



**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**

**January 21, 2015  
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 Peggy Breeden; Mayor Pro Tempore James Sanders; Vice Mayor Lori Acton; Council Members Eddie B. Thomas, and Mike Mower

Council Absent: None

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Items Pulled From The Agenda:*

- *Closed Session*
  - GC54956.8 Local Agency Real Property Negotiations – Negotiations For Sale, Lease, Or Purchase – Leroy Jackson Park – Agency Negotiators City Manager Dennis Speer And Recreation Supervisor Jason Patin
- *Regular Session*
  - 15. Presentation Of Tax Allocation Bond (TAB) Funding Possibilities For The Downs Street Project Between West Ridgecrest Blvd. And Upjohn Avenue Speer

Dennis Speer

- Explained inconsistencies between data tables and is working to resolve the issue. Plan to bring back to Council mid-February.

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*Motion To Approve Agenda As Amended Made By Council Member Sanders, Second By Council Member Thomas. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members, Sanders, Acton, Thomas And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent*

**PUBLIC COMMENT – CLOSED SESSION**

Ronald Porter

- Understands legal requirements for closed session and mandates. Does not believe titles have enough information to meet the mandates. Requested information about claims.
- Exemplified potential litigation, does not believe is legal.
- Request attorney bring items back for open session.
- Attorney report should be done in closed session.
- Understand reasoning behind closed doors, but attorney report should include action.
- Asked Council to consider providing more information so public has idea of what suits are about before settlements are made.

Michael Silander

- Attorney understands the scope of what must be on the agenda as well as what can be disclosed. All settlements are reported once made.

Ronald Porter

- Stated past claims have not been reported.
- Disagrees with attorney and has read the laws.
- Asked attorney to check the law.

**CLOSED SESSION**

GC54956.9 (d) (4) Conference With Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – City Of Ridgecrest v. Matasantos

GC54956.9 (d) (4) Conference With Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – Eva Balfour v. City Of Ridgecrest

GC54956.9 (d) (4) Conference With Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – Squillacote v. City Of Ridgecrest

GC54956.9 (d) (4) Conference With Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Public Disclosure Of Potential Litigant Would Prejudice The City Of Ridgecrest (2 Cases)

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**Closed Session** *(continued)*

- GC54956.8 Successor Redevelopment Agency Real Property Negotiations – Negotiation For Sale, Lease, Or Purchase – APN 033-071-20 and a portion of 21, (K-Partners) – Agency Negotiators City Manager Dennis Speer And Economic Development Program Manager Gary Parsons
- GC54956.8 Local Agency Real Property Negotiations – Negotiations For Sale, Lease, Or Purchase – Leroy Jackson Park – Agency Negotiators City Manager Dennis Speer And Recreation Supervisor Jason Patin
- GC54956.9 (d) (1) Conference With Legal Counsel – Liability Claim Of Paul And Sons – Claim No. 14-16

**REGULAR SESSION – 6:00 p.m.**

- Pledge Of Allegiance
- Invocation

**CITY ATTORNEY REPORT**

- Closed Session
  - Local Agency Real Property Negotiations – Negotiations For Sale, Lease, Or Purchase – Leroy Jackson Park – Agency Negotiators City Manager Dennis Speer And Recreation Supervisor Jason Patin
    - pulled prior to approval of the agenda
  - Conference With Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – City Of Ridgecrest v. Matasantos
    - Report Received, no reportable action
  - Conference With Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – Eva Balfour v. City Of Ridgecrest
    - Report Received, no reportable action
  - Conference With Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – Squillacote v. City Of Ridgecrest
    - Report Received, no reportable action
  - Conference With Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Public Disclosure Of Potential Litigant Would Prejudice The City Of Ridgecrest (2 Cases)
    - One case Report Received, no reportable action
  - Successor Redevelopment Agency Real Property Negotiations – Negotiation For Sale, Lease, Or Purchase – APN 033-071-20 and a portion of 21, (K-Partners) – Agency Negotiators City Manager Dennis Speer And Economic Development Program Manager Gary Parsons
    - Report Received, no reportable action
  - Conference With Legal Counsel – Liability Claim Of Paul And Sons – Claim No. 14-16
    - Denied, City Clerk instructed to issue letter of rejection

