



**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**

**October 15, 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 for the purpose of preparation of minutes.

CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 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 Ronald Carter

STAFF: Michael Avery, City Manager; Keith Lemieux, City Attorney; Rita Gable, City Clerk; Tyrell Staheli, Administrative Services Department; Jim McRea, Public Services Department Director, Dennis Speer, Public Works Department Director; Ronald Strand, 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

GC54956.8 Redevelopment Agency Real Property Negotiations - Agency DDA and Loan Adjustment, 1240 College Heights Boulevard - High Desert Haven - Agency Negotiators, Michael Avery, and James McRea

REGULAR SESSION – 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by SGT Marshall Day & PVT Heather Day

INVOCATION – Silent Moment

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

In Closed Session Council received report on Matrix litigation, no action taken; received report on negotiations for 1240 College Heights Boulevard, no action taken.

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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Youth Advisory Council

None

2. Proclamation - Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Mayor Pro Tem Morgan, on behalf of the Council, read and presented a proclamation to Jean Scovotte, Shelter Manager, Karin Stone, SART Project Director, Diane Grattaroti, Director of Development, and Carol Beecroft, Executive Director, Women's Center-High Desert, in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, October 2008.

3. Proclamation - National Disability Employment Awareness Month

Council Member Clark, 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, and Bob Beecroft Chief Operations Officer, Desert Area Resources and Training, in recognition of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, October 2008

Mayor Holloway recognized Nathaniel Liedl, Daily Independent reporter, who is leaving the community. He is going to Vietnam to teach English.

4. Presentation - Citizen Opposed to Ballot Measure "N"

Ridgecrest citizens requested and received approval to present their view in opposition to Ballot Measure "N". Prepared statement was read by Joe Lindula. Al Huey noted that California has some of the highest taxes in the country and narrated a slide presentation citing various reasons why Ridgecrest citizens should not vote for Measure N. He strongly encouraged a NO vote on Measure "N". (A printed copy of the slide presentation is filed in the Clerk's Agenda packet).

Item below was inadvertently omitted and added via a corrected Agenda

4. a. Presentation - DRAFT General Plan for City of Ridgecrest

Planning Commission Chair Jerry Taylor presented the DRAFT General Plan of the City of Ridgecrest to the City Council. Process began in March 2007 and have met 18 times and now have the final draft. Presented a few slides showing

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the process of the various working groups. He commended the participants in the "GPAC" planning process. Copies of the DRAFT Plan were distributed to Council and City Manager. A copy of the DRAFT Plan will be kept in the Clerk's office.

Council commended the GPAC group for the wonderful job they have done.

The DRAFT is on the City website.

PUBLIC COMMENT opened at 6:50 p.m.

Dave Matthews

- There will not be another Council meeting until after the election on November 4r

Henna Neff (aka Diana Moon)

- Commented on a bill she got for \$225 from "Bishop" (Cardinal) Plumbing that was to her outrageously overpriced
- Considered the price as New York high for a small place called Need to keep Ridgecrest small, reasonable, respectful
- Don't live here if you cannot put up with the weather
- Noted it was Disability Month – she is one of those people and has been for 30 years
- Has been dealing with PD and Sheriff and Kern County Protective Services to obtain help for 2 elderly men who have lived here for 40 years and are being treated like "crud"
- There is a mentality of people here who only want more but don't give
- Urged everyone to vote early but vote

Jerry Taylor

- Noted the article about the shooting in Upjohn Park and response by the police to the melee and how quickly it was resolved
- Commended the officers for the quick response and to finding the suspects
- Suggest going to gas buddies.com and then support the cheapest gas station in town

Mike Neel

- Quoted from a news report on the homosexual activities in California - school trip to San Francisco to attend their teachers same sex wedding
- Took them away from their standard school studies
- Campaign against Prop 8 is alive and well in Ridgecrest
- Lord Jesus Christ should be spoken of in all City Halls and government agencies

Walt Maurer

- Was very surprised at hearing Nathaniel was leaving
- Advised him to teach his students words like freedom, liberty, rights, etc.

