



**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 4, 2009
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 Steven Morgan, Vice Mayor Thomas Wiknich, and Council Members Marshall Holloway and Jerry Taylor

ABSENT: Mayor Pro Tem Ronald Carter

STAFF: Michael Avery, City Manager; Keith Lemieux, City Attorney; Rita Gable, City Clerk; Tess Sloan, Administrative Services Department Interim Director; Jim McRea, Public Services Department Director, Dennis Speer, Public Works Department Director; Jim Ponak, Parks, Recreation And Cultural Affairs Department Director; Ronald Strand, Chief of Police; and other personnel

CLOSED SESSION – 6:00 p.m.

GC54956.8 Redevelopment Agency Real Property Negotiations – Ridgecrest Business Park Parcels exchange for expansion of Kerr McGee Youth Sports Complex (KMYC) and appropriate Disposition Development Agreement. - Portions of Parcel 25 and 32 of Parcel Map 10819 and portions of an 11 acre site, APN 508-020-10, NE1/4 Sec 5 T.27S R.40 E - Property Owner John Landry - Agency Negotiators, Michael Avery and James McRea.

GC54956.8 Redevelopment Agency Real Property Negotiations – Ridgecrest Business Park, Disposition Development Agreement and sale of real properties, Parcel 25 of Parcel Map 10819 Agency Negotiators, Michael Avery and James McRea.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

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City Manager Avery reported that Council received information on the two Closed Session items and direction was given to staff.

The below special session was canceled due to documentation not being ready. The presentation will be rescheduled for a future date.

SPECIAL SESSION - 6:30 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL / PLANNING COMMISSION

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation - Navy Supplemental Noise Study

Naval Air Weapons Center-Weapons Division Commander Captain Gary Peterson and members of his staff will make a presentation on the Navy Supplemental Noise Study.

REGULAR SESSION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BSA Troop 291 Posted the Colors and led the audience in the Pledge

INVOCATION – Reverend Ralph Mueller, Ridgecrest Presbyterian Church

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Manager Avery requested removal of item 4.

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

PRESENTATION

2. Presentation Of Annual Audit And Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008 Sloan

Gary Caporicci, CPA, Senior Partner, and Kenneth Pun, CPA, Partner, from the firm of Caporicci and Larson, the City's/Agency's Independent Auditors, presented the CAFR and the Agency's Basic Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Reports to the City Council.

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The City Council accepted the annual financial report by the resolution listed as item 5 during consideration of the Consent Calendar of this agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT - opened at 7:10 p.m.

Walt Maurer

- About 5 months ago asked where the funds were going to come from for the air conditioning rehab at City Hall
- At that time it was thought to be about 6M
- A walk through of the facilities was recently done by TRANE and a group of others
- It appears that they will be getting this contract
- Once again he is asking what the cost will be and when will the contract be signed

Mike Neel

- Distributed informational items to Council and "fake" currency
- Monetary face of the county has been changing for over a year
- Deficit of 160B
- Where are the spending cuts - where are the budget cuts for the City
- Noted the money spent for the lobbyist, the air conditioning fixes, etc.
- Recently the universal trash pickup has been in the forefront
- Questioned why we should do this and the costs
- Where is the strong attitude to fight the so called mandatory things from state and federal that will cost the City funds to comply with

Closed at 7:21 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

3. Resolution No. 09-02, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Approving And Amending The City Of Ridgecrest Classification Plan And Adopting The Job Specifications Of Fleet Mechanic I/II/III Into The City Of Ridgecrest Classification Plan Avery

Item 4 was removed from the agenda

4. Resolution No. 09- , A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Donating Two (2) Non- operative Vehicles, One (1) Vehicle Donated To The Desert Mountain Resource Conservation And Development Council And One (1) Vehicle Donated To The Senior Services Of Indian Wells Valley Avery

The Parks, Recreation and Quality of Life Committee is recommending to the City Council the donation of two (2) non-operative vehicles. One(1) vehicle

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would be donated to the Desert Mountain Resource Conservation and Development Council and one (1) vehicle donated to the Senior Services of Indian Wells Valley.

