



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL

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

**May 1, 2013
5:30 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 – 5:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Council Present: Mayor Daniel O. Clark; Mayor Pro-Tem Jason Patin; Vice-Mayor Marshall 'Chip' Holloway; Council Members James Sanders and Lori Acton

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT – CLOSED SESSION

- None Presented

CLOSED SESSION

GC54956.9 (b) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation - City of Ridgecrest v. Matosantos et al.

GC54956.9 (b) Conference with Legal Counsel – Potential Litigation – Verizon California, Inc. v. State Board of Equalization, et al.

REGULAR SESSION – 6:00 p.m.

- Pledge Of Allegiance
- Invocation

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

- Closed Session
 - Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation - City of Ridgecrest v. Matosantos et al. – received report – no reportable action taken
 - Conference with Legal Counsel – Potential Litigation – Verizon California, Inc. v. State Board of Equalization, et al. – received report – No reportable action taken
- Other
 - None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Neel

- Provided handout to Council regarding DUI Saturation Patrol scheduled to be conducted by Police Department
- Spoke on news item from Pentagon regarding soldiers being prosecuted for demonstrating their faith. Read news article.
- Read historical statements and proclamation from congress establishing the National Day of Prayer in 1779.

Dave Matthews

- Asked for clarification regarding adjourned budget hearing and if public comment would be available during the balance of the hearing.
- Recapped discussions at the Ridgecrest Public Lands meeting with Bureau of Land Management.
- Concerned citizens attended to discuss the Garlock area which, under the renewable energy plan, the provision is made that agencies can build their site on currently inhabited land. Recommend City keep watch on the process as fences are being erected and could impede progress on public land.
 - Lori Acton – spoke on her involvement with the CAPPa process and is working closely with BLM and County to monitor the process.
 - Chip Holloway – reminded that Steve Morgan is City's appointee at Quad-State and working to get Kern County to reinstate their participation. Encouraged Dave Matthews to meet with Supervisor Gleason.

Paul Vanderwerf

- Commented on church services attended as an active duty service member.
- Quality of life concerns. Mentioned general plan for parks and recreation and committees that were to be appointed but to date have not been staffed.
- Commented on the recreation Master Plan which has not been developed over the past three years.
- Process has been neglected the past three years.

Closed Public Comment at 6:29pm

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation Of A Proclamation For Be Kind To Animals Week To Representatives Of The Ridgecrest Humane Society Ford

- Council presented a proclamation to representatives of the Ridgecrest Humane Society

2. Presentation of the 2014 Regional Transportation Plan by Robert Ball of Kern Council of Governments Ford

- Robert Ball of Kern COG gave a PowerPoint Presentation to Council pertaining to the 2014 Regional Transportation Plan. *(copy available in the City Clerk's Office)*
- Requesting input from City by mid-June.
 - Lori Acton - asked for plans of public meetings and date of final plan
 - Robert Ball – meetings are being scheduled and final plan is anticipated for September.
 - Chip Holloway – asked for a review of the funding level which shows 6.5 million and should be 9 million.
 - Lori Acton – reviewed regional travel statistics.
 - Jim Sanders – asked how strategy was changing the way transportation is planned.
 - Robert Ball – responded with brief explanation including sustainable community's component and inclusion analysis of how to meet the state CO2 goals.
 - Chip Holloway – suggested ultimate goal of California is to put housing as close to jobs as possible to reduce transportation costs.
 - Lori Acton – mentioned Navy restrictions pertaining to building height.

Dan Clark – added item to infrastructure agenda.

Chip Holloway – expressed apologies to member who was called to active duty and could not attend the meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR

3. Accept And File The Investment Reports For Quarter Ending March 31, 2013 McQuiston
4. Approve A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Adopting And Reaffirming The City's Annual Statement Of Investments And Delegating The Authority To Make Such Investments To The City Treasurer McQuiston
5. Approve A Resolution To Approve The Agreement With The Engineering Firm Of Hall And Foreman Inc. To Provide The Application Preparation For The City Of Ridgecrest Concerning The Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) And Authorize The City Manager, Dennis Speer, To Execute The Agreement Upon The City Attorney's Review And Approval Speer
6. Approve A Resolution To Approve The Agreement With The Engineering Firm Of Hall And Foreman Inc. To Provide The Application Preparation For The City Of Ridgecrest Concerning The California Safe Routes To School Program, (SR2S) And Authorize The City Manager, Dennis Speer To Execute The Agreement Upon The City Attorney's Review And Approval Speer
7. Approve A Resolution Approving The Final Contract Change Order Number Two, Authorizing The City Manager To Sign The Notice Of Completion, Authorizing The City Clerk To File The Notice Of Completion And Authorizing The Release Of Retention On The College Heights Boulevard Project Phase III Between Franklin Avenue And Jarvis Avenue Speer
8. Approval Of Draft Minutes Of The Regular Council Meeting Dated April 17, 2013 Ford

ITEMS PULLED

None

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

DISCUSSION AND OTHER ACTION ITEMS

9. **Approve A Resolution To Approve General Plan Amendment (GPA 13-01), A Request To Amend The General Plan For 2 Parcels: 1) APN 067-031-11, (822 N. Balsam Street) Containing 3900 Square Feet From RM (Residential Medium) To C (Commercial) And 2) APN 067-031-12, (828 N. Balsam Street) Containing 6500 Square Feet From C (Commercial) To RM (Residential Medium Density)** Alexander

Matthew Alexander

- Presented staff report including photos of the project site and proposed zone changes.

Chip Holloway

- Asked about original request for light industrial.
 - Matthew Alexander – Planning Commission reviewed request and identified medium density residential as being more appropriate.

Jim Sanders

- Asked about what brought the need for zoning.
 - Owner intends to sell and real estate requires.

Public Comment

- None Presented

10. **Introduction And First Reading, An Ordinance Of The Ridgecrest City Council Amending The Zoning Map For Zone Change ZC 13-01, A Request To Amend The Zoning Map For 2 Parcels: 1) APN 067-031-11, (822 N. Balsam Street) Containing 3900 Square Feet From Undesignated To CG (General Commercial) And 2) APN 067-031-12, (828 N. Balsam Street) Containing 6500 Square Feet From Undesignated To R-2 (Multi-Family Residential)** Lemieux

Motion To Waive Reading In Full Of An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Amending The Zoning Map For Zone Change ZC 13-01, A Request To Amend The Zoning Map For 2 Parcels: 1) APN 067-031-11, (822 N. Balsam Street) Containing 3900 Square Feet From Undesignated To CG (General Commercial) And 2) APN 067-031-12, (828 N. Balsam Street) Containing 6500 Square Feet From Undesignated To R-2 (Multi-Family Residential) Made By Council Member Holloway , Second By Council Member Sanders . Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent.

