



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL
RIDGECREST HOUSING AUTHORITY
RIDGECREST FINANCE AUTHORITY**

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

**March 7, 2012
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 – 5:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Council Present: Mayor Ronald H. Carter; Mayor Pro Tem Marshall 'Chip' Holloway; Vice Mayor Jerry D. Taylor; Council Member Steven P. Morgan; and Council Member Jason Patin

Staff Present: City Manager Kurt O. Wilson; City Clerk Rachel J. Ford; City Attorney Keith Lemieux; and other staff

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Added Closed Session Item:

GC54956(b) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation. Benz Sanitation, Inc. v. City of Ridgecrest

Motion To Approve Agenda As Amended Made By Council Member Patin; Second By Council Member Taylor. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT – CLOSED SESSION

- No public comment presented.

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 2 of 21

CLOSED SESSION – 5:00 p.m.

- GC54956.9 (A) Conference With Legal Counsel, Potential Litigation. County of Kern v. City of Ridgecrest
- GC54957.6 Labor Negotiations – United Food and Commercial Workers Golden State 8 (UFCW); Police Employee Association of Ridgecrest (PEAR); Management; Mid-Management; Confidential; Part-Time Employees. Agency Negotiator City Manager Kurt Wilson

REGULAR SESSION – 6:00 p.m.

- Pledge Of Allegiance
- Invocation

CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS

- Closed Session
 - Conference with Legal Counsel, Potential Litigation. County Of Kern V. City Of Ridgecrest – Report Received, No Reportable Action.
 - Conference With Legal Counsel, Existing Litigation, Benz Sanitation, Inc. V. City Of Ridgecrest – Report Received, No Reportable Action. Public report given with favorable ruling in case. Two cases: Arbitration by city against Benz and Benz civil case against the city and today this case was stayed until a resolution in the arbitration is completed.
 - Labor Negotiations – No reportable action however some topics will be discussed in public forum.
- Other
 - none

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tracy Kirby – Ivey – Swenson

- parent of disabled and blind child and is asking for a sign on the street for caution between Mahan and Norma. Attempting to teach independent travel and traffic is making it difficult.
- Jerry Taylor asked this be brought to infrastructure meeting.

Shannon Ballast

- Ridgecrest resident for 16 years with children in public school system. Is a preschool teacher proposing privatization of Kerr McGee preschool program with lease option of current facilities and purchase of materials. Believes option will provide academic and social skills to enter public school systems and relieve all cost for the program to city. Requests meeting with city staff to discuss.
- Mayor Carter requested speaker contact City Manager.

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 3 of 21

Barbara Auld

- Spoke on donation policy with the city and encouraged citizens to make donations to the city to help prepare for the BRAC. Spoke on article in paper by Mick Gleason. City is vital working instrument to protect the base when BRAC comes. Need to be ready. Affects schools and other industries in the valley. China Lake Alliance is a volunteer organization working under the economic development to support the base and community. Commissioners will look at how helpful the community is. Resolution 05-53 is the city donation policy. Community involvement is a great reflection for BRAC.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Investment Report Staheli
 2. Approve A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing The Application For And Acceptance Of The East Kern Air Pollution Control District Motor Vehicle Emission Reduction Program Grant Strand
 3. Approve A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing The Purchase Of Buses Through Public Transportation Modernization, Improvement, and Service Enhancement Account (PTMISEA) Funds Speer
 4. Approve A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Authorizing The City Manager Or Designee To File An Application For Funding From The State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, 2008 Disaster Recovery Initiative Grant Allocation In The Amount Of \$250,000, And To Sign Any And All Grant Related Documents, Contracts, Or Amendments Wilson
 5. Approve Draft Minutes Of The Regular City Council Meeting Of February 15, 2012 Ford
- Items 2 Pulled for discussion

Motion To Approve Consent Calendar As Amended Made By Council Member Morgan , Second By Council Member Taylor . Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent.

ITEM 2 DISCUSSION

Jerry Taylor

- Asked if this required matching funds and if City was locked into proceeding.

