



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL

City Council Chambers
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, California 93555

August 21, 2013
6:00 pm

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. Meetings are recorded for the purpose of preparation of minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Council Present: Vice Mayor Holloway, Council Members Lori Acton and Jim Sanders

Council Absent: Mayor Clark

Staff Present: City Manager Dennis Speer; City Clerk Rachel J. Ford; City Attorney Keith Lemieux; and other staff

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Deleted Closed Session Item No. 2

Motion To Approve Agenda As Amended Made By Council Member Acton, Second By Council Member Sanders. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 3 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 1 Absent

PUBLIC COMMENT – CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

- No member of the public presented comment on closed session items

CLOSED SESSION

- Mayor Clark arrived at 5:39pm and attended closed session.

GC54956.9 Conference with Legal Counsel – Potential Litigation – Public Disclosure of Potential Litigant Would Prejudice the City of Ridgecrest

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- GC54956.8 Redevelopment Successor Agency Real Property Negotiations – APN 419-073-16 – Agency Negotiator Dennis Speer, City Manager**
 - **Item No. 2 deleted prior to approval of agenda**

GC54956.8 Redevelopment Successor Agency Real Property Negotiations – APN 067-050-013 – Agency Negotiator Dennis Speer, City Manager

REGULAR SESSION – 6:00 p.m.

- Pledge Of Allegiance – boy scout troop 291
- Invocation – moment of silence

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

- Closed Session
 - Item 1 received report, no action
 - Item 2 pulled
 - Item 3 received report, no action
- Other
 - none

PUBLIC COMMENT – 6:33pm

Renee Westalusk

- asked who to contact for street signs, Norma/Ward stop sign falling off.
 - Dennis – intersection named is Caltrans or street department at (760)499-5080
 - Lori Acton – (760) 499-5062 for executive secretary and please leave message so we can assist.

Speaker

- Relay for life October 19-20, 2013
- Asked council proclaim October as relay for life month and present on October 19 at college
- Would like to do the paint the town purple and asked employees wear purple ribbon.
- Give website address for more information

Jerry Taylor

- Clarified points in last meeting discussion regarding elimination of standing committees.

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Dave Matthews

- Asked council to help find the lost highway.
- Highway 178 thru Ridgecrest
- Majority located in Caltrans region 10
- Spoke on section ending at pinnacles and starts again thru death valley
- Assumption the highway continued thru Panamint valley and death valley to state line but is not a true assumption
- Spoke on Caltrans webpage not identifying the highway
- Former sign at intersection stated 'gateway to death valley'
- Repair from flooding will be made by county and would benefit everyone if highway co-exists all the way to state line and could mean additional funding for roads.
- Important for tourism

Nicholas Coy

- Represented veterans advisory committee
- Read letter supporting Ron Carter for council vacancy and identifying his support for the veterans advisory committee
- Reminded public of veterans stand down on September 27
- 40 vendors and services committed to work with veterans at the stand down

Steve Morgan

- Representing Ridgecrest Lions Club
- Reported business volunteering to assist with future fundraising
- Ridgecrest floor covering on west Upjohn offering raffle proceeds to go to fireworks fund. Drawing august 30.

Paul Vanderwerf

- Spoke on daily independent article on concussions
- Largest safety issue for sports
- Referenced Lou Gehrig and Mohammad Ali
- Spoke on article in magazine referring to Ron Luciano suicide
- Referenced previous statements regarding not having a standard for youth in relation to concussion.
- Concerned about lack of council response
- Spoke on current changes in parks and recreation department
- Spoke on college classes attended and diversity of citizenry
- Asked council to look at options for the greatest improvement rather than the easy choice
 - Lori Acton – asked for clarification of request from council
- Asked for specific policy adopted by City that would restrict groups from playing that do not follow the safety policy

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Jamey Heaton

- Asked about obstacle's for getting motocross track in Ridgecrest
 - Lori Acton responded

Ron Porter

- Implied collusion in appointment of Jason Patin for interim recreation supervisor.
- Appearance for council is bad and decision needs to be re-thought
- Public thinks the decision was pre-determined
- Does not understand why it occurred
 - Keith Lemieux – issue was brought to attorney and could be 1090 conflict and was made clear with city manager
 - Decision was city managers decision to make, council member did not lobby for the position until after resignation
 - This is interim and normal recruitment process will take place in a few months and public will be invited to apply for the position.
 - This decision was not the council's
- No announcement was made to fill the job and a six month interim is unfair to others.

