



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

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

**February 6, 2008
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 Marshall Holloway, Mayor Pro Tem Steven Morgan, Vice Mayor Thomas Wiknich, and Council Member Daniel Clark

ABSENT: Council Member Carter

STAFF: Harvey Rose, City Manager; Steven O'Neill, City Attorney; Rita Gable, City Clerk; Tyrell Staheli, Budget Officer; Jim McRea, Public Services Department Director, Dennis Speer, 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 Conference With Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation - Matrix Motor Company v. City of Ridgecrest

REGULAR SESSION – 6:35 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION – Reverend Jim Weston, Desert Christian Center

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Council received information and discussed existing litigation regarding Matrix Motor Company: instruction given to City Attorney

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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Rose requested addition of Oasis Garden Club 50th Anniversary Proclamation which arose subsequent to publication of the Agenda.

Moved by Council Member Morgan, second Council Member Wiknich TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE PROCLAMATION ADDED. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent; Council Member Carter absent.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Added item

Proclamation - Oasis Garden Club 50th Anniversary

Mayor Pro Tem Morgan, on behalf of the Council, read and presented a proclamation honoring the 50th Anniversary of the Oasis Garden Club. A special luncheon will be held Saturday at Victoria's at the Heritage.

1. **Youth Advisory Council**

None

2. **Proclamation - Honoring Howard and Barbara Auld**

Council Member Clark on behalf of the Council, read and presented a proclamation honoring Howard and Barbara Auld in recognition of their contributions for acknowledging the veterans of Ridgecrest and Indian Wells Valley for service to our country, the memorial tree plaques honoring each branch of military service, and in general their generous gift of their time and knowledge contributing to the general betterment of the community. A statue from the Arts Council dedicated to and honoring their selfless efforts for our veterans and community will be placed in Freedom Park.

3. **Presentation - Healthy Weight Loss Challenge**

Mayor Holloway and Vice Mayor Wiknich presented the \$200 prize to Gene Schneider who lost 13% of her total body weight within the timeframe designated for the Healthy Weight Loss Challenge. Entry fee checks totaling \$1,300 from the participants who did not meet their goal weight. were presented Marty Dorrell, Executive Director of P.A.C.T. It is noted that even though Vice Mayor Wiknich met his weight loss goal he is forfeiting his entry fee to P.A.C.T.

PLEASE NOTE - THERE IS NO ITEM 4. - A MIS-NUMBERING OCCURRED.

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5. Presentation - Weill Institute Small Business Development Center

Mr. Allan Jaffe, Weill Institute Small Business Development Center Counselor, presented the Center's Activity pursuant to City of Ridgecrest Resolution 07-41.

PUBLIC COMMENT 7:10 pm

Dave Matthews

- Seconded the congratulations given the Ault's
- Noticed how old we as well as the Auld are getting
- They have been around for quite a while and hope to see them around for sometime longer

CONSENT CALENDAR

6. **Resolution No. 08-02, A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest To Award A Contract To The Lowest Responsible Bidder For Construction Of Handicap Access Improvements At Various Locations (CD #17.06.1) Subject To The Approval Of The Department Of Community Development** Pollock

Item removed for discussion

7. **Resolution No. 08-01, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Sign A Security Agreement With The Developer For The Completion Of Public Improvements Associated With Tract 6471 Unit B, Authorize Recordation Of The Final Tract Map For Tract 6471 Unit B And Authorize A One Year Extension Of Time For Tentative Tract 6471** Pollock

The Developer of Tract 6471 Unit B desires to record the final map for same. Some public improvements remain to be completed and the Developer desires to enter into a security agreement with the City of Ridgecrest to secure completion of said improvements. The Developer is also requesting an extension of time for one year for Tentative Tract 6471 to allow completion of Unit C which is the final phase. Tract 6471 Unit B would create 21 lots one of which would be dedicated to the City of Ridgecrest for drainage purposes. The Developer is Emerald Point Development. Tract 6471 is generally located at the northeast corner of Jarvis Avenue and Norma Street.