Requires A Second

Motion To Introduce, By Title Only, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Amending The Zoning Map For Zone Change ZC 13-01, A Request To Amend The Zoning Map For 2 Parcels: 1) APN 067-031-11, (822 N. Balsam Street) Containing 3900 Square Feet From Undesignated To CG (General Commercial) And 2) APN 067-031-12, (828 N. Balsam Street) Containing 6500 Square Feet From Undesignated To R-2 (Multi-Family Residential) Made By Council Member Holloway , Second By Council Member Acton . Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent.

Requires A Second

Council Reconvened The Adjourned Budget Hearing Of April 27, 2013.

11. Council Will Reconvene To The Budget Hearing Which Was Adjourned From April 27, 2013 And Continue Discussions With Possible Action To Approve A Resolution Adopting The Budget For Fiscal Year 2013-2014

Speer

Discussion Opened at 7:08 p.m.

Dennis Speer

- Presented staff report reviewing previous budget discussions.

Rachelle McQuiston

- Updated Council on Measure 'L' funding.
- Franchise Tax Board project is \$1.9 million, council has the option to stay with original projection of \$1.8 which is a conservative approach.

Dennis Speer & Ron Strand

- Reviewed requests for Measure 'L' funding from Public Works and Police for Council to consider.

Jason Patin

- Requested scenario if one officer was cut.
 - Ron Strand – responded

Jim Sanders

- Requested breakdown of impact fee uses.

Chip Holloway

- Requested information of how impact fees have been utilized and time table for use.

Jason Patin

- Reminded public to keep in mind that the issues with Police and Public Works are related to Measure 'L'

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Jim Ponek

- Presented amendments made to original proposal on April 27, 2013
- Reviewed cost to maintain medians
- Reviewed estimates to xeroscape Freedom Park vs. mowing existing lawns.

Dennis Speer

- Reminded Council the Parks department was initially asked to cut \$220k and new proposal only cuts \$55k.

Jim Ponek

- Referenced initial proposal which meets the Council's request to cut the budget.

Chip Holloway

- Asked what programs would be added if 1 additional recreation coordinator were included
 - Jim Ponek – Stated Spring and summer soccer, youth sports activities and extra rentals.
- Reviewed fees and anticipated revenue increases or reductions anticipated with the proposals

Jason Patin

- General feeling on having another brown park is we already have enough brown parks.
- Need to think outside the box rather than just looking at increased fees, stop putting the burden on the patrons.
- If fees are increased they will cease to exist. Patrons will not be able to pay the fees. Need to ensure the fees do not exceed the cost of use.

Jim Sanders

- Clarified intention to review xeroscape. Wants to know the cost to maintain if the park is xeroscape.
- Asked for explanation of how costs have been built into the proposal.

Dan Clark

- Asked for a review of the Pinney Pool expenses and revenue.
 - Jim Ponek – complied.
- Pinney Pool staying open is included in both options.

Lori Acton

- Questioned swim lesson time length and suggested shorter times with more lessons.
- Asked about cost for year round bubble over the pool.
- Reviewed staffing needs by facility and function.

Jason Patin

- Has issue with giving Jackson Park back to county. Taxpayers have paid for infrastructure already. Why use impact funding to put facilities on Freedom Park and give other infrastructure to County?
- Asked for some outside the box thinking. Sports organizations have come forward who are willing to help. By not figuring out how to generate revenue then doing a disservice to the public.

Lori Acton

- If cuts are made as suggested, could cut department down to 4 F/T employees.
- Inquired how Mr. Ponek would prioritize.
- Suggested that if facilities are cut then don't need the same amount of staffing.
- Suggested utilizing additional staff elsewhere.
- Commented that Freedom Park is under-utilized because there are no tables.

Public Comment

Andy Anderson

- Would like to see ideas for paying over time some increased fees.
- Requested Pinney Pool have different fee for residents and higher fees for outside city.
- Referenced man-hours indicated in the maintenance staffing. Suggested overhauling staffing to coincide with cuts.
- Asked about tennis courts and charges for lights.
- Suggested field lights be pay-as-you-go.
- Measure 'L' requests exceed anticipated funds. Reminded Council that public safety is number one priority and commented about jail releases.

Mike Neel

- Asked about overall of salary schedules for management staff and supervisors.
- Suggested cutting Council benefits.
- Measure 'L' funds reviewed requests and noted police backfill and increases. If police receive funds asked for it will continue because is being used for salaries, leaving no funding for streets. Most citizens drive the streets and if streets are not repaired will have difficulty getting the measure passed again. Police have alternative funding sources, but streets will continue to deteriorate.
- Public recreation proposals coming tonight from citizens will save City funding.

Paul Vanderwerf

- Problem with ball field and grass is there are no lights. Physically has enough lights to light up the field and are available to anyone who wants to use them.
- Commented that there are Assets available in the community
- Suggested ball players take the freedom park grass and sod the ball fields.
- Garden club is putting together designs for City and are looking for volunteers.
- Spoke on award Mike Lemming received at the fairgrounds.
- Boy scouts are assisting with raised bed projects for grass.
- Suggested cutting back with volunteers at parks and let staff fix the roads.
- Makes no sense to use full time employees cut grass over part time employees
- Asked for clarification on expense/revenue figures
- Suggested approaching DART to do the routine maintenance at Jackson Park and expand to city parks.
- Suggested getting away from fee for service and utilize volunteers.
- Have a commitment for computer registration at no cost to the City.
- Suggested a pond uses less water than grass.
- Asked again for review of revenues

Morgan Rameriz

- Disappointed in soccer not being offered
- Considering moving because soccer is not offered.
- Comments on doing the best for her child.
- Mentioned the 5 a side goals not being available.
- Soccer community is worried about being able to hold event next month.

Mike Tosti

- Reviewed presentation made for Jackson Park
- Asked questions on parks proposal.
- Requested itemized budgets for each program held at Jackson Park (budget and actual)
 - Ponak – reviewed proposal numbers.
- DART is interested in taking over Jackson Sports complex maintenance and have attained 2 sponsors for soccer and flag football at Jackson Park.
- Made comments about youth soccer, flag football and high school functions
- Fields are currently turning brown and valve is broken.
- Family works with flag football and volunteer's time and labor to maintenance.
- Geese have eaten most of the grass.
 - Chip Holloway – suggested a hybrid program of maintenance between City and volunteer organization.
- Reviewed multiple area of personal involvement and impacts of agencies associated with who want to utilize Ridgecrest fields.

