



**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**

**January 16, 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 – 6:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem Steven Morgan, Vice Mayor Thomas Wiknich, and Council Member Ronald Carter

ABSENT: Mayor Marshall Holloway and Council Member Daniel Clark

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, 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 – 6:05 p.m.

Matrix item removed before start of Closed Session

GC54956.9 Conference With Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation - Matrix Motor Company v. City of Ridgecrest

GC54956.9 Conference With Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation - Gaurano v. Stickney, KCSC No. S1500CV257485

REGULAR SESSION – 6:39 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Mayor Pro Tem Morgan

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INVOCATION – Reverend Ralph Muller, Ridgecrest Presbyterian Church

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

In Closed Session Council discussed the Gaurano v. Stickney litigation – no action taken.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Manager Rose requested Council address each item on agenda item 14 separately as A., B., and C.

Moved by Council Member Wiknich, second Council Member Carter TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE MODIFICAITON TO ITEM 14. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 3 ayes, 2 absent; Mayor Holloway and Council Member Clark absent.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Youth Advisory Council

No report

2. Proclamation - Heart Gallery

Mayor Pro Tem Morgan, on behalf of the City Council, read and presented a proclamation to Brian Parnell, Program Director and Jana Slagle, Heart Gallery Coordinator, Kern County Human Services Department, in recognition of Heart Gallery Viewing Days, January 9 through January 31, 2008.

3. Presentation - Employee Length of Service Awards

Mayor Pro Tem Morgan, Vice Mayor Wiknich, and Council Member Carter presented plaques honoring employees who have reached years of service milestones of 5 or more years of service to the City of Ridgecrest in 2007

5-year

**Hurley Vanderpool
2002-2007**

**Thomas Dilley
2002-2007**

10 Year

**Darlene McGonagle
1997-2007**

**Randy Brown
1997-2007**

(the 10 Year employees were not present

20 Year

**Leslie wood
1987-2007**

30 Year

**Ann Taylor
In Honor Of 30 Years
Combined Service
To The City Of Ridgecrest
1976-2006**

4. Presentation - Comprehensive Annual Financial Annual Report (CAFR)

The City Council and Redevelopment Agency received a presentation by the City's/Agency's Independent Auditor on its Audit and Fiscal Year 2007 Comprehensive Annual Financial Annual Report (CAFR). Report was given by Gary Caporicci and Ken Pun of Caporicci and Larson.

5. Presentation - Government Finance Officers Association Of The Certificate Of Achievement For Excellence In Financial Reporting

Mr. Gary Caporicci, a member of the GFOA Board in California, presented the City of Ridgecrest the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2006.

Dave Matthews asked what date do the figures cover – Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2007.

PUBLIC COMMENT 7:13 p.m.

Dave Matthews

- Congratulated Finance staff for their excellent performance
- Congratulated Ann Taylor for her 30 years of City service – has known her for a number of years
- Believes she started out as a lifeguard
- Several months ago mentioned a meeting that would be held the end of this month – it has been postponed

Closed at 7:17 pm

CONSENT CALENDAR

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6. Resolution No. 08-01, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Entering Into An Agreement With The Indian Wells Valley Water District For The Installation Of Eleven Two Inch Water Meters And Services On Downs Street From Inyokern Road To China Lake Boulevard At A Cost Of \$35,437.82 Pollock
7. Minutes Of The Regular City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting Of December 5, 2007 Gable
8. Minutes Of The Regular City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting Of December 19, 2007 Gable
9. Council Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated December 21, 2007 In The Amount Of \$346,926.32 Winegardner
10. Council Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated January 4, 2008 In The Amount Of \$300,278.29 Winegardner
11. Council Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated January 4, 2008 In The Amount Of \$527.86 Winegardner
12. Agency Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated December 21, 2007 In The Amount Of \$10,784.19 Winegardner
13. Agency Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated January 4, 2008 In The Amount Of \$667.06 Winegardner

Council Member Wiknich commented on item 6 noting cuts will be made across Downs Street by the Indian Wells Valley Water District and he has been assured by Public Works Director Dennis Speer that these and all future utility cuts and repairs to the roads will be closely monitored.

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS

14. 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 McRea

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Appeal of Planning Commission action and recommendation of General Plan Amendments and Reclassifications of certain properties

Although he was not appealing the Planning Commission decision, Steve Zimmer, proponent of item C of this hearing, had wanted to make a visual presentation for his item and agreed to postponement to next meeting.

