areas including; DUI drivers, traffic collisions, sexual assaults, and batteries.

FISCAL IMPACT: Approximate revenue to the city in the amount of **\$39,723.00.**

REIMBURSEMENT GRANT- NO MATCHING REQUIRED

Reviewed by Administrative Services Director

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approval of Resolution

CITY MANAGER / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECOMMENDATION:

Action as requested:

Submitted by: RON STRAND
(Rev. 2-14-07)

Action Date: June 3, 2015

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RESOLUTION NO. 15-XX

A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL, GRANT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) is offering grants under the Grant Assistance Program for local police agencies to conduct enforcement activities concerning the sale or furnishing of alcohol to minors, and;

WHEREAS, this grant period begins July 1, 2015 and ends June 30, 2016, and;

WHEREAS, this grant is in the amount of \$39,723 to fund enforcement activities on an overtime basis and to purchase equipment to support the program, and;

WHEREAS, reimbursement will be given to allied agencies for operations authorized and conducted under this grant, and:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Ridgecrest authorizes the City Manager, or his designee, to apply for this grant with the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control Grant Assistance Program, and to approve, sign and execute any and all documents relating to the grant award, including amendments, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that grant funds received hereunder shall not be used to supplant expenditures controlled by this body; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes the Finance Director to increase the FY16 budget revenue and expenditures in the amount of this grant, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall remain in full force and effect until a resolution of the City Council is adopted amending or rescinding this resolution.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 3rd day of June 2015, by the following vote.

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Peggy Breeden, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rachel J. Ford, CMC, City Clerk

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**CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY/
HOUSING AUTHORITY/FINANCING AUTHORITY AGENDA ITEM**

SUBJECT:

Minutes of the Regular City Council/Successor Redevelopment Agency/Housing Authority/Financing Authority Meeting of May 20, 2015

PRESENTED BY:

Rachel J. Ford, City Clerk

SUMMARY:

Draft Minutes of the Regular City Council/Successor Redevelopment Agency/Housing Authority/Financing Authority Meeting of May 20, 2015

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

Reviewed by Finance Director:

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve minutes

CITY MANAGER 'S RECOMMENDATION:

Action as requested: Approve Draft Minutes



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
RIDGECREST CITY SUCCESSOR AGENCY,
FINANCING AUTHORITY, AND HOUSING AUTHORITY**

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

**May 20, 2015
5:00 p.m.**

This meeting was 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 – 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Present: Mayor Peggy Breedon; Vice Mayor Lori Acton; Council Member Mike Mower

Council Absent: Mayor Pro Tempore James Sanders and Council Member Thomas

Staff Present: City Manager Dennis Speer; City Clerk Rachel J. Ford; City Attorney Keith Lemieux, and other staff

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion To Approve Agenda Made By Council Member Acton, Second By Council Member Mower. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 2 Ayes (Mayor Breedon, Council Members, Acton, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 2 Absent (Council Member Sanders And Thomas,)

Council Member Thomas arrived for closed session

PUBLIC COMMENT – CLOSED SESSION

- None presented

CLOSED SESSION

GC54956.9 (D) (1) Conference With Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – City Of Ridgecrest v. William D. Howard

GC54957.6

Labor Negotiations – Local 8 Golden State UFCW – Agency
Negotiator – City Manager Dennis Speer

REGULAR SESSION – 6:00 p.m.

- Pledge Of Allegiance
- Invocation

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

- Closed Session
 - Existing litigation City Of Ridgecrest v. Dale Howard, report received, no reportable action
 - Labor negotiations UFCW, report received, no reportable action
- Other
 - Cautious good news, report received last week DOF pushing legislation with provisions that had potential effect of preventing lawsuit relating to solar loan, would have denied City \$3 million in revenue. City instructed offices to send representative to attend committees. One committee appears changes have been requested that would preserve the lawsuit. No language seen and DOF will write the revision.
 - Other committee decided to not act on the matter and will act sometime tomorrow. Asked cities to give written comment, especially from elected officials. Attorney will send email to each Council Member to respond. Hoping to see consistent language and appears to be a good meeting.
 - Peggy Breeden – League of California Cities also sent verbiage.
 - Will look at the language and see if there are any changes needed.
 - Regarding conduct at public meeting, office was asked to review questions during public comment and Council Member comment. Public comment is an agenda item required by the Brown Act to allow Members of the public to make comment on items of the meeting and on items that are of a general concern within the jurisdiction of the City. Ridgecrest Council has been lenient about what is stated in public comment. Because of the ability to discuss things not on the agenda causes a controversy for elected officials. Question was what staff and Council can do in response to things not on the agenda. Brown Act allows some brief options, some attorney's discourage Council from responding, however the purpose of public meeting is to allow public to exchange ideas with the Council. Members of the public cannot place things on the agenda, interpret brief response as giving an answer. Having open dialogue with multiple exchanges is something different.
 - Nothing in the Brown Act addresses Council Member comment but is a common practice. Council Member comment is the Council Member's opportunity to have public comment. Reserved for the end of the meeting and same general rules apply as with public comment. Exemplified placing items on future agenda and brief responses to statements.