8. **Resolution No. 08-03, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing City Manager To Enter Into Contract With Michael J's Incorporated For Re-Painting Of City Hall Structural Steel Window Frame Unit In The Amount Of \$34,475.00** Ponek

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9. **Resolution No. 08-04; A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing Recordation Of A Notice Of Completion And Payment To Horizon Mechanical For The Pool Heater And Repair Of Surge Tank**

Ponek

10. **Resolution No. 08-05; A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing Recordation Of A Notice Of Completion, And Payment To De Frenchi Pool Plastering For The Pool Re-Plaster And Tile Repair**

Ponek

Item removed for discussion

11. **Resolution No. 08- , A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Accepting The Donated Art From The Ridgecrest Arts Council And Credit The Arts Council Matching Fund At A Value Of \$4,295.00**

Ponek

This is a recommendation from the Parks, Recreation and Quality of Life Committee to accept the donated art sculpture from the Ridgecrest Arts Council and credit the Arts Council matching fund at a value of \$4,295.00.

12. **Resolution No. 08-06, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Setting A Public Hearing For Unmet Transit Needs**

Speer

13. **Resolution No. 08-07, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing Purchases In Accordance With The City Purchasing And Budget Policy Pursuant To Resolution 07-36**

Winegardner

This resolution authorizes purchases from various budgeted accounts. Purchases are in excess of current City Manager threshold and require City Council approval.

14. **Minutes Of The Regular City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting Of January 16, 2008**

Gable

15. **Investment Reports for October 2007 to December 2007**

Winegardner

16. **Council Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated January 18, 2008 In The Amount Of \$195,857.95**

Winegardner

17. **Agency Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated January 18, 2008 In The Amount Of \$21,072.72**

Winegardner

Mr. Rose requested removal of item 7

Mike Neel requested removal of item 11

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Moved Council Member Wiknich, second Council Member Morgan TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR WITH ITEMS 7 and 11 REMOVED. Public comment heard. Carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent; Council Member Carter absent

7. Resolution No. 08- , A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing The Mayor To Sign A Security Agreement With The Developer For The Completion Of Public Improvements Associated With Tract 6471 Unit B, Authorize Recordation Of The Final Tract Map For Tract 6471 Unit B And Authorize A One Year Extension Of Time For Tentative Tract 6471

Pollock

Public Works Director Dennis Speer

- Developer has met with staff and has asked for modification to this item
- Staff recommends paving per the Map Act –

Developer is Emerald Point - Mr. Bell

- Provided info that they do not want to sign a security agreement
- Wants to complete the improvements under Unit C unless council wants to push for it now
- If done now it will be 550 feet of half a street
- If delayed it will give other developer to the north more time to complete that project
- If done now will have to be torn up for utilities later on

Moved by Council Member Holloway, second Council Member Morgan voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent; Council Member Carter absent

11. Resolution No. 08- , A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Accepting The Donated Art From The Ridgecrest Arts Council And Credit The Arts Council Matching Fund At A Value Of \$4,295.00

Ponek

Mike Neel

- had questions regarding Arts Council budget allocation of \$15K by the City
- Now are asking credit for "donating" credit for a \$4,295 statue
- Matching funds means like items
- Feels this is a bit of a stretch that this statue is matching funds
- No funds were acquired for the Council to match
- Nice that someone donated this to the Aulds but it is not matching funds

Council Member Clark stated that when we (the Arts Council) raise funds many artists donate pieces of art and we raffle them off and get funds. Rather than doing that with this bench we felt it had a better place in the Veterans Freedom Park. The piece was researched and that is the price it would be to buy it

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Mike Neel stated sees Mr. Clark's logic but doesn't agree with it

