



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
October 20, 2015 7:00 PM
Council Chambers
400 N. Douty St.**

5:30 PM CALL TO ORDER STUDY SESSION & CLOSED SESSION:

Mayor Russ Curry called the sessions to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Justin Mendes, Francisco Ramirez, Gary Pannett, David Ayers, Russ Curry

PUBLIC COMMENT - STUDY SESSION & CLOSED SESSION:

Comments from the public are limited to items on the agenda (GC54954.3a). A maximum of five minutes is allowed for each speaker.

Bob Ramos commented on the closed session item regarding property negotiations with Michael Mayer. He suggested that the parties work off of the appraised values and that he opposes the use of eminent domain.

John (Jack) Draxler expressed his concern of his RV storage and whether building permits were required at the time it was constructed which was prior to him purchasing the property.

STUDY SESSION:

A. Update by Dennis Mills of Kings County Water District on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

Dennis Mills provided an overview of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). Timeframes over the next 25 years were discussed to implement and achieve sustainable management. He proposed that the current subbasin boundary be left in place; the parties sign a non-binding MOU to work toward agreeable management structure; and the parties work towards agreeing on SGMA foundations. The City Council concurred with this proposal.

B. Discussion of RV Storage Structures located in Residential zones in required setback areas.

City Manager Darrel Pyle provided a presentation regarding current residential zoning setbacks and examples of violations. Staff requested direction from the Council on how to proceed with these issues.

The consensus of the Council was to move forward with Option 2 which would amend the municipal code to allow accessory structures over seven feet in height in the side and rear yards for RV parking. The Council also stated that moving forward only manufactured steel structures would be allowed to be constructed, but all pre-existing structures would be grandfathered in. Permits would also need to be obtained.

CLOSED SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF THE FOLLOWING:

Mayor Curry adjourned to closed session at 6:40 p.m.

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION - Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

CASE NAME: SEIU Local 521 v. City of Hanford (PERB Complaint)

CASE NAME: Seth Arellano v. City of Hanford

CASE NUMBER: 1:15-CV-01513-LJO-SMS

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION - Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)

Number of Potential Cases - 1

C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION - Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)

Number of Potential Cases - 2

D. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS - Government Code Section 54956.8

Property APNs 010-234-021, 429 N. Irwin St.; 010-234-022, 431 N. Irwin St.; 010-234-023

Agency Negotiators: Darrel Pyle and Ty Mizote

Negotiating Party: Michael Mayer

Under Negotiation: Terms and Price

Property: APNs 012-064-005, 012-064-006

Agency Negotiators: Darrel Pyle and Ty Mizote

Negotiating Party: Fernando and Fiorella Romero

Under Negotiation: Terms and Price

7:00 PM CALL TO ORDER REGULAR SESSION:

Mayor Curry called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Russ Curry	Mayor	Present	4:43 PM
David Ayers	Vice-Mayor	Present	4:59 PM
Gary Pannett	Council Member	Present	5:23 PM
Francisco Ramirez	Council Member	Present	5:24 PM
Justin Mendes	Council Member	Present	5:18 PM

FLAG SALUTE:

Council Member Ramirez led the flag salute.

INVOCATION:

Pastor Bobby Guerra provided the invocation.

CLOSED SESSION ACTION REPORT:

Council will return to closed session after the regular meeting.

RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

Staff briefly discussed upcoming projects and events.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

This is the time for citizens to comment on subject matters not on the agenda within the jurisdiction of the Hanford City Council or to comment on items listed under the Consent Calendar or to request an item from the Consent Calendar be pulled for discussion purposes. Comments related to General Business items or Public Hearing items will be heard at the time the item is discussed.

*A maximum of **five minutes** is allowed for each speaker. Please begin your comments by stating your name and providing your city of residence.*

Bob Ramos commented on General Business Item B regarding City Commissions and does not support any changes to the commissions.

Noor Memon would like additional information on the status of the Bastille.

Glenda Dwyer expressed concern about regulations regarding groundwater. She also briefly commented on her experience on the Parking & Traffic Commission and stated that the commissions hold value to the community.

Aaron Smith discussed his concerns about the proposed General Plan.

Michael Mayer provided some history on his property located next to the police department and discussed his difficulty in finding another location.

Rogelio Caudillo from Senator Vidak's office announced VSP Mobile Eyes: A Free Vision Care Clinic on November 17th where free eye exams and free eyeglasses will be provided.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Consent Calendar items are considered routine and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these matters unless a request is made and then the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar to be discussed and voted upon by a separate motion.

