



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
December 1, 2015 7:00 PM
Council Chambers
400 N. Douty St.**

5:00 PM CALL TO ORDER STUDY SESSION & CLOSED SESSION:

Mayor Russ Curry called the session to order at 5:00 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.

There were no comments given.

STUDY SESSION:

A. Presentation by Chamber of Commerce regarding Service Agreement

Mike Bertaina and other representatives from the Chamber of Commerce gave an overview of new events and activities that they have provided to the community over the last five years. He highlighted some of the programs including the fireworks, Christmas Parade, and school programs.

Geary Galusha commented on the advertising that they provide for members through flyers and emails. He also discussed the increase in participation by ambassadors.

City Manager Darrel Pyle provided an overview of the Chamber's finances, including revenue and expenses. A balance sheet is forwarded to him on a quarterly basis. Future plans and ideas were presented such as keeping the office open on Saturdays, increase Carousel and Fire Truck use on Saturdays during the Holiday Season, and install a monitor at the Amtrak station to show local events, location of Historic buildings, promotions, and advertisements.

Council Member Mendes would like to see some type of government affairs division at the Chamber that will monitor new rules that could impact businesses. He may want to reduce their funding, but would like to meet with them to see additional details of their finances.

Council Member Ramirez had previously requested more details covering the last five years to the present, and he is unable to give direction until he receives more information. The Chamber will follow up and be able to provide 2012 to the present to him. Mr. Ramirez wanted to know what progress they have made by adding the visitor agency role to their responsibilities. Mr. Bertaina responded to questions and comments about

Pioneer Day and how the Chamber will coordinate the 125th celebration next year. Mr. Ramirez added that he does not want the Chamber's focus to be alcohol when doing events.

Council Member Pannett commended the Chamber on their events and activities, especially the 4th of July fireworks. Mr. Bertaina responded to questions regarding the types of social media they are now utilizing. Mr. Pannett would like the Chamber to track why businesses are coming to Hanford in order to know what kind of marketing and outreach is or is not working. He also would like goals for the next 5 years.

Vice Mayor Ayers suggested that the Chamber do a goal setting meeting and praised the changes they have made over the last 5 years. He agreed with Council Member Ramirez and also would like changes made regarding Homecoming/Pioneer Day. He noted that the visitor agency was also involved with the movie industry.

Mayor Curry stated that he does not want to micromanage the Chamber, but believes it is important that the City knows they are getting their moneys worth. He believes the City is and that the Chamber has exceeded his expectations.

Mr. Pyle inquired if the Council had an interest in acquiring a trolley to be used in addition to Freddy the Firetruck to handle larger groups. The Council concurred that it is worth exploring if it would be covered by a grant.

Council Member Ramirez requested that the public be allowed to comment and ask questions at this time, but Mayor Curry said that there was an opportunity under Public Comments but none were given, so he was not going to allow additional time.

Mr. Pyle will gather the Council's requested information from the Chamber and forward it once available. Staff will bring back proposals from the Chamber and Main Street Hanford at the time of Goals and Objectives for final direction.

CLOSED SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF THE FOLLOWING:

Mayor Curry adjourned to closed session at 5:49 p.m.

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

Property: APNs 018-242-077, 018-242-067, 014-251-049, 014-251-050
Agency Negotiators: Darrel Pyle and Ty Mizote
Negotiating Party: Helena Chemical Company
Under Negotiation: Terms and Price

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

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 - 1

7:00 PM CALL TO ORDER REGULAR SESSION:

Mayor Curry called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Russ Curry	Mayor	Present	4:33 PM
David Ayers	Vice Mayor	Present	4:34 PM
Gary Pannett	Council Member	Present	4:53 PM
Francisco Ramirez	Council Member	Present	4:51 PM
Justin Mendes	Council Member	Present	4:52 PM

FLAG SALUTE:

Mayor Curry led the flag salute.

INVOCATION:

CLOSED SESSION ACTION REPORT:

There was nothing to report.

RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

A. Presentation by Todd Cotta & Kings Gun Center to Hanford K9 Program

The General Manager of Kings Gun Center briefly discussed their fundraiser and presented a donation of \$3,000 to the Police Department.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

City Manager Darrel Pyle noted invitations were received for the City Council to attend the KPFP Prevention Awards Breakfast at First Presbyterian Church.

Staff briefly gave updates on various projects and activities.

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.*

Shaka Sudds commented on the study session presentation on November 17th and hopes the Council will closely review whether the City is being served appropriately by the other agencies. She would like the funds to the Chamber of Commerce to be reduced.

Patricia Dickerson from the Carnegie Museum provided an overview of their Visitor Center Proposal. They would like to be responsible for branding and promoting Hanford. Ms. Dickerson requested that they be placed on the next agenda for additional discussion with the Council. She encouraged everyone to attend the Museum.

Shelly Talbert of Main Street Hanford invited everyone to attend Friday's Wine & Chocolate event. She also encouraged everyone to participate in Fill Freddy the Firetruck with nonperishable items which will then be given to the Salvation Army.

Bob Ramos discussed aspects of the Brown Act which allows open and transparent government. He alleged that the Council had already made the decision on the appointment of the Mayor and Vice Mayor. He stated that former Council Member Dave Thomas informed him of this decision. Mr. Ramos also alleged closed session leaks through Council Member Pannett to Mr. Thomas regarding eminent domain. Mr. Ramos does not believe Council Member Ramirez should be Vice Mayor due to the pending investigation by the Fair Political Practices Commission.

Glenda Dwyer addressed the agenda item regarding City Commissions and stated that reducing participation goes against Council Member Mendes' conservative beliefs. She criticized Council Member Mendes for not being conservative in his votes or his comments.