Dave Ignall

- Thanked athletes who stayed to support keeping the sport complex open
- Referenced a joke.
- Referenced cost to xeroscape a park and reduction with no water. Compared to current condition of ball fields.
- Related history of growing and living in Ridgecrest.
- Read statement on morals and ethics and impact of sports on youth.
- Requested Council keep fields open for youth and future generations.
- Shared story of Mayor Clark attending games during campaign and promise to take care of fields and facilities if elected.
- Asked Council to do what is right for the youth.
- Spoke on obligation to follow promises.

Jed McLaughlin

- Spoke as President of Football Association.
- League was selected as chapter of the year.
- Not asking for help. Volunteers have not asked City to do anything. Have done what they can to improve facilities.
- Not asking for facilities to be turned over now, but to repair the fields and then ask association to work out something.
- Fields are ready to blow up, water lines breaking. Fix it then ask the leagues for help.

Unknown Speaker

- Questioned \$25k for computer system, suggested better prices available. Trying to cut costs and is unnecessary expense.
- Commented on electric for tennis courts and pool and multiple parks. Kerr McGee electric is paid by the football and baseball sports league.
- Contributing more for these sports more than other groups. Asked Council not to cut the programs.
- Over 350 baseball players who raise funds to pay expenses. Not asking City to pay the bills.

Dave Matthews

- Measure 'L' comment on public works needs, code enforcement and graffiti removal are being performed by police.
- Comments on percentages of Measure 'L' going to each department.
- Parks Department comments on conditions in past. Sports received as a youth were attained by school system.
- Related activities during summer time including summer jobs as paper carrier and lawn mower.
- Suggested school system should be providing programs for the youth.
- Questioned Freedom Park. Need to make distinction between the actual Freedom Park which is the gazebo and fountain but the grass behind City Hall is different.
- Questioned why fences were needed, should be available to all public.
- Added comments about things Mr. Neel stated regarding salaries.

Michael Reed

- Asked Council to save the fields.

Usef Odeh

- Thanked Council and staff for listening to public, understand what they are going through
- Comments on business and community
- Understand City is governed. Sees what Mr. Ponek goes through. Need to get back to understanding we are human beings and need to have communication
- Have personally raised up to \$7,000 for the fields. A lot of people willing to step up and take control of the fields to keep them going.
- Recommend putting together financial committees to help try to generate money. Community needs to help come up with conclusion.
- Commented on team and ways to generate revenue. Ways to do it like charging \$1.00 per person to enter a park.
- Willing to support and help if Council will authorize it.
- Commend Chief Strand on doing a great job dealing with AB 109 and the setback he has to deal with.
- All people and need to remember that.

Chip Holloway

- Thanked Usef for all he has done in the community and taking pride in his businesses.

Usef Odeh

- Thanked Chip for cleaning medians every Sunday.
- Commented that West Ridgecrest needs help on paving.

Lori Acton

- Thanked Usef for offering solutions.

Scott Garver

- Comments on Measure 'L' and backfill for police. Started as 2 officers, then 3, then 7 and now 14.
- Conflict for both departments. Artificial number given to police, no one is expecting him to come up with a net loss.
- If department is taken to 19 officers then City problems are worse than cutting grass. Not realistic to expect police to operate with only 19 officers.
- If have to give close to what is requested, then will have to do without roads.
- Seems arbitrary to ask for the cut then give it back thru Measure 'L'.
 - Rachelle McQuiston – cut a chunk from parks and other departments. If other departments are cut more then there won't be a department
- Then departments will be cut and grass will be brown.

Dan Clark

- Want to get to the point in the budget that we don't have to backfill with Measure 'L' in the event that it is not reinstated in 4 years.

Rachelle McQuiston

- All departments were proportionally cut. Other budget units not supported by Measure 'L' were cut more.

Jason Patin

- All departments were cut proportionally based on the size of their budget. Percentage of general fund.

Recess at 9:14pm and reconvened at 9:20pm

Tom Wiknich

- Comments of 11:30pm people trying to get into store, calls 911.
- Commented on citizen requiring help and 911 being called.
- Humanized topic. Nothing more important than adequately staffed police department.
- Most important thing to make sure there are enough officers, everything else will fall in after that.
- Referenced Mike Tosti's offer and suggested Council accept the offer. The offer saves City \$50k.
- Other offer of lights if City decided to use it. Suggested getting the offers on paper. Quantify the offer and let someone else take over the financial responsibility. Liked the questions asked by Lori Acton. Need answers for those questions.

Jerry Taylor

- Asked if anyone knows when the parks impact fees will expire. Have to be used relative to growth, not maintenance and have to be given back if not used.
 - Dennis Speer – will verify that information.
- Agree with financing offers
- Asked Council to keep in mind that roads were to be paid with RDA.
- Citizens are offering to do things and City has not allowed in the past. Needs to change.
- Suggested City pays utilities and let organizations take care of labor. Creative not financial support. As private organizations they can go after grants for financial for labor.
- Do not try to compete with organizations.
- Numbers of parks modified proposal should be reviewed before putting into the budget.
- Comments about actual numbers and comparisons with staffing needs.
- Commented on percentages cut from budgets. Cautioned about transparency and commitment for Measure 'L' funds and credibility.
- Referenced past measures that did not pass. Consider where will go if measure does not pass again.
- Asked for community development budget cuts and proposal showing what City has realized for the funds expended.
- Need a baseline budget without Measure 'L'

Brad Days

- Council jobs are tough because less money available.
- Need all the sports in Ridgecrest, does not want to see the Jackson Park go to waste due to the infrastructure City has put into the facility
- Spring Soccer has been cut, gave statistics on soccer impact
- Anticipated increase to baseball and basketball that did not occur.
- Encouraged maintaining soccer
- Referenced discussions with other organizations.
- Listed improvements soccer organization has contributed.
- Commented on lack of cost to City for watering because electricity is paid by baseball and football which runs the pump for the well.
- Boards are working together to take care of the grass.
- Soccer cannot commit to take care of the pump.
- Commented on attempts made in past to work with City to maintain the soccer fields.
- Asked Council to not cut the programs. City is obligated to provide infrastructure including for the youth to play sports.
- Asked City to work with organizations to come up with plan that will work to keep the fields open.
- Commented that if youth don't have sports they will find other things to do that will not help the police department.

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- Lori Acton – asked for clarification of comments regarding installation of sod but not being allowed to water.
- Organization was not allowed to run a water line and water during the winter months so sod died.
- Commented about improvements that need to be made which would ease the maintenance costs.

