



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

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

**October 18, 2006
5:30 p.m.**

**Tape Recorded
Tape 06-26**

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 – 5:30

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Marshall Holloway, Mayor Pro Tem Richard Martin, Vice Mayor Daniel Clark and Council Members Steven Morgan

ABSENT: Council Member Ronald Carter

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 –5:30 p.m.

GC54957 Personnel Matters – Appointment of City Manager

REGULAR SESSION – 6:39 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Parks and Recreation Director Jim Ponek

INVOCATION – Reverend David Schad, Desert Christian Center

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

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Mr. Rose reported Council continued interview of department heads that was started two few weeks ago. No action taken.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Manager Rose requested addition of a presentation by Mary Stage, Animal Control Supervisor in recognition of Shelter Appreciation Month in November. Moved by Council Member Martin, second Council Member Clark TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH ITEM ADDED. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent; Council Member Carter absent.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. **Proclamation – United Way of Indian Wells Valley Community Campaign**

Mayor Holloway and the Council will present a proclamation to Wen Houtkooper, Executive Director, United Way of Indian Wells Valley and Board Members, in recognition of the United Way Annual 2006-2007 Community Campaign in Indian Wells Valley during October 2006.

2. **Proclamation – National Disabilities Employment Awareness Month**

Mayor Holloway and the Council will present a proclamation to Jinny DeAngelis Chief Executive Officer and Chris Bridges, Chief of Client Services, and staff members of the Desert Area Resources and Training, in recognition of National Disabilities Employment Awareness Month, October 2006.

3. **Proclamation Honoring Ridgecrest Citizen**

Mayor Holloway and the Council presented a proclamation of appreciation to Yolanda Dahms

4. **Presentation – Youth Advisory Committee**

The City of Ridgecrest Youth Advisory Committee will be presented the Helen Putnam Award – Category: Ruth Vreeland Award for Engaging Youth in City Government. The award will be presented by Nancy Cisneros, Regional Representative, Inland Empire and Desert-Mountain Division on behalf of the League of California Cities.

The Youth Advisory Committee is a youth organized and run committee that acts as a legal branch of the City Council in order to represent youth needs, issues and concerns. The Committee establishes subcommittees, spanning into areas of community entertainment and betterment, working hand-in-hand with city officials to achieve decided goals.

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5. Presentation – Computers For Kids

Mike Delaney, Indian Wells Valley Community Foundation, will give a progress report to the Council and community about the Computers For Kids project in Ridgecrest. The Foundation has recently presented the 100th refurbished and upgraded computer to a local youth.

Added item

Animal Shelter Supervisor Mary Stage and volunteers from the Humane Society brought in several dogs that were up for adoption at the Shelter.

PUBLIC COMMENT 7:25 p.m.

Don Blakemore, Coordinator at Epicurean Delights

- Agreed to Council request bring in outside security
- Looking into buying a new building as the are less than 1000 feet from Monroe
- Can work and deal with Kern County ordinance
- Things are quiet at this point

Jeffrey Bliss

- Born and raised in Ridgecrest
- Testicular cancer 4 years in remission - chemo did not work - City of Hope did stem cell therapy
- Diagnosed with post traumatic stress disorder
- Has hearing loss, loss of lung capacity, testicular lost
- Is a 215 recipient
- Earned 2 degrees from Cerro Coso Community College
- Volunteers at craft store as therapy
- Does not feel cannabis is the thing for all but works for him

Darrell Eddins, Erin way

- Thanked those who participated in the punt, pass and kick
- Had three "locals" in celebrity competition – Dan Clark, Jim McRea, and Duke Martin

Walt Maurer, 209 Mariposa

- Read a prepared piece about socialism
- Socialism is a redistribution of public funds
- \$50K to Ridgecrest Cares is socialism
- Low and low moderate income homeowners targets a specific group
- This is clearly socialism

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- Asked council if they felt this was appropriate use of taxpayer funds
- Against being urged to condone this

