



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
RIDGECREST CITY SUCCESSOR AGENCY,
FINANCING AUTHORITY, AND HOUSING AUTHORITY**

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

**December 4, 2013
5:30 p.m.**

This meeting was recorded and will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk for a certain period of time from date of approval by City Council/Redevelopment Agency. Meetings are recorded solely for the purpose of preparation of minutes.

CALL TO ORDER Meeting was called to order at 5:32

Council Present: Mayor Dan Clark; Vice Mayor 'Chip' Holloway; Council Members Jim Sander; Lori Acton; and Steven Morgan

Council Absent: None

Staff Present: City Manager Dennis Speer; Deputy City Clerk Karen Harker; City Attorney Keith Lemieux; and other staff

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- *Added A Presentation Of Quad State Local Government Authority Update And Report On Activities By Executive Director – Gerry Hillier*
- *Pulled Item Number 6 the Adoption of a Resolution to Approve a Contract with Willdan Engineering To Provide Construction Management for the West Ridgecrest Boulevard Project from Mahan Avenue to South China Lake Boulevard to present new resolution and staff report*
- *Pulled Item Number 9 the Adoption of a Resolution Approving the Fire Services Agreement between the City of Ridgecrest And County Of Kern due to legal wanting to look over the contract.*

Motion To Approve Agenda (As Amended) Made By Council Member Acton, Second By Council Member Morgan. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent

PUBLIC COMMENT – CLOSED SESSION

- No comments presented by the public

CLOSED SESSION – 5:30

GC54956.9(A) Conference With Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – City Of Ridgecrest v. William Dale Howard

GC54956.9(A) Conference With Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – City Of Ridgecrest v. Matasantos

REGULAR SESSION – 6:09 p.m.

- Pledge Of Allegiance
- Invocation

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

- Closed Session
 - Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation
 - Brief report, no action taken
 - Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
 - No Action Taken
- Other

Brief Background for the public- Case involving loan to a RDA dissolution law. Pay the disputed amount finding completion so that they can free up the TAB funds. This decision has not been made yet but will be made at the Special City Council Meeting they have set for Friday at 1:00 pm.
- Special Meeting was set by the City Council on December 6 at 1:00 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT opened at 6:15 p.m.

Vicki Rizzardini

- Thanked Mayor for contacting her. Campaigns for drug free environment. Participates in local events with flyers, and packets from the organization that she is involved with. We ask for pledges from teenagers and adults not to do drugs. Discussed how our culture is making it ok for drugs to be in our society. Discussed the effects of drugs and how the effects of drugs will increase with time. Encourage the audience to visit the website www.drugfreeworld.org. Showed packets that they provide in the program that they offer. It is important that we educate all of our children before the age of 11 or 12 years of age. Anyone interested in more information can contact Ms. Rizzardini at 760-382-1233 or drugfeeridgecrest.yahoo.com.

Jerry Taylor

- Will we be able to ask questions during Chief Strand's presentation? Chief Strand indicated that there would be a question and answer period.

Mayor Clark

- Took noticed that the Fire Department was in the audience and let them know that the City Council had pulled item number 9 due to legal issues and that our legal department needed to go over the contract.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation Of the PACT Volunteer of the Month Award

Clark

- Council presented Barbara Pudgorski with an award for Employee/Volunteer of the Month.

2. Certificates of Appreciation to the Chairpersons of the 50th Celebration Committees

Clark

- Mayor Clark distributed certificates of appreciation to chairpersons of the committees who assisted with the 50th anniversary of incorporation event.

Quad State Local Government Authority Update and Report on Activity by Executive Director Gerry Hillier

Morgan

- Presentation done by Gerry Hillier regarding what has been happening over the last year. Gave a brief background to the audience. Quad State consists of 9 counties and 1 agency the City of Ridgecrest. We have been in existence for 15 years. We organized around issues of Tortoise Habitat issues and urbanization. Discussed the recovery plan of the Tortoise Habitat in the surrounding area. We have gotten involved in BLM, Area Resources Grounds, and other Agency and have gotten involved in what climate change is going to happen in the regional area. Major efforts next year... EPA over state water rights and over the water sheds as they put it under federal authority. Your funding is still keeping the City of Ridgecrest informed about what is going on in your area. We still have an office in Washington and are still welcome to the table. I would personally like to thank Steve Morgan, the City of Ridgecrest, and Kern County.

Mayor Clark

- Thanked Mr. Hillier for coming and presenting at the City Council Meeting tonight.

Steve Morgan

- What you are hearing is just a snapshot of what is happening with the use of open space and what is happening in public land. I would like to request to the City Council that we send a letter to the Kern County Supervisors that they continue to support the Quad State Local Government Authority.