Brandon Rey

- Spoke on supporting the youth and sports.
- Asked about the watering schedule.
 - Jim Ponek responded
- Asked if citizens were allowed to monitor watering.
- Want to make sure there will be consistent watering for the remainder of this year.
- Asked Council to not take anything away from the kids.
- Dirt is hazard to children's ankles and knees.
- Comments on the fee increase. Suggested fee increase would be accepted if there were improvements to the fields.

Closed Public Comment at 9:48 p.m.

Measure 'L' discussion

Lori Acton

- Reviewed the Public Works request for matching funds.
- Asked for per mile cost to pave a road and for clarification of pavements projects under the PMS plan.
 - Dennis Speer – reviewed PMS study on public works presentation.
- Suggested 60% to police and 40% to roads with additional cuts elsewhere that will provide fund dollars to general fund and funnel to police. Keeps police whole and give roads the matching funds.

Jim Sanders

- Hoping to find enough cuts elsewhere to give police and roads 50% of Measure 'L'.

Chip Holloway

- Reviewed necessary Measure 'L' needs for Public Works. Adjusted numbers on each line item taking the request to \$965,706.00.
 - Dennis Speer – needs programmed projects in engineering and streets, maintenance worker I, crack filler machine without tire roller \$931,706 total. If other funds available, will need another engineer 1 or 2 to manage projects. PMS is not addressed in amended request.
 - Rachelle McQuiston – minimal salary savings due to hiring delay in positions.

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- Preference is to give to streets and find other cuts to get where we need to be with Police.
 - Rachelle McQuiston – confirmed the proposal of Measure 'L' split to Roads 56% and Police 44%.

Jason Patin

- Have serious Public Safety issue. Not willing to patch a few streets and risk Public Safety.
- Suggested giving .5 million to roads and 1.29 million to police and if more comes in then goes to roads. Equates to 28% to roads and 72% to police.
- Is still using one time funding and each year using less Measure 'L'

Chip Holloway

- Estimate having to come up with additional cuts of over \$500k.

Dan Clark

- Of the opinion that need to begin moving money toward streets. Looking at \$56% to police and balance of 44% to streets and use police impact fees to fund balance. Understood could maintain safety and add a police vehicle.
 - Ron Strand – reviewed legal uses for impact fees

Lori Acton

- Is comfortable with Mayor's proposal

Rachelle McQuiston

- To cut \$568k from general fund, need Council direction.

Jason Patin

- Won't agree with the proposal until reviews the potential cuts.

Jim Sanders

- Need to discuss ideas for cuts in general fund to satisfy police budget.

Chip Holloway

- Reviewed plan to cut \$568,000 from general fund including \$200k in employee adjustments and \$90k in impact fees.

Dan Clark

- Handout of suggested cuts.
- Discussion of potential savings from legal budget.

Keith Lemieux

- Agreed with the \$46k cut from RDA legal.

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Dan Clark

- Looking at approximately \$100k in savings that could be folded into Chip's suggested revision.

Lori Acton

- Clarified proposal from Dan Clark

Dan Clark

- Proposal is to move funding from the legal and RDA general fund and personnel adjustments to public works to fund some of the Measure 'L' request.
- With that will dovetail into Chip's suggestion and can take a look at leaving either Kerr McGee or Jackson Park open.

Lori Acton

- Requested to continue discussions while can digest number. Process is backwards and need to work on general fund cuts first.

Jim Sanders

- Suggested adjourning until numbers can be presented.

Suggestion was made to adjourn to Monday, May 6.

Dennis recommended settling the Measure 'L' split and then could adjourn to general fund.

Consensus is to split with \$1 million to Police and \$800k to Streets. 56% to Police and 44% to streets.

Motion To Split Measure 'L' At 56% To Police And 44% To Streets Made By Council Member Acton, Second Council Member Sanders. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 3 Ayes (Clark, Acton, Sanders); 2 Noes (Holloway & Patin); 0 Abstain And 0 Absent

10:30pm Meeting Adjourned to May 6, 2013 at 4:00pm

Reconvened Meeting At 4:00pm On May 6, 2013

ADJOURNED SESSION – 4:00 p.m.

- Pledge Of Allegiance
- Invocation

Dennis Speer

- Presented introduction of process

Rachelle McQuiston

- Reviewed changes made at the May 1 meeting and identified areas to be revisited at this meeting.

Jason Patin

- Asked about the cuts made which reduced Parks obligation down to \$117k vs. \$220.
 - Rachelle McQuiston – cuts made to legal allocations reduced the amount of cuts needed by Parks. Some concern that City may experience a major legal issue in the coming year and not have sufficient funds available.
 - Keith Lemieux – recent litigation has been unusually heavy so estimates are for the typical litigation history.
- Asked for clarification of legal budget number.
 - Dan Clark – reviewed the amounts allocated for legal

Jim Ponek

- Presented handout of estimated participation for facilities 2012 totals.
- Reviewed original staffing cuts of 1 person and changes to proposal with litigation cuts allow putting the one staff person back into the budget.
- Reviewed proposed cuts.
 - Dan Clark asked what savings would be realized if pool was closed
- Approximately \$55k this year and up to \$75k for consecutive years.
 - Chip Holloway – clarified the staffing numbers.
- Dan Clark – asked for clarification of how much Parks needed to cut.

Jim Sanders

- Intent of Measure 'L' funds was that any additional funding found would be given to police to make them whole.

Jim Ponek

- If one F/T maintenance worker goes back, that leaves \$50k to put back into the parks budget, recommend Kerr McGee Youth Sports Complex which is City owned and plans for TAB funds, suggested making that a premier park, end lease with Jackson Sports Complex, maintain Kerr McGee Youth Sports Complex better than in past.

Dan Clark

- Soccer is good revenue generator, can we recapture that funding.
 - Jim Ponek – recommend running spring soccer season in Freedom Park with no lights. Switch lighting proposal from soccer to football fields.
- Can we recapture revenue from flag football?
 - Jim Ponek - If lights are installed before December then possible.

Lori Acton

- Clarified youth sports 25 additional acres available, can a soccer field be placed at that location rather than freedom park.
 - Jim Ponek – when TAB funds become available, can be a discussion. Shortage of fields is biggest issue. Recommending 2 fields at Freedom Park and when TAB funds are available then look at moving everything to one location.
- Clarified that it would be feasible and asked about lights at the fields now.
 - Lights on baseball but need lights on football fields and can use fund 18 redevelopment impact fund.
- Asked if still considering having organizations take over the maintenance costs.
 - They could help but City would be the lead. Furloughs are over and additional hours available plus staff formerly working Jackson Park would be reassigned to Kerr McGee Youth Sports Complex.
- Clarified proposal to keep Kerr McGee Youth Sports Complex and asked for percentage of additional help expected by other organizations.
- Asked for estimated number that other organization participation would equate to.
 - Jim Ponek – recommended that City maintain 100%.