William Howard, 1109 Mayo

- Prop 90 is opposed by some 200 organizations mostly governmental
- They also opposed prop 13
- Almost to a man they gain for the use of eminent domain
- Measure I has a provision that keeps the state from taking this money
- 60% is given to the state by the city for highway 14 in measure I
- These are state highways and they take from the locals
- Mentioned the news article about Duke Martin and the grand jury investigation
- We elect people smart enough to be successful individuals in their own right
- Thinks it is raw deal with this publicity in the papers during an election campaign

John Angel, 436 N Florence

- Has sever pain from back surgery and benefits from the use of marijuana
- Has prescription 215 card good to the end of the year

Closed at 7:45 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

6. Resolution No. 06-76, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing Payment Request 1 For Work Completed To Date In The Amount Of \$216,776.34 With Retained Funds In The Amount Of \$24,086.26 To Asphalt Construction Company For The Construction Of Mahan Street From Upjohn Avenue To Ridgecrest Boulevard, Graaf Avenue From Norma Street To Wayne Street And Reeves Avenue To 660 Feet East Pollock
7. Minutes Of The Regular City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting Of September 20, 2006 Gable
8. Minutes Of The Special City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting Of September 27, 2006 Gable
9. Minutes Of The Special City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting Of September 28, 2006 Gable
10. Minutes Of The Special City Council Meeting Of September 29, 2006 Gable

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Moved by Council Member Morgan, second Council Member Clark TO APPROVED THE CONSENT CALENDAR. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent; Council Member Carter absent.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

11. **Disposition Development Agreement (DDA) And Sale Of Lot 17 In The Ridgcrest Business Park, Subject To Agency Approval And A Joint Public Hearing November 01, 2006. Developer National Healthcare Services, Inc. (NHSI)** **McRea**

This agenda items confirms the discussion and direction given to staff relating to the development of a DDA for the sale and development of Lot 17 of the Business Park by NHSI resulting from a Closed Session item of the regular City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting of October 04, 2006. Public Hearing advertised for November 1, 2006.

Moved by Council Member Martin, second Council Member Morgan TO DIRECT STAFF TO PROCEED. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent; Council Member Carter absent.

CITY MANAGER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS

Mr. Rose discussed a proposed ordinance that would have the Kern County Health Department not only inspect, as they do now, but also assign grading to restaurants. Will bring forth at future meeting

CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS

None

COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Economic Development Committee

Members: Chair Dan Clark, Chip Holloway, Mike Biddlingmeier, Howard Laire

Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m.; Council Conference Room

Next meeting November 1

Legislative Committee

Members: Chair Duke Martin, Chip Holloway

Meetings: probably quarterly - at 8:00 a.m.; Council Conference Room

Next meeting to be announced

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Infrastructure Committee

Members: Chair Steve Morgan, Duke Martin, Jim Smith, Lois Beres

Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month at 4:00 p.m., Council Conference Room

Met October 10

- Discussion on not requiring curbs, gutters and sidewalks
 - Traffic study for Super WalMart
 - Ridgecrest Boulevard left turn access into Bank of America west bound – looking at in conjunction with Rite Aid project
 - 4 way stop at Wayne and Reeves – community request
 - Reeves goes from China Lake to Norma
 - China Lake Boulevard removal of bumps – CALTrans
- Next meeting November 14

Planning and Zoning Ad Hoc Committee

Members: Chair Steven Morgan, Chip Holloway, Jim Smith and Jerry Taylor

Meetings: 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Next meeting October 25

City Organization Committee

Members: Chair Ron Carter, Steve Morgan

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

Next meeting November 9

Quality of Life Committee

Members: Chair Dan Clark, Ron Carter, Howard Laire and Jerry Taylor

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

Next meeting October 26

Redevelopment Advisory Committee

Members: Chair Mike Hogan, Vice Chair Nicole Guerrero, Bob Peoples, Gary Charlon, Ron Ketcham; Ex-officio Members Council Members Steven Morgan and Ron Carter, Planning Commissioner Lois Beres

Met at special meeting

- National Health Care property – does not recommend discounting price of lots
- Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month at 5:15 p.m., Council Conference Room
- Next meeting to be announced

RACVB

Council Member Duke Martin

Council Member Steve Morgan- Alternate

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

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Met October 18

Next meeting to be announced

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

Council Member Morgan thanked the Mayor for appointing him to the California Joint Land Use Study JLUS R2508 complex. He is land use advisor and Jim McRea is advisor to the tech committee. Public forum number 1 was October 17. urged citizens to bring their issues, etc. to them to take to the study groups for consideration. The Mayor also got pulled into a session on Tuesday.