➤ Other

- Presentation of Report regarding investigation of Counsel Member Employment
- Michael Silander provided report
  - Alleged conflict of interest of employment of Council Member Lori Acton reviewed.
  - Attorney looked into matter and interviewed parties and found no conflict of interest existed.
  - Explained circumstances that would have caused conflict of interest and found that none of these had occurred.
  - Letter submitted to Council with Attorney's opinion on the matter.
  - Cautioned that current status could potentially hamper City's ability to enter into new contracts, even if Council Member Acton recuses herself from the discussions.
  - Regarding discussions without contract amendments or new contracts, Ms. Acton can recuse herself and Council can make decisions.

Jim Sanders

- Asked if City's inability to enter contract only exist during term in office

Peggy Breeden

- Asked if the current situation would affect the funding milestones
  - Ms. Acton would have to recuse herself and Council could not change the terms of the contract

Michael Silander

- Affects any funding that affects Pertexa.

Peggy Breeden

- Read a letter from Carol Wilson into the record.

Public Comment – Attorney Report

Robert Eierman

- Don't think anyone would accuse me of being a political ally of Council member Acton
- Met with Ms. Acton on air at KZNG and interviewed her.
- In both sessions she answered very tough, accusatorial question with all honesty and directness and I personally don't believe anything inappropriate happened.
- Do not think there is a reason for anyone to think something inappropriate happened and asked Council member Acton to NOT resign.

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Dave Matthews

- Thanked Robert for his views.
- Have worked with Ms. Acton prior to election to Council
- Admit she is one of the few Council persons whose sign I put in my yard for election
- Do not think she is the type of person who would take advantage of a situation like this and I too believe she should not resign.

Al Huey

- Participated in discussions with Ms. Acton and unless something is uncovered that is in violation with the law prior to the votes in June and August, there is no evidence of illegal activity and thought we were in a county that supports innocent until proven guilty.

Jerry Taylor

- To me I would look to the broader issue, the thing lacking within the City of Ridgcrest is we have legal counsel for opinion but we do not have anyone to give an ethical opinion.
- Suggested having an ethical Council who would not determine if something is legal but whether it is ethical.

Ronald Porter

- Appreciate Lori did not hide and put this out for the public to see.
- Think it is good for the City to learn from that practice.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dave Matthews

- Spoke on actions within the City regarding article in the Daily Independent regarding the no U-turn sign near the drive thru dairy.
- What has taken place is the dairy owner complained about the No U-turn and mentioned it to the Mayor during a chamber of commerce meeting, Mayor then went to City hall and the next day the sign was taken down.
- Sounds like a noble thing to do but not sure if this is the type of action I like to see out of Council.
- Spoke on Downey Hall in New York City
- Have not heard a valid reason of why the sign came down.
- Because the Mayor or a Council member or community member complains about something and then it is changed, does not look good.
  - Peggy Breeden – had been told there would not be a No U-turn sign there. Called Mr. Speer and confirmed. Next morning a sign appeared so called Dennis again. He said it wasn't supposed to be there so he took it down.

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- Dennis Speer – confirmed Mayor Breeden’s account. Personally viewed the intersection with no sign and the next day a sign was up. Contractor was working off an old set of plans that had not been revised.
- Mike Mower – commented on the locations where a U-turn is allowed and this is consistent with other sections of the City.

