



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

**September 19, 2017 7:00 PM
Council Chambers
400 N. Douty St.**

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

Mayor David Ayers called the Study Session and Closed Session to order at 5:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Justin Mendes ^(5:52 p.m.), 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 three minutes is allowed for each speaker.

There were no comments given.

STUDY SESSION:

A. Community Choice Aggregation/JPA Discussion for Commercial Scale Energy Projects

City Manager Darrel Pyle provided a presentation regarding a mechanism by which local governments could gain greater control of electricity costs for residential, commercial, and industrial customers within their jurisdiction. PFA Energy has a proposal outlining renewable energy projects to be developed on property in southern Hanford. California Community Choice Association (CalCCA) is an association of agencies that have developed two models to deliver power, a JPA Model and a Single-Jurisdiction Model. A consultant that has established Community Choice Aggregation in other cities can provide their knowledge and expertise to Hanford with this process.

Mr. Pyle responded to questions and comments by the City Council. The Council provided a consensus for staff to gather more information.

CLOSED SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF THE FOLLOWING:

Mayor Ayers adjourned to closed session at 6:15 p.m.

A. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS - Government Code Section 54957.6

Agency Designated Representatives: Darrel Pyle, Marissa Gonzales, Paula Lofgren, and Mario Zamora

Employee Organization:

Hanford Firefighters Local 3898, IAFF

Hanford Police Officers Association (HPOA)

General Employees Management Association (G.E.M.A.)

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

Property: APNs 018-242-067, 018-242-077

Agency Negotiators: Darrel Pyle and Ty Mizote

Negotiating Party: Steve Alexander and Pat McGaraghan for Helena Chemical

Under Negotiation: Terms and Price

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

CASE NAME: San Joaquin Valley Environmental Defense Center v. City of Hanford

CASE NUMBER: Kings County No. 17C0142

CASE NAME: Helena Chemical v. City of Hanford

CASE NUMBER: Kings County No. 17C0102

CASE NAME: Transparent California v. City of Hanford, et al.

CASE NUMBER: Kings County No. 17C0245

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

Number of Potential Cases - 2

7:00 PM CALL TO ORDER REGULAR SESSION:

Mayor Ayers called the regular meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Martin Devine	Council Member	Present	7:00 PM
Sue Sorensen	Vice Mayor	Present	7:00 PM
David Ayers	Mayor	Present	7:00 PM
Francisco Ramirez	Council Member	Present	7:00 PM
Justin Mendes	Council Member	Present	7:00 PM

INVOCATION:

Pastor Justin Carruthers provided the invocation.

FLAG SALUTE:

Mayor Ayers led the flag salute.

CLOSED SESSION ACTION REPORT:

The Council will reconvene Closed Session after the regular meeting.

RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

Police Chief Parker Sever announced the selling of special Breast Cancer Awareness police patches. He also stated that they are in the process of re-roofing the police department.

Community Development Director Darlene Mata gave an update on the cannabis application process.

Public Works Director Lou Camara provided an update on current capital improvement projects.

Parks & Recreation Director Craig Miller commented on upcoming events and activities.

Fire Chief Chris Ekk stated that all of their crews have returned safely from state fires. The department is getting ready for Fire Prevention Week and Open House in October.

Finance Director Paula Lofgren gave an update on the improvements to various finance programs.

Darrel Pyle stated that additional staff may need to be hired in regards to supporting the cannabis industry. Costs would be paid from the industry permit users.

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

Bob Ramos requested that the Consent item for the Out of State travel to Colorado to attend the Marijuana Management Symposium be pulled for discussion. He claimed that the change of public comments from five minutes to three minutes had not been placed on the agenda for approval or for public comment. Mr. Ramos addressed statements made by Council Member Ramirez on social media regarding allegations of corruption.

Jerry Irons would like to pull the Consent item to amend the Capital Improvement Program.

Skip Athey had questions about the Finance Warrants. He would like an opinion if Council Member Ramirez should recuse himself for General Business Item E due to an alleged bias against downtown.

A gentleman requested that a street be named after Mark Lee due to his football accomplishments.

Mark Pratter objected to the change in public comments from five minutes to three minutes.

Kenneth Olsen of the Libertarian Party stated their views on zoning restrictions and encouraged the Council to reduce the regulations.

Michael Quinn also objected to the change in the amount of time for public comments. He also discussed General Business Item E and that it was addressed under the General Plan update.