Council Member Clark - Arts Council meeting October 25 – large concert yesterday and people wanted to know why we did not have a stage – have one but not large enough for all the musicians

Council Member Martin - LAFCO October 24 and Desert-Mountain on the 7th Republican Womens luncheon on Friday

Mayor Holloway - Lancaster tomorrow regarding 4 year university then KernCOG at night

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Clark

- 60 year anniversary of St. Michaels Church
- US Air Force Band of the Golden West with conductor CAPT Michael Minch
- Very patriotic
- Chamber OF Commerce and City sponsored
- Craig Bradley and Russell Powell fixed his computer - thanked them - his email is now clarkd@mchsp and clarkd@ci.ridgecrest.ca.us
- Youth Advisory Committee didn't realize we were going to get national recognition
- Incredible education to learn how government works

Martin

- Also congratulated St. Michaels on 60 year anniversary
- Also Youth Advisory Committee – kids were great at the LCC convention - they accomplished so much
- Council members from Bishop and Shafter want to come and see how we do the Youth Advisory Council
- Apple Valley Has been here to check them out
- October 6 went to see the Governor of Nevada Kenny Ginn
- Met him in Kernville when they brought parts of the USS Arizona to a park there

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- Partnership between the City and SCE has a free lamp exchange at WalMart
- Saturday over 1000 lamps given away and Sunday over 400
- Only 1 of 50 cities with that partnership
- This weekend small businesses and non-profits will have an energy survey and usage review
- Commented on yesterdays DI article
- Addressed the News Review article of a week ago
- Adam Summers email to Mr. Rose Oct 6 apologized for reorganizing my comments and leaving out others changing the tenor of the piece
- SCE said comments in newspapers were wrong
- LCC legal representative sent unsolicited email on Sept 27 regarding participation in the conference session on energy conservation efficiency
- Jon McQuiston and he agreed that the energy savings program was over 1.7M dollars
- Criticized for talking to so many people at League of California Cities and other functions – that's his job - networking
- Working on a wastewater savings program in northern California - important as we are in the process of design of a 30M wastewater treatment facility upgrade
- He will continue to do this

Morgan

- If you want to know his private views just ask him privately
- He is not doing any endorsements
- Was blamed for the motorcycle race difficulties
- It is your voice and always has been
- Former Council Member wrote an editorial recently – he is only one fined by FPPC
- Council forum Oct 23 6 pm
- Candidates literally have put their reputations on line
- Devastating view of those who write letters or start rumors those people have no guts to meet us face to face
- Measure I and prop 90 will be discussed at Republican Women's luncheon
- All the candidates he has spoken to will let you know their views
- If you have people with passion why would you not want him elected again
- Have a good night

Holloway

- He is also running for office
- Thanked the View Finders for a great job at the motorcycle races
- Thanked Brad King for the "investigative editorial"
- Challenged him to come and face him in person

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- Apologized to Jon McQuiston and Ted James for not appearing to cooperate and work with them in planning on October 25
- Complimented the Desert Empire Fair - at 4H livestock auction he purchased livestock
- Energy conservation - serious error pointed out by citizen got 40% rate hike and raised our baseline – higher rate at a quicker pace
- Addressed being uncomfortable about this for several months – would not talk about it so was accused of being a cohort
- Did not have anything about Council Member Martin's issue and went to Mr. Rose and city attorney
- Nothing illegal – he personally wouldn't do it - still holds him as a good friend

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Holloway adjourned the meeting at 8:49 p.m.

Rita Gable, City Clerk