



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

City Council Chambers
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, California 93555

May 15, 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

ROLL CALL

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

Council Absent: Council Member Lori Acton

Staff Present: Acting City Manager Police Chief Ron Strand; City Clerk Rachel J. Ford; City Attorney Keith Lemieux; and other staff

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Amend Agenda Consent Calendar (Need Arose Items)

- Add: Approval Of A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest, California Initiating Proceedings For The Levy And Collection Of Assessments For Landscaping And Lighting District No. 2012-1, Fiscal Year 2013/2014, Pursuant To The Provisions Of Part 2 Of Division 15 Of The California Streets And Highways Code
- Add: Approval Of A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest, California For Preliminary Approval Of The Preliminary Engineer's Report Regarding The Proposed Levy And Collection Of Assessments For The Landscaping And Lighting District No. 2012-1, Fiscal Year 2013/2014

MINUTES – RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY - REGULAR

May 15, 2013

Page 2 of 11

- Add: Approval Of A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest, California Declaring Its Intention To Levy And Collect Assessments For The Landscaping And Lighting District No. 2012-1 For Fiscal Year 2013/2014

Motion To Approve Agenda As Amended Made By Council Member Holloway, Second By Council Member Patin. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 4 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; 1 Absent (Council Member Acton).

REGULAR SESSION – 6:00 p.m.

- Pledge Of Allegiance – led by Cmd. Matt Jackson
- Invocation – Rev. Whittcom

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

- Other - None

Public Comment moved to after Presentations to accommodate public receiving proclamations.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Proclamation – National Motorcycle Awareness Month Clark

Council presented a proclamation to representatives of various local motorcycle clubs.

2. Proclamation – Armed Forces Day Ford

Council presented a proclamation to Executive Officer of China Lake Naval Weapons Station Commander Matt Jackson

3. Proclamation – Building Safety Month Ford

Council presented a proclamation to Dorene Morgan

4. Proclamation – National Police Week Strand

Council presented a proclamation to members of the Ridgecrest Police Department

Recess for 5 minutes to view motorcycles displayed by local riding clubs.

PUBLIC COMMENT opened at 6:38 p.m.

Jerry Taylor

- Commented on safety vests for bikers
- Attending 12 mile ride tonight in memory of fallen bicycle riders.
- Reminded council of incidents of fallen bicyclists and discouraged in the reduction of width of bicycle lane on college heights road.

Mike Tosti

- Made comment on verbiage in Police Proclamation

Phil Salvatore

- Commented of Harley Davidson ownership and charitable contributions made at thanksgiving to underprivileged families.
- Measure 'L' comments regarding budget hearing decisions.
- Reminded Council of public requests to present a budget without Measure 'L' funding which was not demonstrated during the budget hearings.
- Expressed concern about the budget being executable.
- Comments of the Executive Officer of the Naval Weapons Station being paid less than Park & Recreation Director and encouraged cutting that salary.
- Expressed hope in seeing a zero based budget without Measure 'L'
 - Dan Clark – encouraged Mr. Salvatore to meet with Mr. Speer with concerns.
- Commented of Mr. Culp and Mr. Speer stepping up to the plate and taking cuts especially Public Works department and not Parks and Recreation.
- Upset to see other departments take cuts but not Parks and Recreation.
 - Jason Patin – reminded public that the budget is not in final form and is still changing. Staff recommendations only.

Dave Matthews

- Comments on the agenda and not having a closed session.
- Comments on Armed Forces Day and remembering day of institution.
- Questioned items added to agenda. Asked for restrictions.
- Referenced budget discussions and commented on newspaper reports mentioning turning Helmer's Park to the garden club and Jackson Park to private organization for exclusive use. Question legality of the two possibilities.
- Saturday 3-5pm meeting for discussion of agenda 21 which is assault on sovereignty.
- June 7-8 BLM desert advisory council meeting in the area. Friday will be meeting at Jawbone station and in Ridgecrest on Saturday. More details coming.

