

**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**

**November 6, 2013
5:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Council Present: Mayor Daniel O. Clark, Council Members Marshall 'Chip' Holloway; James Sanders; Lori Acton; and Steven P. Morgan

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion To Approve Agenda Made By Council Member Sanders, Second By Council Member Holloway. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent

PUBLIC COMMENT – CLOSED SESSION

- None Presented

CLOSED SESSION

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

REGULAR SESSION – 6:00 p.m.

- Pledge Of Allegiance
- Invocation

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

- Closed Session
 - Conference With Legal Counsel, City Of Ridgecrest v. Matasantos – received report, no reportable action taken.
- Other - none

PUBLIC COMMENT opened at 6:15 p.m.

Sophia Merck

- Program DEIR of Freemont Valley, Preservation of Freemont Valley
- Requested council to review DEIR documents which will affect tourism and air space
- Potential for dust emissions.
- Presented letter of explanation to council

Harris Brokke

- Grand opening celebration for building expansion of museum
- Reviewed on building expansion
- Spoke on financial stability due to members and donations
- Invited council to attend celebration

Chris Nicolson

- Asked about pavement projects on Sunland and other streets
- Asked about lighting in parks
- Asked about street sweepers
- Spoke on incident of October 25 shooting
- Commented on dark streets due to poor lighting
- Publicly acknowledged police department under adverse conditions to secure area in the dark.
- Why giving large salary to parks director when each officer deserves raises.
- Retired corrections officer and EMT
- Asked council why negative element is being dumped in community without safeguards
- What stopgaps are in place to prevent other community problems being dumped in our community?

Closed Public Comment at 6:22pm

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation Of A Proclamation To Representatives Of The Benevolent And Protective Order Of Elks Honoring National Veterans Remembrance Month

Ford

- Council presented a proclamation honoring National Veterans Remembrance Month to Elks Exalted Ruler Ken Daliapaz and Veteran's Representative Samuel Brown

2. Presentation Of Employee Of The Month Award

Clark

- Council presented the Employee Of The Month award to Officer Nathan Lloyd of the Ridgecrest Police Department

CONSENT CALENDAR

3. Adopt A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager, Dennis Speer, To Sign The Notice Of Completion, Authorizing The City Clerk To File The Notice Of Completion, And Authorizing The Release Of Retention On The Safe Routes To School Cycle 9 Program **Speer**

4. Adopt A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Approving A Resolution For The Use Of Traffic Impact Fees To Apply For Two Grants And Conduct A Traffic Warrant And Speed Zone Study **Speer**

5. Approve The Use Of A Deed Restriction To Be Recorded On The Remainder Parcels Of Tract 6221 To Satisfy Condition Of Approval 16 For Street Improvements To S. Warner Ave. **Culp**

6. Approve A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Approving Budget Amendment #13-01 Increasing Appropriations And Estimated Revenues In The Annual Budget **McQuiston**

7. Approve A Resolution Authorizing A Proclamation For Cal UAS Day And Scheduling Date Of Presentation **Clark**

8. Approval Of Draft Minutes Of The Regular Council Meeting Dated October 16, 2013 **Ford**

9. Approval Of Draft Minutes Of The Special Council Meeting Dated October 26, 2013 **Ford**

Corrected Item No. 6 to read '\$50,000' and Item No. 9 to read 'League of California Cities'

Items pulled from Consent Calendar

- Item No. 6

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

Item No. 6 discussion

Jerry Taylor

- Asked for clarification of additional legal cost which require the increase
- Understand issues with redevelopment and asked for information on any cities that have won against the department of finance
 - Rachelle McQuiston
 - Commented on budget reductions and city has been named in a couple unanticipated lawsuits and are forced to defend.
 - Contingencies were put aside for this purpose
 - Keith Lemieux
 - Oxnard and Duarte have been successful in cases with DOF

Motion To Approve Item No. 6 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.

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 Sanders – no report

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 – meeting cancelled, putting together goals and objectives

Ridgecrest Area Convention And Visitors Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Chip Holloway
Meetings: 1st Wednesday Of The Month, 8;00 A.M.
Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Chip Holloway – reviewed director's report from this morning's meeting. Next meeting December 4 at location to be announced

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

- none

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Dennis Speer

- Council held workshop on October 26
- Core Values, Mission Statement, and Vision Statement identified and approved in Minutes on the Consent Calendar.
- Request direction from Council for next step and suggested staff return to Council with formal action on the Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and Core Values
- Alternatively can continue with additional workshops and bring a full strategic plan to Council at one time.

