



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

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

**December 19, 2007  
6:30 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 – 6:02 p.m.**

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Marshall Holloway, Mayor Pro Tem Steven Morgan, Vice Mayor Thomas Wiknich, and Council Members Ronald Carter and Daniel Clark

**STAFF:** Harvey Rose, City Manager; Keith Lemieux, City Attorney; Rita Gable, City Clerk; Jim Winegardner, Administrative Services Department Director/City Treasurer; Jim McRea, Public Services Department Director, Dennis Speer, Public Works Department Director; Joe Pollock, Assistant Public Works Director; Jim Ponek, Parks, Recreation And Cultural Affairs Department Director; Michael Avery, Chief of Police/Assistant City Manager; Ronald Strand, Deputy Chief of Police; and other personnel

**CLOSED SESSION – 6:03 p.m.**

GC54957 Personnel Matters - City Manager Evaluation

**REGULAR SESSION – 6:43 p.m.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Ponek**

**INVOCATION – Reverend Jean Throckmorton**

**CITY ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

In Closed Session Council evaluated the City Manager - no action taken.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

# MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL / REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY - REGULAR

December 19, 2007

Page 2

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

## PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

### 1. Youth Advisory Council

None

### 2. Presentation - Recognition of Returned Individual Augmentees

- ❖ AO2 Neil Peterson, VX-31, returned in late November from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
- ❖ AM2 Justin Wunderich, VX-31 returned in late November from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
- ❖ AM2 Melanie Mosley, VX-31 has returned from Iraq

### 3. Presentation - Paul Harris Fellow Award -Rotary Club of China Lake

Bob Gould, Rotary Club of China Lake, presented the Paul Harris Fellow Award to Council Member Ron Carter. Mr. Carter was not present when the presentation was made to the Council.

## PUBLIC COMMENT          6:50

Jerry Taylor

- All of the Council are hard working
- They need to take a serious look at the Council Committees
- They are not doing a bad job but they might be better
- Might make a fairer make up for discussions if members served on different committees

Dave Matthews

- Merry Christmas
- Not in a jolly mood today
- Medicare is cutting services and raising rates
- Last meeting was a disappointment and he felt let down
- Statement was made - it has come from the people
- To get on next year's ballot there is no group out there who can co it
- Have heard others feeling the same
- This time there is a sunset clause and other things the people said they wanted
- This is not déjà vu

## MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL / REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY - REGULAR

December 19, 2007

Page 3

- Very disappointed with all of them (Council)
- Hope they show some of the leadership they were elected for tonight

William Dale Howard

- One thing moving through committee is a document on "decorum" or how to run a meeting
- Seems so unconstitutional to him
- Seems to chill things in Council meeting
- Policeman can use electronic devices or pagers, etc.
- To put in document would chill the participation in government
- No political commentary from Council or public
- These meetings are political
- Seems foolish to put out such a document
- Noted news median thought it was foolish to have 6 hours of comment and input on building fees
- We must be able to have input

Closed at 6:59 p.m.

### CONSENT CALENDAR

Item removed for discussion

4. **Resolution No. 07- , A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing Award Of A Contract For Landscaping And Irrigation System On Downs Street From Inyokern Road To China Lake Boulevard To International Pavement Systems In The Amount Of \$393,189.42 Pending The Outcome Of A Formal Protest Of Bids By Rock Bottom Landscaping Incorporated** Pollock

On 29 November 2007 seven bids were received and opened for the subject work. International Pavement Systems was the low bidder. The second low bidder, Rock Bottom Landscaping Incorporated, has filed a formal protest of bids on the grounds that the low bidder did not comply with Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) requirements. CALTRANS advises that the DBE requirements do not apply on the project. The City Attorney is looking into this matter.

Item removed for discussion

5. **Resolution No. 07- , A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council In Support Of The Altamont Pass As The Preferred Route For The California High-Speed Rail System Alignment** Rose

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

**December 19, 2007**

**Page 4**

Kern Council of Governments is seeking the City's support of the California High-Speed Rail System Alignment. The attached resolution is submitted for review and approval.

6. **Resolution No. 07-64, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing The Submittal Of A Kern County Air Pollution Control District (KCAPCD) Motor Vehicle Emission Reduction Project (MVERP) Application For A Vehicle** Taylor
7. **Council Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated December 7, 2007 In The Amount Of \$275,430.36** Winegardner
8. **Agency Expenditure Approval List (DWR) Dated December 7, 2007 In The Amount Of \$2,818.45** Winegardner

Council Member Morgan requested item #4 be removed for explanation

Dave Matthews requested item #5 be removed

Moved by Council Member Carter, second Council Member Wiknich TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR WITH ITEMS 4 AND 5 REMOVED. No public comment. Carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

4. **Resolution No. 07-65, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing Award Of A Contract For Landscaping And Irrigation System On Downs Street From Inyokern Road To China Lake Boulevard To International Pavement Systems In The Amount Of \$393,189.42 Pending The Outcome Of A Formal Protest Of Bids By Rock Bottom Landscaping Incorporated** Pollock

Mr. Rose gave the background of two previous unsuccessful bid attempts This is the third time bidding. CalTRANS says we did it right this time.