Kurt Wilson

- Yes there is a match required however if Council chooses to not proceed the option is still available.

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 4 of 21

Motion To Approve Item 2 Made By Council Member Morgan, Second By Council Member Taylor. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.

PUBLIC HEARING

6. Unmet Needs Public Hearing

Speer

Dennis Speer

- Gave Staff report.

Public Hearing Opened At 6:55 P.M.

Jerry Taylor

- Used to get money to pave roads but because of requirement to meet unmet needs we have to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to serve a couple riders. If we could reduce cost on transit could use the remaining monies to help balance road costs.

Steve Morgan

- Idea behind this funding is must provide transportation first to the extent to reasonably allow anyone who wants to use the system may do so. It is true that for years Ridgecrest had a larger sum of money because we had a smaller system. Unfortunately, as this has evolved to the point the Ridgecrest determined to move to a quasi-fixed system then costs have gone up. We have expanded our system to the point that there is very little left for road repair. Not that city wishes to do this, but is required to provide the transportation in that way. If we could find a way to expend less funds and use the rest for potholes then would be happy to do so. In current process, we do not have the ability to lessen the cost and have the remainder. This money is specifically target at providing a public transportation system.

Jerry Taylor

- Understand the concept but we have a local taxi service that could help offset the costs. Concerned with the process that we are obligated to follow that keep escalating the cost. Hope we are able to get the information to those individuals who are forcing this on us so we might be able to right-size our system.

Steve Morgan

- City does have the opportunity to reject the funding but would no longer provide a transportation system and the money would go away. We are not expending general funds other than maintenance or design on occasions.

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 5 of 21

Jerry Taylor

- Was hoping someone from Kern COG would be here. Trying to increase the percentage that we could use for roads.

Mayor Carter

- This is federal funding that we must use the way they require.

Jason Patin

- Does this impact our general fund?

Dennis Speer

- Maintenance is budgeted and the program is fully self-funded. Operate around \$800k and receive \$1 million plus.

Jerry Taylor

- Comment is to try and make that \$300k we use for roads larger.

Dave Matthews

- Title on agenda is incomplete. Supporting documentation does identify unmet transit need. Understand Mr. Taylor frustration. However, price of gasoline has sky-rocketed and if it keeps going up then suspect ridership on public transportation will increase, so long as cost is more reasonable for the riders. Mentioned taxi service, recently contacted taxi to go out to dinner at the senior rate which cost \$4.00 which has increased to \$7.00 each way plus a side trip which totaled \$21.25 which is unreasonable for senior or low income individuals. Suggest city try to get competition for taxi service to keep prices down or extend public transit system hours of operation.

Paul Vanderwerf

- Ridership possible partnership with schools and commute with base workers. Many communities offer a monthly pass at \$20 and suggest staggering school times and work times. School, base, college and community working together. Speak with agencies outside of government. Told story of Las Vegas athlete who waited 4 hours not knowing she had to schedule the ride. Transportation system doesn't support base when many people work on the base. Frustrating for all sides. Paying for busses to sit empty that could be used for schools and base.

Motion To Approve Resolution Establishing Unmet Transit Need Was Made By Council Member Morgan, Second By Council Member Patin. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, And 0 Absent.

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 6 of 21

DISCUSSION AND OTHER ACTION ITEMS

7. Adoption of the Draft Recognized Obligations Payment Schedule Pursuant to ABX1 26 **Staheli**

Tyrell Staheli

- Gave Staff report.

Steve Morgan

- Being required to produce this document and still don't know who these people are who will review this document, how will we contact these people with questions.

Tyrell Staheli

- Working with county controller.

Kurt Wilson

- Staff is working with other agencies for appointments which will come back to council. Some agencies have already made appointments and anticipate having all appointments made and meetings to begin shortly

Steve Morgan

- Please explain conversations you have had with these folks.

Jason Patin

- Did state request our list be submitted before we approve it?

Tyrell Staheli

- Correct, have ability to make changes.