- There is no law preventing a Council Member from responding to a public comment made earlier in the meeting. Reminded Council to keep the response brief.
 - Lori Acton – does it require two Council Members to place items on the agenda.
- Mayor and City Manager can place items on the agenda; Council comment can be a time when Council Members can ask for agenda items.
 - Peggy Breeden – two people approached to comment about how we handle public comment. Watched the Board of Supervisors meeting and again was implied we do it wrong. Wanted to verify that when we have an item presented, explained our process.
- Attorney reminded Council the Brown Act requirement is to review any item prior to a vote, Ridgecrest traditionally allows public comment directly before voting. Other cities only allow public comment once. Usually used at meeting with less at stake, Ridgecrest process encourages public participation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tom Wiknich

- Commented about the different process used by the Board Of Supervisors
- Reviewed board staff presentation and all public input received.
- After public comment closed, the board made comments
- Difference is when they were focusing on something said by a Member of the audience; they brought the person back up to conduct dialogue.
- Commented this was better because sometimes Council misinterprets public statements. Board allows a brief discussion on what the speaker said.
- Public is asking for an increase in the dialogue.
- Thanked Council for the new doors.
 - Peggy Breeden – asked if you had checked with other agencies to see if they are complying like we have done.

Mike Neel

- Thanked Mr. Lemieux for comments.
- Appreciate Mr. Wiknich comments.
- If Council does not like what is said, would appreciate hearing responses at the time. Would be glad to hear this while is being said.
- Commented on water use and the fountain still being run and the public who might be cited for inappropriate water use while the City does not follow their own rules.
- Read prepared statement entitled “Life Under Receivership”.
- Copies of the Jones and Meyer report given to Council.
- Asked Council to remove demand for fee reimbursement.
- Stated God is watching and read scripture from the bible.

Dave Matthews

- Does not like the front door, reaches for the handle and it moves.
- Asked for a copy of the document distributed to Council.
- Commented on friendship with Mr. Howard.
- Spoke on Council voting not to send letter of support to county board of supervisors for land use management plan which was just passed.
- Disappointed in what the board of supervisors did, voting 5-0 to pass the land use management plan
- Spoke on newspaper review and salute for armed forces day. No celebration in town because of the void left by Howard Auld. Asked for this to be resurrected. Not an official holiday but is a deserving holiday.
- Commented on street sweeper driving around town.
- Commented on surprise with the new design of the City website. So far is impressed, can now get the emails for Council Members but missing the biographies. Reviewed the police department organization, under main structure do not see animal control listed. Will be monitoring the website developments.

Mrs. Neil

- Welcomed Mrs. Acton back
- Thanked Council, feels this is a Council who will hear our hearts and appreciate this. Proud to be an echo of my husband.
- Reminded Council that she is a voter and her input does count
- Spoke on broken heart when speaking with Mr. & Mrs. Howard.
- Requested Council to do what they can to stop the oppression in the Howard's lives. They are doing what they have been told to do, but to see their lives be destroyed and the lives of their children is unconscionable.
- Commented on the perception being put forth in Ridgecrest and the young people observing this. Pray their lives are not distorted in this town. Please consider next steps taken on the Howard case.

John Eaton

- Suffered during road construction a loss of about 40% of income. Spoke to Council and was referred to other who stated it is in the Council hands. Asking Council to see if there is anything that can be done.
 - Peggy Breeden – we are not in a position to define what is being worked on and there are many people involved.

PRESENTATIONS

1. **Presentation Of A Proclamation Declaring Motorcycle Awareness Month – May 2015** Council

Council presented proclamations to representatives of the local motorcycle rider clubs.

2. Presentation Of A Proclamation Declaring National Emergency Medical Services Week – May 17-23, 2015 Council

Council presented proclamations to representatives of Liberty Ambulance, Ridgecrest Police Department, Kern County Fire Department, and Ridgecrest Regional Hospital

3. Presentation Of A Proclamation Declaring National Public Works Week – May 17-23, 2015 Council

Council presented a proclamation to Dennis Speer recognizing National Public Works Week 2015.