Mayor Clark

- **We will put that on the agenda for the next Council Meeting.**

Chip Holloway

- Discussed the amount of money spent on the Tortoise and how you spend that on Tortoises and maybe not on feeding someone

Lori Acton

- an eye opener and work is invaluable
- BLM has a roundtable and is the 4th Thursday of each month. Due to the holidays they will meet tomorrow night and then in January.

3. Police Department Presentation On Current Crime Trends Strand

- Chief of Police Ron Strand gave a PowerPoint presentation to Council on the current crime trends in Ridgecrest. Discussed Reasons for Increases and Decreases from AB109 and Strategies to Address Crimes.

Lori Acton

- December 11 meeting at Crossroads is at what time?

Chief Strand

- 6 pm at night

Lori Acton

- Do you have information at Cal City Prison?

Chief Strand

- The State will be taking over facility and it will be 800 employees with 2500 inmates.

Lori Acton

- You indicated that there are no rehab facilities in the area and we don't have the resources. Lori Blowers was working with a group do they not have an inpatient or outpatient.

Chief Strand

- They are operating on an outpatient facility.

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Lori Acton

- Are we seeing a different type of drug in our community?

Chief Strand

- No we are not. The users are still using crystal meth, heroin, marijuana, oxycotin.

Steve Morgan

- Chief Strand thank you. I thought it was extremely important that you make this presentation. I hope that we will get this into the paper and that it's not that enough is being done and that we are doing what is best. The public can get involved with volunteer groups by neighborhood watch or PACT. Bottom line is that we need your help and get involved.

Mayor Clark

- Chief Strand I would like to make sure that we have our Action Committee Meeting in January.

Jerry Taylor

- Chief Strand I realize that you have quality staff, quality service, but do you want more officers. A million dollars of Measure L went to your budget but officers went down by 2. Asking the Council to look at what you have by having less officers.

Chief Strand

- I have 17 working the streets. I am looking to asking for the Code Enforcement Officer back. Blight brings in a certain type of crime. I need to improve neighborhoods so that the neighborhoods are being taken care of. If I need to ask for more officers then I will do so.

David Matthews

- What can the average citizen do now until the Action Committee meets in January? I'm aware of the neighborhood watch. If we see something going down do we call 911 or the business line?

Chief Strand

- If the issue is life threatening call 911; anything else the business line. We still have community involvement and our citizens are still paying attention to what is going on in our community.

David Matthews

- What is the highest officers' count the City has ever had?

Chief Strand

- In 1991 the City had 40 officers for about 30 minutes.

CONSENT CALENDAR

4. Approve A Resolution Requesting Authorization To Enter Into A Program Supplement Agreement No. 031-N With The State Of California, Department Of Transportation, Under Master Agreement No. 09-5385R And Authorize The City Manager, Dennis Speer, To Sign The Agreement For The Preliminary Engineering And Construction Of The Roadway Widening And Realignment Of Drummond Avenue From Inyo Street
Speer
5. Approve A Resolution Requesting Authorization To Enter Into A Program Supplement Agreement No. 030-N With The State Of California, Department Of Transportation, Under Master Agreement No. 09-5385R And Authorize The City Manager, Dennis Speer, To Sign The Agreement For The Preliminary Engineering And Construction Of The Traffic Signal At The Intersection Of China Lake Boulevard And Bowman Avenue
Speer
6. Adopt A Resolution To Approve the Professional Services Agreement With The Engineering Firm Of Willdan Engineering Inc. To Provide Construction Management for the West Ridgecrest Boulevard Project from Mahan Avenue to South China Lake Boulevard and Authorizing the City Manager Dennis Speer, To Execute the Agreement Contingent Upon The City Attorney's Review And Approval Of The Agreement
Speer
7. Approval Of Draft Minutes Of The Regular Council Meeting Dated November 20, 2013
Ford

Items pulled: Nos. 4, 5, 6 and 7

Item 4 Discussion

Dave Matthews

- I don't understand how we can get money for this area of Drummond when I had last heard there were no funds for it.

Dennis Speer

- Mr. Speer explained that these are different pots of money that that the funds that we received for doing this project came from the Highway Improvement Safety Program or (HSIP) and not from Street Funds or Road Funds.

Item 5 Discussion

Dave Matthews

- How can we get money for the signal when we get money for the paving of the street between China Lake and Bowman which is so bad?

Mr. Speer

- Mr. Speer explained again that these are different pots of money and that these funds came from the Highway Improvement Safety Program (HSIP).

Jerry Taylor

- With the Walmart Project going in at the same time, I am assuming that the grading and synchronization of the signal will be done with the project?

Dennis Speer

- Yes, coordination will be happening with Walmart.