Christina Witt

- Referenced budget and past agendas regarding budget discussions and assumptions made at that time.
- Referred to News Review article from 2012.
- Council's job is to protect the public.
- Does not want Mr. Ponek to lose his job, however police and streets are number one priority.
- Activities are a good thing but to say without these programs crime will increase is false. Parents are responsible to teach children to stay out of trouble.
- Encouraged council to provide safety for public from thefts, robberies, kidnapping, etc. by supporting police.

Paul Vanderwerf

- Comments made on prison reductions and correlation with 70% increase in crime within Ridgecrest.
- Comments regarding the low rate of pay provided for probation services and suggest increase to number of officers.
- Spoke on volunteer options within the community.
- Spoke on routine cases being forwarded to Ridgecrest court and possibility of providing volunteer partners for parks programs and community service.
- Spoke on Grants available and read the Serenity Prayer.

Steve Garver

- Mentioned monthly visits from official who would like to meet with Council.
- Spoke on number of officers and unrealistic ability of preserving police and parks.
- Commented on tough decisions Council must make. Recommended more radical decisions to preserve Police without Measure 'L' funding.
- Expressed frustration from recent Measure 'L' committee meeting.
- Referenced comments made at previous budget hearing.
- Commented on impression of Council underfunding Police.
- Encouraged Council to make the cuts necessary to preserve the Police at a realistic level.

Mike Neel

- Notified City Clerk and public about advertisement with fill in section for protests to sewer fee increase.
- Read Proverbs 21, 2&3
- Referenced budget hearings and encouraged pay reductions and Council compensation.
- Referencing Measure 'L' funding discussion and believed they were backwards.
- Referred to Measure 'L' campaign promising Public Safety and Streets and irresponsibility with City funding pertaining to Streets may prevent Measure 'L' from being re-enacted.
- Encouraged cutting parks and programs to provide funding for streets and police.
- Encouraged allowing volunteers and public running parks and programs.

Closed Public Comment at 7:11 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

5. Approve A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Amending Resolution No. 11-46 To Adopt The Correct FY 2011-2012 Appropriation Limit **McQuiston**
6. Approve A Resolution Authorizing Application For An Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Grant **Strand**

7. Approval Of Draft Minutes Of The Special Council Meeting Dated April 25, 2013 Ford
8. Approval Of Draft Minutes Of The Special Council Meeting Dated April 27, 2013 Ford
9. Approval Of Draft Minutes Of The Regular Council Meeting Dated May 1, 2013 Ford
10. Added: **Approval Of A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest, California Initiating Proceedings For The Levy And Collection Of Assessments For Landscaping And Lighting District No. 2012-1, Fiscal Year 2013/2014, Pursuant To The Provisions Of Part 2 Of Division 15 Of The California Streets And Highways Code**
11. Added: **Approval Of A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest, California For Preliminary Approval Of The Preliminary Engineer's Report Regarding The Proposed Levy And Collection Of Assessments For The Landscaping And Lighting District No. 2012-1, Fiscal Year 2013/2014**
12. Added: **Approval Of A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest, California Declaring Its Intention To Levy And Collect Assessments For The Landscaping And Lighting District No. 2012-1 For Fiscal Year 2013/2014**

Items Pulled:

- 10,11, and 12

Motion To Approve Consent Calendar 5-9 Made By Council Member Patin , Second By Council Member Holloway . Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 4 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; 1 Absent (Council Member Acton).

Items 10; 11; & 12 discussion

Mike Silander

- Reviewed publishing requirements which created the need arose situation.

Stan Rajtora

- Commented on budget outlined in the engineers report.

Chip Holloway

- Asked about charging only real costs.
- Commented that numbers outlined in budget were originally for 2012.

Loren Culp

- Clarified requirements for annual reporting and building reserve.
- Reviewed next fiscal year costs which have dropped substantially due to reduction of costs for initial start-up.
- Reviewed funding needed for this year.