4. Presentation Of Waste Management 2015 Performance Review By HF&H Consultants Speer

Rob Hilton and Debbie Morrison from HF&H presented a Performance Review for Waste Management. *(Copy provided in the agenda packet)*

Mike Mower

- Commented on Waste Management not visiting and is concerned about cardboard. County supplied dumpster that was never picked up so is now going into the dump. Tonnage being hauled out of the area is not being counted.
 - Rob Hilton – correct, new calculations will factor in backhaul customers and mulching. Reviewed County requirements to have a recycling facility at the landfill and costs versus the community bin that is provided free of charge.

Eddie Thomas

- Asked if waste management was doing anything to educate youth about recycling bottles and cans.
 - Rob Hilton – responded and reviewed the Recycle Bank. Great idea to focus on the teenage group.

Lori Acton

- Commented on County using the landfill with the City and asked if we are monitored separately.
 - Rob Hilton – waste Management only serves the City so their trucks are weighed and that total goes toward the city numbers. Benz numbers go to the county.
- Commented on lack of recycle bins available around the city streets.
 - Rob Hilton – will work with Waste Management on this issue.
- Asked if there are various collection spots for batteries and lights that count toward our recycle numbers.
 - Rob Hilton – these are considered hazardous waste and the tonnage not going to landfill gives credit to the city.

Lori Acton *(continued)*

- Spoke on the waste management process to mulch organic waste. Asked where organic waste is taken and what are we looking at to reuse in our community.
 - Rob Hilton – challenge is location of facilities and is trying to work with state to get a grace period for Ridgecrest until there is enough tonnage to make recycling organic material cost effective. Compost give back program is common but again the location of facility in relation to Ridgecrest is difficult.

Public Comment

Tom Wiknich

- Large item disposal was a problem for Code Enforcement. A lot of people do not know that Waste Management has a large item pick up policy. Waste Management needs to get the word out.
- Owns a business and no one from Waste Management has visited the commercial properties.

Stan Rajtora

- People are looking at waste to energy efforts and as isolated as we are we might be able to do something like this. Asked if there are initiatives in California that would allow waste to energy and get around the compliance issues.
 - Rob Hilton – commented on the bulky item program. City is aware that Waste Management will pick up abandoned items at the City's request. Commented on the Waste for Energy facilities. Material burned for energy is not counted toward recycling numbers. Commented on methane gas bi-product and uses. Commented on cement recycling process. Process would require 10 times the tonnage that Ridgecrest produces to be viable. Spoke on small scale reverse engineering for plastics.

Mike Neel

- Commented on statement made regarding diversion requirements. State will show up with heavy hand and make threats because we are not meeting goals.
- Asked if there are means in place to address this with the state and what fines may be levied.
 - Rob Hilton – Cal Recycle has threatened but has not actually fined anyone to date. No formula in the regulations that give the calculations.
- Sounds like it will be subjective to the economy. Need to make the state follow their own regulations rather than accept whatever they tell us when they provide a number from out of the air.

Debbie Morrison

- Commented on the difficulty getting people to understand the services available and asked for ideas to help with the education of public.

CONSENT CALENDAR

5. Adopt A Resolution To Accept Funding From The Transit System Safety, Security, And Disaster Response Account Under The California Transit Security Grant Program (CTSGP) For A Corporation Yard Security Gate And Authorizing The City Manager, Dennis Speer Or His Designee To Execute All Documents To Obtain CTSGP Funding Speer
6. Adopt A Resolution Rejecting All Bids Regarding A Construction Contract For The Signal Synchronization On South China Lake Boulevard From California Avenue To Bowman Avenue Project Speer
7. Adopt A Resolution To Move Funds From The Street Maintenance Account Street Repair Supplies To Other Miscellaneous Equipment Account In Fund 002 To Purchase A Pneumatic Asphalt Compactor Roller Speer
8. Adopt A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest To Approve The Revised Rate Request For Solid Waste Services (Attached) And Adjust The Administrative Fee By 1.8% For FY 15/16 Parsons
9. Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council/Successor Redevelopment Agency/Financing Authority/Housing Authority Meeting Dated May 6, 2015 Ford

Items removed from consent calendar

- Item no 8,

Motion To Approve Item Nos. 5, 6, 7, and 9 Of The Consent Calendar Made By Council Member Mower, Second By Council Member Thomas. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 4 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members, Acton, Thomas, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 1 Absent (Council Member Sanders)

Item No. 8 Discussion

Gary Parsons

- Presented staff report.