Dan Clark

- Asked a procedure question
- Initiated discussion of alternate dates to continue strategic planning workshops and suggested one meeting to complete

Lori Acton

- Public needs to be involved and prefers to take in bite size chunks with thought and input

Steve Morgan

- Depending on steps taken to move forward
- Anticipate comments from public regarding not knowing what has been accomplished to date
- Format of input gathering may require several meetings
- Weekends thru the holidays are filled and will be complaints from public regardless of when meetings are held
- Prefers several meetings with public vetting of what has already been accomplished

Jim Sanders

- Agrees with public review of core values, mission statement and vision statement at a council meeting
- Does not want to rush thru setting goals, agrees with several meetings

Chip Holloway

- Agrees with bringing values, mission and vision statement to council for formal review
- With regard to goals, think input plan is unique approach. This process has been done several times and still only get input from small group of people and criticism from others who do not participate
- Suggested attempting to gather input from several methods including social media and meetings

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Chip Holloway *(continued)*

- Commented on Measure 'L' getting input from close to 1100 people which should be goal for strategic plan
- Mentioned a sample survey with questions before attempting to set goals
- Need input from staff on what questions will be on a survey
- Suggested staff analyze goals set in 2010 and offer suggestions to council.
- Consider paying for a survey.
- Need input and buy-in from community in order to move forward

Dan Clark

- If advertised well, believes the strategic plan can be accomplished in one or two meetings.
- Noted that some previous goals and objectives have not changed
- Not sure public wants to spend a lot of time on this, just give their input and go forward
- Spoke on youth advisory and women's assessment
- Can be done any way desired but has enough experience that if properly advertised then will get public participation.
- Multiple meetings may lose public support
- If planned and advertised believe it can be accomplished in one four hour meeting

Dennis Speer

- Reviewed target areas for goals from 2010 strategic plan

Direction to staff

- Steve Morgan prefers that Mr. Speer develop a survey with set of questions for each category, allow time for staff to develop and after distribution, then tackle each chunk. A lot of time and effort on staff and can only move as fast as staff can accomplish this. Need to keep public informed.

Dan Clark

- Asked for clarification of staff time needed
 - Dennis – believe staff can do this

Lori Acton

- Would like to see staff's survey and possible use with social media which will cut down on staff time. Public will respond

Keith Lemieux

- Suggested future council discussion item to establish procedure.

Dennis Speer

- Suggested 2 agenda items, one recapping what has been done and a second allowing discussion of the next steps.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Steve Morgan

- Conversation with Chief of Police regarding misconceptions of how City is dealing with criminal element.
- Believe would be prudent to have Chief of Police give report on how they are dealing with crime in the community, funds available.
- Commented on Facebook discussion accusing council of not doing anything.
- Commented on repairs to roads and a new concern that what city does in which order is not right. Requested timeline to have capital improvements discussion and unfortunate circumstances of the funding and how it is hamstrung on use.
- Go over how projects are graded and funded
- Congratulations on the fair and rodeo, very successful and hopefully will continue. Thanked public for attending
- 50th anniversary celebration, great event and everything was fantastic and accomplished with volunteers
- Community dinner November 9
- November 16 Maturango Museum opening and CalUAS event at Inyokern airport
- Airport service has terminated out of Inyokern, working to bring another partner in to provide service which is difficult
- Application of SB 407. Passed in 2009 and asked buildings department to invite all local builders to have meeting and get information out to press since this bill requires new permits for replacements and construction. Only applies to permitted additions, alterations, and improvements. Read list of permits that do not have to be replaced.

Lori Acton

- 50th was amazing and happy to see a happy community
- Draft EIR mentioned by Samantha is 8000 pages and working on reading it and giving information to council members. Will keep everyone updated.
- Do not pay a six figure salary to parks director any more
- Holiday season, asked public to be safe

Jim Sanders

- Thanked police department for excellent way they handled the tragic shooting event.
- Police acted efficiently and effectively

Jim Sanders *(continued)*

- Met with league of California cities at California city. Interesting to learn how many cities are fighting with department of finance so we are not alone in our efforts
- Strategic planning meeting went well and saw new faces and perspectives. Smaller turnout than anticipated but a lot of good things came from the meeting
- Street fair was fantastic, great event
- Read newsletter and was impressed. Found many answers in the report and thank staff for putting this together for public

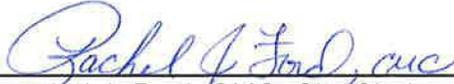
Chip Holloway

- Commented on Facebook discussion. Shooting incident was with a resident who grew up in this community so not necessarily violence that has been implanted
- Thanked police for their excellent response
- Suggested Facebook changes that valid questions be posted with the person's name.
- 50th celebration. 3 days of event and the number of people and hours were involved in putting this event on for the public
- Expressed appreciation and gratitude to Justin O'Neill for his efforts and coordination
- Amazing what can be accomplished thru volunteer participation
- Merchants on balsam street had phenomenal day and thanked everyone who participated and volunteered

Dan Clark

- Ridgerunner Transit system advertising opportunity announced
- Bakersfield Administrator Of The Year was awarded to Police Chief Ron Strand
- Police are heroes who put their life on the line in a gunfight. Proud of their actions and commend them.
- Thanked volunteers who participated in the 50th celebration. Secretaries committee for float, council for fundraising and pancake breakfast, committee chairmen for each event including parade; USO dance; street fair; taste of Ridgecrest; community picnic.
- Two people commented this was the proudest moment as a citizen of Ridgecrest ever experienced
- Thanked everyone for their hours spent in meetings, fundraising, staff support.

ADJOURNMENT at 7:19 pm



Rachel J. Ford, CMC, City Clerk