



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

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

**May 16, 2007
6:00 p.m.**

**Tape Recorded
Tape 07-09**

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 – 6:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

STAFF: Harvey Rose, City Manager; Keith Lemieux City Attorney; Rita Gable, City Clerk; Jim Winegardner, Administrative Services Department Director/City Treasurer; Jim McRea, Public Services Department Director, Speers, Public Works Department Director; Joe Pollock, Assistant Public Works Director; Jim Ponek, Parks, Recreation And Cultural Affairs Department Director; Michael Avery, Chief of Police/Assistant City Manager; Ronald Strand, Deputy Chief of Police; and other personnel

CLOSED SESSION – 6:03 p.m.

GC54956.8 Redevelopment Agency Real Property Negotiations – Agency Loan - 215 W. Ridgecrest Boulevard – APN 478-020-40 – Owner Judy and Robert Wiley, - Negotiators Harvey Rose, Michael Avery, and James McRea

GC54956.8 Real Property Negotiations – Rite-Aid Agreements, - 101 and 112 W. Ridgecrest Boulevard - Owner China Lake and Ridgecrest, LLC, (CL&R) – Agency Negotiators Harvey Rose, Michael Avery, and James McRea

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GC54956.9 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – Matrix Motor Company v. City of Ridgecrest

REGULAR SESSION – 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Eva Peterson

INVOCATION – Silent moment

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

In Closed Session received update on Matrix Motor Company litigation -no action taken; received information on Redevelopment Agency property negotiations for 215 W. Ridgecrest Boulevard – item appears on Open Session agenda for action; received update on Rite-Ad Agreements – staff directed to continue negotiations.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Manager Rose removed Consent Calendar Item #7 for rework-will be brought back to next agenda.

Moved by Council Member Morgan; second Council Member Carter TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH CONSENT CALENDAR ITEM 7 REMOVED. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Youth Advisory Council

Courtney Smith, President

Noted some accomplishment and future goals of the Youth Advisory Council

- Youth activities to the City of Ridgecrest
- Worked with the Boys and Girls Club
- Planned concerts with the Boys and Girls Club
- Safer environment and fund raisers
- Goals to become more organized with the City of Ridgecrest
- Help more with boys and girls
- Youth and police open house
- Set up police and youth dodge ball game – have no date yet
- Goals to start and finish video with police Explorers, etc
- Promote Explorers within the youth of the city
- Started new committee - community service
- Adopted French Avenue as a clean up project

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- Collected 7 boxes of toys for Toys For Tots
- Adopt a park to clean up and maintain
- Service to elderly
- Possibly provide food services
- Get them more involved
- Park Committee ideas for preschool park at Kerr-McGee center
- Goals to start work at preschool park and shades at all parks
- Produce video for fund raising activities or grants
- Received Helen Putnam award at state and national level

2. Presentation – Employee Service Awards

City Council presented plaques honoring employees who have reached service milestones of 5 or more years of service with the City of Ridgecrest.

5 Years

Gregg Brandt
2001-2006

Lamarr Iva
2001-2006

Gary Parsons
2001-2006

Kristi Cole
2001-2006

Dewain Cook
2001-2006

Sharon Lewallen
2001-2006

Linda Benson
2001-2006

Lane Ritchey
2001-2006

Tina Kimmons
2001-2006

Yvan Prince
2001-2006

Lamar Iva, Kristi Cole, Linda Benson, Lane Ritchey, Tina Kimmons, and Yvan Prince were absent.

3. Proclamation – Emergency Medical Services Week

The City Council presented a proclamation to Peter Brandon, CEO Liberty Ambulance, in recognition of Emergency Medical Services Week, May 20-26, 2007.

4. Proclamation – Armed Forces Day

The City Council presented a proclamation to Howard and Barbara Auld in recognition of Armed Forces Day, May 19, 2007. Mr. Auld noted that they have

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delivered many, many certificates of appreciation to local World War II veterans in the local area.

PUBLIC COMMENT 6:54

Sheena Cornelius

- Going to Ireland and the UK as a People to People ambassador
- Raising money though a variety show May 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Salvation Army building on Downs Street
- Her phone is 371-2117 for information
- She is also taking donations
- Only high school student going from this - only needs 2K more
- Will be meeting with political leaders and community leaders
- Will be studying while there
- President Eisenhower in 1956 established

Dave Flanagan, 319 W. Wilson Avenue

- Thanked Redevelopment Agency for Ridgecrest Cares Program
- His house was painted and cleaned up on April 21 and 22
- Gets compliments on the work done
- Neighborhood looks better and is proud of it

Eva Peterson and Starla Shaver gave a report on Ridgecrest Cares and thanked everyone who worked on this project and the local merchants who participated.

