



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL AND
RIDGECREST REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL AND
RIDGECREST PLANNING COMMISSION**

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

**October 17 2007
6:30 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 – 6:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: Mayor Marshall Holloway, Council Member Ronald Carter

STAFF: Harvey Rose, City Manager; Wayne 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.

- GC54956.9 Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation - Special Service Contractors v. City of Ridgecrest
- GC54956.8 RRA Real Property negotiations - Status Report, 112 W. Ridgecrest Boulevard, a portion of APN 067-192-26 - Agency Negotiators Harvey Rose, Michael Avery, and James McRea

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

In closed session Council received update on the Special Service Contractors issue; and Council gave direction to staff to continue negotiations regarding 112 W. Ridgecrest Boulevard.

ADJOURN TO SPECIAL MEETING at 6:33 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL / PLANNING COMMISSION

CALL TO ORDER - 6:33p.m.

ROLL CALL OF PLANNING COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT: Chairman Mike Biddlingmeier, Planning Commissioners Jerry Taylor, Lois Beres, and Nellavan Jeglum

ABSENT: Planning Commissioner Howard Laire,

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Sgt. John Wojciehowski

INVOCATION – Reverend Judy Battershell, St. Michael's Episcopal Church

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

Captain M. K. Gleason, Commanding Officer, Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake, will give a presentation of the AICUZ Study. (Air Installation Compatible Use Zone).

ADJOURNMENT OF SPECIAL MEETING 7:42 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem recessed the meeting at 7:45 p.m. to reconvene at 7:50 p.m.

RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION - CITY COUNCIL / REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY – 7:50 p.m.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Report given immediately after Closed Session

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

None

2. Proclamation California Writers

Mayor Pro Tem Morgan, on behalf of the Council, read and presented a proclamation to Curt Danhausen, President, Ridge Writers of the California Writers Club, in recognition of California Writers Week, October 14-20, 2007.

3. Proclamation - National Disabilities Employment Awareness

Mayor Pro Tem Morgan, on behalf of the Council read and presented a proclamation to Jinny DeAngelis, Chief Executive Officer, Cris Bridges, Chief of Client Services, Dan Deegan, Chief Financial Officer, Bob Beecroft, Chief Operations Officer, Gale Vanderpool, Human Resources Director, and Board of Director's members, Desert Area Resources and Training, in recognition of National Disabilities employment Awareness Month, October 2007.

PUBLIC COMMENT 757

Nancy Ribultan, Family Resources Center

- Just a FYI
- They do a lot of counseling to pregnant teens
- Had a teen with sore mouth who was on MediCal
- Pulled her own tooth but did not get the roots
- Could not find a dentist locally that would take her because of the MediCal
- No dentists for adults that takes MediCal – only one for children under 14
- City needs to be aware of this situation
- A large portion of our community is on MediCal with no facilities here

Nancy Cox, Health care specialist at Mesquite

- Dental care is sorely needed for the MediCal patients
- Teens between 14 and 18 are very needy

David Glazer

- Some of his comments will be directed to prior ladies
- Said he will sleep better after hearing AICUZ tonight
- Ridgecrest exists is because of the base
- Has a suggestion for MediCal people leave - if no services here go somewhere where they take MediCal
- It's not Ridgecrest's job to provide dental care

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Dorothy Brown

- Been here since 1968, loves the area, and intends to stay
- Her suggestion to Mr. Glazer is if he doesn't like MediCal patients maybe he should move
- It was a great presentation by Captain Gleason on AICUZ and is very happy that the base is here

Dave Matthews

- Been reading and hearing about left turn lane off W. Ridgecrest Boulevard for Rite Aid
- Right from the beginning it was said no left hand turn lane off into Rite Aid
- Went to Albertson's to Starbucks and stopped at Bowman Road and S. China Lake Boulevard– the roundabout area
- That intersection has to be four lanes
- We don't have the land or area for a roundabout