Michael Johnston proposed an ordinance regarding vacant structures and distributed copies to the City Council. He would like the City to have more authority in order to protect the health and safety of the citizens and hold the property owners more accountable for their structures.

Renee Irons stated that she does not believe the City Council are partisan offices and that they do not vote based on political party views, but vote based on what is best for the community and not the Republican party.

REORGANIZATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL - SELECTION OF THE MAYOR AND VICE MAYOR:

City Attorney Bob Dowd explained the procedure for the nominations and voting for the appointments of Mayor and Vice Mayor. If the first nomination receives a majority approval, then voting will not be done for any remaining nominations. Mr. Dowd requested nominations from the City Council for the position of Mayor.

Council Member Ramirez nominated Justin Mendes.

Council Member Curry nominated David Ayers.

There were no further nominations.

1. Approve the appointment of Justin Mendes as Mayor

RESULT:	APPROVED [3 TO 2]
AYES:	Pannett, Ramirez, Mendes
NAYS:	Curry, Ayers

After the selection of Mayor was approved, Mr. Dowd requested nominations from the City Council for the position of Vice Mayor.

Council Member Curry nominated Gary Pannett. Mr. Pannett declined the nomination.

Council Member Pannett nominated Francisco Ramirez.

There were no further nominations.

2. Approve appointment of Francisco Ramirez as Vice Mayor

RESULT:	APPROVED [3 TO 2]
AYES:	Pannett, Ramirez, Mendes
NAYS:	Curry, Ayers

RECESS:

The Council took a recess at 7:39 p.m. to allow changes to be made at the dais. The meeting was reconvened at 7:55 p.m.

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, Council Member
SECONDER:	Gary Pannett, Council Member
AYES:	Curry, Ayers, Pannett, Ramirez, Mendes

- A. City Clerk: Approve minutes from November 17, 2015 City Council meeting.
- B. Administration: Purchase of 13 Mobile Data Terminals (MDT) from Datalux in the amount of \$64,819
- C. Public Works: Approval of Final Map for Tentative Parcel Map 2013-05 and Acceptance of Public Street Right of Way
- D. Public Works: Budget Amendments to Reorganize the Utilities Division and the Wastewater Treatment Plant and add positions in the Utilities Division to comply with the State's Conservation Order
- E. Finance: Warrant Register

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A. Community Development: Appeal No. 2015-04 filed by MR Wolfe and Assoc., an appeal of the Planning Commissions approval of Planned Unit Development No. 2015-02, Tentative Parcel Map No. 2015-02, and Negative Declaration No. 2015-06. The project is a request to construct seven retail buildings totaling 124,300 square feet and dividing one parcel into nine parcels, in the "PC" Planned Commercial Zone District. The project is located on the SWC of 12th Avenue and Lacey Blvd. in the City of Hanford. APN: 011-020-048. (Item recommended to be continued to December 15, 2015)

Motion to continue the public hearing as requested by the applicant.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Russ Curry, Council Member
SECONDER:	Francisco Ramirez, Vice Mayor
AYES:	Curry, Ayers, Pannett, Ramirez, Mendes

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- A. City Clerk: Waive the second reading and adopt Ordinance 15-13 amending sections 2.20.010, 2.32.010, 2.36.010 and repealing Chapter 2.40 pertaining to City Commissions

City Clerk Jennifer Gomez briefly commented on the proposed changes to the Municipal Code.

Council Member Curry recommended amending the proposed ordinance to add language in sections 2.32.010A and 2.36.010A "with the approval of a majority of the City Council" following "One member of the city council appointed by the mayor".

Upon further discussion the Council also directed staff to bring back at a future meeting a separate ordinance amending the Municipal Code pertaining to the Parking and Traffic Commission for the same modification.

Motion to waive the second reading and adopt Ordinance 15-13 as amended by Council Member Curry.

RESULT:	APPROVED AS AMENDED [3 TO 2]
MOVER:	Russ Curry, Council Member
SECONDER:	Gary Pannett, Council Member
AYES:	Pannett, Ramirez, Mendes
NAYS:	Curry, Ayers

- B. Police: Adopt Urgency Ordinance 15-15 amending Chapter 8.32 of Title 8 of the Hanford Municipal Code Prohibiting Medical Marijuana Cultivation and Delivery and Prohibiting the Operation of Mobile Marijuana Dispensaries

Police Chief Parker Sever provided background information for the Council's review and consideration. He responded to questions and comments by the City Council.

Motion to adopt Urgency Ordinance 15-15.

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

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS:

Council Member Pannett attended the Christmas Parade and met with staff of the Carnegie Museum. He requested that the City Manager and City Attorney prepare an ethics policy for the City Council and Commissions. The Council concurred with his recommendation.

Council Member Curry attended the City/County Coordinating Meeting where the County discussed a special tax increase for public safety. He recently attended the High Speed Rail open house. Mr. Curry inquired about a previous discussion regarding unfunded liability insurance for PERS. Finance Director Tom Dibble stated the information was not ready yet. Staff will bring that to the Council when it is ready. Mr. Curry also noted that if elected officials are going to ride on Freddy the Firetruck then it should be expanded to all of the elected representatives from our area.

Council Member Ayers recently attended the League Leaders Workshop in Sacramento. He commented on the Kings Waste Recycling Authority meeting he attended.

Vice Mayor Ramirez announced that his town hall meeting will take place on Friday in his district. He addressed the attacks on him over the last few months and stated that he will now be fighting back on issues and remarks made against him by taking legal actions against all parties involved.

Mayor Mendes commented on his attendance at the Main Street Hanford meeting and their current finances. He attended the Christmas Parade and thanked the Council for appointing him as Mayor.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Mendes adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Gomez
City Clerk