



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

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

**September 27, 2006  
6:00 p.m.**

**Tape Recorded  
Tape 06-21**

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 – 4:31 p.m.**

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Marshall Holloway, Mayor Pro Tem Richard Martin, Vice Mayor Daniel Clark, Council Members Steven Morgan and 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; Joe Pollock, Assistant Public Works Director; Jim Ponek, Parks and Recreation Department Director; Michael Avery, Chief of Police; and other personnel

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**CLOSED SESSION – 4:30 p.m.**

GC54957 Personnel Matters – Appointment of City Manager

Decision made for assistant city council and directed staff to enter into contract discussions

**REGULAR SESSION – 6:54 p.m.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by City Manager Harvey Rose**

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## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Council Member Clark, second Council Member Carter TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 1. Discussion and Review of the FY 2006-2007 Budget

Mr. Winegardner commented about information contained in the Budget Meeting handout especially the functions of the finance office and budget preparations - see introductory pamphlet in Clerk's Agenda packet.

Other handouts were the budget retreat wish list and the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 draft budget.

Quickly reviewed new staffing requests for 11 positions and where located. Found \$250K in the VFL and 185K in CIP hat had not been used

Much questioning and discussion about the Internal Services Funds

Mr. Clark noted - page 24 administration increased almost 500K – feels those overages could and should be put into projects that we might not be able to do otherwise

Craig Bradley spoke on his master plan service fund which is intended for replacements of various equipment – City has approximately \$1M in equipment – much of the costs goes into licensing which happens about every three years at about 75K – need reserves for emergencies such as total system failures e.g.. the phone meltdown

### Public comment

Tom Wiknich, 105 S. Holly Canyon

- Questioned what Clark was asking
- If 101 was 429 not 921 on page 24 what would be the result
  - Funds would go back to the other departments

Jerry Taylor, 315 Mesquite

- Had three budget figures
  - Mr. Winegardner explained
- Feels the Council and community need to know what the amount is we are working with

Diane Grattaroti, 111 Chambers

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- Doesn't understand why the process has to be so difficult
- You have x number of dollars to work with
- Feels format needs to be less complicated

Council comment

Carter

- Don't know what we are doing
- Came here tonight to get a budget
- Needs to be more simple so citizens can understand
- He doesn't understand it
- He wants a budget as it is September and he wants it soon

Martin

- Mr. Winegardner has been answering questions posed by Mr. Clark for the last two hours
- This has been strictly for the benefit of one Council Member

Holloway

- Also asked for presentation on the Internal Service Funds
- We cannot explain the budget or process to the citizens if we don't understand it
- Agree it could be a lot simpler

Morgan

- Is not frustrated by what we have done here
- Learned for certain if we cut something out we should have an understanding that we are cutting "a finger, an arm, or a leg" from the whole

Clark

- Also not frustrated
- Have spent a lot of time before this and don't feel we have wasted time tonight
- Will have a better understanding of the Internal Service Funds after a second year of the process
- Willing to give Mr. Winegardner two years working with these funds
- Ready to go to the nuts and bolts of the departments now

Mr. Winegardner

- Agrees with Mr. Carter – document can be worked to make it easier to understand
- Total appropriated of 22,380M page 56 and revenues of 19,240,168 page 34
- You have a budget - it may not be the one you want but you have one
- If you want to make some changes I will make them

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Mr. Morgan noted that we were 3M short

Mr. Carter says departments cannot access the budget to acquire things they need

Mr. Winegardner stated it is the purchasing portion that holds things up as there has to be appropriations to do so. Agrees that the timing is horrible. His comment about having a budget was that they had a budget document before them.

Holloway

- 480K in capital throughout the funds
- So nothing on the wish list is in this document
- Where is the reserves shown
  - There is an estimated 100K in general fund on June 30 2007

Mr. Clark asked how can we bail ourselves out of this for 3.14M in the hole

Mr. Holloway questioned property tax on page 26 – was told it is property tax in lieu of VLF

M. Carter is confused that we are being asked to try to balance the budget which is a staff function

Mr. Rose stated that it was hard to know just what Council wanted. Based on the budget retreat we thought we did what you wanted.

Mr. McRea found a glitch of the 1.3M on page 35

Mr. Carter wants staff to bring back a balance budget and does not want another meeting until it is done.

Mr. Rose reminded all of the meeting tomorrow evening at 6:00 p.m. and Friday evening at 4:30.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Holloway adjourned the meeting at 9:48 p

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Rita Gable, City Clerk