Moved by Council Member Clark, second Council Member Morgan TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 08- , A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTING THE DONATED ART FROM THE RIDGECREST ARTS COUNCIL AND CREDIT THE ARTS COUNCIL MATCHING FUND AT A VALUE OF \$4,295.00. Public comment heard. Carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent; Council Member Carter absent

PUBLIC HEARINGS

18. **A Continued Public Hearing To Consider Planning Commission Recommendation For General Plan Amendments, (GPA-07-01 A,B,C) And Zoning Reclassifications, (ZC-07-01 A, B) On Certain Properties. Applicant: City Of Ridgecrest; A Concurrent Public Hearing Was Continued And Re-Noticed For February 06, 2008 On The Appeal, As Filed For Two Of The Three Recommendations; Adoption Of Resolution 08- , And Introduction For First Reading By Title Only Of Ordinance 08- Is Presented For Action** McRea

Attachments shown for reference only, included within staff report or Planning Commission Report

1. Resolution to Approve General Plan Amendments 07-01 A,B,C,
2. An Ordinance and first reading to Approve Zone Changes 07-01 A,B,
3. Appeal Documentation submitted by Appellants,
4. Planning Commission Minutes, November 13, 2007,
5. Planning Commission Staff Report, November 13, 2007

Each portion of this item will be taken separately.

#A Patton property GPA-07-01A from Medium Density Residential (MD to Industrial (I) and Commercial (C) - staff recommends acceptance of PC decision

Public hearing opened at 7:40 pm

Floyd Walters – gave a PowerPoint presentation showing the properties in question, surrounding areas, and the aircraft approaches and departures from the airfield at NAWS. Presentation included info re noise abatement procedures.

- He understands the changes to the zoning and land use was because of safety reasons – aircraft noise
- Asked how did we get to the noise conditions over Ridgecrest
- Asked for a list of the property the city owns
- Asked Council to deny/overrule the Council Member decision

Council Member Wiknich

- ❖ Asked if Mr. Patton was the current owner of the property

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- Yes he is
- ❖ Are there any plans for use of this property
 - Mr. McRea said there was none in process but there has been a potential buyer
 - The project shown on the presentation was a possible project with \$2M funds from Kern County Housing Authority for senior housing in 2002-2003 that was before ACUZ and JLUS
 - Most of the info in the PowerPoint was shown to the Planning Commission
 - Mr. Patton and Kern County were told it was not a good area for residential projects
 - The new ACUZ is being used in the development of the update of the General Plan

Mr. Walters

- How many written noise complaints have been logged at NAWS
- Two schools are in this area as is a new hotel and the hospital which is expanding and the business park, etc.

Public Comment was heard from Steve Zimmer who stated Section 5.4 of ACUZ indicated 84 complaints recorded

Council Member Clark

- ❖ The project mention in the PowerPoint was the Hidden Lakes Senior Project
- ❖ Our communications with the base was not as strong then as it is now
- ❖ They (Navy) stated it was in conflict with the AICUZ at that time- a concern with them was the noise
- ❖ The aircraft of the future will be more of a concern
- ❖ What requirements will be put upon us by the new technology such as the unmanned drones that carry explosives
- ❖ Has to uphold the Planning Commission decision

Council Member Wiknich

- ❖ Also upholds the pc decision

Council Member Morgan

- ❖ Read the Political Reform Act re government positions that concerns financial interests
- ❖ Stated his position on answering specific questions regarding aircraft and operations within his expertise
- ❖ Feels the Planning Commission made the right decisions based on all the information that they had

Item #B has no appeal but it does change the land use

Item #C Zimmer property and is a General Plan Amendment of 36 acres with current zone MD, no zone change to ED but a general plan change to match the zone

Steve Zimmer, Desert Willows Partners GPA-07-01C gave a PowerPoint presentation as they disagree with the down zoning of the property