David Matthews, 717 Kevin Court

- Mentioned the City web page
- Noticed the improvements – looking like a professional web site
- Mentioned before about the vandalism taking place in the city
- Questioned if it is a trend – 1 adult and several juveniles
- Why is the adult getting together with the juveniles
- Time to re-define what a juvenile is and the way they are apprehended and punished

7:02 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

5. Resolution No. 07-24, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into An Agreement With The County Of Kern For California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) Access For The Police Department Avery

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David Matthews requested clarification. Chief Avery stated this was an agreement to enable the City to access the County CLETS data base.

6. **Resolution No. 07-25, A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Amending A Force Account Construction Work Order To Maverick Construction Approved By Resolution 07-16 To Repair Water Damaged Street Improvements On Church Avenue From Sunset Street To Norma Street** Speer

Mr. Speer noted that the Water District has agreed to pay the full cost of the repairs.

Item removed

7. **Resolution No. 07- , A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing The City To Enter Into An Administering Agency-Federal Master Agreement No. 0D39 Rev. 000 With The State Of California Department Of Transportation And To Authorize The City Manager, Harvey Rose To Sign Said Agreement For The Construction Of Curb Gutter And Sidewalk On The South Side Las Flores Avenue From Downs To Sierra View** Speer

This agreement is for preparation of plans, specifications and construction of curb, gutter and sidewalk on the south side of Las Flores Avenue from Downs Street to Sierra View. The total estimated cost of construction is \$109,800.00 (\$98,820.00 State and \$10,890.00 Local). The funding source is Safe Routes To School.

The State requires that one person in the local agency be designated to sign the agreement with the State. It is requested that the City Manager, Harvey Rose, be designated as that person.

8. **Resolution No. 07-26, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing The City To Enter Into A Program Supplement Agreement N020 To Administering Agency-Federal Master Agreement No. 09-5385R With The State Of California Department Of Transportation For The Re-Construction Of West Bound Lanes Of Drummond Avenue From China Lake Boulevard To Norma Street And College Heights Boulevard From 350' South Of Franklin Avenue To Dolphin Avenue** Speer

Mr. Speer noted that this supplemental agreement was a request for preliminary engineer studies.

9. **Resolution No. 07-27, Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Approving Final Balancing Contract Change Order 3 For**

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Community Development Block Grant Activities 17.01.1 And 17.05.1 And Authorizing Filing Of A Notice Of Completion **Speer**

Mr. Speer noted that this contract was for curbs, gutters and street improvements on Upjohn Avenue, Sunset Street, Wilson Avenue, and Church Avenue.

10. **Minutes Of The Regular City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting Of May 4, 2007** **Gable**
11. **Council Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated April 27, 2007 In The Amount Of \$433,496.12** **Winegardner**
12. **Council Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated May 2, 2007 In The Amount Of \$9,165.15** **Winegardner**
13. **Agency Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated April 27, 2007 In The Amount Of \$3,869.90** **Winegardner**

Dave Matthews asked for clarification on item 5
Items 6, 8, and 9 removed for more information

Moved by Council Member Morgan, second Council Member Wiknich TO APPROVE THE CONWSENT CALENDAR WITH ITEMS 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 REMOVED. Public comment heard. Carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

After clarification of the items the votes were ---

#5 – Moved by Clark, second Carter TO APPROVE RESOLUTION – public comment heard - carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

#6, 8, and 9 – Moved by Carter, second Wiknich TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTIONS – no public comment - carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

#7 will be reworked and returned at the June 6 meeting.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

14. **Introduction And First Reading, By Title Only, An Ordinance Of The City Council of the City of Ridgecrest Adopting An Amendment To The Contract Between The Board Of Administration Of CalPERS And The City Of Ridgecrest** **Rose**

An Ordinance adopting the amendment to the contract with CalPERS is presented to City Council for introduction and first reading. The City of

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Ridgecrest is obligated to comply with all CalPERS requirements including Government Code Section 7507.

Moved by Council Member Morgan Wiknich TO WAIVE READING IN FULL AND TO INTRODUCE, BY TITLE ONLY, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION OF CALPERS AND THE CITY OF RIDGECREST No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

15. **Agency Loan Agreement - Owner Judy And Robert Wiley, 215 W. Ridgecrest Boulevard – APN 478-020-40. The Agency Met In Closed Session And The Recommended Action Will Be Presented** McRea

The Redevelopment Agency is requesting authorization to extend a Development Loan Agreement to Judy and Robert Wiley for the development of an Indoor Batting Cage Project at 215W. Ridgecrest Boulevard.

