



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**June 6, 2017 7:00 PM
Council Chambers
400 N. Douty St.**

6:00 PM CALL TO ORDER STUDY SESSION & CLOSED SESSION:

Mayor David Ayers called the Study Session and Closed Session to order at 6:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

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

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. Pension System Update

City Manager Darrel Pyle provided a presentation regarding the City of Hanford's pension system with CalPERS. Recently the CalPERS Board reduced the Discount Rate which is the rate of return used to estimate how much money the Pension Portfolio must earn. Lowering the Rate will cause our annual rates to go up. The rates for Public Safety will be 55% of payroll and Non Public Safety will be 50% of payroll. The increases will happen over the next four years and will equal an additional \$4 million in pension contributions. Mr. Pyle presented multiple solutions including: exploring new revenue sources; legislative or initiative solutions; pension obligation bonds and Section 115 Pension Stabilization Trust Fund creation; reductions in staffing; service reductions; and privatization. Pulling out of the program is not an option as the unfunded liability must be paid in full with a current value of \$199,477,804. If the City stays in the system, the unfunded liability is \$41,504,000.

Council Member Mendes discussed each of the potential solutions and stated that the only realistic solutions are new revenue sources and privatization. He would like these options to be reviewed and brought back to the Council at the end of the budget year.

Council Member Ramirez agreed with Council Member Mendes.

Council Member Devine inquired which operations would be considered for privatization. Mr. Pyle stated that there are private companies that can provide services for water, solid waste, or wastewater operations. Mr. Pyle will look at how many cities privatize their services.

Vice Mayor Sorensen briefly commented on the unlikely action by the California legislature to address this problem. She is concerned on how this will impact the City and believes a message does need to be sent to the State to find a solution.

Mayor Ayers agreed that a reduction in staff or services is not an option. He noted that even if the City had the funds to pay off the current unfunded liability, it does not address the ongoing problem of new unfunded liability that could be created if the portfolio under performs any given year.

CLOSED SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF THE FOLLOWING:

Mayor Ayers adjourned to closed session at 6:46 p.m.

A. THREAT TO PUBLIC SERVICES OR FACILITIES - Government Code Section 54957(a)

Consultation with: Hanford Police Department and Police Chief

7:00 PM CALL TO ORDER REGULAR SESSION:

Mayor Ayers called the regular meeting to order at 7:20 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	Present	6:00 PM

INVOCATION:

Kevin Medcalf provided the invocation.

FLAG SALUTE:

Vice Mayor Sorensen led the flag salute.

CLOSED SESSION ACTION REPORT:

There was nothing to report.

RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

Police Chief Parker Sever announced that they hired a new employee and that they also are doing a current recruitment.

Community Development Director stated that she will be inviting the participants from the Downtown Revitalization Committee to meet with her to brainstorm the implementation of improvements for downtown. She announced that the kiosks are scheduled to be removed beginning June 19th and that the cement will be removed as well, except for the hot dog stand and sitting area.

Public Works Director Lou Camara provided an update on various street projects. The spring clean up was very successful. Council Member Mendes asked about the conservation of water and if the City's standards should be changed. Mr. Camara recommended that the City should maintain its' current standards of watering only 2 days a

week for this year because of the long term issue. Mayor Ayers inquired if with the large amount of rainfall this year we were able to capture it. Mr. Camara stated that the basins were available to capture the water and recharge the groundwater system.

Ms. Mata briefly discussed landscaping issues and watering in new developments.

Parks & Recreation Director Craig Miller announced that summer camps began this week and commented on other upcoming activities.

Fire Chief Chris Ekk stated that they are working on weed abatement issues and educating the public about the fireworks regulations.

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.*

Dorothy Callahan-Weiss complained about the decision to charge a business license to the vendors at Thursday Night Market.

Marlene Raven of Raven's Hot Diggity Dog commented on the discussions with City staff and past actions by the City Council. She stated that they do not believe they should be responsible for the ADA improvements or replacing the roof. Ms. Raven stated that they do not want to leave the kiosk. She requested direction and clarification from the City Council on what they are to do to continue conducting business.

Bob Ramos made comments that were not under the jurisdiction of the City Council.

Mark Pratter stated that 2,769 people were supportive of putting the referendum on a ballot regarding the land next to Hidden Valley Park. He disagreed with City Clerk Jennifer Gomez' findings, and he stated that they were only legal technicalities and not a reason to reject the petition. He continued to state their support for additional parkspace and expressed his disappointment in the Council's decision to not listen to the citizens. They intend to challenge the rejection of the referendum.

City Attorney Ty Mizote responded to Mr. Pratter's comments stating that the statute is very clear and that the city of residence must be included and it is not just a legal technicality. Mr. Mizote referred to case law that supports the decision made by the City Clerk to reject signatures.

Nate Odom discussed the history of the vacant land next to Hidden Valley Park and actions by the City Council, as well as the petition that was signed by the citizens. He made claims about conversations and actions made by staff.

