



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
April 4, 2017 7:00 PM
Council Chambers
400 N. Douty St.**

6:00 PM CALL TO ORDER STUDY SESSION:

Mayor David Ayers called the study session to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Francisco Ramirez, Martin Devine, Sue Sorensen, David Ayers

Absent: Justin Mendes

PUBLIC COMMENT - STUDY SESSION:

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

Larry Thacker of Caliva stated that they are the largest cannabis operation in California and their focus is on healthcare and regulatory compliance. They would like to come to Hanford and develop a cultivation, extraction and manufacturing facility. He discussed the job opportunities and benefits provided by them.

Rant Martin of Caliva commented on their review and approval of a cost recovery agreement. They intend to submit an application with the City and requested that the Council allow permitting prior to a November 2018 ballot measure regarding taxes on the industry. He also encouraged the Council to approve the contract with HdL.

Ted Miller of Caruthers spoke on the history of Prohibition and the criminal activity associated with it. He supports a legal distribution of marijuana and fears the increase in criminal activity and black market if it is not allowed.

Steve Robinson noted the opposition of the Hanford residents on last year's ballot measure to legalize marijuana. He pointed out some areas that he disagreed with in HdL's proposal.

Bob Ramos commented on his opposition to recreational marijuana.

Dan Humason discussed the Bastille's maintenance and opposed the Carnegie Museum's proposal.

STUDY SESSION:

- A. Report and Update on Medical Cannabis: A report on the continued interest in the City of Hanford for medical cannabis businesses. An update on the preparation of an ordinance to allow medical cannabis cultivation, manufacturing, lab testing, distribution and transportation and staff's recommendation to utilize a consultant, HdL Companies to assist in the preparation of an ordinance, cost recovery mechanism and estimate, permit process and development of a tax measure for November 2018.

Community Development Director Darlene Mata presented a timeline on the interest for medical cannabis businesses. She also discussed the regulatory background created by the State and the objectives set out by the City. Ms. Mata commented on the proposal submitted by HdL Companies. Police Chief Parker Sever provided estimated regulatory expenses for the police department and stated that they would be included in a cost recovery system. Ms. Mata discussed the purpose of limiting the number of permits to only two until a cannabis tax is passed in November 2018. Staff responded to questions and comments by the City Council. The consensus of the Council was for staff to continue to move forward.

7:00 PM CALL TO ORDER REGULAR SESSION:

Mayor Ayers called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Martin Devine	Council Member	Present	6:00 PM
Sue Sorensen	Vice Mayor	Present	6:00 PM
David Ayers	Mayor	Present	6:00 PM
Francisco Ramirez	Council Member	Present	6:00 PM
Justin Mendes	Council Member	Absent	

INVOCATION:

Robert Needham provided the invocation.

FLAG SALUTE:

Council Member Devine led the flag salute.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Mayor Ayers moved this item up on the agenda to announce that due to a noticing issue and since Council Member Mendes was unable to be at the meeting tonight, he recommended that this item be continued.

- A. GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 2017-02, is a request by the City of Hanford to comprehensively update the General Plan, including the following elements: Economic Development; Land Use and Community Design; Transportation and Circulation; Open Space, Conservation and Recreation; Public Facilities and Services; Health, Safety and Noise. The purpose of the General Plan Update to guide future growth and development in the City through 2035. The project covers the proposed City limits as well as the proposed Primary and Secondary Sphere of Influences. (Resolution 17-21-R) MUNICIPAL CODE AMENDMENT No. 2017-01, is a request by the City of Hanford to update the City's Zoning Ordinance and Zone Map to be consistent with the proposed 2035 General Plan. (Introduce and waive first reading of Ordinance 17-04) ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, State Clearinghouse Number 2015041024, certification of the Environmental Impact Report prepared for the 2035 General Plan Update. The program level Environmental Impact Report and Statement of Overriding Considerations will be considered that evaluates the environmental impacts associated with the proposed 2035 General Plan Update. (Resolution 17-20-R)

Motion to continue the item to the April 18, 2017 regular meeting.

RESULT:	APPROVED [3 TO 0]
MOVER:	Francisco Ramirez, Council Member
SECONDER:	Martin Devine, Council Member
AYES:	Devine, Ayers, Ramirez
ABSENT:	Mendes
RECUSED:	Sorensen

RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

A. Parks & Recreation: Arbor Day Proclamation 2017

Parks & Recreation Director Craig Miller acknowledged Ms. Silva, a teacher from JFK, and students for their hard work and participation each year. Mayor Ayers presented the proclamation to them.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

Police Chief Parker Sever highlighted their opportunity for the new K-9 unit and briefly commented on AB1326, which are both on the agenda tonight.

Public Works Director Lou Camara provided an update on the elevator at the Courthouse and the parking lot construction project at Sixth and Douty.

Fire Chief Chris Ekk commented on installing new radio systems and that they are adding more fire fighter volunteers.

Public Utilities Director John Doyel briefly commented on the upcoming airport taxiway projects.

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.*

Mark Pratter expressed his concern about the land next to Hidden Valley Park and that it may not be developed as more parkland. If the land is sold then he wants the funds to be used for parks.

Jeff Porterfield briefly spoke on downtown parking.

Skip Athey expressed his disapproval that the General Plan agenda item has been continued.