**Jerry Taylor**

- Spoke on bicycle safety and fog lines lacking on several streets
- Commends the designation of fog lines on Ridgcrest Blvd, Downs.
- Not asking for elimination of parking or designation of bike lanes. Spoke on rural regulations.
- Spoke on designation for other streets such as Las Flores
- Commented on potential deaths if bicycles go into traffic lanes to avoid parked cars.
- Commented on leniency to allow painted fog lines for bicycles on other City streets. Not asking for bicycle designation, just a fog line painted under rural routes regulations.
- Only talking about major arterial roads have painted fog lines.
  - Lori Acton – we aren’t designated rural, just urban.
- When looking at certain streets would be considered urban but we have the power to do this even though it isn’t mandated.
- Areas without the white line people tend to drift.

**Tom Wiknich**

- Complimented Council on back-and-forth discussion
- Encouraged Mr. Taylor to put the fog line project on the infrastructure committee agenda
- Asked why there is an elevator in City hall, intended for people with disabilities to get upstairs
- Spoke on the difficulty of disabled persons to get into the front doors of City hall or police department, especially during bad weather.
- Gave examples of people trying to get into the building that is not handicap accessible.
- Requested TAB funding allocated to provide handicap accessible front doors.
  - Peggy Breeden – agreed and stated Council will work to fix the problem. Infrastructure committee will begin meeting once action is taken to establish the committee. Won’t happen tomorrow but you will get an answer.
  - Lori Acton – can’t take action but asked this be put on the next agenda or direct staff to come back with a discussion item.
  - Mike Mower – suggested putting on next infrastructure committee agenda

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**Ronald Porter**

- Commented on the Brown Act and republican form of government.
- Spoke on people's right to know.
- Noticed recent violations of the brown act.
- Spoke on public comment before closed session as being put on the agenda because of his personal complaints in the past.
- Everyone wants to comply with the Brown Act. Looking to have open discussion when items are brought up.
- Everyone should be heard.
  - Peggy Breeden – asked for a short Brown Act discussion on a future agenda to address concerns of the public.
  - Lori Acton – portions of the Brown Act are not enforceable.

**Robert Eierman**

- Asked Council to listen to Mr. Porter who is an expert on the Brown Act
- Spoke on Attorney's who are wrong 50% of the time, every court case has one winner and one lose thereby attorneys are wrong 50% of the time.
- It is not a City attorney who was elected to represent the public. Community wants to hear what the Council's opinion is.
- Council has a duty to know the brown act so well they don't have to rely on the attorney to answer questions pertaining to the Brown Act
- Asked Council to look at the agenda items and see if the items comply with the brown act requirements.

**Dave Matthews**

- Added comments to Mr. Taylor's statements regarding the fog line for bicyclists and drivers.
- Many times there has been ambiguity of where the asphalt ends and dirt begins.
- When oncoming traffic fails to dim their lights, the white line on the side of the road is very helpful.
- Commented on confusion about west Ridgecrest Blvd. pertaining to the striping of the bike lane. Is bike lane the farthest two lines or the second set of white lines?
  - Dennis Speer – will do a field review of the area between Norma street and Downs street

Joe Menendez

- Commented on boy scouts learning citizenship
- As concerned member of the public, area on Mahan has become a motorcycle park. Dangerous for walkers and dust control area has been destroyed.
- Asked Council to consider an ordinance to stop motorcycles on Mahan between Ridgecrest Blvd. and Brady street
- Las Flores and Amanda residents get 5-6 feet of sand when wind blows because motorcycles have destroyed the area.
- May become litigation if something not done now.
- Right now motorcycles are tearing the area up and when the wind blows the sand will be in everyone's yards.
  - Lori Acton – asked if this has been reported to the police because there is a unit dedicated to this issue.
- Generally in evenings, weekends and holidays
- This area seems to have 10,000 motorcycles that all ride in this area.

Public comment closed at 7:24 p.m.

## CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Adopt A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Approving A Contract Change Order Number One With The Contractor, Griffith Company, For The Mahan Project From Ward Avenue To Graaf Street, Authorizing The City Manager To Sign The Notice Of Completion, Authorizing The City Clerk To File The Notice Of Completion, Authorizing The Release Of Retention And Authorizing The City Manager, Dennis Speer, To Sign The Change Order Number One Speer
2. Adopt A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Approving A Contract Change Order Number Two With The Contractor, Griffith Company, For The Gateway Project From Upjohn Avenue To Bowman Avenue, Authorizing The City Manager To Sign The Notice Of Completion, Authorizing The City Clerk To File The Notice Of Completion, Authorizing The Release Of Retention And Authorizing The City Manager, Dennis Speer, To Sign The Change Order Number Two Speer
3. Adopt A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Approving Contract Change Order Numbers Two, Six And Seven With The Contractor Griffith Company For The Federal Safe Routes To School Project Cycle 3, Authorizing The City Manager To Sign The Notice Of Completion On The Federal Safe Routes To School Project Cycle 3, Authorizing The City Clerk To File The Notice Of Completion, Authorizing The Release Of Retention And Authorizing The City Manager, Dennis Speer, To Sign The Change Order Numbers Two, Six And Seven Speer

4. Adopt A Resolution 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 City Hall Alleyway Project Speer
5. Adopt A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Accepts A Right Of Way Agreement And Offer Of Dedication From Michael And Lori B. Howard For APN 456-090-07, In The City Of Ridgecrest, County Of Kern, State Of California And Authorizes The Mayor To Sign The Escrow Instructions And Certificate Of Acceptance, And Authorizes The Mayor And City Manager To Sign The Right Of Way Agreement And Approves And The Allocation Of \$42,839.00 For Fee Interest In The Dedicated Portion Of The Parcel Speer
6. Adopt A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Setting The Public Hearing For Unmet Transit Needs Findings Speer
7. Adopt A Resolution To Approve A Global Markets Safekeeping Agreement With Union Bank And Authorize The Finance Director, V. Rachelle McQuiston, To Execute This Agreement McQuiston
8. Adopt A Resolution Of The Successor Agency To The Ridgecrest Redevelopment Agency Approving A Revised Long Range Property Management Plan Parsons
9. Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council/Successor Redevelopment Agency/Financing Authority/Housing Authority Meeting Dated December 17, 2014 Ford

Items Pulled From Consent Calendar

- Item Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5

*Motion To Approve Item Nos. 6, 7, 8, And 9 Made By Council Member Mower, Second By Council Member Thomas. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members Sanders, Acton, Thomas, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent*

Item Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 Discussion

Ronald Porter

- Commented on a lot of changes to constructions contract.
- Some appear that contractor is taking advantage to get more out of the contract.
- Suggested contractors review contracts to see if there is money they can get.
- Concerned that contractor may be taking advantage

Ronald Porter (continued)

- Commented on independent billing for each change when could have been billed once
  - Dennis Speer – during course of construction, things are discovered and it may be a benefit to the City to move forward. After contract is awarded and something is discovered it is reviewed by the superintendent of streets to determine if we should move forward. Some items are discovered by surveyors or inspectors and not the contractor. Contractor may notice quantities are in error and then comes to the City to request changes. Consultant is the inspector and contract manager. Point is well taken.
- Some of these items looked strange.
  - Mike Mower – had similar issues so met with City Engineer

*Motion To Approve Item Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, And 5 Made By Council Member Mower, Second By Council Member Sanders. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members Sanders, Acton, Thomas, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent*

## DISCUSSION AND OTHER ACTION ITEMS

### **10. Presentation And Accept For File The Annual Report Of The Ridgecrest Area Convention And Visitors Bureau** Ford

Doug Lueck

- Presented staff report and reviewed the Tourism Improvement District for the first year, financial statements, and 5 year projections. *(Copy Available In The City Clerk's Office)*

*Minute Motion To Accept For Filing Made By Council Member Thomas, Second By Council Member Sanders. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members Sanders, Acton, Thomas, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent*

### **11. Adopt A Resolution Establishing Certain Standing Committees Of The Ridgecrest City Council** Ford

Peggy Breeden

- Presented staff report

Lori Acton

- RACVB change, lead will be Eddie Thomas and Lori Acton will be alternate

**Item No. 11** *(continued)*

*Motion To Approve A Resolution Establishing Standing Council Committees As Listed In The Resolution Made By Council Member Mower, Second By Council Member Acton. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members Sanders, Acton, Thomas, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent*

**12. Nominations And Appointments To Council Committees, Boards, And Commissions** **Ford**

Peggy Breeden

- Presented staff report and announced nominations.