Item 6 Discussion

Dennis Speer

- Mr. Speer presented to the City Council a new Resolution informing them that Staff advertised and solicited engineering firms for Construction Management for Professional Services on the West Ridgecrest Blvd Project and only one proposal was submitted. Staff reviewed the proposal from the firm Willdan Engineering and recommends that the City Council approves the proposal. There were not multiple proposals as indicated in the original staff report and there was not a selection committee. Mr. Speer discussed using the curves of fees and feels that Willdan has given a fair price and that staff has a good working relationship with Willdan from previous projects. Mr. Speer indicated that Doug Wilson from Willdan Inc. was here in the audience to take questions if the Council had any.

Steve Morgan

- Discussed the process of the 210 day working calendar for the West Ridgecrest Blvd Project and is happy that Willdan Engineering is working as an extension of City of Ridgecrest.

Chip Holloway

- How many full time staff member would it take to do the job that Willdan is providing to the City of Ridgecrest?

Dennis Speer

- The City would have to hire at least 5 full time employees.

Item 7 Discussion

Chip Holloway

- Approval of Minutes - In Council Present, Jason Patin, Mayor Pro Tem needs to be replaced with Councilmember Steve Morgan

A new Resolution for Item number 6 was discussed in the meeting presented to City Council Members. Attached to Minutes.

Motion To Approve Consent Calendar (As Amended) Made By Council Member Morgan, Second By Council Member Holloway. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.

DISCUSSION AND OTHER ACTION ITEMS

8. Discussion And Approval Of Adjustments To The FY 2013-2014

Speer

Dennis Speer

- Presented staff report to the City Council

Steve Morgan

- Most of these costs were in the budget cycle and we had set aside these funds for the adjustments just didn't do them at the time of the budget hearing?

Dennis Speer

- Yes that is correct

Chip Holloway

- 75,000 costs allocated for the pumps at the parks

Dennis Speer

- Yes we have the saving between salaries of the Park Director and the Parks Manager to help offset these cost

Jim Sanders

- The \$61,711 for licensing fees

Dennis Speer

- This is for the licensing for Microsoft three year agreement

Jim Sanders

- Thirty Thousand for training. Do we have a need of that

Dennis Speer

- There is an estimate for prior years and city council for the training that is needed for a new City Council. This is also for the entire Department across the board. The thirty thousand isn't for one specific department.

Public Comment

Jerry Taylor

- Recommendation the City should put the wells on meters to monitor how much water the City is putting on the grass areas to understand the consumption. What about water conservation at the time. Relative to training, please keep in mind that the Navy has not travel in one year and the City should think about how they are spending their budget when it comes to travel.

Motion To Approve A Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendment No. 13- Made By Council Member Morgan, Second By Council Member Sanders. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent

9. Adopt A Resolution Approving The Fire Services Agreement Between The City Of Ridgecrest And County Of Kern **McQuiston**

ITEM WAS PULLED

10. Adopt A Resolution Approving A Mission Statement, Vision Statement, And Core Values For The City Of Ridgecrest **Speer**

Dennis Speer

Presented staff report

- Mr. Speer discussed the Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and Core Values as presented at the Workshop on October 26, 2013. Staff then put together a draft Mission and Vision Statement and a tentative Core Value list to be presented to the Council for approval. These items are attached at Attachments "A" and "B".

Lori Acton

- I like it and I feel it sums up what we should be doing.

Steve Morgan

- This is what we are looking at annually. This is something that we can modify as we go. Promote what is in the future. This Council and this Staff is dedicating itself to get better. What we are striving for is to be better. Your comments and we move forward year after year will be greatly appreciated.

Jim Sanders

- Typo under the core value Add compatible “with”. I really like the cored values that we came up with. Good ideas that came out of the meeting. I am all for it.

Chip Holloway

- I also support what my colleges have to say. I believe that this is a good representation of what the City of Ridgecrest is heading.

Mayor Clark

- I believe that this represents who we are as a councilmembers. I’m pleased and I hope that the community is also pleased.

Public Comments

- NONE PRESENTED

Motion To Approve A Resolution Approving A Mission Statement, Vision Statement, And Core Values For The City Of Ridgecrest Made By Council Member Acton, Second By Council Member Sanders. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent

11. Discussion And Adoption Of A Procedure To Establish Goals For The City Of Ridgecrest Strategic Plan **Speer**

Dennis Speer

Presented staff report

- On November 6, 2013 City Council discussed alternative approaches to goal setting for the City of Ridgecrest Strategic Plan. Mr. Speer discussed the five approaches that the City Council could use. Ask the Council for discussion, comment, and their ideas for the approach that they wanted to take.

Jim Sanders

- What was the step for getting the consultant?

Dennis Speer

- Step four was getting a consultant. Discussed the Top Line Survey

Jim Sanders

- If we are doing two surveys at the same time

Dennis Speer

- The goal is to select one of the processes or several approaches of the Strategic Plan so that we can establish the goals.