Council Member Morgan asked if protestor had submitted a revised bid - they did not.

Mike Neel

- What exactly is the project going to be  
Mr. Pollock - it is median landscaping and irrigation in all medians between Upjohn Avenue and China Lake Boulevard on Downs Street
- If it is going to cost 100k per year to maintain we should leave them as dirt

Moved by Council Member Carter, second Council Member Clark TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 07-65, A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR LANDSCAPING

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

**December 19, 2007**

**Page 5**

AND IRRIGATION SYSTEM ON DOWNS STREET FROM INYOKERN ROAD TO CHINA LAKE BOULEVARD TO INTERNATIONAL PAVEMENT SYSTEMS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$393,189.42 PENDING THE OUTCOME OF A FORMAL PROTEST OF BIDS BY ROCK BOTTOM LANDSCAPING INCORPORATED. public comment heard. Carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

**5. Resolution No. 07-66, A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council In Support Of The Altamont Pass As The Preferred Route For The California High-Speed Rail System Alignment Rose**

Mr. Rose gave the report – this came from Kern Council of Governments. They favor bring the route through the valley. KernCOG is asking all member cities to support it.

Dave Matthews asked where is this pass and what is the alternate

Mr. Rose stated it runs from Eastern San Matao County through Altamont Pass into San Joaquin Valley. The other is through Pacheco pass.

Moved by Council Member Morgan, second Council Member Wiknich TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 07-66, A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF THE ALTAMONT PASS AS THE PREFERRED ROUTE FOR THE CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL SYSTEM ALIGNMENT. Public comment heard. Carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

**DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS**

**9. Discussion Of Preparatory Work For Proposed Bond Election(s) Rose**

- With trepidation he brings this issue up
- Council needs to have more discussion on the bond issue both the infrastructure and the quality of life issue
- For cost it would be for one of the consolidated elections in 2008
- Not much time to get some of this done
- Our Financial Advisor is Noriega and Bond Counsel is McEwen
- Total would be about 100k fully recoverable from a successful bond election
- Suggest bringing the financial counsel on board as soon as possible then the bond counsel
- From 100k would spend about 25k to begin
- Question to Council is how do you want to direct staff
- Info gained will be useful to both bond issues

Council Member Clark asked if Mr. Rose was advising us to ask start on this by getting these counsels working and give the 100k even though we have issues among ourselves?

## MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL / REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY - REGULAR

December 19, 2007

Page 6

### Public comment

Mike Neel

- Asked to clarify it as the roads tax and the parks and rec facilities bond measure
  - 20M for roads and about the same for parks and rec facilities
- Do not remember seeing or hearing about the parks and rec issue
  - Council Committees have discussed both the issues and they don't intend to bring the parks and rec issue forth at the same time as roads
- Feel uneasy that this might be done before being brought to the face of the public

Jerry Taylor

- The clock is ticking and we need to get something going
- Strongly suggest we get this going very soon
- Supports this issue

Mayor Holloway stated he understands that if we get all this info and decided not to do the streets initiative the value of this info will be retained for possible use in the future

Mr. Rose noted the info from the financial counsel will be the most valuable in the future for many things

Council Member Morgan supports infrastructure issue

Council Member Carter does not have a problem with 25k for the consultants – wants to see this on the ballot

Council Member Wiknich supports this issue

Council Member Clark stated - let's do it

Holloway there is no doubt that this Council wants to push forward with this issue but cannot agree on how to do it

Moved by Council Member Morgan, second Council Member Wiknich FOR COUNCIL TO GIVE STAFF DIRECTION TO MOVE TO SECURE THE CONSULTANTS. Public comment heard. Carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes

Council Member Wiknich requested public to keep the comments coming re the roads and adding a citizens oversight committee

## **MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL / REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY - REGULAR**

**December 19, 2007**

**Page 7**

Rose keep talking about the subjects and come to decision if we will want to go on 2008 ballot

### **CITY MANAGER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS**

None

### **CITY ATTORNEY REPORTS**

Merry Christmas pleasure to be here again

### **COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

#### **Community Development Committee**

Members: Chair Steve Morgan, Chip Holloway, Jerry Taylor, Nellavan Jeglum

Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month at 5:30 p.m.; Council Conference Room

