



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL AND
RIDGECREST REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

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

**June 15, 2005
6:00 p.m.**

**Tape Recorded
Tape 05-15**

This meeting was tape 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 – 6:02

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Marshall Holloway, Vice Mayor Daniel Clark, Council Members Steven Morgan and Ronald Carter

ABSENT: Mayor Pro Tem Richard Martin

STAFF: Harvey Rose, City Manager; Rita Gable, City Clerk; Jim Winegardner, Deputy City Manager Administrative Services/City Treasurer; Jim McRea, Deputy City Manager, Public Services; Gary Parsons, Community and Economic Development Department Director; Joe Pollock, Assistant Public Works Director; Jim Ponek, Parks and Recreation Department Director; Michael Avery, Chief of Police; and other personnel

CLOSED SESSION – 6:00 p.m.

GC54956.9 Consultation with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Public Disclosure of the Potential Litigant Would Prejudice the City of Ridgecrest

GC54956.8 Real Property Negotiations, Lot 22 of Parcel Map #10819, Ridgecrest Business Park (RBP), APN # 033-070-13 - Negotiators Harvey Rose and Gary Parsons

GC54956.8 Real Property Negotiations, vacant land between Ridgecrest Boulevard and Las Flores Avenue, APN# 067-050-02 and APN 067-050--13 - Negotiators Harvey Rose, James McRea, and Gary Parsons.

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REGULAR SESSION – 6:42 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Council Member Clark

INVOCATION - Reverend Ed Snyder, Inyokern Baptist Church

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

In the absence of the City Attorney City Manager Rose reported on Closed Session items: Council was updated on the anticipated litigation-no action taken; staff given direction regarding the real property negotiations.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Council Member, Clark, second Council Member Carter TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. No public comment. Motion carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes, 1 absent. Council Member Martin absent.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Proclamation Honoring Ridgecrest Citizen – Todd Farr

PUBLIC COMMENT 6:48 p.m.

Dave Matthews, 717 Kevin Court

- Stated he was the “default chair” of High Desert Engineering group
- Dinner meeting on July 21 at Victoria's at Heritage - cost of dinner unknown - speaker Stephen J. Enberg from JPL - topic current results from Cassini-Huygens spacecraft orbiting Saturn
- Urged everyone to attend

Karen Davis, 915 W. Burns

- Planning Commission had meeting about mobile home building codes
- They recommended City do nothing within the buildings
- Said there was a state law saying they could not do what they wanted
- Some cities can invoke architectural standards that make them compliant with the neighborhood
- The minimum square footage is 450 and that is a shack
- If nothing is done it will open up any lot anywhere in the city to these type of dwellings within stick built homes developments
- These mobile homes devalue the stick built homes they are among

Dorothy Bennett, 916 N. Randall Street

- Found an announcement in the News Review about the story of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars having a 60th Anniversary party with a “1940's-USO theme

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- It announced that all were welcome to join in the celebration and that some of the proceeds will be donated to the Historic Society

Public Comment closed 7:00 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

2. Resolution 05-41, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council To Awarding The Single Bid Duly Noticed Request For Proposal (RFP) For A Modular Operations Building A Portion Of The Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Improvement Project To Design Space Modular Buildings (DSMBI) In The Amount Of \$149,508.00
McRea / Pollock

This item removed for discussion

3. Resolution No. 05- , A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Establishing An Arts Council Under The Direction Of The City Council And Quality Of Life Committee Ponck

Quality of Life Committee is requesting the City Council establish an Arts Council as a committee underneath the direction of the City Council and Quality of Life Committee.

4. Resolution No. 05-42, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Giving Approval To Destroy All Obsolete, Overage, Out-Dated, Multiple Copies, No Longer Required Materials And Records From Various City Departments As Prescribed For Retention/Destruction In The City's Records Management System Rose
5. Minutes Of The Regular City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting Of May 18, 2005 Gable
6. Minutes Of The Regular City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting Of June 1, 2005 Gable
7. Council Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated May 27, 2005 In The Amount Of \$202,440.38 Winegardner
8. Agency Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated May 27, 2005 In The Amount Of \$18,078.66 Winegardner

Council Member Morgan requested removal of item 3

Moved by Clark, second Council Member Carter TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR WITH ITEM 3 REMOVED. no public comment. Motion carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent. Council Member Martin absent.