Anna Anderson spoke in support of Council Member Ramirez and shared her opinion that posts attacking him are not appropriate.

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 August 15, 2017 Meeting
- B. City Clerk: Approve Minutes from the August 29, 2017 Meeting
- C. City Clerk: Approve Minutes from the September 12, 2017 Meeting
- D. City Clerk: Deny leave to present a late claim for damages and direct the City Clerk to send out notification of such to Christopher Tafoya
- E. Administration: Approve Out-of-State Travel for City Manager Darrel Pyle to attend Excess Insurance Organization Board of Directors meeting in Park City, Utah scheduled for October 14-16, 2017
- F. Police: Approve Out of State Travel to Nevada for Dispatch/Records Supervisor Maribel Stinson and a second employee to be designated by the Chief of Police to attend the Sun Ridge Annual Users Conference.
- G. Fire: Approve Out-of-State travel for Fire Engineer Dennis Springer to attend the SunRidge Annual Users Conference in South Lake Tahoe, NV
- H. Public Works: Purchase of three tilt trailers from Tru-Trailers, of Fresno, Ca., in the amount of \$21,717.91.
- I. Public Works: Purchase of five Dodge Charger replacement patrol cars from Bravo Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram, of Alhambra, Ca., in the amount of \$206,707.71.
- J. Public Works: Approval of Resolution for California Department of Transportation Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Matching Grant
- K. Utilities and Engineering: Approve a Notice of Completion for the FY 16/17 Slurry Seal Treatment Project, and authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest and file said notice with the Kings County Recorder's Office.
- L. Utilities & Engineering: Authorize staff to reimburse \$9,087.30 to Merced JJR Sidonia LLC for the construction of oversized sanitary sewer pipeline improvements within Hume Avenue adjacent to Tract No. 814, Sidonia Estates II (Hume Avenue east of 12th Avenue)
- M. Utilities and Engineering: Authorize the City Manager to execute the attached agreement with Blair Church and Flynn Consulting Engineers of Clovis, CA for a not to exceed value of \$466,890.00 for the Design, Construction Management, and Inspection of the 9th Avenue Sewer Trunk Main Improvement Project.
- N. Finance: Approve OpenGov-Superion Budget System Agreement in the amount of \$45,387 annually plus a one-time cost of \$10,205 for initial set up.
- O. Finance: Warrant Register

City Manager Darrel Pyle responded to Mr. Athey's questions about specific entries on the warrant register.

ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. Police: Accept a Military Armored Vehicle through the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office Program

Council Member Ramirez pulled the item for additional discussion.

Police Chief Parker Sever discussed the need and benefit of adding this vehicle to their fleet. He responded to questions and comments by the City Council.

Motion to approve the item as presented.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Francisco Ramirez, Council Member
SECONDER:	Martin Devine, Council Member
AYES:	Devine, Sorensen, Ayers, Ramirez, Mendes

2. Police: Approve Out of State Travel to Colorado for Police Chief Parker Sever and Community Development Director Darlene Mata to attend the Marijuana Management Symposium.

Police Chief Sever discussed the opportunity to attend classes that are not offered in California.

Motion to approve.

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

3. Public Works: Amendment to Capital Improvement Program for FY 2017/18.

Public Works Director Lou Camara discussed the projects that need amendments to the Capital Improvement Program.

Motion to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Francisco Ramirez, Council Member
SECONDER:	Martin Devine, Council Member
AYES:	Devine, Sorensen, Ayers, Ramirez, Mendes

4. Public Works: Purchase of five 2018 Chevrolet 1500 pickup trucks from Keller Motors, of Hanford, in the amount of \$118,270.80.

Vice Mayor Sorensen pulled the item to note that the City is purchasing local for this item.

Motion to approve.

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A. Police: Public hearing to approve the use of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for FY 2017 and approve the Interlocal agreement between the City of Hanford and County of Kings.

Police Chief Sever provided background information on the grant and the proposed use of the funds.

Mayor Ayers opened the public comments for the public hearing at 7:52 p.m., and with no comments given, closed the public comments at 7:52 p.m.

Motion to approve the item as presented.

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

- B. Community Development: Public Hearing to approve the FY 2016-2017 submittal of Community Development Block Grant Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)

Housing Administrative Analyst Sandra Lerma provided an overview of the expenditures for the year 2016-2017. Ms. Lerma responded to questions and comments by the City Council.

Mayor Ayers opened the public comments for the public hearing at 8:11 p.m.