Craig Smith legal counsel for Willows Partners also had wanted to make a presentation and agreed to postponement to next meeting.

Public Services Director McRea gave the staff report

- Noted that there was a single resolution and single ordinance presented for all three items
- You can hear item A but will not be able to take action
- The proponents of items B and C cannot make presentations they had planned as they did not receive prior approval from Council or staff do to so
- They wish to postpone the hearing on those items so they can make their presentations if approved by Council

A. GPA 07-01A & ZC 07-01A - 28.81 acres east of Chelsea and Ward Avenues, Appealed by owner Mr. Patton

B. GPA 07-01-C & ZC 07-01-C- 36 acres north of E. Bowman Road and west Of Guam Street; Appealed by owner Mr. Zimmer

C. GPA 07-01B & ZC 07-01B – 13.33 acres south of E. Ridgecrest Boulevard and east of Lumill Street; not appealed.

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

Introduction And First Reading, By Title Only, Of 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
McRea

Recommended Motion: - Motion 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

Requires a second

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Floyd Walters representing Mr. Patton proponent of item A.

- Asked if it was appropriate for Mr. Morgan to make a decision on this item because of his employment at NAWS
 - City Attorney Lemieux did not see that there would be a conflict of interest
- Noted the information he had put in his letter of appeal on behalf of Mr. Patton
- Mentioned that the City had residential plans as early as 2003 in that area
- Those plans changed after the Base objected
- Noted that Burroughs High School and Viewig School are in or near the flight path from the Base
- By changing the zoning on Mr. Patton's property it lowers the salability
- Stated he had asked many times for documents between the City and NAWS regarding this area
- Asked for the City's legal opinion
 - City Attorney was asked to prepare a written opinion by Council

Public Comment

Steve Zimmer

- Has researched the MIA on the ACUES
- MIA background prior to the 2007 ACUES there was no MIA on the study
- Came up through the Governor's office in 2006 and Navy has adopted this designation and it is found only in California
- No legislative document backing on this
- Departure tracks have been moved west - these lines are very arbitrary
- The MIA area on the east side is much slimmer than on the west
- It is a very troubling designation

William Dale Howard

- Confused and concerned as to why the resolution grouped all three of these issues together
- They should be taken separately

Mike Biddlingmeier, Chair of the Planning Commission

- The AICUZ is just a study and not the definitive course of action in all of this

No action taken on the above items – These items will be brought forth at the February 6 Council meeting

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

15. Proposed Bond Issues(s)

Wiknich / Rose

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This is a continuing discussion regarding proposed bond issue(s) to be funded by a temporary increase in the sales tax rate.

Vice Mayor Wiknich

- The latest revised Roads Initiative Projects List was included in the Agenda
- Some public input regarding the project list indicated some citizens were against the addition of new roads
- We have eliminated the proposed new roads
- We used the Pavement Management System listing to work up the list and it has all the roads for maintenance scheduled
- Four new streets for maintenance work have been added in lieu of the eliminated new streets to build
- The list has been redone but we are still seeking input and comments from the community
- As suggested we will add a Citizens Advisory Committee to the initiative wording
- We will continue discussing and receiving comments and input on this item as an agenda item at future Council meeting.

Chief Avery stated that one consultant, William Barry, had responded to him with a written proposal of a fee of 17K for initial survey and 30K for marketing.

Public comment

Jerry Taylor

- Glad to see new Norma Street extension is off and repair of old Norma Street is on
- College Heights still bothering him as he feels there are other areas that will benefit more persons

DISCUSSION ITEMS

16. **Presentation of Internal Service Funds Concepts History and Concept for Fiscal Year 2008-09 Budget** **Winegardner / Staheli**

Part of the Budget Calendar for the Fiscal Year 2008-09 Budget Cycle is to present to the City Council a summary of the Internal Service Funds (ISF) History and the concept for the Fiscal Year 2008-09. The detail of the historic rates and balances of the ISFs will be distributed under a separate cover.

Chief Avery noted this definition is in preparation of next year's budget. Council had asked what percentages were for each department. We can only give them the history of the ISF not projections on next year.