Bob Ramos encouraged the Council Members to speak to the residents in the area of Hidden Valley Park for their opinion.

A woman stated that they need more park space in Hanford and that she goes to Visalia due to the lack of parks.

Noor Memon supported the expansion of Hidden Valley Park and improving the Bastille.

Kimberly Andre Johnson commented on her experience with the police department.

Shelly Johnson of Main Street Hanford invited the Council and the public to their third community transformation meeting on April 10th at 5:30 at City Hall to share their vision of downtown's future.

Derek Weisser, Vice President of Local 3898 Hanford Professional Firefighters, gave an update on their Muscular Dystrophy fundraising efforts. Another fundraiser will take place on April 14th at the intersections of 12th and Mall.

Morgan Ricketts represents Mike Valdez in an action that has been filed against the City. She requested that an independent investigation against Officer Leeds be conducted for his actions during this incident.

Pam Johnson spoke about the community support in 2014 to develop the land next to Hidden Valley Park. She suggested a compromise of developing a portion of the land as parkspace and selling the rest.

Steve Robinson expressed his concern that the medical marijuana ordinance could be changed to include recreational at a later time.

Rose Shaplie commented on the unnecessary picking up of residential trash on a weekly basis. She also discussed her past request to receive the actuals for the last fiscal year. She would also like additional green space and to utilize the land next to Hidden Valley Park.

Nathan Odom shared his suggestion to develop the land next to Hidden Valley Park as a food forest which would be self-sustaining. On April 23rd an event has been scheduled at Hidden Valley Park to promote this concept.

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 except for the items pulled for separate consideration.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Sue Sorensen, Vice Mayor
SECONDER:	Martin Devine, Council Member
AYES:	Devine, Sorensen, Ayers, Ramirez
ABSENT:	Mendes

- A. City Clerk: Approve Minutes from the March 21, 2017 Meeting
- B. City Clerk: Deny claim for damages and direct the City Clerk to send out notification of such to Matthew Stoll
- C. City Clerk: Deny claim for damages and direct the City Clerk to send out notification of such to Dubby Bookout
- D. City Clerk: Deny claim for damages and direct the City Clerk to send out notification of such to Ahkeem Williams
- E. City Clerk: Deny claim for damages and direct the City Clerk to send out notification of such to Southern California Edison
- F. City Clerk: Deny claim for damages and direct the City Clerk to send out notification of such to Oscar Camacho
- G. Police: Replace Police Unit 45 (K-9 unit)
- H. Police: Approve purchase and training of department K-9 in the amount of \$13,600.00
- I. Public Works: Approve a two year option agreement with James Hanson for a potential development of a 250 foot by 50 foot airplane hanger at the Hanford Municipal Airport for \$500 per year.
- J. Finance: Warrant Register

ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR:

Motion to approve items pulled from Consent Calendar.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Sue Sorensen, Vice Mayor
SECONDER:	Martin Devine, Council Member
AYES:	Devine, Sorensen, Ayers, Ramirez
ABSENT:	Mendes

1. Administration: Authorize the Mayor to Execute an Agreement Between the City of Hanford and HdL Companies for Consulting Services Regarding the Development of a Medical Cannabis Ordinance, Permitting Procedures, and Medical Cannabis Tax Measure

Vice Mayor Sorensen pulled this item for clarification on the cost recovery that was discussed during the Study Session. Community Development Director Darlene Mata stated that if the ordinance was not approved then the City would need to reimburse HdL for those related costs, but she has funds available under Professional Services if needed.

2. Police: Approve out of state travel request to allow Hanford Police Captain Karl Anderson to attend the FBI National Academy Class # 269 in Quantico Virginia.

Vice Mayor Sorensen pulled this item for Chief Sever to discuss the opportunity for Captain Anderson.

3. Public Works: Reject bid and authorize staff to re-advertise for bids for the Hanford Police Department and Longfield Center Re-roofing Project

Council Member Ramirez pulled this item for clarification on why this bid is being rejected. Public Works Director Lou Camara stated that only one bid was received and believes that some modifications can be made to the budget and will seek more competitive bids in a few months.

4. Police: Adopt Resolution in Support of AB1326 and Authorize a Letter of Support

Mayor Ayers pulled this item to allow Chief Sever to provide more information on the proposed legislation.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS:

Council Member Francisco Ramirez praised Mr. Odom on his efforts to come up with new ideas to address the City's issues. Mr. Ramirez thanked everyone on behalf of Big Brothers Big Sisters for their support, and they have about 30 children in the program. He also attended an anti-bully campaign at JFK school.

Council Member Martin Devine attended the Junior Explorer graduation.

Vice Mayor Sue Sorensen attended Main Street Hanford's monthly meeting and stated that the St. Patrick's Day event was very successful. Their third meeting to discuss downtown will be on Monday, April 10th at 5:30 p.m. in the Training Room at City Hall. They will also be having their annual final report at Fatte Alberts on April 24th. Thursday Night Market will begin again on May 4th. Ms. Sorensen also attended the Chamber of Commerce's Man and Woman of the Year event.

Mayor Ayers also attended the Chamber of Commerce event. He reminded the Council that Hanford will be hosting the League of California Cities' General Membership Meeting on April 13th.

COUNCIL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Mayor Ayers stated that he would like the next meeting to end by 10:00 p.m. since it will likely be a long meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Ayers adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Gomez
City Clerk