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- Have them read the Declaration Of Independence and the Magna Carter
- Also read the article about the bullets flying in Upjohn Park
- It is frightening to see that some of our young people participate in these activities
- Noted the internet report on the U.S. National Debt Clock in New York City
- It has now run out of spaces - the debt is over 10 trillion dollars
- Urged people to think about the candidates and what you know about them when you see their campaign signs and before you vote
- Check out smartvoter.com for more info

Jason Paton

- Agreed with Mr. Maurer - look at the candidates, what they say they stand for and what they say they will do, and what they have done
- Look very closely at all the candidates before you vote
- Read up on the candidates and the ballot measures
- We have got to stop voting for friends and neighbors and vote for those who can do the job

Howard Auld

- Amuses him when people come to the lectern and talk about the "Power of the Council"
- Regulations from numerous state and federal agencies and organizations put unbelievable restrictions upon what the Council can and cannot do
- And the cry of needing economic development – saying you have got to bring in business
- We have been trying to do that for 60 years in this valley
- Other cities with more resources and funds give benefits to encourage new business to come
- Front Porch Productions was done with great legal requirements – one requirement was to build a sound stage which they did
- And, Matrix Motors presented a very good business plan - it just did not work out
- You really need to know all of the background on these often mentioned so-called failures
- If you only have half the facts or look only at the surface you will know nothing

Closed at 7:37 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Item 5 removed

5. Resolution No. 08-, A Resolution Of The Ridgcrest City Council Determining Maturango Junction In Olde Towne Is A Civic Event And Approves Of The Proposed Restriction Of State Highway 178 Avery

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The Chamber of Commerce is requesting a Resolution from the City Council to recognize Maturango Junction in Olde Towne as a civic event. This resolution will allow the Chamber of Commerce to request a waiver of the \$492.00 fee CalTRANS requires for the processing of the Standard Encroachment Permit. The event is scheduled for October 25, 2008 and is designed to attract attention to the downtown area, increase foot traffic in the area, increase sales and business in the city, and ultimately carry on the 31 year tradition of a community family event in Ridgecrest.

Item 6 removed

6. **Resolution No. 08- , A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Accepting The Lowest Responsive Price Proposal For An Automated Demand Response Transportation Management System, Authorizing The City Manager To Execute The Contract, And Appropriating Reserve Funding In The Sum Of \$71,110.00** Speer

Upon adoption of the resolution, TDA funds will be transferred into the appropriate budget line item. Upon receipt of the software system and payment, in full, to the vendor, the City will apply for the reimbursement of \$31,616.00.

Item 7 removed

7. **Resolution 08- , A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into A Memorandum Of Agreement With Sierra Sands Unified School District For Law Enforcement Services (Champs Program)** Strand

This is a revised agreement between the City of Ridgecrest and the Sierra Sands Unified School District (SSUSD) expanding the services of the CHAMPS officer. In our previous agreement, the CHAMPS officer provided only drug and anti-violence education programs to the elementary and middle schools in the school district. In this new agreement, the CHAMPS officer will now work in their spare time in the capacity of a School Resource Officer (SRO) assisting our other SRO at our middle and high schools. This agreement also increases the amount of reimbursement from SSUSD from \$20,000 per school year to \$50,000.

8. **Minutes Of The Regular City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting Of August 6, 2008, 2008** Gable

9. **Minutes Of The Regular City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting Of August 20, 2008** Gable

10. **Minutes Of The Special City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting Of September 29, 2008** Gable

11. **Minutes Of The Regular City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting Of October 1, 2008** Gable

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12. **Council Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated September 25, 2008 In The Amount Of \$247,016.62** Sloan
13. **Council Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated October 1, 2008 In The Amount Of \$49,105.38** Sloan
14. **Agency Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated October 1, 2008 In The Amount Of \$650.00** Sloan

Mr. Matthews requested removal of item 5

Mr. Wiknich requested removal of item 6

Mr. Neel requested removal of item 7

Moved by Council Member Morgan, second Council Member Wiknich TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR WITH ITEMS 5, 6, AND 7 REMOVED. Public comment heard. Carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent; Council Member Carter

5. **Resolution No. 08-75, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Determining Maturango Junction In Olde Towne Is A Civic Event And Approves Of The Proposed Restriction Of State Highway 178** Avery

Mr. Matthews stated that the activity/event was not taking place on Highway 178 so why the restriction on 178?