Jim Sanders

- Asked for clarification of why City would not accept outside participation at this time.
 - Jim Ponek – organizations have expressed unwillingness to assist with fields in the current condition. Asking for 100% participation from all organizations and the City to bring fields back up to standard.
- Requested more clarification and wants to make sure we go into this with level of confidence that we will be able to maintain the fields at this level. Organizations have expressed desire to help; need to know what level of participation we are going to allow.
 - Jim Ponek – referenced past experience with having a dedicated maintenance staff to maintain fields. Organizations assisted with striping, irrigation, and sod.
- Jackson Sports complex proposed to end lease, what is being proposed to cut if County does not agree to release City from the lease.
 - Dan Clark – met with Mick Gleason who assured the county would release the lease without liability.
- Requested clarification of Ridgecrest Senior Center proposal.
 - Jim Ponek – terminating lease with senior nutrition, re-negotiate the lease and have nutrition program to pay entire cost.
- Asked for timeline of the senior nutrition lease.
 - Jim Ponek – Can cancel contract with 90 calendar day written notice which put us into the first month of the new fiscal year.

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Jason Patin

- Asked Mr. Ponek to go thru and explain where the cuts were being made.
 - Jim Ponek – Jackson Sports Complex, \$60,500, ending lease, non-labor costs effective August 1, 2013. Senior center \$35,000. Irrigation to 52 medians \$42,000. Extra savings request putting into Kerr McGee sports complex.
- Asked for explanation of senior center cuts.
 - Jim Ponek – reviewed the cost to the City for operating the nutrition program and option to renegotiate that cost.
- Now have two items totaling \$95,000 that not sure will happen with County. Most probable thing that can happen is the Jackson Park complex but having trouble passing a budget on probables.

Dan Clark

- Referenced potential pool cuts.

Lori Acton

- Each median ranged from \$153 to \$256 per month costs to the City.
 - Dennis Speer – large portion of median irrigation is paid by grant, which would need to turn the grant back over to the issuing authority.

Rachelle McQuiston

- Asked if Jackson Park is eliminated, is it necessary to add back the 1 full-time maintenance worker.
 - Jim Ponek - Suggested using that person to maintain other facilities

Dan Clark

- Reviewed participation numbers presented for each complex.

Lori Acton

- Clarified total number of cuts proposed as \$117k. Referenced Helmer's Park and suggested cut Jackson, Helmer's, and partial medians. Could use water trucks and part time person.

Chip Holloway

- Asked Mr. Speer about Measure 'L' discussion.
- Asked about restrictions on impact fee funds.
 - Rachelle McQuiston – responded.
- Do not like the idea of getting rid of Jackson Park or adding fields in Freedom Park.
- Referenced email from Kern County that promises \$75,000 to help fund Jackson park.
- Suggested cut seniors, medians, and Helmer's to total 87k in cuts. Give up facilities then do not need as many staff and propose cutting three maintenance workers. Add back \$33k to maintain Kerr McGee Youth Sports Complex and Jackson sports complex at net zero with promise to pay \$75k. Take 2 maintenance workers from parks and put into public works. Maintain facilities and contract Jackson Park out to Mike Tosti.

General discussion about proposal for Jackson Park.

Jim Ponek

- Negotiation on the table was \$125k and City maintains entire facility including buildings.
- Reviewed previous discussions. Do not recommend the idea because trying to save all the facilities and Mr. Tosti has offered to take over Jackson facilities.
- Fields are horrible so recommending soccer move to Freedom Park and City put additional funds into fixing existing fields at Kerr McGee Youth Sports Complex.

Jim Sanders

- Reviewed additional cost to maintain Freedom Park.
- Requested additional 10K in cuts to compensate for increased maintenance.
- Requested clarification of numbers.
- Referenced the \$35k for senior and requested a contingency plan should the County not release the contract.

Dennis Speer

- Intent of the hearing is to make cuts now and come back to Council with balanced budget.

Dan Clark

- Reviewed options presented.

Jim Sanders

- Suggested stick with original proposed cuts and give the savings to police department.

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Lori Acton

- Senior center has already said would not renegotiate a new contract.
- Hate losing Jackson sports complex but privatization is ok.
- Good with Helmer's park going away. Private group has volunteered to take over the park as a community garden and would take over all lights and irrigation for total of \$27k savings to City.
- Suggest layoff of ½ maintenance worker at 18K.

Jason Patin

- Referenced Measure 'L' discussion and promise to fund police with additional savings.

Dan Clark

- Asked for some kind of consensus within the 5 options.

General discussion of Measure 'L' action.

Rachelle McQuiston

- Police would be receiving \$1 million of Measure 'L' and Public Works would receive \$800k.

Dan Clark

- Reviewed the discussion and split of Measure 'L' with caveat of using impact fees to purchase a vehicle. Keeping 31 officers + 1 vehicle.

Jason Patin

- Was a 3-2 vote and thought the shortfall was to be made up with general fund. Police are currently missing \$210k.
 - Rachelle McQuiston – Chief Strand recommended not filling the 2 vacant positions.

Ron Strand

- Reviewed savings and cuts made due to not receiving \$290k of measure 'L' funding.
- Reviewed \$90k impact fees.
- Use impact fees for vehicle and keep 2 vacant positions unfilled.

Lori Acton

- Requested clarification of officer's needed, 31 or 33.

Ron Strand

- Previously asked if could maintain public safety with 31 and answer was yes, however overtime budget would be higher.

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Jim Sanders

- Love having parks programs but suggesting take police from 31 to 32 officers.

Dan Clark

- Comments about balanced community can have 50 officers but if youth are not engaged then 50 would not be enough.

Jim Sanders

- Currently operating at the low end of what is needed and City.
- City does not have to do everything for the youth, others can help

Chip Holloway

- Reminded Council that police had already cut their budget and Council left them short on Measure 'L' funds.

Jason Patin

- Feel senior center is unrealistic
- Not in favor of cutting water off to medians
- Jackson has to go back to County.
- Kerr McGee Youth Sports Complex needs to be maintained, other ways to get it done than just through the budget; organizations are willing to help, need to let them help. Have to stop tying their hands and work with them. Will be a savings to the City and then can focus on funding a police officer. They want to help us and have a contractor who will maintain the complex for \$33k per year and previously cost City \$120k.
- Have no reserve and need police officers.

Lori Acton

- \$33k for contractor at Kerr McGee youth and no employee costs.
- Cut Jackson at \$60k and Helmer's at \$27k and let garden club have Helmer's.
- Shift maintenance worker costs to Public Works.