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Jim Sanders

- I misunderstood. I'm sorry.

Lori Acton

- Strategic plan is a living document. We just had a RFP out for a marketing group they need to be asking these questions.

Chip Holloway

- Past behavior is an indication of future behavior. To try to pull public input is hard to get. I would like a combination of 1 and 5. We each have a core of constituents and if we get their input and then go from there we get the goals that way or at least the questions.

Steve Morgan

- The blue print process might not be what the City of Ridgecrest wanted, but if we get to a grouping of goals. How do we get the questions for the survey and

Dennis Speer

- You allow staff or a modified staff to get the goals which would be your grouping of goals and you get your questions from those goals.

Chip Holloway

- Gave an example of \$50,000 for the UAV for the airport and was that in the last survey and should the City use this sort of funding to help with projects like this.

Mayor Clark

- Respectfully submit, modify goals through staff support, and gather public input through social media and then a workshop for those who won't use the social media.

Dennis Speer

- I can take to Department Heads to get the modify goals and then bring back to City Council for your review to generate the questions for the questionnaire

Jim Sanders

- In regards to a timeline when do you want to see the survey come back? Are we looking at a six month process?

Dennis Speer

- No, I'm looking a reviewing goal, getting it back to Council and questionnaires by February.

Chip Holloway

- We get the goals from staff, and then make questionnaires?

Mayor Clark

- Just to make sure that we are on the same page. We receive goals from staff, then questionnaire, social media to gather public input, workshop and then final priority.

Council Action for Goal Setting:

- Receive Goals from Staff
- Questionnaire
- Social Media to gather public input
- Workshop
- Final Priority

Public Comment:

Jerry Taylor

- If you look at GOBE your data is already there. UAV is just an example of what they do. They have very good information.

Motion to Approve a Procedure to Establish Goals For the City of Ridgecrest Strategic Plan Made By Council Member Acton, Second By Council Member Sanders. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Members: Jim Sanders, Dan Clark
Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the Month at 4:00 P.M., Kerr-McGee Center
Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Jim Sander

- There will be a Meeting of the ACTION Committee Meeting on January 21, 2014

Veterans Advisory Committee

Members: Dan Clark
Meetings: 1st and 3rd Monday of the Month At 6:00 p.m., Council Conference Room
Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Dan Clark

- Updated the Community on upcoming events from the Veterans Advisory Committee. He is happy with where the Committee is going.

Ridgecrest Area Convention And Visitors Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Chip Holloway

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

Next Meeting: Date and Location To Be Announced

Chip Holloway

- Sundance Media gave a presentation at the Board Meeting today explaining the Facebook campaign of Jawbone Canyon. The Campaign was very successful for very little money.
- PBS's Steve Brown of "The Sun Runner" has a show on KVCR, the California Desert, which airs on channel 24 on both DISH and Direct TV.
- Doug Lueck met with Matt Zubia regarding the promotion of a concert on January 31, 2014. The group is Incendio's World Class Guitars.
- The next meeting January 8, 2014. The location is to be determined.

Doug Lueck

- There were three productions in the valley for the month. 28 days of filming, 1000 of extras, direct cash into the community. A total of \$675,000 of revenue

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

Steve Morgan

- Kern Cog Meeting – A big change if Chapter 2. We are now obligated to have build ready projects in January instead of March. This needs to have a presentation in front of the Measure L Committee so that they put aside money. Mayor Clark stated that we staff can put together a presentation that can go before the committee so that they can have an overview of what this change in the Kern Cog requirements has done to the City of Ridgecrest.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Dennis Speer

- 1) Our City Clerk and Finance Director are at the League of California City Conferences. Ms. Karen Harker has been here taking minutes for us tonight.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Steven Morgan

- Glad that we are using the currant survey – times have changed
- Very happy with the participation of City of Ridgecrest 50th Anniversary and UAV at the Inyokern Airport
- 36 year of Santa Art Shop – Lion Club has Santa there for families to have pictures taken
- Elks Children's Christmas parade on December 14, 2013. The Lion's Club will once again have Santa participating in the parade.

Lori Acton

- Santa Art Shop this weekend
- Craft Shop on the December 18, 2013

Jim Sanders

- I was very impressed with the information provided by Quad State and very happy to get information. Mr. Morgan has given me some background into the agency but it was great to hear it firsthand.

Chip Holloway

- Grant Application – video conferencing air pollution control is something to look into.

Dan Clark

- Special meeting on Friday at 1pm for Tab Funding
- Mr. Craig Campbell – social security office back in Ridgecrest possibility as video - conferencing.

ADJOURNMENT at 8:39 pm



Karen Harker, Deputy City Clerk