Chris Nicholson

- Stated addresses and accused crony system and asked for justification of credentials and salary
- Asked why no advertising was done to the community.
- Asked council to drive Sunland Street and whether the city's policies are to not repair roads.
- Commented on gateway street and tax dollars for properties
- Asked what citizens have to do to get roads paved
- Has burned building from 3 years ago behind his house
- Asked where tax dollars are going.
- Spoke on need for weed abatement in alleyways

Al Huey

- Tagged onto two previous comments made
- Provided timeline of events from Ponek departure, to Holloway's comments at last council meeting, to Jason Patin's resignation, to Jason Patin's interim parks and recreation appointment.
- Commented on Mr. Ponek's departure being based on dwindling budget from council cuts.
- Wrong on council member Holloways comments lashing out at the public and accusing the public as being responsible for Mr. Ponek's departure
- Members of public suspected Mr. Patin would be next parks and rec director
- Suspicions confirmed 3 days later
- Appearance of impropriety

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Christina Witt

- Commented on Mr. Patin's remarks about serving the city in another way.
- Council has eroded public opinion and this string of events appears that council actions are not above board.

Robert Eierman

- No number was as low in the pool of Jason Patin taking recreation position
- Commented on council member Holloway's comments at the last meeting having dual standards from the public
- Can understand someone feeling that way and expressing it but four other council members did nothing and all council members should apologize to the community for not defending the people who elected them.
- Have not heard anyone asking for an apology with exception of news review printing the comments
- Spoke on Mayor Clark addressing Mr. Holloway but did not admonish him for terrible comments.

Mike Neel

- Spoke on the term geniuses being used in the comments
- Attended Mr. Howard's hearing today for infraction with dog catcher and identified other attendees
- Spoke on costs to Mr. Howard versus costs for city.
- Second infraction for leash law violation after city employee followed him.
- Made accusation of harassment and continued prosecution with no results
- Expressed disappointment in actions of the city
- Spoke on gross misstatements made by witnesses and pleads with city and council to deal with this in a better way and suggested a mediator
- City has made it clear they are going to beat Mr. Howard down rather than lose face and invited staff to speak with him.

Closed public comment at 7:13pm

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Adopt Resolution Approving The City's Appropriations Limit Of \$19,556,487 For Fiscal Year 2013-14 (GANN Limit) McQuiston
2. Adopt A Resolution Of The Ridgcrest City Council Approving And Amending The City Of Ridgcrest Classification Plan And Adopting The Job Specifications Of Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Into The City Of Ridgcrest Classification Plan McQuiston

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3. Adopt A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Approving And Amending The City Of Ridgecrest Classification Plan And Adopting The Job Specifications Of Custodian Into The City Of Ridgecrest Classification Plan
McQuiston

4. Adopt A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Approving The Application For Funds From The Fy-14/15 Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Program Under The Moving Ahead For Progress In The 21st Century (Map-21) For The Following Project: China Lake Blvd. Signal Interconnection And Synchronization Project
Speer

5. Adopt A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Approving The Application For Funds From The Fy-14/15 Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Program Under The Moving Ahead For Progress In The 21st Century (Map-21) For The Following Project: North Warner Street Paving Project
Speer

6. Adopt A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Approving The Application For Funds From The Fy-14/15 Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Program Under The Moving Ahead For Progress In The 21st Century (Map-21) For The Following Project: Graff Ave. Shoulder Paving Project
Speer

7. Adopt A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Approving The Application For Funds From The Fy-14/15 & Fy-15/16, Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP), Under The Moving Ahead For Progress In The 21st Century (Map-21) For The Following Project: China Lake Blvd. Resurfacing And/Or Rehabilitation, Bowman Road To College Hts. Blvd.
Speer

8. Approval Of Draft Minutes Of The Regular Council Meeting Dated August 7, 2013
Ford

Items Pulled From Consent Calendar

- No. 7

Motion To Approve Consent Calendar With Exception Of Item No. 7 Made By Council Member Sanders, Second By Council Member Acton. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 4 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; And 0 Abstain.