5. Resolution No. 09-03, A Joint Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council And The Ridgecrest Redevelopment Agency Accepting The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2008 And The Redevelopment Agency Basic Financial Statements Together With Independent Auditors' Reports Sloan
6. Resolution No. 09- A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Authorizing The Destruction Of Certain Accounting Records Sloan
7. Resolution RRA No. 09-01, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest Redevelopment Agency Authorizing The Payment Of Fiscal Year 2009 Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) Assessments By The State Of California In Conformance With Health And Safety Code 33685 And The Amendment Of The Annual Ridgecrest Redevelopment Agency Budget For This Payment Sloan
8. Minutes Of The Special City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting Of January 14, 2009 Gable
9. Investment Report for Quarter Ending December 31, 2008 Sloan
10. Council Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated January 16, 2009 In The Amount Of \$274,598.04 Sloan
11. Council Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated January 23, 2009 In The Amount Of \$17,788.85 Sloan
12. Agency Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated January 16, 2009 In The Amount Of \$8,226.45 Sloan
13. Agency Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated January 23, 2009 In The Amount Of \$14.55 Sloan

Council Member Holloway had question regarding item 6.

Moved by Council Member Holloway, second Council Member Taylor TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR WITH ITEMS 4 AND 6 REMOVED. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent; Council Member Carter absent.

6. Resolution No. 09-04, A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Authorizing The Destruction Of Certain Accounting Records

Sloan

Council Member Holloway has some concerns about retention of payroll records due to the Supreme Court decision regarding same pay for women and men performing the same jobs. This will require keeping payroll records for a longer period of time

City Manager Avery stated that all our records are backed up on electronic data base and should be available indefinitely.

Moved by Council Member Holloway, second Council Member Wiknich TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 09-04, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN ACCOUNTING RECORDS. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes; 1 absent; Council Member Carter absent.

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

14. Revised City Council/Redevelopment Agency Agenda Format

As a result of discussion at the Special City Council meeting on January 10, 2009 a revised City Council/Redevelopment Agency agenda format has been developed. The new format is presented here for review, further discussion or changes, and for approval.

Public comment

Dave Matthews

- Noticed the move of public comment to end of meeting agenda
- Asked if comment still be on all items on the agenda as well as those not on the agenda
 - Public comment is for items not on the agenda
 - All items on the agenda can and will be open to a comment period
- Public comment was at the end of the agenda many years ago and was brought toward the front to accommodate the public

Walt Maurer

- Has a problem with City Attorney leaving the meeting and facility before the meeting is over
- Feels he should be here to address any legal issues that might come up on agenda items
- Has major problem with having the public comment at the end of the meeting

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- Does not think this is right to keep the public here just sitting through the whole meeting

Mike Neel

- Was surprised that the timer was being used during all the comments
- He thought that the 5 minutes was for public comment only and wanted to know when and why it changed
- People will not like sitting and waiting to the end to hear what the public has to say
- You may get more emails and more phone calls because of the changes you are trying to make

Jason Patin

- Hearing these comments brought back a very long meeting on the budget not too long ago
- During that meeting public comment on the various segments of the budget was not allowed until all the presentations were made
- Thinks public comment needs to be at the beginning of the meeting

Walt Maurer

- Appreciate seeing the young people here tonight
- A citizen just asked for a reason for something and was asked to put it in writing
- What does this say to the young people here having a citizen ask for an answer and not getting it in a timely manner

Taylor

- Understands the citizens comments and concerns
- The changes to the agenda format was discussed back and forth at the January 10 meeting
- We especially had in depth discussion regarding the public comment period
- It all comes down the fact that we are here to do the governments business and in a reasonable and timely manner
- This is an attempt to get the business of the City done during or before "prime time" when the viewing audience is still with us
- We look forward to public comment and hearing input and concerns of our citizens

Wiknich

- Many things were brought up during the workshop at January 10 meeting
- We are limited by many laws as to what we can discuss at public comment
- The idea also was to put Council comment close to public comment on the agenda and maybe be able to give answers

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Holloway

- Thought this was to be the year of change
- This is supposed to be a business meeting not a grandstand for anyone
- Hope to get more things on consent calendar and to get things done promptly
- Let's take a look at this new format and give a change for a few meetings
- We can always revamp this

Morgan

- One thing we hope to do is to get items from the public comment period and to be able to get them into directors reports at the next meeting
- We are trying to be more open to the public in all our meetings
- We are not going to stifle the comment on any agenda item that is just not going to happen
- City business will not be delayed until 8 p.m. because the agenda is full of proclamations and , presentations and an hour of public comments
- By then everyone will have tuned us out for prime time programs

CITY MANAGER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS

Town hall meetings have been moved to 2nd Wednesday - next will be February 11. Will need two members for that meeting. Gloria Longo has contacted him and wants the TV boosters as a topic at a town hall meeting.