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3. Resolution No. 05-43, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Establishing An Arts Council Under The Direction Of The City Council And Quality Of Life Committee Ponek

Parks and Recreation Director Ponek

- The establishment of an Arts Council is being brought forward by the Quality of Life Committee
- This is being done at the request of the community

Council Member Morgan had questions and comments

- Is this establishing a standing committee such as the other Council committees
- Will it be like the Youth Advisory Committee that has noticed meetings where they take minutes and have staff advisors and support

Mr. Ponek stated the Arts Council will be working under the Quality of Life Committee and they will meet and then bring items to the Quality of Life Committee

Other council comment

- The Council restructured committees about 3 councils ago (in June 1999) eliminating several and allowing sub and ad hoc committees under the new council committees
- This was brought up to Quality of Life Committee about 3 years ago and was accepted
- An Arts Council was established several years ago but it kind of went away
- Now established under Quality of Life Committee
- Will consist of Council Member Clark, Planning Commissioner Laire, Finance Director Winegardner, and City Manager Rose at the meetings under the umbrella of Quality of Life Committee
- This will be a great opportunity for grants and it is much more than just arts

Council Member Morgan requested the resolution be changed to"sub committee under the Quality of Life Committee"...

Moved by Council Member Clark, second Council Member Carter to accept the changed wording. No public comment. Motion carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes 1 absent. Council Member Martin absent.

Dave Matthews

- Supports Council Member Morgan's comments
- He was at meeting and was surprised how many people attended
- Believes this is what was decided

Dorothy Bennett

- Agreed with Mr. Matthews – the meeting showed a lot of interest in this subject

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Moved by Council Member Clark, second Council Member Carter TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 05-43, A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL ESTABLISHING AN ARTS COUNCIL UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE. Public comment heard. Motion carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent. Council Member Martin absent.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

9. Continued Joint Public Hearing on the Proposed Surplus and Sale of Certain Real Property Located within the City of Ridgecrest Parsons

Community and Economic Development Director Parsons

- This is a request for approval of resolutions declaring surplus real property and authorizing their disposition and sale
- The Council and Agency at their meeting of May 18, 2005 reviewed and approved the final proposed property list
- Tonight they will receive public comments on the proposed sale
- The City received no response from other local agencies
- City and Redevelopment Agency can now move forward with an RFP for disposition

Council Member Morgan noted Infrastructure Committee discussed with no opposition

Hearing opened at 7:21 p.m.

Dave Matthews asked if the USO building (Old County building) was removed from the list – yes it was

Dean Chase requested properties be offered to in town investors and developers and adjacent property owners before out of town people

Dorothy Bennett missed comment on USO building – was told it had been removed from list. Copies of the list are available at Community and Economic Development Department

Person from Mission Viejo (did not hear his name)

- Asked when the properties will be available
 - Mr. Parsons ran through the process – approximately 2-3 months

Mayor Holloway asked for caveat of the right of adjoining property owners to match any offer that the City received

Resolution RRA No. 05-03, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest Redevelopment Agency Declaring Certain Real Property Surplus To The Needs Of The Agency And Authorizing The Disposition Of The Property

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Moved by Council Member Clark, second Council Member Carter TO ADOPT RESOLUTION RRA NO. 05-03, A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY DECLARING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY SURPLUS TO THE NEEDS OF THE AGENCY AND AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF THE PROPERTY. Public comment heard. Motion carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent. Council Member Martin absent.

Resolution No. 05-44, A Resolution Of The Ridgcrest City Council Declaring Certain Real Property Surplus To The Needs Of The City And Authorizing The Disposition Of The Property

Moved by Council Member Carter, second cm Clark TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 05-44, A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL DECLARING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY SURPLUS TO THE NEEDS OF THE CITY AND AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF THE PROPERTY. Public comment heard. Motion carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent. Council Member Martin absent.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

10. Introduction and First Reading Of An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgcrest Amending The Ridgcrest Municipal Code Relating to Hours of Parks Operation And Use Ponek

Parks and Recreation Director Ponek

- Staff requested an amendment to the Ridgcrest Municipal Code relating to the hours of operation and use of neighborhood and regional parks.