City Manager Avery explained that it would be necessary to block the intersection of Highway 178 and W. Ridgecrest Boulevard to right hand turns from the 178 as W. Ridgecrest Boulevard is going to be blocked off to vehicle traffic up to Alvord Street

Moved by Council Member Clark, second Council Member Morgan TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 08-75, A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL DETERMINING MATURANGO JUNCTION IN OLDE TOWNE IS A CIVIC EVENT AND APPROVES OF THE PROPOSED RESTRICTION OF STATE HIGHWAY 178. Public comment heard. Carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent; Council Member Carter absent.

6. **Resolution No. 08- , A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Accepting The Lowest Responsive Price Proposal For An Automated Demand Response Transportation Management System, Authorizing The City Manager To Execute The Contract, And Appropriating Reserve Funding In The Sum Of \$71,110.00** Speer

Mr. Wiknich asked about bid opening sheets and stated wanted to see bid sheets on all contracts

Mr. Speer stated that this was a Request for Proposal and that bid sheets were not necessary and in fact were illegal. He stated that it was an RFP and you look at what they can provide based on their proposal

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Mr. Wiknich noted that there was no start time on the contract nor when it should be completed

Mr. Bradley stated he was working that out with vendor

Mr. Wiknich had several more questions and questioned why there were no exhibits in the item packet and no notification process in the contract

Ms. Taylor was able to answer some of the questions

Mr. Wiknich requested, and Council concurred, that the item be re-worked and then bring it back to the council

7. **Resolution 08-76, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into A Memorandum Of Agreement With Sierra Sands Unified School District For Law Enforcement Services (Champs Program)** Strand

Mr. Neel asked why the CHAMPS officer in middle schools - is this really needed?

Chief Strand stated that there we have had them there for 7 years now and is very worthwhile. The school district pays for the service.

Moved by Council Member Morgan, second Council Member Wiknich TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 08-76, A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH SIERRA SANDS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES (CHAMPS PROGRAM). Public comment heard. Carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent; Council Member Carter absent.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

15. **Ordinance No. 08-04, An Ordinance Adding Sections 3-3.201 Through 3-3.214 To The Ridgecrest Municipal Code To Provide For An Additional Three-Quarter Of One Percent Transaction And Use Tax To Fund Special Purposes And To Be Administered By The State Board Of Equalization** Avery

This ordinance was brought to the Council for the second reading, **WITHOUT ADOPTION**, to incorporate changes required by the State Board of Equalization. This ordinance will amend the Ridgecrest Municipal Code if approved by the 2/3 majority of the voters at the General Election on November 4, 2008.

The ordinance was reviewed by the California State Board of Equalization. Based on this review, there were several minor changes that we needed to include as required by the BOE. However, NONE of these changes will modify, alter, or reduce in any way the substance of the original ordinance. The most significant of all the changes is the change in the ordinance section 3-3.203 where the operative date is changed from January 1, 2009 to the definition of the term "operative date" as required by law. Operative Date is defined as the first

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day of the first calendar quarter commencing more than 110 days after the adoption of this ordinance, the date of such adoption being as set forth below. Leaving this unchanged would render the ordinance out of compliance with this regulation. Other changes being required are mostly changes in terminology such as using the word "transaction and use tax" instead of "sales and use tax"; using the term "special purpose tax" instead of "general tax" and removal of the reference to a section of the revenue tax code when they should not be there.