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	David Ayers, Vice-Mayor
SECONDER:	Gary Pannett, Council Member
AYES:	Curry, Ayers, Pannett, Ramirez, Mendes

A. City Clerk: Approve Minutes of October 6, 2015 City Council Meeting

B. City Clerk: Approve Minutes of October 13, 2015 Joint City Council & Planning Commission Meeting

- C. Community Development: Authorization to Amend the Agreement between the City of Hanford and Kings County for Geographical Information Services (GIS). The amendment changes the deposit requirement from \$5,000 annually to \$2,500.
- D. Parks & Recreation: Waive the 2nd reading and adopt Ordinance 15-12 pertaining to the amendment of Chapter 12.12 of Title 12, Street Trees and Shrubs
- E. Parks & Recreation: Sherwood Park Playground Replacement/Installation Project
- F. Parks & Recreation: Concessionaire Agreement for Joint Educational Center Softball Complex
- G. Finance: Warrant Register

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- A. Administration: Authorization to Execute an Agreement between the City of Hanford and the Hanford Sentinel to Develop and Implement a City of Hanford Phone App

Council Member Ramirez recused himself from this agenda item.

City Manager Darrel Pyle provided background information for the Council's review and consideration. Davis Taylor from the Hanford Sentinel responded to questions and comments. Council Member Mendes proposed an agreement that specifies a benchmark of a specific number of subscribers within six months to determine the success of the program.

The consensus of the Council was to table this item and review in six months to determine the effectiveness of the app with the public.

- B. Administration: Discussion and direction regarding City Commissions

City Manager Darrel Pyle briefly discussed the City Commissions and municipal code sections were provided to the Council for review. City Attorney Ty Mizote commented on a summary that he prepared for the Council.

Council Member Pannett commented on the need for training of the Commissioners and would like the Commissions to be more streamlined and effective.

Council Member Mendes proposed reducing the number of seats to five for each commission. He would like the Tree Commission and Parks & Recreation Commission to be merged and let two members term out at the end of the year and then fill one vacancy bringing the number of seats down to five. The Planning Commission has one vacancy and one term ending at the end of the year, so through attrition the Commission could have five commissioners at the beginning of the year.

Council Member Ramirez supports the merging of the Tree Commission and Parks & Recreation Commission so they are more productive and to also reduce the number of seats to five for all of the commissions.

Council Member Pannett agreed with Council Members Mendes and Ramirez.

Vice Mayor Ayers agreed with combining the Tree Commission and the Parks & Recreation Commission. He would like the number of seats to remain at seven as he is concerned that a smaller commission would make quorums more difficult to obtain. He also stated that more seats would allow more public involvement and input.

Mayor Curry did not want the Tree Commission to be eliminated, and also wanted to keep the seats at seven, as the input by commissioners provides advice to the Council.

A majority of the Council directed staff to reduce the number of seats to five and to merge the Tree Commission with the Parks & Recreation Commission. In order to reduce the number of members, any current vacancies will not be filled and any members who have terms expiring at the end of this year will have their seats eliminated. The Planning Commission currently has five members that have terms that expire in 2016, 2017, and 2018 and will remain in those positions. The Parks & Recreation Commission currently has four members that have terms that expire in 2016, 2017, and 2018 and will remain in those positions. The Mayor will appoint someone to fill the fifth seat in January. Members of the Tree Commission will serve until the end of this year.

C. City Clerk: Appointments for unexpired terms to City Commissions - One (1) seat on the Planning Commission and Two (2) seats on the Hanford Tree Commission

Mayor Curry pulled this item from the agenda due to the direction by Council under the previous item.

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS:

Council Member Mendes had nothing to report at this time.

Council Member Ramirez announced his appointment by Governor Brown to the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley Board of Directors.

Council Member Pannett had a question about watering at Freedom Park. He commented on meetings that he has attended. Mr. Pannett addressed some concerns and rumors by citizens regarding Costco and also the ongoing negativity in communications regarding various Council Members.

Vice Mayor Ayers thanked the City Manager, City Clerk, and Irwin Street Inn for the successful League dinner. He also praised the Fire Department for their Open House, as he heard a lot of positive feedback.

Mayor Curry commented on a meeting he attended with staff where a draft timetable of the Costco project was developed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Curry adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m. and reconvened closed session.

Mayor Curry adjourned closed session at 8:40 p.m. There was nothing to report out.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Gomez
City Clerk