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Item 7 discussion

Ron Porter

- Questioned the amount of funds allocated for the road.
- Commented on the cracking condition and related comments from third party regarding the reason that problem occurs
- suggested independent inspector paid by the city rather than the contractor
- spoke on compaction and oil being inspected at time installation
 - Dennis Speer – responded about mixes and batch plants being inspected before the project is completed.
- Spoke on burn test.
 - Dennis Speer – provided credentials and identified that weathering has removed the fines on the road and normal tire wear will tear up the road

Motion To Approve Item Number No. 7 Made By Council Member Acton, Second By Council Member Sanders. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 4 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent

ORDINANCES

9. **Introduction And First Reading, An Ordinance Of The Ridgecrest City Council amending Chapter XX of the Municipal Code, (Zoning) to permit Amateur Ham Radio Antennas and Windmill Towers in excess of 35 feet to be erected subject to a Conditional Use Permit within the Estate Density Zone Districts, (E-1, E-2 and E-3), the Single-Family Residential District, (R-1), the Residential Mobile Home District, (RMH) and the Agricultural (A-5) District. Applicant: City of Ridgecrest Planning Department**
Alexander

Matthew Alexander

- Presented staff report and PowerPoint presentation (*Copy Available In The City Clerk's Office*)
- Reviewed zone options utilized in other cities and planning commission review of request presented.
- Referenced conditional use permits for HAM radio towers and windmills.

Lori Acton

- Asked about height requirements in relation to aircraft

Chip Holloway

- Asked about conditional use permit costs
 - Fees currently set at \$1200 but lower costs could be approved by council on individual request basis

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Chip Holloway *(continued)*

- Commented on needs identified during hurricane Katrina and encouraged reduced fees to allow more radio operators to erect towers

Lori Acton

- Agrees with lowered fees and identified the isolation of Ridgecrest in a disaster situation

Jim Sanders

- Questioned zones identified which does not include multi-family zones.
 - Alexander – typically no open space at apartment complexes
- Suggested including R-2 and R-3 zoning should the issue arise in the future

Chip Holloway

- Supports cleaning the language now rather than return in future

Lori Acton

- Support the idea

Public comment

Steven Rainey

- Appreciates council supporting this ordinance.
- Explained tower expansion capabilities from 22 ft. to 65 ft.
- Referenced the purpose of HAM operation
- Referenced permit fees and feels between \$200-\$300 are a fair fee

Dave Matthews

- Asked if the change mentioned to just “towers” already in effect?
 - Matthew Alexander – first reading can modify the ordinance
- Agree with making the change and commented on TV reception towers which may want to go above trees and location of property does not allow clear reception without a taller tower.
 - Jim Sanders – planning commission discussion highlighted multiple options for future.

Jerry Taylor

- Noticed 300 feet and in the paper
- Asked for fee reduction being noticed by city and ensuring public affected receives proper notice

Joe Malines

- Amateur radio operator and related restrictions put in place by government which was so restrictive you could not put a tower up.

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Joe Malines *(continued)*

- Has worked several earthquakes in California and no other communication was available
- FCC re-examined the restrictions and determined that radio operators could determine the costs of fees in 2000

Clyde Belritt

- Recent resident and HAM radio operator
- Member of relay league that operates at no cost and provides individual backup power and equipment which is open to any emergency service needs at no charge
- Monday night check-ins and have members ready to go in the event of a disaster.
- Concerned about the costs in erecting a tower and is a retiree on limited income.
- Asked council to take these issues into consideration

Jim Sanders

- Inquired about the maximum height permits requirement

Hal Hazel

- Thanked council for positive comments on HAM radio
- Spoke on experiences during hurricane Katrina and the Twin Towers
- HAM Radio provided communications for all emergency response teams
- Referenced years of experience from Navy to present
- Spoke on volunteer positions held with numerous organizations supporting HAM radio
- Spoke on tower height and need to have taller towers to receive longer distance and clearer communications.
- Spoke on frequency bands and correlation with tower height
- Spoke on FCC licensing which prohibits acceptance of compensation
- Spoke on station costs and equipment provided to emergency agencies free of charge
- No problem reimbursing city for costs.
 - Lori Acton – only want to justify cost to process paperwork, council not wanting to charge full amount
- Asked language that states actual costs for city to process permits
 - Jim Sanders – fee schedules will be presented at later date
 - Lori Acton – city is trying to change the ordinance.
- Commented that towers are located in back yards and not as obvious as the PowerPoint shows.
- Towers will be lowered when high winds are present

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Public comment closed at 7:51pm