Jerry Taylor

- In looking at list, we have monthly payments, does this need to be corrected

Tyrell Staheli

- If we don't make a payment, then the projects are pushed back to the next 6 month period. More accurate by project rather than payment schedule.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tom Wiknich

- In looking at the list, one thing being asked for is more detail and definition about what the city is doing. There is a perception that all information is not being provided. Openness is important and in looking at the list have yet to see a full presentation of what these numbers are for. There have been committee

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 7 of 21

meeting and some discussion in council meetings but requesting a presentation in-depth of each project. Example is sports complexes, what will city do with the \$3.4 million dollars. Need definition. If for road, what roads, how is the money specifically going to be used? If we had a full presentation to public and open discussion then perhaps there might be some changes. Asking for more details and full disclosure so public can fully understand what is being done. Once approved, these will be a point that it can't be changed and the longer we go without the information the less likely we are to be able to make changes.

Dave Matthews

- Not clear whether we have TAB money to spend on some of the projects being planned. Not clear whether these projects will get done. Very frustrated at this time because for 25+ years have been trying to get city to change the light fixtures in two sports complexes which are a public transportation hazard.

Howard Auld

- Don't understand the procedure. If going to adopt the draft, what does it do? When will you adopt the final schedule rather than the draft?

Tyrell – is a draft until approved by the oversight committee.

Kurt Wilson – these are not creating new projects; just recognize projects that were already being processed.

Jerry Taylor

- Understand Mr. Wiknich frustration but have problem with making changes when the oversight committee hasn't been formed yet. Ultimately needs to come back to council and projects are not approved yet, just a bureaucratic process we are obligated to follow. Been working with this list for a long time and will try to make changes but don't have that ability yet.

Steve Morgan

- Agree with Mr. Taylor. This is a 'mother may I' we had obligations and are trying to get the state to agree with the obligations and if they do then will continue with the projects and the debt will be paid. If state does not agree then we will lose the ability to proceed with some of the projects. We are doing what the state is requiring and answering to a board that does not currently exist.

Jason Patin

- This process was public thru open committee meetings before ever going to council. Disagree with the statements that this process has not been public. Currently not clear to us whether we can proceed and we as council are frustrated with the process. Don't know what is or is not going to be taken away from us. State isn't telling us what we can or cannot do. Don't have a choice but to deal with it until they tell us something.

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 8 of 21

Jerry Taylor

- Point of clarification, the list was put together by staff and was not publicly vetted at council level. Prioritizing was not done except at the committee level.

Chip Holloway

- Represent desert mountain division and the same level of frustration was exhibited in their meeting as we are experiencing here. Representatives at the state level were present and nobody can agree on anything. This reminds me of the process we had to go thru with cal recycles. Each week there are new changes. Nobody has the answer on the right way to do this; every time we jump thru a hoop they raise the bar higher.

Ron Carter

- State created this without guidelines and they have no idea what the guidelines should be. Is very difficult and frustrating.

Minute Motion To Approve Resolution Adopting Recognized Obligations Payment Schedule Pursuant To ABX1 26 Made By Council Member Taylor, Second By Council Member Morgan. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.

8. Approve a Resolution Designating A Revised Tax Allocation Bond (TAB) Street Priority List. which indicates \$3.6 Million For Immediate Distribution

Speer

Dennis Speer

- Gave Staff Report of revised priority list attached as Exhibit A

Jerry Taylor

- Thanked staff for bringing forward. Reviewed spreadsheet of alternate costs which have been reduced. Stretching the dollars.

Jason Patin

- TAB funds and moving forward. Why aren't we doing same for parks.

Kurt Wilson

- This is a specific plan that council directed come back with. Planning to bring entire parks list at one time rather than specific plans. at discretion of council to bring parks master plan back to council

PUBLIC COMMENT

Renee Westalusk

- Wondered about east Upjohn near Upjohn park isn't included.

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 9 of 21

Dennis Speer

- Following the list provided by our pavement management study. These streets account for year one and 2 projects of year two of the study. If the street didn't make the cut for the first 3 years then will be delayed.

Kurt Wilson

- Estimate of years is limited to funding available. More money designated for the projects speeds up the process.