William Dale Howard

- Has just witnessed one of the most magnificent presentations ever at City Council
- Only thing missing was public questions or input
- Doesn't know what other people may think or feel about this
- Information is a wonderful
- At recent City Organization Committee meeting heard a participant ask if he could form a group to help the Code Enforcement Officer
- Would just handle mundane things like looking up records, etc.
- Scares him to death to have something like this happen

Closed at 8:12 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

4. **Resolution No. 07-51, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing City Manager To Enter Into A Contract With Horizon Mechanical For Installation Of Pool Heater And Repair Of Surge Tank**
Ponek
5. **Resolution N0. 07-52, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Setting A Date For A Public Hearing To Discuss A Proposed Ballot Issue Funding Infrastructure Improvements**
Rose
6. **Minutes Of The Regular City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting Of October 3, 2007**
Gable

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7. **Investment Reports Through June 30, 2007** Winegardner
8. **Council Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated September 29, 2007 In The Amount Of \$269,376.25** Winegardner
9. **Agency Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated September 29, 2007 In The Amount Of \$2,077.25** Winegardner

There were two comments

Editorial comment by Council Member Morgan on #4 – on the City Council/Redevelopment Agency Agenda Item form (staff report) - Summary paragraph 3 – requested removal of the sentence "We are glad to see the bid come in under budget as we now have additional funding if needed for the Pool Re-Plaster job in which bids are due October 31". Mr. Morgan stated any surplus funds will be put into the General Fund and distributed as appropriate.

Council Member Wiknich on the #5 resolution stating that this meeting will be the first public meeting to discuss the proposed roads initiative (tax/bond (?) measure for infrastructure).

Moved by Council Member Clark, second Council Member Wiknich TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALLENDAR. Public comment heard. Carried with a voice vote of 3 ayes, 2 absent; Mayor Holloway and Council Member Carter absent.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

10. **Introduction And First Reading, By Title Only, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Amending The Ridgecrest Municipal Code To Prohibit The Use Of Streets And Alleys For Parking, Standing, And Storage Of Certain Vehicles** Avery

Chief Avery

- This ordinance amends the Ridgecrest Municipal Code to prohibit the use of streets and alleys for parking, standing, and storage of certain vehicles
- The City Organization and Services Committee has discussed semi-truck parking on city streets for several months
- These discussions reviewed our current ordinance, the history of semi-truck parking within the city and the best way to regulate parking in the future
- After reviewing applicable codes the Committee recommended introduction of an ordinance to restrict commercial vehicles over 5 tons from parking on all city streets, except when the vehicle is being loaded and unloaded

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- The attached ordinance has been reviewed by the City Attorney and approved as to form.

Council comments

Wiknich

- ❖ Ordinance was finalized at City Organization and Services Committee October 11
- ❖ Had some pictures of damages to streets by jacks and fluid leakage

Clark

- ❖ His class at Mesquite High School voted today to reject the ordinance
- ❖ He asked what size vehicles are included
 - Chief Avery replied under 5 tons is safe

Morgan

- This stops short of motor homes, RVs and 5th wheels - they are sight hazards
 - Chief Avery stated they are covered by the 72 hour parking ordinance

Public comment

Robert Gould

- Concerned that big rigs in a lot or in the streets are attractive nuisance for kids
- Kids love to climb all over big trucks and construction equipment

Andy Kilikauskas

- Good ordinance and a good start but it doesn't go far enough
- Thinks it's a bigger mostly about the RV's in the streets

Jerry Taylor

- Yes, pass this
- As to the RVs we need to address that
- And also address the setbacks on property needed to park the RVs in the front yard

Dorothy Brown

- Does this replace the ordinance on the books or in addition to it
 - In addition to what is already on the books
- The cost of posting signs is much cheaper then repairing the street damage

William Dale Howard

- In his opinion this ordinance is stupid or just ignorant

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- We work hard to get economic development into this city
- The first 12 truckers who sell their homes elsewhere and come in get hit with this ordinance
- This is not just on residential streets it's all city streets
- Chief Avery originally stated it was vehicle weight now it is gross vehicle weight
- No way police can protect vehicles when they are parked in lots - they didn't protect his or Grosshardt's when they were parked in lots