Council Member Morgan noted in other cities parks opening is at sunrise in certain seasons and that would be in the dark and may be a liability situation. Would we have to light the parks in morning and at night?

Chief Avery noted people in community are walking early in morning and 5 a.m. is not too early for many to be out and about. If parks open at 5 they will be walking there legally.

Moved by Council Member Carter, second Council Member Clark TO WAIVE READING IN FULL AND TO INTRODUCE, BY TITLE ONLY, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST AMENDING THE RIDGECREST MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO HOURS OF PARKS OPERATION AND USE. No public comment. Motion carried with a voice vote of 3 ayes, 1 abstention, 1 absent. Council Member Morgan abstained, Council Member Martin absent.

OTHER ACTION ITEMS

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11. Resolution No. 05-45, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Approving A Professional Service Agreement With Christopher A. Joseph & Associates Parsons

Community and Economic Development Director Parsons

- This resolution awards a professional service agreement to Christopher A. Joseph & Associates in the amount of \$ 210,380 to prepare an EIR for a proposed Wal-Mart Supercenter Project
- Staff distributed a Request for Proposal/Request for Qualification for the project, proposals were due May 17, 2005 and seven consultants responded
- Mr. Parsons provided a listing of experience of the company

Council comment/questions

- Asked when WalMart is coming to talk with us
 - After the EIR is completed
- Wants them to come to talk to Council and staff now
 - Mr. Parsons stated he will contact them
- Thinks the economic impact study is very important and should it be done soon
 - Existing WalMart building will be filled - they have a plan for it

Dave Matthews

- In favor of them using an independent firm
- Is in favor of them coming in to talk to us soon
- Henderson Nevada had a problem with low wages and medical benefits and closed emergency rooms and hospital

Moved by Council Member Clark, second Council Member Morgan TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 05-45, A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH CHRISTOPHER A. JOSEPH & ASSOCIATES. Public comment heard. Motion carried with a voice vote 4 ayes, 1 absent. Council Member Martin absent.

12. Resolution No. 05-46, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Adopting the Fiscal Year 2005-06 "Provisional" Budget Winegardner

Finance Director Winegardner

- A brief overlook at the provision budget was presented via a Power Point presentation
- The Council is requested to adopt a resolution enacting the 2005-06 Budget on a Provisional Basis.

Moved by Council Member Morgan, second Carter TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 05 –46, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2005-06 "PROVISIONAL" BUDGET. No public comment. Motion carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent. Council Member Martin absent.

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CITY MANAGER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS

**Reminder that the Council meeting of July 6, 2005 has been cancelled.
Next meeting will be July 20, 2005**

Mr. Rose relayed info regarding the state budget and that it has not been passed as yet by the legislature.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS

None

COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Economic Development Committee

Members: Chair Dan Clark, Chip Holloway, Mike Biddlingmeier, Chuck Roulund

Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month at 5:00 PM; Council Conference Room

Next meeting to be announced

Legislative Committee

Members: Chair Duke Martin, Chip Holloway

Meetings: probably quarterly - at 8:00 AM; Council Conference Room

Next meeting to be announced

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Chair Steve Morgan, Duke Martin, Chuck Roulund, Jim Smith

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 5:00 p.m., Council Conference Room

Met June 14 - Long agenda

- Surplus property was discussed
- Received Info re Nevada Street – it is dirt – some development may be coming – will need improvement
- Discussed upcoming budget
- Discussed non-working traffic signals – have possible solution – Prop 42 requires matching funds
- Discussed the county 1/2 cent sales tax proposal and the local option sales tax
- No decisions until after the June 22 presentation by county on the 1/2 cent sales tax
- Urged everyone to attend and express their opinions or email or letters or via the website

Next meeting July 12

City Organization Committee

Members: Chair Ron Carter, Steve Morgan

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Meetings: 2nd Thursday of the month at 5:00 PM; Council Conference Room