If enacted by the voters, the BOE also requires the approval of two additional agreements with the BOE. The first of these agreements enacts the new tax pursuant to the newly voter approved tax; the second agreement is an administration agreement with the BOE

The ordinance was presented for second reading **WITHOUT ADOPTION**. If passed by the required 2/3 majority of the voters at the November 4, 2008 General Election the ordinance will be presented for adoption upon final canvass of the election.

Moved by Council Member TO WAIVE READING IN FULL AND TO HAVE SECOND READING, WITHOUT ADOPTION, BY TITLE ONLY, OF ORDINANCE NO. 08-04, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST ADDING SECTIONS 3-3.201 THROUGH 3-3.214 TO THE RIDGECREST MUNICIPAL CODE TO PROVIDE FOR AN ADDITIONAL THREE-QUARTER OF ONE PERCENT TRANSACTION AND USE TAX TO FUND SPECIAL PURPOSES AND TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION.

Public Comment

Harris Brokke, CARS Committee

- At Chamber of Commerce Luncheon Assemblywoman Jean Fuller commented on Measure N - she supports it
- Played her comment from a hand-held tape recorder (no copy provided)
- Urged everyone to Vote YES on Measure N

Barbara Auld

- Had a personal call after the Chamber luncheon from Assemblywoman Jean Fuller who supports our local sales tax Measure N
- She commented on one candidate's statement that he would do away with the RACVB
- She and Howard have been dues paying members of the RACVB from its conception and noted that the Bureau does bring in hundreds and thousands of dollars through filming in the area

Howard Auld

- Stated that it was the NO on Measure N folks who want to do away with the RACVB

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Jan Bennett

- Member of the CARS Committee and work for the Chamber of Commerce
- The Chamber rarely takes the position to increase taxes
- With Measure N we feel with local control of the funds and disbursement it is good for the community
- Everyone will be sharing the so called burden - citizens, visitors, tourists, everyone who buys retail locally
- There is a sunset clause
- There is a citizen oversight committee
- There is a project list of the streets that are to be fixed
- We are voting YES on Measure N

Robbery Gould

- He is a long time resident of the community and is In favor of Measure N
- Like everyone else he doesn't like taxes
- But, in the long run, we have to take care of ourselves
- He did have some questions about grants and how much
- Did know that if we don't do this we won't get any of those funds

Robert Eireman

- Measure N is well written and a lot of thought went into it and he commend the staff for it
- However he recommend you vote NO on Measure N
- We spend and spend and then find out we didn't do what we wanted to do with the money
- This and previous Councils have not put this issue as a priority
- It should have been streets to start with ages ago
- Start by working on the streets now

Al Huey

- 21 years ago when he moved here streets were the issue and still are
- All kinds of nice social programs but no major repairs have been done in that time
- Social things we have now we didn't have 21 years ago - RACVB, Redevelopment Agency, City pre-school, Chamber of Commerce, etc. (RRA is 23 years old established May 31, 1985)
- Instead of funding non-essential keep to funding the police, safety and streets

Tim singleton

- Been here 28 1/2 years now and streets were always an issue
- Cut the non-essentials and cut the fat
- Vote NO on Measure N

Jay ?

- Is in favor of Measure N
- Revenue lost to other areas is about 19%

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- Need to keep the door open to other sources of funding and grants

Dave Matthews

- Welcomed the "newcomers" – he has been here 40 years
- Some people who don't know about the streets need to come down and get educated
- Does not like taxes any more than anyone else
- The problem is that taxes get taken out of here and go to Sacramento and Federal, etc.
- With Measure N the taxes stay here, we manage them and we get a change to put in for grants because we will be a "self-help city"

Walt Maurer

- Agrees that our taxes don't all stay here
- Spoke against the Federal Reserve
- Commented on Assemblywoman Jean Fuller statements made at the Chamber luncheon
- Read her entire article and it maybe in the Daily Independent archives
- A tax is a tax and we are taxed too much already
- If you hate taxes as much as he does vote NO on Measure N