Frank Nickelson

- Has lived in his house 37 years in a residential area
- Now neighborhood seems to be turning into a truck stop
- They are within two block of his home
- Within a 4 block area there were 10 trucks in the area
- Had pictures of some of them and gave to Council to see

Betty Seaman

- Commented about truck storage or parking facilities that are coming up for the trucks costing \$100. per month
- Some local truckers only come home for a few days a month
- Paying for a whole month and only using it for a few days is not practical
- Wondered if Council could influence them to go to daily rates

Chief Avery said he would talk to Mike Thomas at the fairgrounds about the possibility of daily rates

Clark

- ❖ Asked Chief Avery how do you feel about the 5 ton limit after hearing about the weight of some of the vehicles
- ❖ 72 hours is 3 days and how many trucks are parked more than this time
- ❖ How will we handle outside (passing through) trucker who wants to stay at Motel 6

Chief Avery

- Subsection A makes it illegal to park, period and subsection B covers that it can be towed in 3 days
- Will talk with Mike Thomas to see what can be done about transporting trucker to restaurants or shopping in town after they park at fairgrounds

Wiknich

- ❖ We checked around and staff looked at other communities ordinances and finally came to this weight

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Morgan

- ❖ Most restaurants don't have adequate parking lots to accommodate large vehicles
- ❖ Shuttle vans might be a solution and our transit system might also be part of the system

Moved by Council Member Wiknich, second Morgan To Waive Reading In Full Carried with a voice vote of 3 ayes; 2 absent; Mayor Holloway and Council Member Carter absent.

Introduction, By Title Only, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST AMENDING THE RIDGECREST MUNICIPAL CODE TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF STREETS AND ALLEYS FOR PARKING, STANDING, AND STORAGE OF CERTAIN VEHICLES. Public comment heard. Carried with a roll call vote of 2 ayes, 1 no, 2 absent; Mayor Holloway and Cam Carter absent.

CITY MANAGER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS

None

CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS

Wayne Lemieux noted that Keith is not here because he had a meeting to attend. He stated that it was nice to be here again tonight.

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

Met October 4

- Received GPAC update – it is a continuing item
 - Integrated Waste Management Board update that we need a 2008 plan in place to meet Board's approval
 - Bowman Corridor update
 - Update from Ridgecrest Cares
- Next meeting November 1

City Organization and Services Committee

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

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

Met October 12

- Discussed and finalized the big rig ordinance
- Discussed PACT Volunteers assisting Code Enforcement Officer
- PD In process of hiring a PACT coordinator
- IFS funds discussed – will continue one more year and be different format
- Received report on transit system –KernCOG contract
- Discussed the Crest transit from Carson City into Ridgecrest – thinking about extending to Lancaster
- CREST thinking about moving stop out to Highway 14
- Discussed Gas tax

Next meeting November 8

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 October 25

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

Met October 9

- Discussed traffic plan for new Rite Aid
- Discussed survey for the ballot initiative
- Received General Plan update
- Bowman Road corridor plan - cost of 4 lane intersection and WalMart to Norma
- Discussed the Bowman Road fill dirt excavation plan
- Median program for China Lake Boulevard
- Question of intersection of French Avenue and China Lake Boulevard
- Stop sign Balsam Street and Argus Avenue
- Received update on W. Ridgecrest Boulevard
- Updated on pothole patching machine – Mr. Speer will go out to sole source
- Update on Gas tax funds, DOT Programs and 2008 RTIP
- Next meeting will be finalizing project list for ballot initiative

Next meeting October 22 (special)

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

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Met October 15

- Jody Rummer school report - day watch school for expelled students
 - Deputy Chief Stand reported neighborhood watch will be starting soon
 - Rev. Ralph Mueller reported mentorship program will be up soon
 - Nancy Ribultan reported on parenting program
 - Youth incentive - Youth Employment Services presentation - Starla Shaver
- Next meeting November 5