Jim Sanders

- Pleased to see this ordinance come before council

Mayor Clark

- Asked if the term 'towers' might be opening up areas we do not want to go.
 - Jim Sanders – conditional use permit is required for every tower and will be taken before planning commission

Motion To Waive Reading In Full Of An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Amending Chapter XX Of The Municipal Code, (Zoning) To Permit ~~Amateur Ham Radio Antennas And Windmill~~ Towers In Excess Of 35 Feet To Be Erected Subject To A Conditional Use Permit Within The Estate Density Zone Districts, (E-1, E-2 And E-3, R2, R3, and r4), The Single-Family Residential District, (R-1), The Residential Mobile Home District, (RMH) And The Agricultural (A-5) District. Applicant: City Of Ridgecrest Planning Department Made By Council Member sanders, Second By Council Member Acton. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 4 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; And 0 Abstain

Requires A Second

Motion To Introduce, By Title Only, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Amending Chapter XX Of The Municipal Code, (Zoning) To Permit ~~Amateur Ham Radio Antennas And Windmill~~ Towers In Excess Of 35 Feet To Be Erected Subject To A Conditional Use Permit Within The Estate Density Zone Districts, (E-1, E-2 And E-3 r-2, r-3, and r-4), The Single-Family Residential District, (R-1), The Residential Mobile Home District, (RMH) And The Agricultural (A-5) District. Applicant: City Of Ridgecrest Planning Department Made By Council Member sanders, Second By Council Member Acton. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 4 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; And 0 Abstain

Requires A Second

DISCUSSION AND OTHER ACTION ITEMS

10. FY13 Year End Budget Projections Update

McQuiston

Rachelle McQuiston

- Presented staff report
- Report is informational only, not opportunity to decide what to do with funds
- Staff recommendation is to put carryover amount of \$1,535,357.83 into general fund reserve.
- Suggest future agenda item to make decision on carryover amount.

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Mayor Clark

- Item scheduled for future council regular meeting

11. Adopt A Resolution Recognizing The 2014 Petroglyph Festival As A Signature Event For The City Of Ridgecrest And Committing To Allocate Funding From The Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget To Support The Event

Clark

Mayor Clark

- Asking for commitment from council
- At this time do not believe funding will be needed
- Asking for council support of the petroglyph festival for November 2014 and committee will market for tourism to Ridgecrest with tours, street festival, and other activities

Lori Acton

- Asked if TOT covered tourism marketing

Jim Sanders

- Asked what type and amount of funding may be needed

Mayor Clark

- Do not anticipate coming to council and requesting funding unless it is for seed money until fundraisers can be held
- More asking for council support of the event as a signature event for the community

Chip Holloway

- Event has been discussed at RACVB
- Requested changing resolution item 2 to read "...consider allocating funding"
- Spoke on fireworks show which is not supported as a signature event and needs to be included.

Mayor Clark

- Reviewed amendment to resolution to consider allocating funding
- Wants revenues for the event to go to the City

Lori Acton

- Agrees with amendment to resolution

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Public comment

Jerry Taylor

- Comments on TOT and funds available to inspire hotels to bring in events of this type
- City staff is understaffed
- Tourism district could have been directly to city but given to hotels instead

Christina Witt

- Agrees but asked if city would also support other city events such as wildflower festival and 1000 flags

Harris Brokke

- Thanked Mayor Clark for wanting city to support this festival
- Believes this event to be an annual success
- Not important that city put actual dollars toward but wants city support for event
- Held in November because of native American heritage month
- Thanked committees who are involved which includes business persons.
- Branding Ridgecrest as the petroglyph capitol of north America
- Rock art, murals, and other related themes are being encouraged in local businesses.
- Kern county is also involved with this and the new park under construction is being considered rename of Petroglyph Park

Motion To Adopt A Resolution as amended Recognizing The 2014 Petroglyph Festival As A Signature Event For The City Of Ridgecrest And Committing To consider Allocating Funding From The Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget To Support The Event Made By Council Member Holloway, Second By Council Member Acton . Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 4 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; 0 Abstain.

12. Discussion And Establishment Of Process To Fill Council Vacancy Clark

Keith Lemieux

- Presented staff report
- Reviewed special district required process which does not apply to general law cities.

Chip Holloway

- Obvious nobody wants to have a special election

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Mayor Clark

- Can select next highest vote getter from last election
- Can make appointment from internally
- Can entertain applications to select from

Keith Lemieux

- Only limitation is must qualify.