Melody Neel

- Her income is very small, she is young and just starting out
- A couple of cents decides her to buy or not buy things
- Extra taxes could cause her to not buy
- Extra taxes can hurt a lot of businesses in the city
- City needs to cut things that are not constitutional
- Projects that are un-constitutional are un-lawful

Steve Boster

- Resident for 26 years
- Tax was opposed the last time (2006) because there were not enough controls
- This time there are controls in Measure N - it is streets and streets only
- He will willingly pay the additional tax to fix the streets
- If we think we are overtaxed move elsewhere and see 95% of your earning go away

Marilyn Neel

- She is a stay home mother and opposes Measure N
- Teach their 5 children to be responsible, love god and be responsible to the country
- Priority is they cannot ride on someone coattails - They need to take care of themselves
- Feels it is difficult to teach them not to steal when their leaders "rob Peter to pay Paul"

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- Will need to work 6 months just to pay taxes
- Wondered how long will her husband will have to work to pay for all the other frills
- How many times do we have to pay for the roads we have already paid for
- We all make sacrifices to pay the heavy tax burdens we have had placed upon us
- There are others who are not as affluent as we are and they will be put upon with another tax

Jason Paton

- Does not support new taxes
- Reality is that Measure N is the only plan we have at hand to fix the streets
- No one has come up with a viable alternative
- If Measure N passes we will become a self-help city and eligible for grants
- 20M over 20 years will not entirely do the job but it is a start
- Need to find other ways to generate more revenues to get us well again
- If Measure N doesn't pass we will be driving on rubble
- Support it and you get something done - don't it support it and you get little or nothing done

Nellavan Jeglum

- Is a 46 year resident
- Support Measure N as it is a fair tax as everyone who buys pays
- Set up for specific things - the roads
- Our largest employer in Ridgecrest does not pay taxes
- Feels that our managers have done a good job with what we have to work with
- Fully supports Measure N and hopes that it does pass

Michael Herman

- Came from Hesperia in march 2000
- Measure N is simple – the only ones who will help us is us
- In 2006 19.4B dollars were raised - major bonds were floated with Ridgecrest in the forefront to receive funding because of applications in place
- But the commission changed the rules to self-help cities and we were not because we were not raising funds on our own
- Ridgecrest got only about 450K
- Let's eliminate the parks - that would be OK if no one uses them
- If you take from police department what kind of response will you get
- Take from fire services and what is the response time from another area
- Don't fix any roads and there will not be any roads after awhile
- Measure N is expertly crafted and spelled out for use of revenues only for streets
- There is a sunset clause that goes away in 10 years
- Our tax money for our use – less than 1 cent additional on every dollar
- Visitors in the area are plentiful and they will share the "tax burden"

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- We should be paying ourselves not other communities - buy locally
- Vote YES for Measure N

Ron Descence

- Support Measure N - it is important for Ridgecrest and important for business
- Encourage everyone to vote for Measure N
- He is a business owner and it will be good for all of us

Sharon Girod

- This is a vital and important issue for our community
- What we do on Measure N is an investment in our future
- The state and feds have changed how it works
- You will spend less on sales tax than on vehicle repairs if roads not fixed
- If we want businesses to come to town we need the infrastructure to support them
- She is a fiscal conservative but feels we all need to pony up so we can keep our own taxes here
- Vote YES on Measure N

Howard Auld

- Part of argument used against Measure N is the City not using our money properly
- A lot of the road money we should be getting is now going to the state and they have never repaid it to the City
- This is a shared expense by all people who buy goods in Ridgecrest
- He is all for Measure N

Council comment

Wiknich

- He has talked about that fact that we do have a plan for the roads besides Measure N but you have got to start somewhere with a 128M problem
- To say that the Redevelopment Agency was a mistake is debatable
- Maybe it is so but we need to go forward now
- Today is the first day of the rest of our futures
- The City will continue to go for grants whenever possible
- Keep hearing statement "when you prove to us by cutting frivolous things we will trust you"
- Would like to know where do we cut wasteful spending to come up with 128M
- Can someone show it to him
- Feel very strongly we can stop what we have done in the past and do something good