City Attorney Ty Mizote addressed the comments by Mr. Odom and provided the history of the purchase of the land based on City Council Minutes from 1967 and the original intentions of the City Council for that property.

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:	Justin Mendes, Council Member
SECONDER:	Francisco Ramirez, Council Member
AYES:	Devine, Sorensen, Ayers, Ramirez, Mendes

- A. City Clerk: Approve Minutes from the May 10, 2017 Meeting
- B. City Clerk: Approve Minutes from the May 16, 2017 Meeting
- C. City Clerk: Adopt Resolution 17-34-R amending the Handbook of Rules and Procedures
- D. Community Development: Waive the second reading and adopt Ordinance 17-06, rezoning certain property adjacent to the City of Hanford from County Zoning of "AL-10" Limited Agricultural 10-District to "R-1-6" Low-Density Residential, in accordance with the General Plan, or "R-L-5" Low-Density Residential, should the new zoning ordinance be in effect prior to recordation of Annexation 152.
- E. Public Works: Approval of easement grant deed, in favor of Southern California Edison (SCE) Company, for installation of an electric vehicle charging station at City Corporation Yard.
- F. Utilities and Engineering: Approval of Final Map and Subdivision Agreement for Tract No. 917, Woodside Homes (Grangeville Blvd./Centennial Drive)
- G. Utilities and Engineering: Approve the dedication of an easement for electrical facility installation, access, and maintenance in favor of Southern California Edison for the 11th at Houston Traffic Signal Project
- H. Finance: Warrant Register

ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR:

- 1. Public Works: Adopt Resolution 17-36-R, approving the Annual Engineer's Report and Intention to Levy and Collect Assessments as outlined, pursuant to Chapter 3 of the Landscape and Lighting Act of 1972.

Vice Mayor Sorensen pulled this item due to her concern over the increase in landscaping when we have issues of water conservation. She would like a future discussion regarding the landscape ordinance. Public Works Director Lou Camara responded to Ms. Sorensen's comments and questions.

Motion to adopt Resolution 17-36-R as presented.

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

- 2. Utilities and Engineering: Authorize purchase of materials and design in the amount of \$320,596.28, and advertise for bids for the installation of the Rotary Field Lighting Project.

Vice Mayor Sorensen pulled this item to highlight this project and inquired about the costs of using the lights. Public Works Director Lou Camara and Parks & Recreation Director Craig Miller responded to her questions and comments.

Motion to approve the item as presented.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Sue Sorensen, Vice Mayor
SECONDER:	David Ayers, Mayor
AYES:	Devine, Sorensen, Ayers, Ramirez, Mendes

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

GENERAL BUSINESS:

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS:

Council Member Mendes attended the KCAG meeting where they discussed the contract with the Executive Director. Mr. Mendes inquired about the business license requirement for vendors of Thursday Night Market. Mr. Pyle stated that they are working with Main Street Hanford to amend the ordinance to make it more efficient for all businesses and to set up special provisions for vendors at events such as Thursday Night Market. Mr. Mendes stated that he was contacted by a business partner of Danny Humason about purchasing the Bastille and he directed that individual to Ms. Mata. In regards to the Ravens kiosk, he acknowledged the City Council made mistakes on giving direction to staff and caused additional confusion with their votes. He also recounted his discussions with Bill Raven on a solution and that with multiple Council Members getting directly involved made the situation worse. Mr. Mendes stated that all future communications should only be between the signor of the lease and the Community Development Director.

Council Member Ramirez attended a Salute Our Veteran's program.

Council Member Devine thanked those who have reached out to him to wish him and his father well.

Vice Mayor Sorensen commented on her meeting with Main Street Hanford. She stated that she was contacted by Marlene Raven so she corresponded with her to discuss the kiosk. Ms. Sorensen had also been contacted by Carrie who said that everything had been worked out and that they knew what they were going to do. She agreed that in the future a different plan can be put in place for that location. She was hoping the hot dog stand could remain until a decision and plan was made on what to do in the future, but then the issue of ADA compliance came up. She believes that the Ravens and staff should get together to make a final decision. Ms. Sorensen also expressed her concern about the number of trees planted in the city medians and would like to discuss that policy.

Mayor Ayers had nothing to report.

COUNCIL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Council Member Mendes would like the Council to readdress the medical component part of the General Plan and Zoning Ordinance to allow more access for the residents.

Council Member Ramirez agreed to revisit that item.

Council Member Devine also agreed to allow it.

Vice Mayor Sorensen had nothing else to add for future agenda items.

Mayor Ayers clarified that the Council's direction and consensus is to allow the Ravens to continue to operate under the current lease agreement. Also, the Ravens family should select one member to speak on their behalf and contact

the City Manager for any future discussions. City Attorney Ty Mizote stated that the City as the owner could still be liable in an ADA lawsuit even though the lease places ADA compliance on the Ravens.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Ayers adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Gomez
City Clerk