Jim Ponek

- Commented on anticipated added costs to repair vandalism, irrigations lines, etc.

Dan Clark

- Five options, suggested eliminating options and get down to 2.
- Chips option of using one year option for Jackson park
 - 3 against.

Chip Holloway

- Asked what public works lost in cuts
 - Dennis Speer – PMS maintenance

5 minute recess

Reconvened at 5:30pm

Dan Clerk

- 5 options, turned microphone to Chip Holloway

Chip Holloway

- Nothing in budget is guaranteed for more than one year. County will legally have to go to bid to justify paying city \$75k; if bids come in lower then City loses and if higher could potentially get more money. This buys time to protect over \$2 million in City funded infrastructure. Multiple offers by private citizens but no guarantee these organization will actually be willing to write the check. This has been the City's premier facility for years. To discount Jackson Park and talk about building somewhere else and lose over \$2 million in improvements is irresponsible and hopefully this is only a short term problem that can hopefully fund in the future.

Dan Clark

- Initial thought is close Jackson and the pool. Concerned about litigation and who will be liable for injury or damage. Like having another year without sacrificing infrastructure. Consider doing a town hall meeting and including all agencies willing to step up with labor and in-kind service to go over legal obligations should pumps break or someone get injured. Would have a year to modify efforts and clarify legal. Might not be a bad idea to take the County's proposal and work with entities to clarify the type of support they are willing to put forth and identify the legal issues. Be clear about legal concerns.

Chip Holloway

- Jackson Sports Complex is a know entity. All other options are based on an unknown outcome. Examples of lights, schedules. Adjusting capacity.

Jason Patin

- Park is not going away, just changing how things will be done. Use of park will still be available but run thru the County. If we use this option then in a year would have to do this all over again. Would prefer we have a plan.

Chip Holloway

- Recreate programs in a different location.

Dan Clark

- Some programs will go away unless someone is willing to run those programs.

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Lori Acton

- County will privatize if we turn over to them. Still going to be there and still have programs just not with the City. we don't have funding to run the programs but there are people willing to step up and run those programs. Just putting ourselves in the position of kicking the can down the road. Do not think delaying this another year is the smart thing to do. Later we may be in a position to negotiate and help, but not right now.

Jim Sanders

- Agree we are not in a position to accept this contract. See opportunity to see how the programs survive under private hands. Think will be a good thing for Ridgecrest.

Dan Clark

- Option 1 is to get rid of Jackson Park, senior center, and irrigation to Helmer's park.
 - Lori Acton – will not support getting rid of senior center because the seniors built it and County will not continue to operate it.
 - Jason Patin – not willing to close senior center
 - Chip Holloway – support median being dry but save senior center.
 - Jim sanders – ask but have other option on senior center.

Option 2 close pool and give Jackson park back

- Jason Patin – not the pool
- Chip Holloway – no
- Jim Sanders – yes
- Lori Acton - no

Option 4 cut everything and give balance to police

- Jim sanders – full cut but possible not in this order
- Lori Acton – not these cuts
- Jason Patin – support if money goes to police and maintains programs
- Dan Clark – does not support

Option 5 cut Jackson, helmers parks to garden club; cut .5 maintenance employee

- Jim Sanders – yes
- Lori Acton – yes
- Chip Holloway – not maintenance
- Jason Patin – not maintenance
- Dan Clark – not maintenance

Cut Jackson, cut Helmer's.

Chip Holloway – give maintenance workers to Dennis from cut parks.

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Lori Acton

- if contracting Kerr McGee Youth Sports Complex, put maintenance from that park to public works.
- Asked Mr. Ponek what maintenance works on during the winter.
 - Jim Ponek - Rehab of facilities and rental set-up and tear-down.

Review of suggested options:

- Option 1 cut Jackson Park to County, re-negotiate Senior Center, cut Helmer's Park to garden club
- Option 2 cut Jackson park to county, Helmer's park to garden club, contract Kerr McGee sports complex, and move 1-2 labor to streets

Dennis Speer

- Clarified that the numbers mentioned were total expense to maintain the two parks.

Lori Acton

- Asked if all Council agreed on Jackson and Helmer's Park.
- Suggested cutting half irrigation to medians and use our truck and well water twice weekly.

Public Comment opened at 6:05pm:

Jerry Taylor

- Suggested spreadsheet for future
- Agree with Jason of not kicking can down the road.
- Revenue will not change overnight, will be there for future years.
- Comments of Measure 'L' being one-time funding.
- Agree with taking advantage of people willing to help today.
- Helmer's park has minimal overhead costs in labor; \$27k includes park repairs.
- Suggested looking at other costs in the budget. Example of \$100k salaries.
- Referenced usage numbers for programs and fees.
- Suggested eliminating \$100k salary and supplement fee structure for participants.
- Encouraged Council to accept options offered by organizations. Already cover the organizations under City insurance policy.
- Suggested doing something with the roads and maintaining police department.
- Exemplified North Norma street deterioration.
- Should not recreate something already built. Keep in mind the multi-use center was supposed to be built at Freedom Park.
- Freedom Park is under used more than other parks.
- Suggested looking at median costs with Water District and use SMART irrigation timers.

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- Well-water is not free, cost of pump and electricity. Referenced cost to City even with solar park.
- Commend Jason for wanting to go this direction.

Mike Neel

- Asked about other areas of the budget not yet discussed.
- Referenced cuts made to police and public works.
- Tired of parks and recreation
- No discussion of reductions to Council benefits
- Department Head salary reductions not discussed
- Cut Economic Development Manager position
- 800K of Measure 'L' for streets is not enough
- Cut parks full amount and funnel savings to streets or Measure 'L' won't pass again.
- Comments from public about Council not putting Measure 'L' funds to streets.
- Assumption of reduced legal costs, Dale Howard cases will drag into 2014 and referenced a federal case against the City with more legal costs. Savings may not be there. Civil case will go to trial.
- No discussion of reducing retainer fees yet.
- Support idea of turning Jackson Park over to individual groups.
- When private organizations begin running programs, may not need a Parks Director and could change position and salary.
- If Jackson Parks stays operational then leave soccer at Jackson Park. Do not need to increase programs. Release City's ownership and supervision. Do not add more cost.
- Asked why Council are raising questions about contracts, should be Parks Director.
 - Lori Acton – when discussing positions, is done in private.
 - Keith Lemieux – preferable to discuss individuals in closed session, this is a general budget discussion.