Renee Westalusk

- That section of road is in terrible shape and needs to be fixed.

Tom Wiknich

- Good List, please move forward.

Motion To Approve Resolution Designating A Revised Tax Allocation Bond (TAB) Street Priority List. which indicates \$3.6 Million For Immediate Distribution Made By Council Member Morgan , Second By Council Member Taylor. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent.

9. Update On Fiscal Emergency And Decisions Regarding Proposed Solutions **Wilson**

Kurt Wilson

- Gave power point presentation. *(copy available in Clerk's office)*

Jerry Taylor

- Tough times and don't really want to be here but currently losing funds daily without action. Need to stop the bleeding but not willing to forego technology upgrades. Difficult to use an antiquated system such as the payroll system. Don't believe this a good strategy to use one-time money to forego layoffs that are inevitable. Need to move forward with giving some notifications of proposed personnel layoffs and need to work thru contingencies when dealing with contracts. Need to make the hard decisions. Also make recommendations that all employees affected by benefits changes be done immediately, clarification this is only until the end of this fiscal year. Don't want to put cafeteria cash-out on the list.

Keith Lemieux – asked council member Morgan to recues himself at the point of making a motion. Respectfully request voluntary recues from this discussion.

Steve Morgan – so noted, I'm staying.

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 10 of 21

Jerry Taylor

- If Steve remains, would this invalidate the decision we may make.

Keith Lemieux

- it puts the decision at risk. I can only make a recommendation to Mr. Morgan and he is free to make his own decision. I can only make the recommendation.

Jerry Taylor

- Benefits in terms of PERS, wish it could be 50% rather than 8%. Asking city manager to move forward on those that we can immediately affect. Do want to discuss cash-out in future. Recommend council benefit package be eliminated immediately for the rest of this fiscal year. Hope bargaining units will be considerate of the time and try to move forward. Trying to provide services and maintain as best we can. Ask council and city manager to reduce travel costs as much as possible.

Steve Morgan

- Understand fully what is occurring and ask you temper any unpleasantness you may have to fellow council members. They are uneasy with my being here and I understand. Appreciate the attorney unease as well. Last meeting I listened at the frustration grow and know what my fellow council members are trying to do what is in the best interest of the city. to all employees who came up with suggestions, thank you. Believe we can accomplish for the remainder of this fiscal year, not cutting positions. From what has been presented by Mr. Wilson and from what I believe our staff members have indicated in salary reductions and other benefits they would voluntarily give up I believe we could maintain the staff for this current year and still be balanced. Believe we have the time to work with the union negotiators for the next year. Much of the information we are receiving has not been officially vetted with the unions so have a communication issue to address. I believe our employees have the best interest of the city at heart and feel it is my place to be able to express those views. I understand that a vote for layoffs hold legal implications and I must abstain. The items given to most of us we can't make all employees half time, not legal. Great suggestion that would cut cost but is not legal. We are taking every suggestion serious and need to make sure our unions are getting these documents. Need to have a council designee sit in on negotiations to force daily negotiations to occur then need to do that. I don't believe this issue will not result in reduction in force, and believe our employees also believe reductions will be necessary. With contributions we are hopeful. Would like to see discussed uniform allowances taken away, an additional 5% reduction to police department and balance our expenditures better between police department and the entire rest of city expenditures. Need to be reasonable in that regard. Believe these are all possible. We have impending contracts that we have agreed to that we need to reopen or have discussions because the agreements were prior to the state

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 11 of 21

taking away redevelopment. If we don't have the discussions there will be more layoffs.

Chip Holloway

- Want to refocus to this budget cycle. Thanked staff for putting council in a position to move forward for this year without major staff cuts. However, the train is still coming straight at us. Council has had it with this level of cuts. Time to make the tough cuts looking forward to the next years issues. Don't disagree with any of the recommendations. Would like to add is the 2.7% at 55 and go back to 2.0% at 55. Future discussion is shared medical costs with minimum of 10% contribution to medical costs.