Lou Martinez stressed the importance of receiving public input for these funds. Mayor Ayer closed public comments at 8:13 p.m.

Motion to approve the CDBG Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report.

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

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- A. City Clerk: Accept the Certificate of Sufficiency of Recall Petition for Council Member Francisco Ramirez

Council Member Ramirez stated that he is recusing himself from this item.

City Clerk Jennifer Gomez presented her Certificate of Sufficiency and requested a recommendation from the City Council for a date for the special election.

A consensus of the Council recommended January 23, 2018 for the special election.

Motion to accept the Certificate of Sufficiency.

RESULT:	APPROVED [4 TO 0]
MOVER:	Justin Mendes, Council Member
SECONDER:	Martin Devine, Council Member
AYES:	Devine, Sorensen, Ayers, Mendes
RECUSED:	Ramirez

B. City Clerk: Appointment for One (1) seat to Planning Commission

City Clerk Jennifer Gomez briefly discussed the vacancy and need for an appointment to complete the term. Mayor Ayers requested that Council Member Devine make the recommendation since he is the Council Representative.

Council Member Devine stated that he recommended Cheyne Strawn. The appointment was not approved by Council Member Mendes, Council Member Ramirez, and Vice Mayor Sorensen.

Council Member Devine made a recommendation of Jacob Sanchez. The appointment was approved by a majority of the Council with Council Member Mendes not in favor.

RESULT:	CONSENSUS
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C. Public Works: Long-field Center / Police Department Re-Roofing Project - Approval of Contract Change Orders No. 3 & 4, in the amount of \$14,498.00 and establish a new Project Construction Contingency, in the amount of \$15,000.00.

Public Works Director Lou Camara provided background information for the Council's review and consideration.

Motion to approve as presented.

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

D. Fire: Accept Grant Funding in the amount of \$95,526.00 for the Recruitment and Retention of Volunteer Firefighters

Fire Chief Chris Ekk discussed the opportunity to recruit and retain volunteer firefighters. He responded to questions and comments by the Council.

Motion to accept the grant.

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

- E. **Community Development: Initiation of an Amendment to Title 17, Zoning Ordinance, of the Municipal Code** pertaining to allowing medical and/or professional offices in additional zones as permitted or conditional uses.

Vice Mayor Sorensen stated that due to her ownership of a building involving tenants in the dental industry, she will be recusing herself from this item.

Community Development Director Darlene Mata stated that this item was before the Council at the request of Council Member Mendes and a consensus of a majority of the Council.

Council Member Mendes stated that he would like a definition of "health clinic" to be added in order to allow the development of health clinics in Regional Commercial zones. He also supported additional medical access to the community.

Council Member Ramirez agreed that certain areas are under utilized and that there has been interest by medical facilities to develop in other zones.

Mayor Ayers stated that he was approached recently by a medical company that is seeking to develop in Hanford in order to provide services to lower income residents. They are not requiring a change in zoning. As they move forward and if they are unable to develop what they want due to the zoning, then he would be willing to revisit and consider this zoning change.

No further action was taken as there was no consensus to make any changes at this time.

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS:

Mayor Ayers traveled to Washington DC with KCAG and found it to be very enjoyable. He attended a Chamber of Commerce meeting this morning, and tomorrow he will be going on a retreat with the Air Board. He also attended the Daughters' of the American Revolution to celebrate Constitution Week.

Vice Mayor Sorensen commented on her attendance at a Main Street Hanford meeting and briefly discussed their finances. She also attended the City-County Coordinating meeting where the issue of homelessness was discussed.

Council Member Devine attended the Mark Lee event and also attended the rededication event of the flag pole in Civic Park.

Council Member Ramirez attended the League of California Cities conference in Sacramento and discussed the utilization of free bikes through the LimeBike Program.

Council Member Mendes did not attend any recent meetings.

COUNCIL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Vice Mayor Sorensen requested that computers be installed at the dais. While it will be budgeted for next year, she would like to move it forward to this year. A consensus of the Council agreed to put this on a future agenda.

Council Member Ramirez commented on the recent natural disasters and inquired about the ability for the City to respond to an emergency. Mr. Pyle and Fire Chief Ekk discussed the training by staff and resources that are available to the City.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Ayers reconvened closed session at 9:14 p.m.

Following closed session, City Attorney Bob Dowd stated that there was nothing to report out.

Mayor Ayers adjourned the meeting at 9:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Gomez
City Clerk