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- This will be financially disastrous as they had plans to develop it under the Medium Density
- Showed the 4 aircraft departure tracks and the noise footprint over the City from the 2007 AICUZ
- The property is south of and adjacent to Faller School
- The new departure tracks are not over or overly close to the property
- Showed the Military Influence Area from the 2007 AICUZ (Air Installation Compatible Use Zone)
- If there are no safety or noise issues why are we here
- Feels the Planning Division (Mr. Alexander) has provided the Planning Commission and the Council with bad information
- Quoted a statement by Mr. Alexander to him in a meeting -- "Steve I have made a lot of developers a lot of money and I can do it for you too"

Nellavan Jeglum

- Told Mr. Zimmer - "Shame on you – you are a stranger in the community and have slandered a man who has been an asset to our community"

Mike Neel

- Understand the preconceptions on both sides of this issue
- After these statements there needs to be an investigation into this
- Especially after the statement about Mr. Alexander

David Glazer

- Did not hear everything that you said but what I did hear is outrageous
- Just because the comment was outrageous does not make it true
- Don't agree with Council all the time

Lois Beres

- It may be personnel
- When he states we show up and make decisions within 30 minutes he is off base
- We get our packets two weeks ahead of time and study them
- Resent his statement

Craig Smith Attorney for Desert willows

- Brought a copy of the November 13 2007 staff report
- Client is not happy with the approval of the downsizing
- In event Council approves the decision in the taking of the property all economic value of property go down if downgraded and compensation will have to be made
- It will render it useless
- Not for a legitimate purpose
- Arbitrary plan
- Unwarranted use of the property
- Planning staff and Planning Commission took action based on the AICUZ
- The Military Influence Area is an arbitrary thing
- Down zoning based on some theoretical matter that may be taken up in 2009 is not valid
- Being arbitrarily put into effect – no rhyme or reason how it was drawn up

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- The November 13 report comments on the AICUZ foot printing by Mr. Alexander on page 6
- The rationale for the MIA for this property does not make sense – not with a 60 db range
- Departure tracks are being shifted west of Jacks Ranch Road
- The concerns to the property do not exist
- Seems to be a conflict of interest
- Asked opinion letter from City Attorney which he has not received
- Has had discussion with Mr. Lemieux
- Biddlingmeier does work for the Base/Navy
- Does not believe that the Navy has ever made a recommendation of down zoning of this property
- January 22 2008 Planning Commission meeting emphasis on AICUZ and MIA
- Action being proposed to the property is unwarranted
- Submits to Council action being presented by Planning Commission should be rejected
- Compensation for taking the property should be made - if not then court action will follow

Dave Matthews

- Lives just north of Las Flores School
- Knows the Navy has a mission and we support it
- Do not like to see developments come in and crowd out airports as happens in many areas down south of us
- Hurts him that three things are being taken here to get around a regulation
- When country first formed there is something about Congress will not pass laws that are retroactive
- Thinks that you should just throw these things out

Gary Zimmer, uncle of Steve Zimmer and architect for this project

- Stated studied the land here in 2005 met with Lois Landrum and Gary Parsons
- Hammered out a solution they were happy with - some problems with land acquisition
- Trying to do something reasonable and good with this property
- It was residential and must have minimum density
- Final solution for the 36 acres of 5 contiguous parcels of medium density is to build quality affordable housing

William Dale Howard

- Recently received an email showing a salute to public servants - did not render it here
- First recollection of this property was it was to be the fairgrounds years ago
- The school has been there for a long, long time
- Comments heard that the land would become useless if this approved
- Cannot see that unless the Navy mission was curtailed and all property value would decline
- Don't agree with some of the things said about Mr. Alexander

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- Cannot see anyone who is trying to get something done in the City attacking the smallest dog in the litter
- If you do it to Carole Vaughn then you must be consistent
- The thing we have to do is plan it the best we can

Walt Maurer

- If we have to be consistent we have to do it by two conditions -
 - Obey and observe the constitutional principles
 - The biblical you cannot steal
- You do need to look at these principle and go there