Jason Patin

- not here to put a band aid on this fiscal year. Staff has dissected these numbers but don't believe it fixes the problem and will be looking at more cuts in June. Still continuing one-time funding to balance the budget. Have to stop depending on one-time funds and live within our means with the money we know are there. Have to get our house in order and move forward. Live within the money we know we have. One-time funding should be in addition to and used to do things we could not normally do. Going to be employee cuts and the rest of the suggestions will hopefully turn out well for us. Need to make cuts today rather than push till June.

Ron Carter

- Decisions we are going to make are very difficult. Thanked staffs who have listened to public comments and council. Have asked for your requests and you have provided us with good information. This is not easy, prefer to not make cuts but if we don't make them now will have to do it in the new budget cycle. Very difficult, but appreciate staff for all you have done to put this package together. Hope things happen that will make it easier for the next cycle.

Jerry Taylor

- pulled the Parks & Recreation Director, leaving all other positions; PERS for those that are immediate and social security; eliminate council benefit package, negotiate long-term PERS amendment for employees 2% at 60; look at RACVB funding.

Motion As Stated Previously Made By Council Member Taylor, Second By Council Member Holloway If Amended To Remove RACVB From Recommendations.

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 12 of 21

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dave Matthews

- I don't think the process has been open enough to public and suggest council not pass the resolution because public has not seen this list before. Heard conflicting statements. If can get thru this year without making cuts because of certain concessions that may be coming. Statement of next fiscal year. Didn't hear consideration to the possibility to sales tax increase which is coming down the pike. Data missing and should not pass tonight, hold a special meeting. To pass without public having opportunity to look at it is out of bounds.

Harris Brokke

- Motion as made is unclear to many people in the room; please state the motion again as a motion clearly.

Barbara Auld

- Difficult for public to understand what is going on. I don't understand the motion. Have a lot of things been considered like cutting salaries. We don't know what positions are being cut? Can't keep up with what is being said.

Jim Fallgatter

- Appreciate the work that has been done. Very difficult decision tonight. Mr. Morgan is concentrating on union and those positions rather than higher paid salaried positions. We know what we can do within the law. Sounds like the RDA unfunded positions it is clear what to do with those positions and functions. PERS, why punt if we can make the decision on that item. Was a nice perk that we could offer in the past but can't do it anymore? As far as when to do this, can we add more furlough days for salaried people? What is something in between a layoff? Is there wiggle room for salaried employees? Heard employees who said they would take cuts, something to look at. One-time money we should stay away from. Agree with the MIS system needing updated. Message here for council is we are still hoping for a tax increase in June. Think it would send a bad message to delay what you can do now. Need to be concerned with public perception of not being able to make the hard choices. Wish the council wisdom.

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 13 of 21

Tom Wiknich

- Agree with a lot of comments made by the public and council tonight. Make the hard decisions. Council is the full vetting of an issue. Made suggestions for cuts and didn't get agreement to make them move forward. Lead by example and start at the top. Make sacrifices at your level and the city manager. No travel or training that is not required by law. No Sacramento trips for training. Do more in making sure business licenses are paid and make it a multiple year license. Offer discount if pay for up to 5 years. Main suggestion is building inspection. Bring in-house. We looked into having staff and contractors do it rather than county. Use contract support to cover vacations and sick leave and expertise that one building inspector does not have. Have yet to get a concrete answer. In looking into it, previous city manager said it was a good idea. There are other things to look at. Lead by example and if already doing it let us know. Know we can get thru this and move forward.

Jim Humphrey

- Senior shop steward for UFCW Local 8. Acknowledge we recognize the gravity of the situation both immediate and long-term. Fiscal emergency is nothing new, for 3 years UFCW employees have taken a 10% cut in furloughs and salaries. Two represented bargaining units in the city. Gave general fund impact figures for salaries and benefits from state controller's office. Always enjoyed amicable open dialogue with previous administrations. Frustrated with lack of information received from City. Understand hard decisions have to be made. Make the decisions and we can go back to the table to mediate them. Union is concerned with the future 1.9 million. Council members are welcome to attend negotiations.