*Motion To Approve Appointments To Certain Council Committees, Boards, And Commissions As Announced Made By Council Member Acton, Second By Council Member Mower Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members Sanders, Acton, Thomas, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent*

**13. Nominations And Appointments To Vacancies On The Measure 'L' Committee** **Ford**

Peggy Breeden

- Presented staff report
- Peggy – Ted Ribulton for term ending July 2018
- Eddie –Michael Peterson for term ending July 2015

Public Comment

Scott Garver

- Thanked Council for nominating Mr. Peterson
- Requested Council accepts Mr. Peterson as an appointment for the longer term.
- Discussion of procedure. No precedent currently set.
- Bound by ordinance which does not account for whose choice it is to set the term.

Peggy Breeden

- If no legal reason prohibiting would be fine with the change
- For the record Mr. Ribulton is an amazing person and you will be pleasantly surprised to have him on the committee
- Measure 'L' committee is the most important committee who has actively done their job.
- Need the committees input when the time comes to renew the funding
- Am willing to provide anything this committee needs to do their job.

Lori Acton

- Believes precedent was already set.

Scott Garver

- Procedure not outlined in the ordinance.

Michael Silander

- Believe the ordinance allows Council to set the precedence.

Jim Sanders

- Asked if we could rewrite the ordinance so it is clearer.

Scott Garver

- Adopted by ballot vote so may not be able to amend.

*Motion To Approve Item Nos. 13, Appointing Members To The Measure 'L' Citizens Advisory Committee Made By Council Member mower, Second By Council Member sanders. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members Sanders, Acton, Thomas, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent*

**14. Discussion And Council Action On The Ridgcrest Charter School Appeal Of Planning Commission Decision Regarding CUP 01-14 Modification**

**Alexander**

Matthew Alexander

- Presented staff report
- PowerPoint presentation provided by Matthew Alexander
- Highlighted options
  - Approve action of planning commission and deny the appeal
  - Accept appeal and review action taken by the planning commission to affirm, reverse, or modify the decision of the planning commission.

Jim Sanders

- Asked for clarification of the purpose of paving
  - Dennis Speer – could install a cross walk between the two drive ways
  - Matthew Alexander – responsibility of putting in cross wall once gutters are installed

Mike Mower

- Asked about the base and commented on the top layer being applied when downs street is widened
- Asked if barriers would be removed to allow for crosswalk
  - Dennis Speer – removed 2 rails and install a temporary raised median as safety island and prevent illegal U-turns.
- If paving is required will a fog-line be installed to designate additional paving and a flashing light at the pole
  - Dennis Speer – yes under temporary installation

Peggy Breeden

- Item pulled from agenda due to issues, how that affects approval or disapproval.
  - Dennis Speer – if street widening were to move forward then would want this to move forward and prevent the widening project from being completed. Widening project will come forward for discussion at the second meeting of February. If approved can put a bid together and award contract for the next paving season
- What are implications of holding off on this decision again until we see if these can be done simultaneously?
  - Dennis Speer – further delay of a crosswalk.

Jim Sanders

- Major concern of base paving is people pulling off and the pole. Will this concern be satisfied?
  - Dennis Speer – from safety respect the concerns would be satisfied.
- Would beacon be the City's concern?
  - Dennis Speer – yes, is not part of the CUP

Public Comment

Elsa Henning

- Chairman for Charter School Board
- Met with City several times and worked out a lot of issues. Primary issues is if we do this paving may have to take it out when widening project goes in the paving would be torn up. Hate doing it if will be torn up shortly.
- Very concerned with people pulling out and hitting the power pole, especially at night.
- Paving south of the pole makes more sense rather than north of the pole
- Legal counsel recommends we appeal for liability purposes.
- Sounds as if we may be getting to a point that widening project may make this moot.