Dave Matthews

- Re his house - he mentioned that is does not know what 65 dbs is
- Many mornings he hears planes taking off from the base and they are loud, really loud
- Do not pay attention to where their flight line is but will start doing so

McRea

- Re the November 13 staff report see page 6-7-8 of Mr. Alexander's comments
- There are quite a few streets in the area that are only ½ streets
- There are many pieces of open land in that area
- It is currently zoned Urban Reserve and to do what he wants to do he has to have a zone change
- The General Plan rules over the zoning

Attorney for Willows Partners

- Regarding the road issues and development of the property there is no road going to it
- What's considered is the highest and best use of the property
- It is in fact higher density than 35 units

Steve Zimmer

- If you review schools in adjacent neighborhood around the Nation you will find higher density
- More safety fewer buses, etc.
- Impact relative to Faller cut the density

Closed public hearing at 9:30 p.m.

Council

Council Member Morgan

- ❖ Perception is reality
- ❖ Perception if he takes only 1 persons view on the bible and constitution and to hell with the base
- ❖ That concept will not fly at all – we are tied to that base
- ❖ The GPA committee indicates they want less density on the outskirts of the city
- ❖ Check the maps on the walls – this is what this community wants
- ❖ Lots of good info from the staff and Planning Commission and others

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- ❖ Still have not seen what Mr. Zimmer wants to do with this property

Steve Zimmer

- First step is to create a consensus that the City and the Navy like and is workable to us
- Will forward copies of their developments – they are multiple
- Will provide all communications between them and staff to Council

Council Member Morgan

- ❖ There is nothing he has seen that tells him that you have done anything there
- ❖ Sees no reason why there cannot be some mixed development there
- ❖ Something that works with the surrounding properties
- ❖ Anxious to see what developments can be done under the Estate Density zoning

Council Member Wiknich

- ❖ Asked why the MIA is not evenly distributed but CAPT Gleason gave that answer in a presentation
- ❖ The departure is done consecutively with ammunition and explosives
- ❖ We have to make sure we do not make mistakes that may have been done In the past

Mr. Zimmer

- If that is the case why are we allowing Faller School to expand and exist
- Understand that it is not under the control of the city but It is in the city

Mayor Holloway

- ❖ Comments will be relative to both A and C
- ❖ You stated why are we here
- ❖ We are here again to try to settle this so we don't have to go over it again and again
- ❖ The Planning Commission is there to protect the General Plan
- ❖ All military air stations are facing huge encroachment issues
- ❖ We are 1 of 2 bases that has not been closed for this reason
- ❖ We had made decisions to avert this years ago to preserve this base
- ❖ The base and the airspace has been called a National Treasurer
- ❖ Not trying to protect a base but a business
- ❖ They operate with a budget and line items for funding
- ❖ History has to be recognized and protected for the future
- ❖ Has to be a trust between the base and the City
- ❖ This is such a pristine area and valuable facility
- ❖ We maintain a living for the City and protect that airspace
- ❖ Chafes him that there is no formal application yet for this property
- ❖ Mentioned Senator Pete Knight's bill regarding preservation of military bases
- ❖ It is our responsibility to protect a viable way of life for the citizens

Council Member Clark

- ❖ You purchase a property zoned UR and if you have had it for at least 5 years you should have been at the table during our General Plan Amendment discussions
- ❖ We have a General Plan for a reason to
- ❖ Cannot support the appeal

Resolution No 08- ; A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City of Ridgecrest Approving General Plan Amendment No. 07-01 A,B,C, A Request For An Amendment To The City Of Ridgecrest General Plan To Change The Land Use Of Certain Properties. Applicant: City Of Ridgecrest

Moved by Council Member Clark, second Council Member Wiknich TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO 08- ; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST APPROVING GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 07-01 A,B,C, A REQUEST FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF RIDGECREST GENERAL PLAN TO CHANGE THE LAND USE OF CERTAIN PROPERTIES. APPLICANT: CITY OF RIDGECREST. Public comment heard. Carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent; Council Member Carter absent.

