



**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 2, 2007  
6:00 p.m.**

**Tape Recorded  
Tape 07-08**

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 – 6:00 p.m.**

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Pro Tem Steven Morgan, Vice Mayor Thomas Wiknich, and Council Member Daniel Clark

**ABSENT:** Mayor Marshall Holloway and Council Member Ronald Carter

**STAFF:** Michael Avery, Assistant City Manager; 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; Ronald Strand; Deputy Chief of Police and other personnel

**CLOSED SESSION – 6:00 p.m.**

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

**Added item**

Assistant City Manager Avery requested addition of this item under Closed Session as the need to take action arose subsequent to posting and publishing of the Agenda.

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GC54956.9 Liability Claim 07-06 – Farmers Insurance Company for Walp's Electronics Inc.

Moved by Council Member Clark, second Council Member Wiknich TO ADD THE ITEM. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 3 ayes, 2 absent; Mayor Holloway and Council Member Carter absent

**REGULAR SESSION – 6:32 p.m.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Mayor Pro Tem Morgan**

**INVOCATION – Reverend Ralph Mueller, Ridgecrest Presbyterian Church**

**CITY ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

Assistant City Manager Avery reported that Council received update regarding Matrix Motors – no action taken and Council reviewed the Liability Claim of Farmers Insurance/Walp's Electronics and denied the claim.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved by Council Member Clark, second Council Member Wiknich to APPROVE THE AGENDA. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 3 ayes, 2 absent; Mayor Holloway and Council Member Carter absent.

**PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**1. Youth Advisory Council**

Council Member Clark stated that they are planning a Mini-Town Hall Meeting for Youth Advisory Committee regarding gangs and intervention. Youth Advisory Council 2nd Tuesday at 1145

**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**

James McRea  
2001 – 2006

Harvey Rose  
2001 – 2006

Michael Atkins

Starla Shaver

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2001 – 2006

2001 – 2006

Margaret Rana  
2001 – 2006

Phillip Braem  
2001 - 2006

**10 Years**

Rita Gable  
1996 – 2006

**20 Years**

Ann Taylor  
1986 – 2006

Ronald Strand  
1986 – 2006

**25 Years**

Michael Avery  
1981 - 2006

Harvey Rose and Margaret Rana were absent.

**3. Proclamation – National Day of Prayer**

The City Council presented a proclamation to Dean Elliott, Mayor's Breakfast Chair, Kiwanis Club, in recognition of National Day of Prayer and National Prayer Breakfast, May 3, 2007.

**4, Proclamation – Child Care Providers Appreciation Month**

The City Council presented a proclamation to Little Deer Durvin, Little Deer's Family Child Care, in recognition of Child Care Providers Appreciation Month, May 2007.

**5. Proclamation – Be Kind To Animals Week**

The City Council presented a proclamation to Mary Trowsdale, President, Indian Wells Valley Humane Society, in recognition of Be Kind To Animals Week, May 6-17, 2007.

**6. Proclamation – Motorcycle Awareness Month**

The City Council presented a proclamation to Wade Tallman, Director, Harley Owners Group, Antelope Valley HD, and Darryl McGee, President, American

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Brotherhood Aimed Toward Education Local 58, and Tony Jaime, ABATE State Board member, in recognition of Motorcycle Awareness Month, May 2007.

### 7. Proclamation – Florence Nightingale Day

The City Council presented a proclamation to Celia M Mills R.N., B.S.N., P.H.N, PCCN Clinical Manager ICU/C wing Ridgecrest Regional Hospital and LCDR Sharon Yockley, Nurse Corps, U. S. Navy, Senior Nurse, Branch Medical Clinic, Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake, Cheryl Pullen R.N., Director of Nursing, Ridgecrest Health Care, Mary Kowalski R.N., M.S.N., Faculty Director of Allied Health, Cerro Coso Community College, Lori Parker R.N. Branch Medical Clinic, and Shannon Worrel L.V.N., Optimal Hospice, on behalf of all the Nurses working in the Indian Wells Valley, in recognition of the 187th birthday of Florence Nightingale, May 12.

### 8. Proclamation – Youth Week

The City Council read a proclamation requested by Curt Lumley, Past Exalted Ruler, Youth Activities Chairman, Lodge 1913 Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, in recognition of the first week in May 2007 as Youth Week. Mr. Lumley was not present – the proclamation will be mailed to him.

### 9. Proclamation – Mental Health Month

City Council presented a proclamation to Debbie Covey, President, Jim Eargle, Vice President, and Bob Millsop, Secretary/Treasurer, Depressive and Bi-Polar Support Alliance, in recognition of Mental Health Month, May 2007.