Met December 6

- Proposed specific plan for China Lake and Bowman tabled until February
  - Update on waste management proposal
- Next meeting January 10 at 4 pm

#### **City Organization and Services Committee**

Members: Chair Tom Wiknich, Chip Holloway, Mike Biddlingmeier, Lois Beres

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

Met December 13

- Presentation by analyst group OPEB funding
  - Finance looking at it and will bring it back
  - Discussion on City website and how it can be improved
  - Begun discussion of Rules of Decorum at city meetings
  - Not doing anything illegal and not trying to stifle public comment
  - Report on transit study and recommendation on our dial up system and maybe going to fixed route
  - Not getting 10% recovery on our fare box at only 2.5%
  - Thinking of raising the fares and changing the routes
- Next meeting to be announced January 10

#### **Parks, Recreation and Quality of Life Committee**

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

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

Met November 29

## **MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL / REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY - REGULAR**

**December 19, 2007**

**Page 8**

- Arts Council Art in the Medians project
- Discussed special event
- Received reports from various sub committees  
Next meeting to be announced January 24

### **Infrastructure Committee**

Members: Chair Tom Wiknich, Steve Morgan, Lois Beres, Nellavan Jeglum

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

Met December 11

- Discussed moving stop sign at French and Balsam – no action
- Discussed the runoff situation
- Lahontan said we could not tap into the sewer system that it would tax the system
- Update on traffic signals one at Ward is still in flux – issue is with CalTRANS
- Talked about 3-5 years projection of projects
- Discussed the roads initiative - most concerns are about the new part of Norma up by College Heights  
Next meeting to be announced January 8

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

Members: Chair Dan Clark, Ron Carter

Meetings: 2nd Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m., Kerr-McGee Center

Next meeting to be announced January 14

Council Member Clark

- No silver bullets to keep gangs out of the community
- Have sent the Teen Court issue to County and will be selecting a board and it should be up and running soon and will hire a coordinator
- Funding for 10 months is from the County we will have to support 2 months funding
- A portion from the school district and the city and from citizen donations

### **RACVB**

Council Member Holloway

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

Met December 19

- Mr. Lueck will meet with NAWS Peggy Shoaf, Mike Biddlingmeier and Bob Anderson from San Diego regarding expanding possible filming locations on base
- December/January Sun Runner Magazine includes article and photographs of the Ridgecrest area

## **MINUTES - CITY COUNCIL / REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY - REGULAR**

**December 19, 2007**

**Page 9**

- Director would like to advertise in the magazine sharing a page with RACVB hotel partners to promote tourism in area
  - Director Lueck will attend California Desert Region at cultural Heritage Symposium January 8-10 in Monterey
  - Director has postponed upgrading the visit Deserts and film Deserts websites with VisionNet until the cost can be calculated into the 08-09 budget
  - Harley Davidson is filming a commercial at Inyokern airport
  - November had 8 days of filming generating \$265,000 of film revenue
  - Areas used were Cuddeback Dry Lake Bed, Trona Pinnacles, Jawbone Canyon, Ballarat and Panamint Valley
  - December filming has included 7 days shooting among Jawbone Canyon, Goler Cabins and Cuddeback Dry Lake Bed
- Next meeting January 16

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

Clark - Arts Council January 23

Morgan - KernCOG negotiations with staff are ongoing. STIP still shorts Ridgecrest Boulevard 5M - could possibly come about until 2011 - January 17 is next meeting

Holloway - if we get the 5M could we pare down the project and just pave the boulevard for about 4-5 miles

Morgan - the project proposed is the project that we must do but there are some changes that can be made

Clark could we do it in house with contractors and equipment

Morgan - no

### **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

#### **Morgan**

- Wished everyone a very happy and safe holiday season
- Personally it is Christmas
- Loves this community

#### **Wiknich**

- Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
- Welcomes the comments and input from the people
- Do want to hear from the people

#### **Carter**

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

**December 19, 2007**

**Page 10**

- Wished every a Merry Christmas
- Thanked Santa Claus for all the help with his students
- Wished his colleagues a great holiday and Merry Christmas

**Clark**

- Toy box at the school by Youth Advisory Council
- Jerry Taylor's comment regarding reassignment of committee membership is a great idea
- We should think about this
- Merry Christmas

**Holloway**

- There is a tendency to gravitate to what we know
- He is willing to move to get a different perspective
- Commented about flag flown over the Capital March 22 1975 from House of Representatives in Washington DC for the County of Ridgecrest
- Asked public to follow an exercise he and his friends go through when you get angry at them
- Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Holloway adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

---

Rita Gable, City Clerk