Met June 9 – many items discussed

- Triannual country survey
- Structure marketing plan
- How we list some of our full time employees
- Transportation plan
- Chief gave info re motorcycle officer
- K-9 in training and graduates June 20
- Ballot proposition for PD - need more officers and vehicles maybe an 8 year life with sunset clause but still in discussion
- Received grant to do the reverse 911
- Channel 6 redesign with good comments from the citizens
- Discussed budget presentation that was given tonight
- No July meeting
- Considering a committee on planning and zoning
Next meeting to be announced

Quality of Life Committee

Members: Chair Dan Clark, Ron Carter, Howard Laire, Matt Feemster

Meetings: 4th Thursday of the month at 5:00 PM; Kerr-McGee Center

Next meeting June 23

Redevelopment Advisory Committee

Members: Chair Ron Ketcham, Vice Chair Lois Beres, Mike Hogan, Bob Peoples, Gary Charlon. Ex-officio Members Council Members Steve Morgan and Ron Carter, Planning Commissioner Mike Biddlingmeier

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month at 5:00 PM, Council Conference Room

Next meeting June 21

RACVB

Council Member Duke Martin

Council Member Steve Morgan- Alternate

Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of the month, 8:00 a.m., RACVB Office

Met June 15

- New administrative assistant is Deanna Mendez
- Received update on new 178 Corridor tourism kiosk – in final engineering stages – will be installed at Maturango Museum later this summer
- Peter Graves of BLM related that each local BLM office will now be able to retain approximately 80% of film production revenue to use for film related activities
- A portion of the funds are to be used for environmental assessments of additional BLM film locations
- Updated Board on recent film activity including two still shoots, two commercials, one short film and on feature film

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- Also an independent feature film starring actor Lance Hendrickson will be shooting at multiple area locations for two weeks in September
 - RACVB will work with Honorary Mayor Howard Auld to help facilitate and administrate next years Armed Forces Day celebration
 - They will be creating a multi organizational committee of military and non-military groups and individuals to life this community event to the next level
- Next meeting July 20

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

KernCOG meeting on Safe Roads Measure on June 22 at Kerr-McGee Center

Arts Council June 22 at Kerr-McGee Center

Reported on meeting with Assemblyman McCarthy in Bakersfield. All elected Kern officials invited. Purpose was to get info from cities and agencies and districts to help him better represent all of his areas of the county. All cities seem to have the same problems that we have. It was a good working group.

KernCOG meets tomorrow – Morgan cannot go. LAFCO has been petitioned by Bakersfield for a permanent position on the board.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Clark

- Shirley Kennedy now Assistant Superintendent for SSUSD – she has left her position at Mesquite School
- Congratulations extended to all district retirees
- Reverse 911 sign up seniors is on going

Carter

- Thanked all administrators and teachers at the school sites
- School is out kids are out there day and night – please drive carefully
- Need names for attendees for the LCC youth program at annual convention
- Wants the Youth Advisory Committee to do presentation on their activities as we are way ahead of other communities feels we are best in state

Morgan

- Announced the annual community fireworks fund raising campaign
- About half the amount has been raised so far
- Contribution of various amounts will be acknowledged in media
- Opportunity to win some of 300 tickets
- 1500 open travel certificates 500 family four pack to theme park
- If all tickets are sold that is \$4K in the bank toward next years fund
- Thanked Knights of Columbus for their assistance and also the Desert Empire Fair
- Also offering dinner with Council Member Morgan somewhere in town July 6

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Holloway

- Thanked Steve Morgan on behalf of all the community for the work he has done for the 4th of July fireworks
- Attended Al Boyacks retirement from base after 60 years federal service
- New Ad hoc committee - joint technical BRAC task force – Supervisor McQuiston has been the lead - much teleconferencing planning process in the tech ends
- Attended the dedication for Salvation Army Chapel with Charles and Donna Griffin

It was noted that Supervisor McQuiston would be speaker at Republican Women's on June 23

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Holloway adjourned the meeting at 9:07 p.m.

Rita Gable, City Clerk