Mayor Morgan and Council Member Taylor volunteered for the February 11 meeting.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS - none

COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Community Development Committee

Members: Chair Steve Morgan, Ron Carter, Eric Kauffman, Jason Patin

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

Next meeting to be announced

City Organization and Services Committee

Members: Chair Tom Wiknich, Jerry Taylor, Nellavan Jeglum, Lois Beres

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

Next meeting February 12

Chair Wiknich said they may have special meeting in February for TRANE – tech review will be at Council February 18

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Parks, Recreation and Quality of Life Committee

Members: Chair Ron Carter, Chip Holloway, Craig Porter, Jason Patin
Meetings: 4th Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m.; Kerr-McGee Center
Next meeting February 26

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Chair Tom Wiknich, Jerry Taylor, Lois Beres, Nellavan Jeglum
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 5:00 p.m., Council Conference Room
Next meeting February 10

Chair Wiknich said universal trash collection will be main item

Activate Community Talents and Interventions For Optimal Neighborhoods Task Force (ACTION)

Members: Co-Chairs Ron Carter and Chip Holloway
Meetings: 2nd Monday of "odd" numbered months at 6:00 p.m., Kerr-McGee Center
Next meeting March 9

RACVB

Council Members Holloway, Jerry Taylor
Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of the month, 8:00 a.m.,

Met January 21

- Director Lueck, Harris Brokke-Maturango Museum and Bob Peoples-Navy Museum are sharing a 1/2 page ad in the Kern Valley Visitor's guide
- They hope it will help promote bringing more tourists to Ridgecrest
- Met with Gil Zimmerman, California Deserts Tourism Association to start planning for attendance at 2009 TIA's International Pow Wow in May
- With Harris Brokke visited various tourism related locations in Independence with info and photos of the display units for Ridgecrest tourist information
- Director will go to the Indian Wells Valley 2000 Board January 27 to request grant money for funding
- Kern Parks will be designing logos for the display units
- Director Lueck, Mike Thomas and Harris Brokke will attend State of the County in Bakersfield tonight
- Director Lueck attended the 5th Annual Cultural and Heritage Symposium January 14 in Ventura
- Received great new ideas and info and with optimism of accomplishing 3 project for Ridgecrest in 2009.
 - A "Preserve America" designation for Ridgecrest
 - Start process for Ridgecrest area to be designated as a "Geo Park" by BLM - but could take 4-8 years

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- And, to become a partner in "395 Roadside Heritage" and share in the unique heritage the Eastern Sierra Scenic Byway has to offer
Next meeting February 18 location to be announced

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

Council Member Taylor noted there were about 15 people at the town hall meeting January 26. The universal trash collection was the topic. Had some questions about rate structure and having to have a bin. Those things are still being worked upon. Also noted several California cities have been fined by IWMB but only one county has been fined.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Taylor

- Appreciates the comments about where public comment occurs on the agenda
- He is sensitive to the concerns the citizens have
- Enjoys the participation of Town hall meetings
- Understands what the Mayor sees as important and to get business done when most of the public is still with us
- Economic Outlook Conference coming up soon
- Thanked all for participating

Holloway

- We had another great run at the sales tax initiative and the controversy of surveys
- Just got some info regarding surveys and polls that he will pass on to Mayor

Wiknich

- Commented on the weekend warriors (itinerant sellers) who come in and set up their little tables on the corners
- Everyone can help by asking if they have a business license and photo ID
- Have heard that some of them come up to residential doors selling things
- Maybe if we all asked about licenses and photo ID's they might get the idea and buy a license

Morgan

- Climate Change Conference in Bakersfield tomorrow – Jim McRea, Jerry Taylor and he will be attending
- DART has requested him to come over on February 9 for a training they are having
- He cannot do it but maybe another of the Council can
- March 14 Conference Women In Science – they are looking for donations

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- Going to Sacramento to the California Integrated Waste Management Board to find out what we are doing wrong (AB1016)
- One thing they don't like is our one can trash collection – it is not recycling
- We are not trying to squelch public comment and indeed welcome it
- Please call us, or write us and questions will be answered

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Morgan adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.


Rita Gable, City Clerk