MINUTES – RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY - REGULAR

May 20, 2015

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Peggy Breeden

- Seems the businesses always pay more yet receives the same service. Appears cost is not greater and pricing is unfair to commercial.
 - Rob Hilton – services are similar and cost to provide the service is not a large variance. Kern county residents pay a fee on their property bill in addition to a fee to Waste Management. Commercial does not pay the county fee. Does not account for the entire difference. Rates went down with the new contract at a similar percentage. During the term of this contract and to re-engineer the rates would open the entire contract. Current contract runs until 2017 and reminded council that typically reduced rates for commercial will increase rates for residential.

Mike Mower

- Commented on amount of work for residential versus commercial.

Peggy Breeden

- Do not want either to take the hit for the other. Do not feel it is fair but do understand.

Dave Matthews

- As a senior citizen, opposes any increase.
- During negotiations waste management was asked if they would provide a recycling facility in Ridgecrest that would employ local individuals. Has not happened and all recyclables are still going to Lancaster rather than helping employ people in the City.
 - Rob Hilton – was some discussion during the selection process to try and identify opportunities for employment. Ridgecrest does not have the amount of scale. Waste management has worked with Pearson's who facilitates the transfer process to Sun Valley. Materials are then separated and sent to China. Drivers are also hired locally.

Motion To Approve Item No. 8 Of The Consent Calendar Made By Council Member Mower, Second By Council Member Acton. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 3 Ayes (Council Members, Acton, Thomas, And Mower); 1 Noes (Mayor Breeden); 0 Abstain; And 1 Absent (Council Member Sanders)

Loren Culp

- Thanked HF&H for corporate yard facility and commented that use has increased so may need to review the pick-up schedule.

DISCUSSION AND OTHER ACTION ITEMS

10. Conduct A Public Hearing Regarding The Annual Assessments For The Landscaping And Lighting District No. 2012-1; And The Adoption Of The Resolution (1) Approving The Annual Engineer's Report And (2) Ordering The Levy And Collection Of Assessments For Fiscal Year 2014/2015 Culp

Loren Culp

- Presented staff report.
- Commented on maintenance of improvement being installed.

Public Hearing Opened at 8:07 p.m.

Mike Mower

- Clarified that each lot is assessed regardless of development.
- Reviewed the improvements in the engineering report.

Stan Rajtora

- Commented in the significant difference of light costs dependant on whether poles are owned by SC&E or the City of Ridgecrest.
- Stated the developer gave poles to the City and City in turn gave the poles to SCE
- Suggested before poles are handed over to SCE so more charges can be made on the maintenance.
- Maintenance on the poles should not be that much with bulbs that last 10 years.
- Before we do something with the light poles, re-think what we will be doing in the future.
- Every time we give a pole to SCE and then have to buy it back a few years later does not make sense.
 - Dennis Speer – commented on the previous study to obtain the poles. Currently conducting a new energy efficiency study.

Mike Mower

- Commented on paying for poles in development and clarified the poles were then given to SCE for maintenance.
 - Dennis Speer – responded and reviewed the various charge rates on street lights and level of maintenance for each rater.

Loren Culp

- Gave analogy of utility districts and burden of maintenance on the City.

Mike Mower

- Commented on interesting subject where a developer pays to install the lights then the utility gets to earn money off the lights.
- Commented on the amount of water and vegetation outlined in the engineer report.
 - Loren Culp – commented on amenity of providing landscape area and paid for by the developer.

Lori Acton

- Are these landscape areas drought tolerant and xeriscape?
 - Keith Lemieux – current law prohibits watering turf and medians
 - Loren Culp – plants are approved plant list as drought tolerant.

Tom Wiknich

- Asked if the street lights being installed are new technology or old style
 - Loren Culp – responded sodium vapor
 - Dennis Speer – SCE has approached the city with request to convert to LED and energy costs would go down significantly however the CUP sets the tariff so we would have to continue to pay the current rates. Does not make sense to expend the dollars to convert while still having to pay the same rates.