Mayor Clark

- Asked council which process they prefer

Lori Acton

- Good with appointment or applications, not comfortable with highest vote getter as it eliminates persons who did not run.
- Feel need to select someone who has served on council or planning commission and knows the process

Jim Sanders

- Clarified special election costs and current budget.
- First preference is open to public for applications because citizens may be willing to help now
- Last option would be third highest vote getter, would prefer to use the election year that Mr. Patin ran in the election

Chip Holloway

- Don't like item which has been pandered around community for past few weeks
- Not excited about opening up the application process because of past experience which appointed Duke Martin
- Stated it is not fair to ask someone who has never been in the arena to give a public performance for us to decide whether they should be on Council.
- Will not consider anyone who has never served as a viable candidate because there is a large learning curve to the job and too many critical items coming up that need to be completed
- Need someone who has a history of being engaged and have stayed engaged.
- Will be very hard to consider someone without experience

Mayor Clark

- Feel strongly we need to honor the ballot box which suggest we appoint the third highest vote getter from last election
- All know how difficult it is to get abreast of the issues and need to respect the vote of the people
- Strongly suggest council consider the people's choice at the ballot box
- People who did not run for office, even if they interview well, will they do a good job for us. Do they have the experience needed for municipal government

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Mayor Clark *(continued)*

- If not going with highest vote getter then comfortable with making an appointment
- Do we know someone in the community who can hit the ground running and understand the requirements of the job

Public comment at 8:35pm

Marla Hail

- Supports Ron Carter who has served and cares about the people of this community.

Christina Witt

- If going with the 2010 election then people voted for Tom Wiknich
- Agree with comments on experience but sometimes need fresh eyes
- Too easy to play favorites with appointment
- Commented on disappointment in lack of applications for Measure 'L'
- Now there is an opportunity for fresh eyes

Arzel Hail

- Feels strongly should be the highest vote getter of the last election
- Worked with Ron Carter for years and found him to be high integrity, fair and honest

Gilbert Nicholson Jr.

- Speaking for 4 people who all take the position of the highest vote getter in the last election
- Spoke on communications during hurricane Katrina
- Asked community to work together
- Resident for 23 years
- Look forward to seeing the best come forward
- Spoke on sequestering and funding needs for roads and other things
- Spoke on electromagnetic forces on the environment
- Reiterated desire for council to take the highest vote getter who is Ron Carter

Tom Wiknich

- Commented on city attorney's analysis on term limits regarding 8 consecutive years
- Spoke on the potential inability to run for council if appointed.

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Dave Matthews

- Second Christina Witt comments because when council member patin ran there was a difference in election process versus 2012 due to initiatives for separate mayoral election and term limits
- Prefers application process because vote getters can also apply.
- Respects council member Carter and would hate to interrupt his possible enjoyment of retirement.

Patricia Brokke

- Asked for clarification of taking highest vote getter, will council continue down the list if the highest does not want to serve.
 - Mayor Clark – in anticipation of the conversation, contacted Mr. Carter who is in favor of appointment

Speaker

- In favor of third highest vote getter process
- Spoke on experience of application process.

Ronald Porter

- Agrees with Mrs. Witt, if using the highest vote count and use the election cycle when Mr. Patin was elected
- Spoke on experience of corporate knowledge of city
- Spoke on good results of having fresh eyes presenting different ideas
- Only reasonable process in a republic is the application process which may result in new ideas
- If the vote getter is someone you don't like then they would not be selected, appointment or highest vote getter is council picking their own buddy
- Application process is only fair process

Renee Westalusk

- Supports option of third highest vote getter of 2012 election
- Supports Ron carter as appointee

Al Huey

- Agree with Mayor and council comments of having experienced individual on the council
- Noted that Jerry Taylor received more votes that Ron Carter.
- Asked council to seriously consider Jerry Taylor

Paul Vanderwerf

- Diversity with fresh set of eyes is desirable
- Spoke on challenging engineers with motor skills test
- Spoke on Punn and McReady audit report and going concern
- Spoke on reduction of general fund

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Paul Venderwerf *(continued)*

- Read excerpts from audit report
- Reviewed budget projection handouts from previous item
- Spoke on trends of council which created shortfall in budget
- Suggested putting an accounting person on the council
- Spoke on vote margins from 2012 election
- Suggested application process
- Spoke again on new eyes making a difference
 - Chip Holloway - Spoke on report referenced based on assumption of wastewater loan being due and payable.