Hurley Vanderpool

- Also shop steward for UFCW Local 8. This is not new to us. Since 2006 employees have not seen a COLA. Last year spent two weeks trying to get ½% just to show the employees they are getting something. These are the employees that are called at all hours of the night and day for safety issues. Average take home pay is only \$800 per pay period. Average take home pay based on current concessions, taxes, Medicare etc. is only 46% of salary. Understand the situation, but tired of giving and not getting back. we can't come up with matching funds to get a lot of the grant funding available. Back off of the purchasing and give back to the people to work for you.

Mike Neel

- The list provided with number, is that eliminating the position or a reduction of salary?

Jerry Taylor

- Elimination of the position and salary savings for the balance of this year. Taking parks & recreation director off the list temporarily while we formulate a plan for the programs.

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 14 of 21

Mike Neel

- Will there be further discussion and motions of other things on the list?

Jerry Taylor

- Motion is this list, council benefits, and PERS amendment to formula.

Mike Neel

- With these items, there is still \$200k left to be funded?

Jerry Taylor

- Still will not have the full amount covered, could be up or down with other things potentially coming.

Mike Neel

- Possibility of internal loan, where would that fund be taken from?

Ron Carter

- that is not the recommendation

Mike Neel

- Will it be addressed in future?

Ron Carter

- Will have to continue working with this in the future and the next budget cycle.

Mike Neel

- In light of comments and long-term problem, this is a temporary patch. Something needs to be done for the future and next fiscal year. Agree with Mr. Fallgatter, suggest certain levels of positions with salary be tied to median Ridgecrest salaries. Chain up from the lower level, significant salary reductions for those who make the high salaries. If going to get there next year, will have to reduce salaries. Can't rely on sales tax, so plan expenses to deal without it. Biggest expense is where you have to cut. Loans isn't being considered at this point, multiple loans from wastewater fund and isn't ethical to loan from this fund. If sewer pipe bursts the funds won't be there. Leave wastewater alone and figure out spending cuts.

Stan Rajtora

- One criterion for who is and is not funded is based on general fund or RDA funding. The funds were so intermingled there really was only one fund. Should go back to what is important, what functions are needed. Second position on the list, planning and economic development is eliminate planning and keep economic development which improves our town. If no economic development is going on then there is no planning going on. The past few years we have not had true planning going on. Congratulate council for recognizing we can't kick the can down the road any further. Sad that people will be losing their jobs, but economic will save our community at this time and planning is not needed right now.

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 15 of 21

Howard Auld

- I see numbers that aren't that formidable, NRA; Navy Foundation, and Elk Foundations raise over \$100k annually with a dinner. Go to City and let them know the situation and how important it is. If you want to save the city then go to the citizens. Money could be raised and the problem could be solved.

Bob Smith

- RDA discussion with Council Member Clark eight years ago. When this decision by Supreme Court came up in December I understood what it meant to my position. Asked each council member to read the banner behind them "in God we trust" let's move forward and vote on these issues.

Paul Vanderwerf

- Researched other areas of the country, primary interest was non-profit and involvement in the community. Part of solution is to raise money but only 20% of the people will do 80% of the work. Non-profits can donate time for some of the things needing done, but have to have a needs assessment to fully understand the situation. Need a community plan to move forward. When services are looked at in the government level, more likely to look toward other entities for help but we don't have those to lean on. Don't see a community long-term plan. Example of base softball using current facilities in city. Community plan and working with city partners. City manager run government is more expensive. Don't have the solution but know we don't have the things in place to look at such as list of all available non-profits that could be a resource for us. If you have a homogenous community then easier to make and follow a community plan. Community needs to drive this program, not the council. Gave example of childhood fundraiser. Need to get back to people helping with the solution by being active. People can't afford to pay for everything. Schools charge so much for busses the kids aren't riding them. Have to have a needs assessment and community plan. Community needs to step up and organize to tell city where we can save the money.

Jim Fallgatter

- Understand what this motion but people are wondering what happened to the other list and perhaps two motions for the two different lists. Need to get things moving. For instance, Tom Wiknich idea to see about sub-contracting building inspections.