RACVB

Council Member Holloway

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

Met October 17

- Doug Lueck and Virginia Sanders completed and passed Association of Film Commissioner's International course "film Commission fundamentals"
 - Attended San Diego NBC Travel Show September 28-30
 - New Marriott Springhill Suites very interested in becoming RACVB member
 - Will host California Travel and Tourism Commission Desert Region Workshop November 1-2
 - Mayor Holloway will emcee the invitation only workshop
 - Attended various meetings -
 - October 10 California Travel and Tourism Commission in Palm Springs
 - Also a meeting for California Deserts visitors Association - Mr. Lueck was appointed treasurer
 - John DiPol of Ridgecrest has written and submitted article to the Sun runner Magazine - "City of Ridgecrest, Then and Now - featured in October/November issue
 - Has been approached by Inland Empire Film Commission to run for the California Deserts District BLM Advisory Council
 - RACVB helped the city facilitate the View Finders Motocross October 6-7
 - Attended the 2007 "COLA" awards in Industry Hills October 4.
 - Ridgecrest Film Commission had three finalists
 - Location Profession of the Year - Mandi Dillin of Iron Works Productions
 - Location Team/Production Company of the Year - Iron Works Productions - for Iron Man
 - Public Employee of the Year - Elaine Hanson - BLM
 - August and September had 7 days of filming generating \$295,000 of local film revenue
 - October filming in progress - Dancing Coyote shooting a philosophical film called "Dancing on a Dry Salt Lake
 - They will film 9 days at various locations - Trona Pinnacle, Poison Canyon and Trona/Wildrose Road
 - Expected revenue from Dancing Coyote is \$450,000
- Next meeting November 21

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

Clark - Arts Council October 24 5:30 Kerr-McGee Center

Morgan - going to KernCOG tomorrow – will talk about W. Ridgecrest Boulevard project – presentation in November

Would like a letter from City to KernCOG not to make a recommendation

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Wiknich

- He and Chip have been discussing weight and how they are larger than they should be
- He is officially challenging everyone to join them in a "Weight Off" endeavor – 90 days starting Monday October 22 and end January 21
- Incentive – deposit any amount of money of \$100 or more – loose 10% of weight in 90 days
- Eva will help taking deposits and doing weigh-ins – checks to be made out to PACT – if you don't lose they get it
- Lose your 10% and you get your money back
- Person losing the most weight - based on percentage - wins \$200 donated by himself and Chip

Clark

- China Lake a National Treasure - how beautiful that is
- General Alan adoption and AICUZ didn't come up just now
- Thanked Captain Gleason for the great presentation
- Senator Hilary Clinton called him and Ron to come to Fresno to listen to her speech
- Monday they are taking 15 of their youth leadership Team up to see and hear her
- Asked about acquisition of professional consultant for the infrastructure bond
 - Wiknich not advocating the consultant for a survey but maybe for the actual ballot designation and paperwork
- He and Mayor will visit the Ridgecrest Health Care Center shortly
- Deputy Chief Strand visited Mesquite High School and shared his vision for community policing
- Thinks Jim Ponek is next to visit the school

Morgan

- We have had wonderful couple week with the fair and motocross
- Oct 19 next Burroughs game – attendance is waning - please come

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- Oct 20 & 21 very busy with Pow-Wow, Maturango Junction, Harvest Ball
USO
- Oct 24 China Lake Golf Club – free golf all day if you have a tee time - call
them for tee time
- Oct 26 another Burroughs game - it's Homecoming
- Oct 27 & 28 Cocker Spaniel dog show at Fairgrounds
- Oct 27 Old Town Walk
- Oct 27 All Star Bowling Tournament
- News Review article about roundabout
- Controversy about the roundabout – the news is actually a lot of
misinformation
- Refuse to be labeled dishonest and shouldn't have but blew up at a
committee meeting
- Add item to next Council agenda that any discussion on the roundabout be
held only at City Council

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Morgan adjourned the meeting at 9:32 p.m.

Rita Gable, City Clerk