Mr. McRea

- This is a loan agreement for economic development
- Involves an easement that will be returned to the Agency
- Access to this area would benefit the businesses on the west side of Ridgecrest Boulevard
- Agreement will be brought back prior to finalization

Dave Matthews

- Asked if it was the Drawing Room property – no, it was where the Pretty Puppy use to be

Al Huey, 1128 Windy Lynn Avenue

- What is the 17K for – a loan from the Agency for permit fees]

Council directed Mr. McRea to proceed with the agreement and bring it back at future meeting

CITY MANAGER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS

16. **Budget Discussion and Review** Rose/Avery/Winegardner/Staheli

- At last meeting the budget was unbalanced budget and tonight we were to bring you a balance budge
- A printed version will take a bit longer and will be delivered before the public meeting/wok shops

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- 2 public work shops have been scheduled for June 18, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and June 19, noon to whenever
- The regular Council meeting is June 20

Mr. Winegardner gave a brief overall Power Point presentation

CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS

None

COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Community Development Committee

Members: Chair Steve Morgan, Chip Holloway, Jerry Taylor, Nellavan Jeglum

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

Next meeting June 7

City Organization and Services Committee

Members: Chair Tom Wiknich, Chip Holloway, Mike Biddlingmeier, Lois Beres

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

Met on May 10 - subs were Clark and Jeglum for Holloway and Biddlingmeier

- Presentation on by LSC Transportation Consultant revised recommendation for transit services
- Looks like it is workable
- Fixed and dial up system
- Several alternatives presented
- Final report will come back to Council
- Discussed big rig parking

Next meeting June 14

Parks, Recreation and Quality of Life Committee

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

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

Next meeting May 24

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Chair Tom Wiknich, Steve Morgan, Lois Beres, Nellavan Jeglum

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 4:30 p.m., Council Conference Room

Met May 8

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- Drainage problem in parcel at north end of town
 - He and Mr. Speer looked at it and Public Works is investigating
 - Also another one near that area
 - All 7 traffic signals can be done
 - Parking of big rigs and oversize vehicles on residential streets was discussed
 - Send to City Organization and let police look into it
 - Ridgecrest Boulevard update
 - Mandatory trash collection discussed
 - Roads initiative was discussed
 - Looked at projects to see if things can be coordinated and consolidated
 - List of streets project disseminated in priority levels
 - 14 road repair projects - 3 new projects
 - Maintenance of residential repairs
 - Why and what are we talking about mandatory trash collection policy - need one in place for when it will be necessary to go to it
 - Read letter from the State re diversion rate
 - We are being watched
- Next meeting June 12

Mr. Carter requested a survey of citizens as to what they want to do – suggested use of same company that helped the Sierra Sands Unified School District Board

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

Members: Chair Dan Clark, Ron Carter

Meetings: 2nd Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m., Council Conference Room

Met May 9 at Town Hall Meeting

- Shared the process used to put the committee together
- Involved all areas of the community

Met May 14

- Noted the Youth Advisory Committee would be having a Mini-Town Hall
- Christine Destry put together the process and strategies
- Implement Neighborhood Watch with block captains
- Parent education classes
- Youth center
- Moral teaching in schools
- High school prison field trips
- Big brother and Sister mentoring and Youth Advisory Council mentoring
- Tagging house where they can tag
- Invite ex-gang members to give a talk
- Institute same mentoring for junior high

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- Help organize concerts for youth
- Big Brother and Sister program for at risk youth
- This is a preventive program
Next meeting June 11

RACVB

Council Member Holloway

Council Member

Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of the month, 8:00 a.m., RACVB Office

Met this morning but have no minutes to pass on

Next meeting to be announced

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

Clark - Arts Council May 23, 6 pm Kerr-McGee Center

Morgan –

- Tomorrow will go to Bakersfield - sitting in on County Safe Roads Committee ballot issue
- Then the City Selection Committee and LAFCO – hoping to remove Bakersfield from rotating city as they are a permanent member
- Federal funding to Kern County – most will go to west Kern areas
- 4 bound volumes from California Transportation Commission
- STIP (State Transportation Improvement Program) – have to help yourself to get their funding for projects
- Quad state meeting June 15 in Hesperia

Kern County Association of Cities dinner meeting will be at the White Star on May 24

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Carter

- The ACTION Committee is so important
- Other cities are behind us in planning and discussions
- Have one of the best youth groups in the nation
- Get involved and help somehow

Morgan

- Attended meeting in Bakersfield with California Transportation Commission
- Was farther reaching than any one thought
- We are not a self help county
- Bottom line - self help cities get help to fund infrastructure

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- West Mojave Plan - read letter from Kern County on raven control to protect desert tortoise
- Plan intends to remove 5-8K ravens – a "raven fest"
- Fund raiser for community fireworks show June 30 at Kerr-McGee Center

Clark

- Have such a great opportunity in community
- Youth Advisory Committee graduated at their last meeting
- Invited parents to get their kids involved in this endeavor – the Youth Advisory Council
- May 18 is Cero Coso Community College graduation at the Ray McCune Center

Wiknich

- This is addressed to the gentleman who sends emails regarding food for closed sessions – the City does not pay – the participants pay for their own
- We are looking for ways to fight for funds that we deserve for our projects

Holloway

- Thanked Morgan, Wiknich and Clark for covering for him while he was away
- Visited underground in Seattle while he was there
- Addressed letter re "community services thugs"
- Enforcing ordinance created when City began – landlord needs business license for the facility/building if they collect rents

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Holloway adjourned the meeting at 9:16 p.m.

Rita Gable, City Clerk