Stan Rajtora

- Asked if the lights not installed have already been assigned to SCE. Are we committed to giving the remainder of lights to be installed to SCE?
 - Loren Culp – no assignment from the City to SCE, these are paid for by the developer and he will assign them to SCE. At this time City will begin to pay the light bill thru the assessment and SCE will maintain the poles.
 - Dennis Speer – same with water system being turned over to IWV Water District and sewer will be turned over to the City.
- Suggested the lights be turned over to the City rather than SCE and then City could provide the more effective technology and take over maintenance of the poles.
- Understand there will be a report in a few weeks, seems odd we would give more lights to SCE and then buy them back. Save the people living in that area a cost savings. If SCE doesn't own the poles and does not do the maintenance they won't charge the LS1 rate.

Lori Acton

- Clarified if the city owned then we could do solar power.
 - Loren Culp – if the city owns the pole we are then in the electrical business and would have to repair and replace poles.

Stan Rajtora

- Could contract the labor and maintenance which seems like a fair trade off.

The Following Two Motions Were Approved

Motion to Adopt a Resolution Approving the Annual Engineer's Report Made By Council Member Acton, Second By Council Member Thomas. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 4 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members, Acton, Thomas, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 1 Absent (Council Member Sanders)

Motion To Adopt A Resolution Ordering The Levy And Collection Of Assessments For Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Made By Council Member Thomas, Second By Council Member Acton. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 4 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members, Acton, Thomas, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 1 Absent (Council Member Sanders)

11. Budget Projections

McQuiston

Rachelle McQuiston

- Presented staff report.

Peggy Breeden

- Asked for anticipated final balance.
 - Rachelle McQuiston
 - The more information received the more accurate the projection.
 - Previously was conservative because the true-up came in higher than anticipated so the end of year fund is slightly higher. At this point we are coming in at a positive, not much but still a positive.
 - Other major funds are in good shape.

Eddie Thomas

- Asked about the review of TOT
 - Rachelle McQuiston
 - A couple of hotels were several months late which throws projections off.

Mike Mower

- Asked about late penalties
 - Rachelle McQuiston
 - There is a 10% penalty for being late

Peggy Breeden

- Asked about plans for an audit
 - Rachele McQuiston
 - Spoke with Doug Lueck and cost is between \$20-\$30 thousand for sampling audit, \$60 thousand for a full audit. Suggested sending a letter to all hotels informing that we are considering an audit. Need to approve budget before attempting an audit.
- Think an audit needs to be done and suggested annually conducting random audits.

Public Comment

Stan Rajtora

- Having difficulty reading the Wastewater Fund. Appears we have spent less than earlier projected and are taking in more revenue than expected which means reserve should go up dramatically.
- Commented on the wastewater fee increases scheduled this next year and personally feel the rate schedule was flawed originally because the analyst misrepresented the reserve and now it is increased. Referenced city owes and is paying back the wastewater fund.
- Not against raises being done if needed and feel we need the plan first before raising the rates again. Asked council to spend time looking at these numbers again.
 - Dennis Speer
 - Rate increases before Council in June have already been approved
 - Real issue is there is a complete change of what was approved for the wastewater facility without tertiary which would have cost \$46 million
 - A tertiary plant will have a considerable increase in capital costs.
 - Commented on cost to replace lines now that we have more factual data
 - Cannot sell bonds for a plant on the base
 - Premature to review the rates until after the plant with tertiary component has been completed and in operation for at least a year.
 - Commented on site presentations and when reports are received will be brought before the council.
 - Will not be in a position to roll back the rates by next month.
 - Never hurts to have excess cash because of the fact we cannot sell bonds to pay for the costs.
- Commented on the city and Navy costs and feel Navy should pay for their portion of the plant.
- Commented on the cost analysis of plant opening in 2018 and believes the plant won't be completed until 2020 or later.
- Building up a lot of reserve now and a lot of the people paying will not receive the benefit. Feel the users should be the ones paying.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

(Committee Meeting dates are subject to change and will be announced on the City website)

City Organization and Services Committee

Members: Lori Acton; Mike Mower
Meeting: 4th Wednesday each month at 5:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Council Conference Room B

Mike Mower

- Next meeting announced and asked if the City Organization committee will get a preview of the budget.

Peggy Breeden

- Would like to see the committee get the numbers.
 - Dennis Speer – per municipal code the budget is the responsibility of the City Manager and Director of Finance.

Mike Mower

- Committee had asked for wastewater numbers.

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Jim Sanders; Mike Mower
Meeting: 2nd Thursday each month at 5:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Council Conference Room B

- Meeting postponed

❖ **Ad Hoc Water Conservation Committee**

Members: Jim Sanders; Peggy Breeden
Meeting: 1st Monday each month at 5:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Conference Room B

Peggy Breeden

- Meeting postponed until July with a special date due to the holiday.
- Asked Mr. Speer to review the water use on the fountain
 - Dennis Speer – use is less than ½ of one person's use in a year.
- Understand the appearance issue but after reviewing the evaporation and cost of shutting down equipment see the logic of keeping the fountain on.