Introduction and first reading, by title only, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Adopting Zone Change No. ZC-07-01 A, B, Changing The Zoning District Of Certain Properties. Applicant - City Of Ridgecrest

Moved by Council Member Clark, second Council Member Morgan TO WAIVE READING IN FULL AND TO INTRODUCE, BY TITLE ONLY, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST ADOPTING ZONE CHANGE NO. ZC-07-01 A, B, CHANGING THE ZONING DISTRICT OF CERTAIN PROPERTIES. APPLICANT - CITY OF RIDGECREST. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent; Council Member Carter absent.

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

19. Review And Approval Of An M.O.U. For Community Welcome Sign/China Lake Rotary Centennial Project McRea

This item is a continuation of an item previously discussed at the City Council meeting of November 7th, 2007. Staff was directed to continue discussions on the design of the proposed community entry sign to more accurately reflect the community.

Moved by Council Member Wiknich, second Mayor Holloway TO ACCEPT AND FILE.. No public comment. Carried with voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent; Council Member Carter absent.

20. Proposed Bond Issue(s)

Continuing discussion regarding proposed bond issue(s) to be funded by a temporary increase in the sales tax rate. Presentation to Council and public of latest revised Roads Initiative Projects List and a proposed resolution that approves the recommended project list, authorizes an election for a \$20 million

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bond issue paid for by a temporary increase of sales tax by 3/4%, and calls for the increase in sales tax to sunset in 10 years.

Mr. Rose

- Explained the ordinance, resos and notices
- If we get right to it we can make the June 3 election
- Can have special meeting to get this done by the 90 days prior to election date
- Noted the emails he has been forwarding to Council re falling economics, and layoffs In many cities and declines in sales tax
- Given the latest info our predictions for the increased sales tax is less than we had anticipated
- The cost of bond insurance is rising and we would not insure
- We can proceed as we have planned or increase the percentage or increase the sunset provision to 12 or 15 years
- Or look at another source of revenue
- One council member asked about a utility users fee – it was tired before and it failed - It might work this time
- If we went that way we would not make June election
- There may be other things or ways to go and get it ready for the November election

Council Member Wiknich

- We know that we have alternatives and can make changes
- Have advertised what we are going to do and the 3/4%
- Project list has been revised and has been advertised
- If we change things now we would be doing what some people expected would happen
- We have worked out the kinks and incorporated everything that the citizens have asked for
- There may be other potential ways to get funds but we have worked this proposal for some time
- We can go with this thing in June and all we have to say is let's do it
- We have to stop going backwards we need to go forward
- If we can't raise enough funds to do all the projects we go as far as we can go
- Feel we should make the motion and get this going and get it on a ballot

Robert Gould

- Supports what Mr. Wiknich said
- We have to do something with our roads
- Gave Norma Street as a very bad road example
- It take money to do the necessary repairs
- As far as the sunset clause it probably won't affect him

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- Get a dump truck out with a couple of guys with shovels to fill the pot holes

Walt Maurer

- Hopes it ends before Mr. Gould leaves us
- Not in favor of more taxes but in where we can get revenues from
- One way is to cut spending
- A few months ago Council approved 100K a year for landscaping along Downs
- You just keep approving stuff – 5K here 10K there
- Maybe we should do what Mr. Gould suggests
- Noted Ridgecrest Boulevard was shown as 1M – and that is just for the engineering study
- Maybe there should be footnote as what to what it is

Mike Neel

- Whatever happened to the issue of the consultant – it has not gone away
- Thanked Mr. Rose for the great lead in about the economy going down rapidly
- The whole country is going in that direction very quickly
- Putting another tax in front of the citizens may not go over very well
- You can cut down to come up with 1M a year with 10-12M budget