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Elsa Henning *(continued)*

- Suggested compromise with paving after power pole is moved. Makes more sense.
  - Mike Mower - Will paving be torn out or used as base for the upgrades.
    - Dennis Speer – will be used as base and paved over during widening project.
  - Mike Mower – understand the concerns. Can see this becoming a mud puddle and anxious to see a cross walk go in as soon as possible.
- School has concerns about the location of the crosswalk. Hired a traffic engineer to look at the traffic flow and potential increase. His report recommends a 4-way stop at that location which would be a perfect place for a cross walk.
- Mid-block cross walks are very concerning due to the number of people who have been struck and killed.
  - Dennis Speer – commented on traffic engineers report which does not consider the proper warrants required for a traffic stop. Served as traffic engineer for years at Tulare County and is well-versed in Traffic Engineering. The engineer did not do a warrant study when making his report.
- Study was future forecasting with the easement in place.
  - Jim Sanders - Crossing guard is currently assisting children at Church Street. In favor of rescue medians. Originally was going to propose a fee in lieu of but if that portion isn't going to be torn out then fine with improvements as they stand.
  - Mike Mower – asked for timeframe to complete construction
- Looking at early March and will be meeting with people in February to discuss putting in easement and pavement on downs street.
  - Mike Mower – if takes 6 months to do the project then don't have to do pave out for 6 months.
- To get certificate of occupancy have to get easement agreement signed with AMG. Need everything to happen simultaneously.
  - Jim Sanders – any preference of doing it or paying fee in lieu of.
- Would much rather pay the fee and want to keep cross walk separate from CUP.
  - Jim Sanders – is crossing guard working for you now or does it need to be revised?
- Have 1 or 2 children crossing, most people are parking at sports fields and walking across church rather than Downs street.

Dave Matthews

- Intersection of Upjohn and downs, are there 4 crosswalks on each lane of the intersection
  - Dennis Speer – yes
- What is problem with children using that intersection
  - Dennis Speer – preferable but there is no curb, gutter or sidewalk on one side.

Dave Matthews *(continued)*

- That is a 40 mph zone and not enough room for crash barriers at the pole. That is a school zone and when children are present that drops to 25 mph.
- If you put a flashing light at the pole it would take care of it.

Matt Baudhuin

- Planning commission elected to give leeway on south side was because of lemans style parking was between two driveways. People currently parking in the right of way and if you put the base pavement down and mark it no parking, use reflective type paint or other mitigation. This is education, cite parents who are parking there and word will get out. Education comes from citations. Word gets out when laws are enforced.
- Get parents to stop parking there, make the improvements and move on.
- Traffic engineer mitigation measure requires install improvements to the City of Ridgecrest satisfaction. Curb, gutter, and base pavement look finished.

Mike Mower

- Can the area be red zoned to prevent parking
  - Dennis Speer – can sign it.

Jim Sanders

- In favor of marking curb and gutter and do a fee in-lieu of base paving. Start paving Downs Street with TAB funds as soon as possible.

Mike Mower

- Major drawback of finishing Downs is moving the pole

Peggy Breeden

- What is Edison's timeline
  - Dennis Speer – they won't begin until we tell them we are going to pave. That will be part of the discussion in February. Have found substantial saving in the street allocations but inconsistencies in the two tables need to reconcile before bringing to Council.
- My concern is if we do this now and ask for in-lieu of fee, and wait until February report when we can make better decisions. What are the implications of waiting other than safety?

Lori Acton

- Additional information does change things and I hate going against the planning commission's decision. This was a previous deferral.
- The parents and school zone is a nightmare and I try to avoid it. Kids do cross regardless of no cross walk.