Parks, Recreation, and Quality of Life Committee

Members: Eddie Thomas; Lori Acton
Meeting: 1st Tuesday each month at 12:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Kerr-McGee Center Meeting Rooms

- No Report

❖ **Ad Hoc Youth Advisory Council**

Members: Eddie Thomas
Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of each month, 12:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Kerr-McGee Center Meeting Rooms

- No Report

Activate Community Talents and Interventions For Optimal Neighborhoods Task Force (ACTION)

Members: Eddie Thomas; Lori Acton
Meeting: 3rd Tuesday every other month at 4:00 p.m. as needed
Location: Kerr McGee Center Meeting Rooms

- No Report

Ridgecrest Area Convention And Visitors Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Lori Acton and Eddie Thomas
Meetings: 1st Wednesday Of The Month, 8:00 A.M.
Next Meeting: To Be Announced

- No report

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

- None

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Dennis Speer

- Reported the reason budget not ready for City Org committee, in meeting with Finance Director for round 3 we have substantial cuts that need to be made and will be sending out to departments for these cuts.
- Looking at 2nd week of June for Budget Hearing Workshops. June 8-12. Asked council to check their calendars.
- Budget Hearings scheduled for June 5 at 1:00-5:00 and June 6, 10:00-2:00
- Met with representatives of city of Wasco and private companies who reviewed our street processes. Currently using a new process that is more economical and can spread over a larger surface, called double-fiber process. Mix with rubber in it and have been assured there are significant improvements in the mix. Explained the delamination process and past maintenance issues.
- Spoke on the past elimination of street sweeping due to the categorizing of hazardous waste fees being charged. Waste management has the capability of providing street sweeping as part of their contract. Would require a protest hearing as the rate payers would have to pay for the solid waste services. If council would like the proposal then staff can investigate this. Formula would be calculated.

Dennis Speer *(continued)*

- Mike Mower – sweepers can only sweep where there is curb and gutter so customers without curb and gutter would be paying for a service they cannot benefit from.
- Responded with current sweeper locations and would try to calculate this into the formula.
 - Lori Acton – would like to see the numbers, if a person is driving our streets they are benefiting from the service.
 - Peggy Breeden – all agree we would like to see the costs.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mike Mower

- Verified with Loren Culp that Drummond Ave from Downs west is on the agenda for widening.
 - Loren Culp – responded we have received the funding and now getting authorization to construct. Anticipate construction later this year if in the prime paving season, otherwise next spring.
- Concerned citizens have commented on tearing up China Lake Blvd at the same time as Downs Street. Caltrans is in charge of China Lake Blvd and if we put off until they complete their job it will be more than a year to complete Downs Street. Commented Caltrans project is taking a lot longer than anticipated.

Eddie Thomas

- Thanked Madam Mayor for allowing participation in the East Kern Economic Development meeting. Gave an opportunity that if other communities can do it then we can do it. Thanked Mr. Parsons for exposing me to such kind people.
- June 10 meeting, Cedric Knight will be the facilitator at 6:00 p.m.
- Thanked family for attending.

Peggy Breeden

- Topic of town hall meeting is 'What Is Economic Development'. Stu Whitt has agreed to come and help us define Economic Development. Cedric Knight and Gary Parsons will be helping
- DART received accreditation
- Military Banners, have begged and pleaded and need someone to step forward to assist with this program. Those that are torn, loose and in poor condition, I want them taken down. They are not doing a service to the military persons. My husband was killed in Vietnam and don't want to see anyone to watch their family members banners deteriorate. If the banners can't be taken care of then we need to take them down. I expect to hear answers by next meeting.
- Thanked everyone who spoke so eloquently and emotionally to the issue of the land use management plan. Appreciate what you did and now we need to develop a groundwater sustainability organization. Have information of over 20 bills on groundwater sustainability.

Peggy Breeden *(continued)*

- Money available, 1.5 million for state rainy day fund. Want to see how we can get some of this funding.

Lori Acton

- Thanked staff and community for support received. Happy to be here.
- Asked Mr. Speer to look at grey water use for the fountain.
 - Dennis Speer – health code violation.

ADJOURNMENT at 9:19 p.m.

Rachel J. Ford, CMC
City Clerk

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