Paul Vanderwerf

- Referenced proposal for garden club
- Litigation comments referencing cardio equipment. Original room assignment was where the offices are now. Not legal space allowed around equipment at the present location. Suggest moving office staff from parks out of weight room and put exercise equipment in that location.
- Handout to Council referencing supervisors files.
- Parks & recreation keeps black book of participation for volunteers and officials which needs to be corrected.
- Commented on administrator code of ethics and administrative procedures.
- Referenced website links to national standards
- Suggested using adhoc committees and parks plan.
- Did not understand participation numbers
- Referenced quality of participation.

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- Not all sports will bring in the same revenue
- Need to keep pool open and keep facilities
- Suggested contracting Jackson Park and if it works then do same with other parks.
- Commented on TAB funds. Should be spent the same regardless of who is running the fields.
- Overall general fund is zero balance with no reserve. Encouraged Council to listen to accountant.

Justin O'Neill

- Comments of new involvement from community but methods have not been explored to see the benefit
- One benefit to kicking can down the road would give Council time to absorb costs
- New ideas should be explored before jumping in.
- Comments of suggestions made regarding TAB funds and sequestration issues.
- Offsetting decision for one year may be helpful
- Encouraged Council to see which organizations could absorb what costs.
- Not an easy community to fund raise in and encouraged further exploration to identify organizations who can help.
- Comments of need for central organization headed by City.
- Town hall meeting a good idea to bring organizations together and find out who can absorb what.

Terry Beyer

- Parks and Recreation Citizens Committee meeting announced
- Working with quality of life committee to identify organizations and fundraising opportunities.
- Tracking information to parks and recreation director and Council.
- Extended invitation to all organizations.
- Jackson Park contract to Mr. Tosti will help maintain use of the fields.
- Thursday, 6pm at Kerr McGee informational meeting for organizations.

Mike Tosti

- President of Cerro Coso boosters and have raised funds to support programs.
- Example of basketball tourney supported with rotary club.
- Commented on loss of students due to grades and efforts to attract students from other cities.
- DART has submitted proposal to county to help maintain Jackson park. NAWS is willing to work as a volunteer group.
- Reviewed other groups working with programs on volunteer program and groups who are short of funding. Getting offers for help.
 - Lori Acton – suggested joint use of college basketball courts.
- Mentioned tournament involvement.

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Robert Lowe

- Agree with comments made; ok to give Jackson Park to private organizations.
- People offered to donate lights, construction companies, and lawn services.
- Let people handle it.

Brad Hayes

- Comments on Jackson park.
- Mentioned City loss of revenue with private agency taking over programs
- Encouraged Council to consider keeping programs for another year with County offer.
- Comments of staffing to maintain facilities. Suggested seeing how many workers will be needed without the Jackson and Helmer's park and where else could those persons be used to better maintain facilities before giving them to streets.
- Made comments about baseball costs for the program, registration fees, snack bar, and other fundraisers.
- A lot of organizations willing to help but don't think City should get out of everything. Part of infrastructure.
- Comments of good relationship with parks in the past. Willing to continue helping and need to not be limited.
- Suggested Council give more guidance to Mr. Ponek.
- Mentioned option of \$75k from County for another year.

Jerry Taylor

- Asked if medians had 2" water main. May be paying for large meter from ready to serve.
- Suggested working with Water District to reduce costs. Exemplified fairgrounds issues.

Closed public comment at 6:52pm

Jim Ponek

- Reviewed revenue options from associations and possible new recreation coordinator to open on Monday's and increase fees and rentals begin January 2014.

Dan Clark

- Alternative suggestion, close Jackson, close Helmer's, add revenues from associations, new recreation coordinator, and raise fees and rentals.

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Lori Acton

- Asked for clarification of how a new recreation coordinator would increase revenues
 - Jim Ponek – keep building open 7 days per week, increase programs and rentals.
- Asked about possibility of commission based individual.
- Suggestion of indoor soccer for little tykes.
 - Jim Ponek – need options for adult sports.

Dan Clark

- Option alternate – Close Jackson, Give Helmer's park to garden club, add one new recreation coordinator, increase fees and rentals.

Jason Patin

- Not in favor of adjusting fees up 50%. Need to justify that participants are not paying more than the cost of the program.
- If adding \$50k back into budget, need to justify how exactly the revenue increases will happen.
- In favor of outsourcing parks to the people. Need to let people who are willing to help us do exactly that.

Rachelle McQuiston

- Clarified numbers

Jim Sanders

- Question about recreation coordinator option. Eliminating Jackson park and programs will go away
 - Planned on continuing programs this year and hopefully generating new programs for next year with a new staff person for Kerr McGee center. No assurances.
- Do not want to see Freedom Park developed into more fields. Community is not losing fields.

Chip Holloway

- If not developing 2 soccer fields in Freedom Park then no justification to Recreation Coordinator.

Lori Acton

- Requested a scenario of soccer costs breakdown and knowledge of number of participants needed for each program. Asked for breakdown for each program.

Chip Holloway

- Would support a 10% increase for 5 years versus a 50% in one year.

Dan Clark

- Freedom Park has grass, it takes a coordinator to run the program and then can generate revenue. At mid-year if numbers are not there, then can reexamine it.

Lori Acton

- Programs are already at Jackson Park and only looking at one program per season at Freedom Park. Just have to line it and put in goals.
 - Jim Ponek - Would probably run more Saturday and Sunday programs. Without lights still a lot can be done on that park.
- Do not want to see us invest funds or redevelop the whole thing.
 - Jim Ponek - Already have everything needed, minimal cost. Could do adult sports program with increased fees to maintain fields.
- Lori Acton – ok with option 3 if fee increases are over a 5-year spread.
 - Brad Hayes – for non-profit, revenue varies annually so effects how much can contribute.
- Suggested grass be moved to another location.

Reviewed Option 3

Jackson Park released to Kern County, Helmer's Park released to the Garden Club, Add one Recreation Coordinator, raise fees additional \$20K, and renegotiate association agreements, purchase a credit card system.

Jason Patin

- Does not support option 3

Chip Holloway

- Opposed Option 3. Give soccer to Mr. Tosti and run Kerr McGee with part time staff.
 - Jim Ponek - if not hiring a full-time then could hire part-time with decent wage. Suggested part time 1000 hours at \$20 per hour.
- focus on one thing, suggested pre-school
 - Jim Ponek – were losing money on preschool and need staffing available. Suggested a portion of several programs and rentals would benefit by Sunday opening.

Lori Acton

- Asked for clarification of why current preschool program cannot run on Monday's.
 - Jim Ponek – gave explanation of problems experienced in past with shortened staff. Past budget cuts caused program to be cut.
- suggested contracting boys and girls club to run programs.
 - Jim Ponek – can look at for Sundays and some Saturdays and Mondays. Still need to have staff in the building.