Morgan

- Thanked Tom for taking the slings and arrows he has taken for a number of years

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- He was taught that you helped yourself and you took responsibility for things you did and did them the best of your ability
- We have done work on many of the roads with the funds that we have but it is still not enough
- One comment struck him - "we have paid for the roads over and over" – when you use something constantly it wears out and you have to replace or repair it
- taxes you pay are supposed to do that but we don't get enough back from county and state to do that
- Transportation Enhancement Asset funds cannot, cannot be used for streets as it is to enhance transit various beautification projects
- The Council did not put this on the ballot - the citizens of Ridgecrest did
- Council supports the programs for parks and recreation for about 2000 kids in this community
- He represents all people in the City even if they have opinions than his
- If you don't like that then you don't want him here
- This will allow us to do many things and allow applying for more grants
- The BRAC people in Washington are still looking at us and there will be major construction going on on base and people coming in here
- A \$10,000 purchase will amount to only \$75 in taxes

Clark

- Stated he was speaking to the people against Measure N
- It doesn't make sense to oppose it
- You want to feed at the public trough but you don't want to put into it
- Change this at the state and federal levels
- If you are going to defeat this measure tell me what you will do to get the streets fixed
- Non-essential spending curtailed - what does that mean - what is non-essential
- Asked Chief Strand how many officers he will need to keep the streets safe
- Do you represent the community or you own ideology
- If you say no to this show him how you are going to fix these streets
- He has not heard anything concrete yet
- Measure N is a small part of the larger problem but it is a start on a solution

Holloway

- He keeps hearing the statement "increase revenues" and he gets his sample ballot
- Hears the opponents bring up Front Porch, Matrix Motors, Globe Protect – all supposed failures
- Front Porch did not cost the city one dime
- He was basically the father for Matrix Motors brought to us by the Kern Economic Corporation
- Matrix they had a good business plan but did not follow it
- Globe Protect may prove to be one of the greatest technologies developed and may earn a Nobel Prize

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- But one of this has to do with streets or street repair or Measure N
- The City will pursue any possible opportunity that comes our way
- He will be going to Point Mugu soon to talk to the folks who may be coming here to answer their questions regarding so many of the things you want abolished
- They want to know about parks, recreation activities, entertainment, shopping, food services, etc.
- There are three revenue sources we have control over - Transit Occupancy Tax, property tax and sales tax
- The State is working to take funds from fiscally sound counties who have too much reserves
- You cannot make a mistake spending money on capital improvements
- The City has always been behind because the largest employer pays no taxes
- Take the tax component out of your mind and ask "would I be willing to give \$100 a year to help fix the streets"
- That is looking at it from a totally different perspective but amounts to the same results
- One thing is true if we do nothing we will gain nothing

Moved by Council Member Clark, Council Member Wiknich TO APPROVE SECOND READING, BY TITLE ONLY, WITHOUT ADOPTION, ORDINANCE 08-04, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST ADDING SECTIONS 3-3.201 THROUGH 3-3.214 TO THE RIDGECREST MUNICIPAL CODE TO PROVIDE FOR AN ADDITIONAL THREE-QUARTER OF ONE PERCENT TRANSACTION AND USE TAX TO FUND SPECIAL PURPOSES AND TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION. Public comment heard. Motion of second reading without adoption carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent; Council Member Carter absent.

When Measure N passes this ordinance will be brought back to Council for adoption and codification.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

16. City Council Town Hall Meetings

Wiknich

Had a pretty good turnout and discussed many issues. Mayor and City Manager were here. Suggested we do this on a regular basis rotating Council Members for each meeting. Try for monthly and maybe stagger which days of the week to have meeting. Could also take it on the road - maybe at various restaurants.