Council Member Morgan

- Mr. Speer had a way to cut costs - turn off street lights to save electricity
- For the footnote also put in if we don't do that we won't get our own tax money back from Kern County
- It will go away in 10 years, it has the Citizen Oversight Committee

Chief Avery

- The time has clicked past the time to get a consultant to do a survey – it would take 30-45 days just to get started
- Got our current financial consultant to look at consultants and also a web based survey that is canned and probably would not give us the result we would like
- The majority of consultants do school districts and have built in parents to help their cause
- To his knowledge there was never a staff recommendation to hire a consultant

Mayor Holloway

- Backs up most of what the Chief said
- Has talked to a consultant that works in this area – Mojave school bond passed

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- What science has gone into choosing the June election – November will be a huge ballot and our measure will be lost
- Where are we going to get the funds for advocacy of the measure – we can't use taxpayer funds for this
- How are we going to make it successful on our own

Council Member Wiknich

- A local initiative standing on its own and not competing with anything else may do well
- Have an opportunity educating the community on the measure standing alone
- Last initiative Kern County Measure I lost in Ridgecrest by 800 votes
- Because of the controversy on the Council on this issue no one from the community has come forth
- How can they support us if we cannot agree among ourselves

Mayor Holloway

- Wants to believe that the citizens have become so aware of this that we don't need a consultant
- Want a commitment that if we go forward in June and if we lose that we come back in November with a consultant

Mr. Rose

- With the failure of Prop 93 there will be a consolidated election in June
- Statistically presidential elections turn out the highest number of voters

Council Member Clark

- Will support the bond issue as roads are critical to our community
- Concern is if this passes it will get it off our back
- If it fails does not want to talk about roads again but will want to talk about a quality of life issue with a consultant
- Maybe we should get a couple of those road machines, get a batch plant and hire a couple of guys and fix the roads ourselves
- Will support whatever we chose to do in June

Dave Matthews

- If this does not pass what make him think that the other would pass
 - Have found another consultant a lot cheaper

Mayor Holloway

- Have heard that BRAC is eminent soon there will be an influx of activity and building

Need a verbal commitment to go in June as is and if failure go with consultant in November

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Moved by Council Member Wiknich, second Council Member Clark to TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 08-09, A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL PREPARING FOR A BOND ISSUE ELECTION TO REPAIR AND RECONSTRUCT STREETS THROUGHOUT THE CITY. Public comment heard. Carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent; Council Member Carter absent.

CITY MANAGER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS

None

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 5:30 p.m.; Council Conference Room

Next meeting February 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 February 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 February 28

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 February 12

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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 February 11

RACVB

Council Member Holloway

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

Next meeting February 20

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

Council Member Morgan noted a KernCOG article in newspaper on what occurred at their last meeting - 6.2M for Ridgecrest STIP got approved but not available until 2012 contingent upon finalizing the plans and specs. That is why it is in the bond issue priority list as we have to find the money somehow or we will not get the 6.2M. It is a curse and a blessing. But we made the cut.

Mayor Holloway was in Sacramento at League of California Cities but nothing positive came out of it because of the state budget concerns

Council Member Clark announced the Arts Council meeting is February 27 at Kerr-McGee

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Clark

- Congratulations to Historical Society for chili cook off
- Proud to be a part of this council for this last year

Wiknich

- Tired and ready to go home
- Thank you all

Morgan

- He always comes here with the idea of being here until the work is done
- As for this initiative he will put all the effort possible into it
- Will use own funds to print pamphlets, etc. to get this issue out there
- Whatever we do to cut cost we will have someone at the lectern complaining about it
- Hope that we will get the help others have said they will do for this issue
- Have to do something as this will not go away

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Holloway

- Will walk his "asphalt" off to get this
- Never hoped to be so wrong as I've expressed tonight
- All the key components are there that the citizens asked for

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Holloway adjourned the meeting at 11:15 p.m.

Rita Gable, City Clerk