Bill Farris

- Referenced two options from city attorney which is to appoint or appoint by way of application
- Important to understand that if going to appoint then must appoint the best person for the position
- Next best vote getter is flawed, public did not elect Mr. Carter
- Entire scope of election changes if any one person is removed from the election
- If Mr. Carter is appointed then should be because he is the best man for the job which is a decision of the council
- Tonight's decision is whether to hold public interview process or not.
- Clarified decision open to council tonight and in the end council must determine who is the best person for the job, which is what public elected council to do.

Speaker

- Backed Mr. Farris's comments about flawed concept
- Context was Jason Patin was elected in 2010 so must look at Mr. Wiknich
- Third highest vote getter of the last election is Mr. Taylor
- Agree with experience needs
- Offered input that right now city has issues with money and suggest reaching outside potential former council members but go with someone who has experience with finances and bring that kind of incite which is needed.
- Urged council to heed Mr. Farris comments and if go that route there are two people who did receive highest vote count other than Carter

Mike Neel

- Election is basic preference of community
- Appointment preceded by application process is closes thing to election
- Occurrences over past couple months has created trust factor or lack of trust with public
- Application process with public interviews may reduce the negative trust.
- Suggested special meeting for interview process

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Mike Neel *(continued)*

- Spoke on highest vote getter from last election and exemplified change of Al Huey suggesting Jerry Taylor when at one time he attempted to have Jerry Taylor recalled.
- Same results may happen in application process

Keith Lemieux

- Suggested nominations at the next meeting
- Real question is whether to accept applications or not
- Need tight time period to receive applications and review before next meeting
- Does not make sense to do interview someone no one is willing to nominate
- Only interview those who will be nominated

Chip Holloway

- Clarified timelines that city is obligated to fulfill which is 60 days. If appointment is not made in that time then automatically goes to special election.

Mayor Clark

- Reviewed 3 options and asked for direction

Lori Acton

- Requested third highest vote getter be thrown out
- Appoint either with or without applications
- Application submitted by 30th.
 - Keith Lemieux – suggested applications be reviewed prior to meeting then make nominations at the next meeting.
- Based on last election, the people elected are fresh eyes so agreeable with application.

Jim Sanders

- Would like the application process and suggest that when going through the application process then can rank experience as part of the ranking
- Not selecting from a small handful of people, may be someone out there that is perfect and has experience elsewhere.
- Logical process since with four council members we each would nominate a different person
- Only interview applications that we would consider for nomination

Chip Holloway

- No problem with application, suggested each person select two applications

General discussion of timelines and publication requirements

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Mayor Clark

- Publish in both papers, put on website
- Suggested applications submitted by the 30th

Lori Acton

- Suggested special council meeting on the 11th

Jim Sanders

- Special meeting on the 11th

Chip Holloway

- No problem with special meeting on the 11th
 - Close application process on the
- Council directed staff to hold an application process to close September 4
- Council scheduled a Special meeting for September 10 at 5:30pm to review nominees and appoint the vacant council seat.

13. Discussion And Appointments Of Council Representative To Outside Boards And Committees

Clark

Mayor Clark

- Nominated Lori Acton to RACVB and suggested leaving the alternate league of California cities vacant and fill the vacancy after appointment

Jim Sanders

- Seconded the suggestion

COMMITTEE REPORTS

City Organization

Members: Dan Clark, Jim Sanders

Meeting: 3rd Tuesday Of The Month At 5:00 P.M.; Council
Conference Room

Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Jim Sanders – no report

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Community Development Committee

Members: Chip Holloway

Meetings: 1st Thursday Of The Month At 5:00 P.M.; Council
Conference Room

Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Chip Holloway – no report

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Dan Clark, Jim Sanders

Meeting: 2nd Wednesday Of The Month At 5:00 P.M., Council
Conference Room

Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Mayor Clark – announced next meeting September 11

Quality Of Life

Members: Chip Holloway, Lori Acton

Meeting: 2nd Thursday Of The Month At 5:00 P.M.; Kerr-McGee
Center

Next Meeting: To Be Announced (Dark in June, July, December, and
January)

Holloway – no report

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

Members: Jim Sanders

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the Month at 4:00 P.M., Kerr-McGee Center

Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Jim Sanders – announced meeting cancellation

Veterans Advisory Committee

Members: Lori Acton

Meetings: 1st and 3rd Monday of the Month At 6:00 p.m., Council
Conference Room

Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Mayor Clark – spoke on fundraising efforts.