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 16 of 21

Jerry Taylor

- The Motion is to eliminate Director Of Public Service services, the elimination of the Economic Development position, the Executive Secretary and Code Enforcement, along with requesting as soon as possible to remove our payment in essence as employees that we can affect which includes City Manager on down or those not currently in a bargaining unit, their PERS which is approximately 8% and then in addition to that the long term direction is to look at potentially moving PERS, as an example 2.7% at 60 or anything like that I'm not sure if Mr. Holloway would like to clarify that, additionally look at anything in terms of cost sharing relative to the benefit package, again that's more long-term and not immediate, those are the ones that were in the motion, clarification Rachel? (Inaudible response) Oh thank you, and then also looking at employee's paying what is properly normally their share of social security where appropriate at this point, obviously can't affect immediately the bargaining units. That's my motion.

Mayor Carter

- Do we have a second, Chip you ok with that?

Chip Holloway

- Do you want to include the technology administrative remedies that were already brought forward by staff?

Jerry Taylor

- True, yes, that's the, help me out here City Manager relative to the position, sorry uh the information technology the carryover relative to one-time money, I'm not willing to put that into the motion.

Kurt Wilson

- Can you repeat the question, I apologize.

Chip Holloway

- Inaudible response

Jerry Taylor

- Apologize public, what's before us is the use of one-time funds if that is what you are looking at Mr. Holloway, we're obviously taking advantage of not backfilling a fully funded police officer at this point I do want to clarify here for the public that Redevelopment paid for 3 Police Officers, part of the Captain's salary and part of the Police Chief's salary, notice none of that is on this list. So it's not clearly black and white what was RDA and what was not, that's not how these cuts are being made, but I'm not sure what you are asking for Mr. Holloway, I'll let you say it.

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 17 of 21

Chip Holloway

- Inaudible comment to Council Member Taylor

Jerry Taylor

- Oh, the ROP, I apologize we have (inaudible) City Manager you could help me out on the ROP guess the police and salaries, I apologize just a point of clarification, it's the 147.

Kurt Wilson

- I'm not sure what the question is.

Chip Holloway

- Did you need those cuts as part of the motion, this is a public concern that those won't be included. I don't know if they are automatics

Kurt Wilson

- The things on that list are not actually cuts but revenues that you already took action on.

Chip Holloway

- Ok, so for the public's sake then those will be included.

Jerry Taylor

- They are potential revenue generations for us.

Kurt Wilson

- That's the item you did previously, you already adopted that and those were already included.

Jerry Taylor

- Mayor that's my motion, I'm sorry for the confusion.

Mayor Carter

- All those in favor say Aye.

Jerry Taylor

- I'm not sure we have a second yet Mayor.

Chip Holloway

- Second

Mayor Carter

- Asked for a roll call Vote

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 18 of 21

ROLL CALL VOTE

Council Member Patin - no

Council Member Morgan – abstain

Council Member Taylor – aye

Council Member Holloway – aye

Mayor Carter – aye

City Clerk – Motion Carries by roll call vote of 3 aye’s (Taylor, Holloway, Carter), 1 abstain (Morgan), 1 no (Patin)

DEPARTMENT AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Steve Morgan, Jerry Taylor, Craig Porter, James Sanders
Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m., Council Conference Room
Next Meeting: March 14, 2012

Jerry Taylor – meeting date changed to March 19. Reviewed potential agenda items

Quality of Life

Members: Chip Holloway, Jason Patin, Craig Porter, Carter Pope
Meetings: 1st Thursday of every even month at 12:00 p.m.; Kerr-McGee Center
Next Meeting: April 5, 2012

Chip Holloway – announced next meeting date

City Organization

Members: Ron Carter, Jerry Taylor, Lois Beres, Christopher LeCornu
Meeting: 3rd Tuesday of the month at 5:00 p.m.; Council Conference Room
Next meeting: March 20, 2012

Jerry Taylor – no meeting

Community Development Committee

Members: Steve Morgan, Jason Patin, Christopher LeCornu, James Sanders
Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m.; Council Conference Room
Next Meeting: March 8, 2012

Jason Patin – have not met, march 8 meeting cancelled

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 19 of 21

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

Members: Ron Carter, Chip Holloway, Ron Strand
Meetings: 2nd Monday of odd numbered months at 4:00 p.m., Kerr-McGee Center
Next Meeting: March 13, 2012

Ron Carter – will not have March 13 meeting.