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Administrative Services Director Winegardner

- Average since 2006 is 3.45%
- 101 Council city mgr city clerk
- 110 HR risk management compensated absence
- 111 technology
- 115 fiscal ops and emergency reserves
- 140 fleet maintenance based on mileage of each vehicle per mo not police vehicles replacement
- 112 printing and reproduction
- Grants are hit if taken into consideration to start with

Jerry Taylor

- Is the mileage used only to recapture on maintenance not replacement?
 - Yes will do replacement in this fiscal year
- PERS cost going up – is that an issue because staff is getting older or just that PERS goes up
 - Both - PERS is based on actuarial studies done each year

17. **Local Assistance Plan (LAP) – California Integrated Waste Management Board, Compliance Order. Request Of The Economic Development Committee Relating To Committee Considerations Of Implementation And Solid Waste Diversion** **McRea**

Mayor Pro Tem Morgan

- Issue is that this plan is tied directly to solid waste and not under purview of Economic Development Committee
- Thinks this is City Organization and Services so asking of Council to decide what committee it should go under with all avenues concerned.

Jerry Taylor stated that to him it would logically point to Infrastructure Committee.

Council concurred to send to Infrastructure Committee to discuss whether it goes there or to City Organization and Services Committee.

CITY MANAGER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS

None

CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS

Wished ailing Council Member (not present) speedy recovery

COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

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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

Met January 10

- Discussed public awareness program for California Integrated Waste Management Board Local Assistance Plan
- Board will be visiting City, School District and the Base
- Specific Plan Concept for Bowman/China Lake area should be on next agenda

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

Met January 10

- Have been discussing rules of decorum at all meetings
- Noted in Municipal Code that we go under Roberts Rules of Order
- Possibly should have some training for all members of all committees
- Tom Mulvihill gave an update on landscaping ordinance
- By 2010 we have to adopt states guidance on water conservation
- Mayor brought forth proposal to hire lobbyist in Washington D.C.
- Committee voted not to do so but may be needed in the future
- Did not review memo to Supervisor McQuiston but went to visit in Bakersfield
- Cordial and enlightening and positive meeting and looking forward to more meetings

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 January 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

Met January 8

- Reviewed updated Street Initiative Projects List
- Discussed utility cuts and repairs on streets

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- Also discussed adding rule of no cutting for a specific time frame after roads have been repaved
- Discussed Prop 1B funds of 174K maybe 4200K and possible projects
- Discussed cost, timeline and matching requirements for the CNG refueling station

Next meeting February 12

Carter would like to have Infrastructure Committee look a handicap ramp at Denny's parking lot

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

Met December 14

- Updated on strategic plan
- School reports 2 officers
- Report on Neighborhood Watch
- POlice Department having open house next Tuesday January 22 5-9 p.m.
- Youth Advisory Council is involved

Next meeting February 11

RACVB

Council Member Holloway

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

Met January 16

- Director Lueck attended California Cultural and Heritage Tourism council Symposium January 9-11
- To bring federal, state, tribal and local non-profit corporate and private organization together to promote and enhance joint benefits of cultural and heritage resource preservation and tourism
- Some projects are -
 - ❖ Preserve America - a White House initiative with Advisory Council on Historic preservation
 - ❖ Scenic Byways of California
 - ❖ California Travel and Tourism Commission Online Content Submission Program - areas can submit their events directly
- Danella George, Partnership Outreach Coordinator of California BLM will be assisting Mr. Lueck at the State level to help implement these programs
- January 22 meeting with John Krizek producer for "The Forgotten Journey" for a documentary "The 49ers" to film in Ridgecrest
- 6 days of filming in December generating \$220,000 of film revenue
- 2007 total 110 filming days generating \$4.3M - up \$1.6M from 2006

Next meeting February 20

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OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

Morgan - will be going to KERNCOG tomorrow evening

They have placed 11 items on agenda including Ridgecrest Boulevard now at 6.2M

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Morgan

- Drastic proposals made by Governor in state budget mostly to kick start something
- Inherent on all of us to put aside partisan politics and get a budget done
- Request citizens to use info and provoke Senator Ashburn and Assemblywoman Fuller to do what is right

Wiknich

- Also commented on state budget
- Noted that Assemblywoman Fuller has declined her raise – would like to see 10% off of all staff up there
- Pay attention to the propositions and read carefully and get out and vote

Carter

- Thanked all citizens for school bond that was passed
- Have had shade structures put up at all the schools
- Big toy at playground at elementary schools - kids love it and are thanking everyone for it
- It is great for the kids and great for the school

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Morgan adjourned the meeting 8:40 p.m.

Rita Gable, City Clerk