Public comment

Recommend once a month to start

Keep it here and televise as many citizens are out there watching

Look at technology such as blogging or emailing

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Council's job is to listen to the community and fully support it
Very good idea and internet base good too
Remember there will be slack time during the summer

Next meeting - November 17 - 6:00 p.m. with Council Members Morgan and Clark 6 p.m. Also have questions/comments from public timed

17. Composition of City / County Committee

Wiknich

City Organization Committee started on this several months at bidding of Supervisor McQuiston to set regular meetings between himself, 2 City representatives and County Administrative Officer Ron Errea. Mayor should always be on it and second a department head or staff member depending on subject of meeting. Suggest quarterly meetings.

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, Eric Kauffman

Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month at 5:30 p.m.; Council Conference Room

Met October 2

- RRA bond list
- Requirements for developer negotiations
- China Lake Museum Foundation grant request

Next meeting November 6

City Organization and Services Committee

Members: Chair Tom Wiknich, Chip Holloway, Nellavan Jeglum, Lois Beres

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

Met October 9

- Composition of City/County Committees
- Discussed deviated fixed route transit
- Need to do a study cost 30-50K TDA funds RFP
- Resolution on Proposition 8
- Big rig parking ordinance in effect on E. Ridgecrest Boulevard
- Signs going up

Next meeting November 13

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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 23

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 Oct 13

- Looked at universal trash pickup ordinance
- Had request from person residing in County to tie into the sewer line
- Line is right across the street from their home
- Have to be in City to tie into the sewer system
- Asked staff to provide info about annexing the property into the City
- RRA project list but no action
- Got info about the wastewater plant
- RFP for design for west Ridgecrest Boulevard is getting ready
- Have cameras for the sewer lines

Next meeting November 18

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 November 3

RACVB

Council Member Holloway

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

Met October 15

Read minutes - copy in Clerk's agenda packet

Next meeting and location to be announced

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

Clark - Arts Council October 22

Morgan - will be attending the KernCOG meeting tomorrow evening

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Morgan

- ❖ Congratulated Viewfinders on the 4-5 October races
- ❖ He personally received many compliments from visitors and participants on their treatment while in Ridgecrest
- ❖ He will be at the Lions Club booth during the Desert Empire Fair so come by and talk

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- ❖ Fair Parade is the 18th at 10 a.m.
- ❖ If not elected he now thanks each and every one on the Planning Commission, the staff and he has been honored to serve with his fellow Council Members

Clark

- ❖ Thanked both radio stations and the Daily Independent for sponsoring the candidates forum and allowing him to moderate it
- ❖ Considers all the candidates patriots
- ❖ Everyone hits you blind and you have to come up with answers
- ❖ Wished all candidates all the luck in the world

Wiknich

- ❖ Thanked everyone who came to the Town Hall meeting
- ❖ Thanked Michael Herman for the comments - he really did his research
- ❖ Really good to see the candidates out there and their campaigns
- ❖ A lady asked him what it takes to run for Council and his reply was how much time does she have
- ❖ He is ready for November 4 and hope everyone else is also

Holloway

- ❖ Updated the area code issue
- ❖ Three spoke on behalf of Ridgecrest against the overlay
- ❖ Assemblyman Garrick submitted a counter response and Supervisor McQuiston answered that
- ❖ 13 cities in League of California Cities Desert-Mountain and he got 10 to write letters and they delivered 720 individual letters to the PUC
- ❖ The level of attention to state and national issues by this Council is tremendous but we still get beaten up by it being too much or too little
- ❖ Candidates forum at Cerro Coso Community College this Friday
- ❖ All of the candidates talk and write a big game but when it's time to step up to the plate you fade away
- ❖ Whatever happens stay engaged on the issues that face the City - it is your City
- ❖ And go out there and educate other citizens on issues
- ❖ No matter what you are hearing in polls think for yourself, get out and vote - it will count.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Holloway adjourned the meeting at 9:58 p.m.

Rita Gable, City Clerk