Option 1 reviewed

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- senior center renegotiated; Jackson park released to County, & Helmer's park released to garden club
 - Majority Council rejected this option because of Senior Center

Option 2 reviewed

- Jackson park released to County, Helmer's park released to Garden Club, reduce irrigation to medians by one half
 - Majority Council rejected this option.

Option 3 reviewed

- Jackson park released to County, Helmer's park released to Garden Club, Increase fees for programs and rentals by 17k in 2014; reduce irrigation to medians by one half.

Motion To Approve Option 3 Giving Jackson Park To County; Giving Helmer's Park To Garden Club; Increasing Fees By 17k; Cut Median Irrigation By 20K Made By Council Member Acton, Second By Council Member Sanders. 4 Ayes (Clark, Holloway, Sanders, and Acton), 1 Noes (Patin) 0 Abstain, And 0 Absent.

Dennis Speer

- Brings to conclusion the Information staff needs to draft budget to bring back to council.

Lori Acton

- Requested breakdown of program costs from Mr. Ponek.

Jim Sanders

- Proposed \$100K in personnel changes to discuss and shift back to public works and police.

Chip Holloway

- Looking to make other cuts to restore funds cut from Public works.
- Reviewed Measure 'L' requests and discussed lease option for vehicles and equipment. Willing to pursue this option and have a line item for a leasing program to make police whole and public works close to whole.

Lori Acton

- Clarified lease proposals for police cars and public works equipment including crack filler and tire roller.

Rachelle McQuiston

- Clarified that cuts made still assumes that one full-time maintenance position will be cut. Will review the numbers.

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Jason Patin

- Reviewed suggestion of filling the gap in public works with additional cuts, and wants to do the same for Police.
- Stated that raising fees on people who are willing to do things themselves to help is not right.

Jim Sanders

- Asked if 2 persons were needed at building department counter, suggested reducing by one position.
 - County reimbursement of \$44k equates to 1/3 of the time.
- Recommended decreasing the scope of the Economic Development Program Manager contract from \$90k to \$40k for and suggested City Planner fill in 50% of the time.
 - Dennis Speer – reviewed discussion of Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS) approvals and responsibilities. Recommend current status remain in place at this time.

Chip Holloway

- Will pursue lease options and further discussion of moving maintenance worker from parks to public works.

Dennis Speer

- Clarified Council direction.

Lori Acton

- Suggested one more meeting mid-may with further discussion with staff.

Dan Clark

- In favor of getting final draft before June 5 meeting.

Lori Acton

- Requested budget a minimum of 1 week prior to adoption meeting.

Rachelle McQuiston

- Confirmed a draft budget would be presented to Council at least one week prior to the June 5 meeting.

Close No. 11 budget hearing

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: May 21, 2013

Jim Sanders – announced next meeting

Community Development Committee

Members: Jason Patin, Chip Holloway
Meetings: 1st Thursday Of The Month At 5:00 P.M.; Council Conference Room
Next Meeting: May 2, 2013

Jason Patin – reviewed last meeting including presentation of unmanned aircraft program, update of economic development projects.

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Dan Clark, Jason Patin
Meeting: 2nd Wednesday Of The Month At 5:00 P.M., Council Conference Room
Next Meeting: May 8, 2013

Dan Clark – announced next meeting

Quality Of Life

Members: Chip Holloway, Lori Acton
Meeting: 2nd Thursday Of The Month At 5:00 P.M.; Kerr-McGee Center
Next Meeting: May 9, 2013 (Dark in June, July, December, and January)

Chip Holloway – announced next meeting in august

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

Members: Jim Sanders, Jason Patin
Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the Month at 4:00 P.M., Kerr-McGee Center
Next Meeting: May 21, 2013

Jason Patin – have not met.

Veterans Advisory Committee

Members: Jason Patin, Lori Acton
Meetings: 1st and 3rd Monday of the Month At 6:00 p.m., Council Conference Room
Next Meeting: May 20, 2013

Dan Clark – reviewed committee fundraising efforts and stand down planning.

Ridgecrest Area Convention And Visitors Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Jason Patin, Chip Holloway
Meetings: 1st Wednesday Of The Month, 8:00 A.M.
Next Meeting: May 1, 2013 at location to be announced

Chip Holloway – announced next meeting and read director’s report.

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

Acton

- Updated IWVWD management group regarding sustainability plan and public meetings scheduled in June.
- IWV Economic Development changes coming.

Chip Holloway

- Announced East Kern Air Pollution Control Board meeting date of May 9 at 1:00 in Council Chamber regarding new pistachio farm.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Dennis Speer

- Attended TTAC meeting at Kern COG where it was announced three calls for projects with deadlines. Will be reviewing applications under new guidelines and may not do as well as in past.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Lori Acton

- Boys And Girls Club Mud Run is June 8th, encouraged community to participate
- HDRA race was successful and working to bring in double the racers if they make this part of the regular circuit
- Working on bringing other events to that area
- Interesting budget process and thanked staff and citizens who have provided feedback and information.

Jim Sanders

- Thanked staff for work put into the budget discussions. Definite learning experience and have taken a lot out of it.
- Want more community involvement.
- Great comments and level of enthusiasm. Need to harness that now.
- Would like to see more organization of volunteers
- Want to look at priorities in future budgets.
- Thanked staff again.

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Chip Holloway

- Apologized for laughing during comments, was remembering editorial in past papers.
- Would like to see this (budget) come back at May 15 Council meeting for draft.

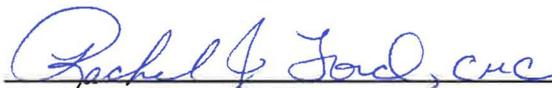
Jason Patin

- Would like to see budget at May 15 Council meeting so final approval can be at June 5 meeting.
- Agrees with Mr. Sanders about moving forward with volunteers
- Still disagree with raising fees on the same people who are willing to help us.
- Need to accept the help and work with the people. Hope council will move that direction in future.

Dan Clark

- Thanked Mr. Speers and Mr. McQuiston. This is the most thorough budget have been able to work with.
- Department of resources recycling and recovery have submitted letter removing compliance order against the City of Ridgecrest.
- We paid \$30K fees and am hoping thru our attendance would like the fees back when we were innocent.
- Announced May 9 hearing regarding LAHONTAN water amendment and use designation. Encouraged public to attend.
- Mayor's Prayer Breakfast was inspirational
- May 18th pancake breakfast fundraiser for 50th anniversary of City. 8-12 at Elks Lodge. \$8.00 per adult and \$5.00 per child.
- Thanked staff for work on budget and thanked colleagues for their support.

ADJOURNMENT at 8:09pm



Rachel J. Ford, CMC
City Clerk