Mike Mower

- Every school is a nightmare when schools let out. Solution of planning commission is a fantastic idea. Go along with either postponing till next month or Mr. Sander's suggestion. Do not feel we are going against the planning commission. Major concern is parking and the pole.

Lori Acton

- Would this action get the pole moved faster
  - Dennis Speer – No.

Peggy Breeden

- Can we install temporary no-parking signs
  - Jim Sanders – no left hand turn sign has been violated constantly.

*Motion To Postpone A Decision Until Mr. Speer Can Report On The Downs Street Widening Project Was Made By Council Member Thomas, No Second Received. Motion Does Not Move Forward.*

*Minute Motion By Council Member Sanders To Amend Condition 1FI To Include A Fee In-Lieu Of Base Paving As Negotiated Between Engineers AND Eliminates Condition 1H. , Seconded By Council Member Acton. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 4 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members Sanders, Acton, And Mower), 1 No (Thomas); 0 Abstain; 0 Absent*

**15. Presentation Of Tax Allocation Bond (TAB) Funding Possibilities For The Downs Street Project Between West Ridgecrest Blvd. And Upjohn Avenue**

**Speer**

- Item pulled prior to approval of the agenda

**ORDINANCES**

**16. Second Reading And Adoption By Title Only, Ordinance 15-01, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Granting A Non-Exclusive Taxi Franchise To The Owner Sandra Gamble**

**Speer**

Dennis Speer

- Presented staff report

**Item No. 16 (Continued)**

*Motion To Waive Reading In Full And To Adopt By Title Only, Ordinance No. 15-01, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Granting A Non-Exclusive Taxi Franchise To The Owner Sandra Gamble Made By Council Member Sanders, Second By Council Member Acton. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members Sanders, Acton, Thomas, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent*

Requires A Second

*Motion To Adopt, By Title Only, Ordinance No. 15-01, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Granting A Non-Exclusive Taxi Franchise To The Owner Sandra Gamble Made By Council Member Mower, Second By Council Member Acton. Motion Carried By Roll Call Vote Of 5 Ayes (Mayor Breeden, Council Members Sanders, Acton, Thomas, And Mower); 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent*

Requires A Second

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ronald Porter

- Problem with ordinance, law includes personal information and needs to bring forth a specific ordinance with regard to taxi services and eliminate personal information.
  - Dennis Speer – taxi franchises are covered in the Municipal Code and the process outlined was followed. Understand the point and need a review of the code.
  - Jim Sanders – Requested future code revision.

**17. Waive Reading In Full And Introduce, By Title Only, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Amending The Ridgecrest Municipal Code Chapter 6, Article 24 With Regard To License Tax Rates And Classifications** **McQuiston**

Rachelle McQuiston

- Presented staff report
- Sections of the code were conflicting so this amends and makes uniform requirements.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Tom Wiknich

- Questioned requirement for trash service for mobile homes or commercial application of trash service.
  - Rachelle McQuiston – will have to research this and discuss with City manager.

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Ronald Porter

- Referenced Section 6-24.2 (H) (I) – are these new sections
  - Rachele McQuiston – being amended,
- Constitution requires the changes show.
- Residential rentals, 4 units, is this on one piece of property or if you own 4 rental units.
  - Rachele McQuiston – anyone renting 4 properties has to have a business license. Used to be a requirement if you had one rental.

*Item tabled for revisions and will be brought back for 1<sup>st</sup> reading again.*

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Members: Eddie Thomas and Lori Acton  
Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month at 4:00 P.M., Kerr-McGee Center  
Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Eddie Thomas

- Met on the 20<sup>th</sup>
- Success story of student returning back to school after a year absence due to substance abuse and Officer Involvement assisting him.
- Neighborhood watch active and new signs and booklets are on order.
- Crime is down and graffiti markings are down.
- Meetings will be set for every other month beginning March 17, same time.