Jason Patin

- Budget covers regulated functions we are required to do annually.

Loren Culp

- Clarified that assessment district was established in 2012, this is only the annual required reporting and public hearing.

Jason Patin

- Clarified the report is for actual costs.

Jim Sanders

- Reviewed the order required and whether all three must be passed.

Dave Matthews

- Asked for history of assessment district
 - Loren Culp – reviewed establishment of district.

Chip Holloway

- Read statement in engineers report regarding maximum assessment.

Jason Patin

- No problem with accepting engineers report as it will come back for approval

Motion To Approve Consent Calendar 10-12 Made By Council Member Patin , Second By Council Member Sanders . Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 4 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; 1 Absent (Council Member Acton).

DISCUSSION AND OTHER ACTION ITEMS

13. Approve A Resolution Of The Ridgcrest City Council Designating Voting Delegate And Alternate For The League Of California Cities Annual Conference Ford

Council will select a voting delegate and alternative to attend the League of California Cities Annual Conference in September and vote on behalf of the City of Ridgcrest

Dan Clark

- Nominated Vice Mayor Chip Holloway
- Alternates Jason Patin and Mayor Clark

Motion To Approve Resolution Designating Voting Delegate and Alternate for the League of California Cities Annual Conference Made By Council Member Patin , Second By Council Member Sanders . Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 4 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; 1 Absent (Council Member Acton).

14. Budget Projection Update For Fiscal Year 2012-13

McQuiston

Rachelle McQuiston

- Commented on across the board cuts made to all departments for the 2013-14 budgets. Parks and police were discussed more in budget hearings so other cuts were not as visible.
- Presented staff report and projections for fiscal year end 2012-2013 budget. (Handout copies available in the City Clerk's office)

Jim Sanders

- Asked for transit fund reserve totals.

Jason Patin

- Reminded public that certain funds are specified and not part of the General Fund.

Chip Holloway

- Questioned transit funding for buses coming from 5311 funding thru Kern COG

Rachelle McQuiston

- Will be reporting on reserve usage in future.

Chip Holloway

- Referenced Parks enrollments and ability to use credit cards and debit cards.
- Asked about reduction in revenues and trending down.
 - Rachelle McQuiston – reviewed revenue projections and fee increases that were not implemented last year when projections were based on the higher fees. Taking into account that fees are not being increased next year and should that happen will adjust the budget.

Dan Clark

- Requested review of TOT revenues
 - Rachelle McQuiston – located on page 6 fund 319-10-00. Anticipate revenues of \$1 million.

Christina Witt

- Questioned Pinney Pool being in the black and what the revenue was for? Page 10, 364-16-33
- Asked if Pinney Pool fees were increasing. Reasonable to increase rates for entry but does not agree with cutting time limits for swim lessons.
- Commented on snack bar and goggles. Suggested keeping goggles in stock and sell them.
- Supports an indoor pool for year round income with less evaporation.
- Would pay \$3.00 for entry.

Paul Vanderwerf

- Referenced pages 6-12 and asked for revenue received being identified better.
- Attempted to answer questions raised regarding the swimming pool.
- Mentioned program called upwards sports and asked about revenue for that item in either April or May on page 10 fund 365. Interested in the youth soccer program numbers.
- Commented on projected net of under 1% reserves.
- Adjustments made in previous years resulted in negative reserves and annual audit shows need to be at minimum of 20%.
- New council needs to listen to experts. Commended director of finance and city manager and encouraged council to listen to the CPA who recommended the 20% reserve.
 - Rachelle McQuiston – historically Council did not receive projections so these projections should match the audit requirements at year-end.

Phil Salvatore

- Suggested charging a higher fee to non-residents at the pool.

Dan Clark

- Clarified that ISF funds have been eliminated with exception of Fleet Services.

Chip Holloway

- Asked what was not paid to allow a large ISF for fleet services
 - Reduction in staff and new vehicle maintenance contracts.