Ridgecrest Area Convention and Visitors Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Chip Holloway, Jason Patin
Meetings: 1st Wednesday of the month, 8:00 a.m.
Next meeting: April 4, 2012 and location to be announced

Chip Holloway – gave directors report *(copy available in Clerk's office)*

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

Steve Morgan – Kern COG held award ceremony, Bruce Auld and Ruth Justice received awards for their work, congratulations.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

Kurt Wilson

- Clarify intent, the administrative actions would all move forward with exception of MIS fund.

Chip Holloway

- Made motion to move forward with administrative actions with exception of MIS fund, Building fund, and printing fund.

Jerry Taylor

- Does not believe it critical and willing to bring back.

Jason Patin

- Agrees to bring back the motion withdrawal

Jerry Taylor

- Not willing to give up the MIS funds but willing to consider all others at another time.

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 20 of 21

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Jason Patin

- Voted no because would rather resolve the full situation instead of a band-aid. The 22nd of February, Mike Hunsecker was lost to the community. For those who knew him, he was the most kind and gentle person. Treated my son like he was his own. For the loss to the family and community, ask you keep the family in your prayers.

Steve Morgan

- Interesting at times when you are backed into a corner what you hear and think you hear. Applaud council in moving forward in making tough decisions. Do not necessarily agree with methodology but applaud the decisions. For someone to use this as a platform to say you don't think the sales tax will be passed is inappropriate. What council is doing to balance the budget both this year and next is tough. Community needs to partner with council to help us make these decisions. This is not for the recognition and benefits we receive, we are community member too. Keep on the right message as we move thru the process, do not try to make political statements and cross lines that don't match is stupid. This is a process that is not pleasant but had to be done. Lets base our decisions on the best information we have and move forward.

Jerry Taylor

- None of this is easy, agonized a long time. This is a foundation that needed to be laid to cut funding on an annual basis. Want to provide services and the unions are the ones who provide these services. There are economic development challenges which along with other services will have to be done differently. Unfortunately, this is only the beginning. Appreciate Mr. Wiknich suggestions and will look at this but also looking at combined county services. Obviously need to go further, understand the city manager's request but need to continue to look at cutting costs and freezing positions. Can't say for certain what the city will look at on the other side. See us surviving for the 50th anniversary.

Chip Holloway

- Appreciate everyone who showed up for Mike Hunsecker. He will be greatly missed. To Mr. Wiknich, did follow up with in-house building inspector and the word I got back was the numbers don't add up. Congratulations to Bruce Auld and Ruth Justice for their awards from Kern COG. Situation tonight, I am glass half full. A lot of the things presented are contingencies and looking for good news ahead. Want to be proactive in June, this is painful but had to be done. Public will always be frustrated with this process same as council is frustrated because we aren't allowed to talk to each other. Each council member presented their own plans. Kurt and Ty had to deal with us daily and trying to incorporate everyone's good ideas while the clock ticks is a frustrating process.

MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR

March 7, 2012

Page 21 of 21

Feel good that everyone understands the path we are going down and is time to move forward. Really frustrated with budgets and not being able to have funds available. The number one job creator in our community does not pay taxes. Been researching other cities and working on a plan, presented state statistics of property tax per resident per community from 2009 back comparing local cities to Ridgecrest showing our property tax amounts were less than \$20 per person when California Cities and others were receiving up to \$80 per person.

Ron Carter

- Thanked citizens and unions who gave ideas and suggestions. Made hard decisions tonight. Appreciate understanding and patience because will have to continue to work with this as we build the budget for next year. Congratulations to Bruce Auld and

ADJOURNMENT at 10:30 pm



Rachel J. Ford, CMC

City Clerk