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Ridgecrest Area Convention And Visitors Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Chip Holloway

Meetings: 1st Wednesday Of The Month, 8:00 A.M.

Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Chip Holloway – no report

Lori Acton – RACVB putting together volunteer list and encouraged citizens to participate

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

- None

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Dennis Speer

- Strategic planning workshop as two part meeting tentative schedule for September 30 at 5:00pm and conclude at Council meeting of October 2.
 - All agreed

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Lori Acton

- Spoke on changes to codes and fees structures to make ordinance business friendly
- Looking for ways to make things happen and not letting obstacles get in the way
- Petroglyph festival was Mares Leuck's idea in 2007 and is modeled after a quilt festival in another small city
- Tomorrow ribbon cutting for Panamint trail
- SCE and PGE will be part of veteran's stand-down
- Working with IT personnel for council corner on website, transparency is not lacking but information is so working to get information out to the community.
- Asked for public feedback on website
- Farewell party for the Kauffman's.
- Thanked staff for hard work

Jim Sanders

- Pleased with tonight's council meeting results
- Came out with something pretty good by pooling thoughts
- Congratulations to Mr. Patin for the interim job
- Understand the skepticism but everything is on the level
- Mr. Patin did not meet with Mr. Speer prior to resigning which was a very risky move
- Appreciate Mr. Patin for doing everything the right way

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Jim Sanders *(continued)*

- Action taken tonight on the ordinance, striving to make the code more property owner friendly while at the same time not giving away the farm for the city.
- Cannot be completely lawless but at this time code is too strict and can be modified
- Future agenda item requested – a policy for reviewing permit costs on case by case basis

Chip Holloway

- Scolded for not talking enough but issue is really information issue
- Working with issues that may save funding in future
- Good time to eliminate Mayor Pro-Tem from the municipal code
- Code needs to be fixed. Staff follow the code and then get beat up about it
- USDA is large tool for economic development and working on ideas with them to generate new businesses in Ridgecrest and getting funding.
- Working on program to offer Wi-Fi in community at reasonable rates
- Nancy Cisneros will be retiring from league of California cities so will be tough to replace, working on that committee and CityPAC committee.
- Jason is the best person for the job, to make yourself available with no guarantee was big risk. Have all the tools to be successful as the interim. Will be having a full recruitment for full time position.
- Cannot wait six months to have someone in that position and then another six months for recruitment. That won't work.
- Spoke on needing best person for the job of Council Member; so many things are going on. Open to what Jim Sanders said about someone who may have experience in another city. If you have served on a planning commission or council here or elsewhere, then please submit an application.
- Referencing comments made last meeting, nothing worse than seeing a public official stand up and say a non-sincere apology. What has not been said is the word 'individuals'. These comments were made to specific individuals and not to the entire community.
- Spoke on Mr. Speer and council being attacked on integrity which is more important than words said in the heat of the moment.
- What hurt the most is Mr. Ponek's daughter, who is a senior in high school and wife was a teacher, the move was accelerated because of the embarrassment to the family.
- Most people do not want to be represented in the way this happened.
- Spoke on church attendance and discussion of the Romans. Apologize to the public because the words spoken were not necessary.
- As an individual, am entitled to an opinion but did not express it in the proper way and will try to change in future.
- Department heads did not sign up to the abuse that council did and expect public to hold themselves to the same standards as they project onto council.

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Dan Clark

- Spoke on Monday radio interview about the 50th anniversary celebration
- September 26 will be doing a pancake breakfast for staff from 7-8 a.m. and is fundraiser for a float for the 50th parade and ask for council support
- Congratulated former council member Patin on the new job and concur with comments.
- Community is in turmoil with children and where they will play, to go thru a long interview process would take a couple months we do not have so an interim person like Jason Patin who can work on the problems while we open the interview process. He has been a community servant and resident for many years and has been very involved.
- Invited community for veterans' stand down
- Looking forward to strategic planning workshop
- Thanked council for supporting petroglyph festival and surprised in all the community support
- Well-argued point by Mr. Bill Farris
- Thanked all speakers who shared their thoughts and viewpoints. Sometime difficult to listen to but generally positive.

ADJOURNMENT



Rachel J. Ford, CMC, City Clerk