Recessed at 7:03 p.m. to reconvene 7:15 p.m.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Judith Jerrard, 734 E Kendall

- Thanked Mr. Clark for motorcycle awareness proclamation
- Listed many charities they support
- Had plaque from Diabetes Association for funds raised by Rips Bad Ride 9 For Diabetes

Dave Matthews, 717 Kevin Court

- Noted cost of gasoline is outrageous
- Unregulated public utility he thinks and should be regulated
- Asked for letters from Council to state to legislators
- This is an inflationary form affecting ever aspect of our lives
- Time someone does something about it
- Be kind to animals – read about the dog who found the kittens in the desert

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Jerry Taylor, Chairman GPAC

- 5:30 p.m. May 22 is next GPAC meeting
- Thanked the GPAC committee and citizens for attendance and participation

Closed at 7:25 p.m.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

10. Minutes Of The Regular City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting Of April 18, 2007 Gable
11. Council Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated April 13, 2007 In The Amount Of \$329,750.58 Winegardner
12. Agency Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated April 13, 2007 In The Amount Of \$20,296.68 Winegardner

Moved by Council Member Wiknich, second Council Member Morgan TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 3 ayes, 2 absent, Mayor Holloway and Council Member Carter absent.

**CITY MANAGER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS**

13. Budget Presentation Rose/Avery/Winegardner/Staheli

Assistant City Manager Avery stated this is first part of the draft budget – it is unbalanced – and is what it is right now, today

Winegardner – presented three PowerPoint slides with an outline of the budget items in the Preliminary Draft Budget 2007-2008 he distributed. It is the Preliminary Draft Overview. Also showed the timeline for budget progression with June 21 targeted as the date of adoption by the Council.

Council requested and received clarification on a few items. Staff was requested to set dates for public meetings for budget discussion between May 16 and June 21.

Public comment

Jerry Taylor

- Asked about the ISF technical amount – on a 3 year schedule
- A breakdown of all the capital investment would be helpful

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Would need approximately 500K for fire services in case it is added this year

Assistant City Manager Avery told Council that Kern County Fire Department has made a request allowing them to cut holes the JD's building for training – will set no fires it is a static drill.

**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 to be announced - maybe 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

Next meeting May 10

**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

No quorum in April but discussed teen court reinstatement

Next meeting My 24

**Infrastructure Committee**

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

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

Next meeting May 8

**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., Kerr-McGee Center

Next meeting May 14

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### **RACVB**

Council Member Holloway

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

Next meeting May 16

### **OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS**

Clark - Arts Council fund raiser May 7 7-10 p.m. USO Building.\$25 per ticket

Wiknich – attended the Desert-Mountain Division League of California Cities meeting –noted bills and items that are coming up

- SB 2 Requires homeless housing in every community
- SB zoning in 10 year increments
- AB 32 need to find out how it impacts global warming
- AB 370 group homes
- Eminent domain group is coming back again – were defeated last time out
- League is opposing all of these

Morgan –

- Attended California Transportation Committee meeting in San Luis Obispo
- Was a disaster for Kern County and he was embarrassed
- KernCOG had list well above proposed - 1B funds 63M augmentation
- 38M to Bakersfield and 22M to all rest of the county
- Boils down to - if not self help you get no help – those with tax measures passed will get most of the augmentation funding

### **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Wiknich -**

- Still thanked Mr. Morgan for going to that meeting
- Happy to see flyer for High Desert Medical Supply expansion – a very much needed service
- Encouraged other Council Members to bring forth any items for his committees

**Clark -**

- Last meeting we asked Mr. Rose to call the consultants re survey of bonds
- Request a proposal from the ones that did the school district issue
- Received a solicitation from one that does municipalities
- Sympathy for Mr. Morgan's embarrassing trip to San Luis Obispo
- Do street work in house and as a community
- Thanked Literacy Council for letting him talk about Mesquite High School
- Congratulated National Health Services for their grand opening

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- He worked for a while with the Ridgecrest Cares on the Wilson Street Project
- Thanked Deputy Chief Ron Strand for research he did for him
- Mayor's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 a.m. tomorrow at Kerr-McGee cost \$8

**Morgan -**

- Praised all those who do the "heavy work" – the mothers of the world
- Your job is the hardest
- Thanked all the mothers and wished them a Happy Mother's Day for May 12
- Citizens say they want the Teen Court back
- Teen Court is a major expense and if you want it back you come to Council during budget discussions
- Very disturbing events lately with the vandalism and desecration of a church
- We are not doing enough to impress the juveniles that there are severe penalties when laws are
- Maybe we need a community watch program
- Why his attitude being so negative? – it's because he is frustrated with all the concerns we have with no solutions or suggestions for solutions

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Pro Tem Morgan adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

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Rita Gable, City Clerk