**Veterans Advisory Committee**

Members: To be appointed  
Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month At 6:00 p.m., Kerr McGee Center  
Next Meeting: To Be Announced

- No report

**Ridgecrest Area Convention And Visitors Bureau (RACVB)**

Members: Lori Acton and Eddie Thomas  
Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Of The Month, 8:00 A.M.  
Next Meeting: To Be Announced

Eddie Thomas

- Best cities for young families in California named Ridgecrest as no. 4.
- Filming commission had 7 productions, 4 were films and 3 were still photo shots.
- Reviewed director's report.
- Next meeting February 4, location to be announced.

## **OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS**

Lori Acton

- BLM meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Jim Sanders

- Suggested setting meeting dates and times as follows:
  - Water Conservation meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> Monday at 5pm
  - Measure 'L' 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at
  - Infrastructure 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 5 p.m.
  - Groundwater Management 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 1 p.m.
  - Quality Of Life 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at 5 p.m., Kerr McGee Center
  - City Organization committee 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m., conference room B

Tom Wiknich – asked for a Kern COG report monthly

## **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Dennis Speer

- West Ridgecrest Blvd. signal lights are activated
- Will be attending City manager conference next week

## **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mike Mower

- Attended League Of California Cities training meeting in Sacramento, very educational. Covered Brown Act, legal issues and was well spent time.
- West Ridgecrest Blvd., most street lights are on. Major complaints have been the bright temporary lights and 15 mph speed limit. Hope to see it look like a real street soon.
- Commented on seeing someone run the red light at Ridgecrest Blvd and Norma Street intersection. Need to get the word out and educate public about the new light.

Eddie Thomas

- Thanked City for allow trip for training.
- Love the exchanges between community and Council
- Proud of Lori Acton for standing up and taking it and of the people who came forward to rally around her.
- Laurie Morales wants to attend our League Of California Cities meeting here on February 6.

**MINUTES – RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY - REGULAR**

**January 21, 2015**

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Lori Acton

- Thank you to those who have supported me and came out publicly to say so.
- Thanked Mr. Wiknich for TV station and for getting the information out there
- The people at the station asked tough questions and I appreciate it.
- Trust has to be rebuilt
- I look forward to the year and everything coming up.

Jim Sanders

- Attended League Of California Cities Policy Committee
- Sit on the Environmental Quality Committee and another policy committee
- Not a lot of information right now because new legislative session just started. New bills are being formed and proposed. More to come.
- Want to revise the Taxi Franchise Municipal Code. Asked staff to review possibilities. Seems there should be a better way. Asked for future agenda item.
  - Dennis Speer – taxi is treated the same as utilities. Staff will review.
- Great Christmas and New Year's.

Peggy Breeden

- Attended Kern COG last Friday
  - [www.californiacitiesfinance.com](http://www.californiacitiesfinance.com) goes thru election information for every ballot measure with analysis of each. Local revenue measure results 2014
  - Caltrans reported China Lake median islands project; Freeman Gulch widening project on Hwy. 14; Red Rock Canyon repair finished.
  - Gave examples of funding available and will follow up with Mr. Speer
- Could not attend the League Of California Cities committee but did receive literature and will review it.
- Ridgecrest Exchange Club is celebrating 40<sup>th</sup> birthday on Sunday
- Safely Surrender Babies Month is February. Encouraged community to volunteer to help organization.
- Want to see agenda item. Kern County has a procedure that if you are an elected official, there is a timeframe outlined before you can go to work for, handle monies from or other things for companies or agencies who deal with the county. This timeframe helps avoid questions of legality. I don't want anyone to have to go thru what Ms. Acton has been put thru recently.
- Thanked everyone who attended and excited about Measure 'L' committee. Looking forward to seeing what comes from the committee. Will need the funding in the future and want to see it happen. Want to do exactly what the people want. Looking forward to seeing reports that say we did exactly what was requested by the public.

**ADJOURNMENT at 9:32 p.m.**

  
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Rachel J. Ford CMC  
City Clerk