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: June 6, 2013

Chip Holloway

- Reviewed report from last meeting regarding business park from 1999.
- Received report from China Lake Alliance.
- Suggested adding membership in China Lake Alliance to budget.

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Dan Clark, Jason Patin
Meeting: 2nd Wednesday Of The Month At 5:00 P.M., Council Conference Room
Next Meeting: June 12, 2013

Jason Patin & Dan Clark

- Discussed cross walks and traffic safety issues for children to school and park. Staff generating recommendations.
- Discussed water meters on medians.
- Received presentation of utility rate audit for City.
- Received presentation of pavement management system.
- Discussed wastewater GIS mapping system.

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)

- Chip Holloway - No meeting

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 - No meeting

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 - Fundraising efforts being organized

Ridgecrest Area Convention And Visitors Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Jason Patin, Chip Holloway
Meetings: 1st Wednesday Of The Month, 8:00 A.M.
Next Meeting: June 5, 2013 at location to be announced

Chip Holloway

- Announced next meeting

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

-

CITY MANAGER REPORT

- None

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Jim Sanders

- Appreciated participation for proclamations.
- Suggested 5-year budget plan for building reserve.
- Encouraged with under-spending for the current year.
- Thanked Rachelle McQuiston for projections
- Encouraged with discussion of cross-walk on Downs Street

Chip Holloway

- Commented that Howard and Barbara Auld have not been attending meetings because Howard broke knee cap in March and is healing.
- Some council attended the Parks & Recreation Citizens Advisory Committee meeting who are actively engaged in gather ideas to support Parks outside General Fund.
- Interested in including USA Swim as a consultant and suggested adding funding in the budget for the consulting fee.

Jason Patin

- Responded to Measure 'L' committee members comments. Does not feel committee overstepped boundaries and encouraged them to move forward.
- Responded to Christina Witt's comments about driving the streets. Council is aware of the situation and working to spend the funding available.
- Responded to comments from public which are appreciated but Council unable to do everything so trying to balance the needs with the funding available.
- Responded to comments made of xeroscaping parks and other ideas are being reviewed.

MINUTES – RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY - REGULAR

May 15, 2013

Page 11 of 11

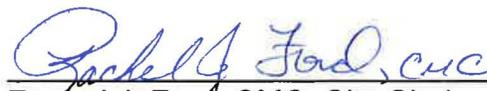
Jason Patin (cont.)

- Responded to comments regarding employee pay. Some employees have contracts and collective bargaining agreements that must be upheld. Council can ask for cuts groups are not obligated to take cuts.
- Likes the idea of non-residents paying higher fees.
- General budget comment of finding out where we are going. Parks will always be an issue. Everyone wants police to be whole, streets to be paved, and toilets to flush but still ask for parks and programs. Need to find out how to fund the parks. Need to find a way to fund the Police without Measure 'L' in the event the measure does not renew in four years. Need to look at reducing staff and consolidating functions. Not done with discussions.
- Thanked Mayor Clark for taking the reigns and organizing the 50th anniversary celebration

Dan Clark

- Celebrating 50th year of incorporation and holding a pancake breakfast this Saturday to raise funds for the celebration. Asked public to attend. Council will be serving.
- Gold tournament June 29th. Cost is \$65.00 and encouraged people to participate or sponsor a youth to attend.
- November 1 a 50 year time capsule will be buried at USO building.
- November 1 also anniversary for walleye missile
- Slide show
- November 2 community parade and street fair with concert beginning at 9:00am.
- November 2 community dinner sponsored by Chamber of Commerce.
- Have invited President Obama, reminded that President Kennedy attended in 1963.
- November 3 community picnic
- Requested quality of life town hall meeting to discuss legal ramifications of doing some of the suggested changes for Parks. Suggested round-table discussions format.
- Thanked attendees

ADJOURNMENT at 8:20 pm



Rachel J. Ford, CMC, City Clerk