



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

**December 5, 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 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: Justin Mendes

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. Review of proposed City Energy Action Plan (EAP)

Public Works Director Lou Camara briefly commented on the Valley Innovative Energy Watch (VIEW) Partnership. Samantha Dodero with San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization provided a presentation giving an overview of the Energy Action Plan. Key points include the City's past accomplishments and projects and outlines future opportunities. This is a living document which allows for continuous updates. The City must commit to implementing two action items, complete two projects, and adopt two policies. Mr. Camara and Ms. Dodero responded to questions and comments by the City Council.

CLOSED SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF THE FOLLOWING:

Mayor Ayers adjourned to closed session at 6:21 p.m.

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

Number of Potential Cases - 1

B. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS - Government Code Section 54957.6

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

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

Hanford Firefighters Local 3898, IAFF

7:00 PM CALL TO ORDER REGULAR SESSION:

Mayor Ayers called the regular session 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	Absent	

INVOCATION:

The invocation was provided by Police Chief Parker Sever.

FLAG SALUTE:

Mayor Ayers led the flag salute.

CLOSED SESSION ACTION REPORT:

There was nothing to report.

RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

Public Works Director Lou Camara commented on the holiday schedule for refuse which was mailed out to the residents. He also thanked Main Street Hanford for their commitment to replace the worn and tattered American flags in the downtown.

Finance Director Paula Lofgren stated that their new budget training will begin next week.

Battalion Chief Erik Brotemarkle announced that two patrols were sent to Southern California to assist with the new fires.

Parks Superintendent Alvin Dias announced the upcoming Breakfast with Santa on December 16th at the Longfield Center. Staff has recently begun the gypsum application and the aeration of parks.

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.*

Esau Torres spoke on behalf of their client and discussed the denial of their sign permit.

Rand Martin on behalf of Caliva briefly commented on the application process for cannabis permits and praised the City for the actions they have taken.

Steve Bannister announced that Michelle Brown has become their Interim Executive Director and they are doing a national recruitment to fill the position.

Jacob Yparrea of Bridge the Gap thanked the Council for directing staff to look at opportunities for others to be approved for a cannabis permit.

Mr. Garcia on behalf of Westhills College's Business Entrepreneurship Club introduced himself and commented on the purpose of their organization.

Bob Ramos requested that the item regarding Helena Chemical be pulled from consent calendar for further explanation. He then alleged a conflict of interest for Vice Mayor Sorensen regarding the selling of Rabobank.

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

A. City Clerk: Approve Minutes from the November 21, 2017 Meeting

B. Finance: Warrant Register

ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. City Clerk: Deny claim for damages and direct the City Clerk to send out notification of such to Helena Chemical Company

City Manager Darrel Pyle briefly explained the claims process and that this item pertained to an escrow for industrial property that did not close.

Motion to approve as presented.

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

2. Finance: Adopt Amendments to the 2017-18 Fiscal Year Budget.

Mayor Ayers pulled this item from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion.

Council Member Ramirez recused himself as it pertains to the recall election.

City Manager Darrel Pyle explained the budget amendments that are needed to cover items that were not anticipated and budgeted for this fiscal year.

Vice Mayor Sorensen requested that the Council be provided with a current balance of the ACO account. The Finance Director will prepare a summary for the Council.

Motion to approve as presented.

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A. Community Development: Hold a public hearing and adopt Resolution 17-62-R establishing the fees for Commercial Medical Cannabis Business Permits and approve a budget amendment to create a new fund and account lines for the last half of Fiscal Year 17/18 for the new Cannabis Operations and approve a change to a budgeted position in the Planning Division.

Community Development Director Darlene Mata discussed the proposed fees for Cannabis Business Permits. In addition, Ms. Mata requested a change in positions in the Planning Division by eliminating the Senior Planner position which is vacant and add a new position with the title of Principal Planner. The salary difference between the two positions will be covered this fiscal year by cost savings in the vacant position and next year with the partial allocation of funds related to cannabis operations.

Vice Mayor Sorensen inquired about the positions and allocated expenses for cannabis operations. Police Chief Sever and Ms. Mata responded to her comments.

Mayor Ayers opened the public comments of the public hearing at 7:41p.m. and with no comments given closed the public comments at 7:41 p.m.

Motion to approve a budget amendment establishing the new Cannabis Operations Division for FY 17/18 and change one budgeted position in the Planning Division from a Senior Planner to a Principal Planner position.

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

Motion to adopt Resolution 17-62-R establishing Commercial Medical Cannabis Business Permit Fees.

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

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- A. Community Development: Report to City Council on discussions with HdL Companies regarding a reconsideration process for the Commercial Medical Cannabis Business Permit for applicants that are not recommended to be awarded a permit and direction from City Council on how to proceed.

Community Development Director Darlene Mata and Police Chief Parker Sever provided a report on their discussions with HdL on this request. HdL stated that they have not had a reconsideration process, but the Council has the authority to override staff's recommendations and approve additional permits. Otherwise, the Council would need to modify the current process. They discussed the merit based process which was followed to award the permits.

Council Member Ramirez agreed that an applicant could reapply in the future when the permit process is opened again.

Council Member Devine did not see the need to change the process.

Vice Mayor Sorensen agreed with the other comments and does not want to change the rules. She believes this reassures the community to have confidence in the businesses that were approved.

Mayor Ayers thanked staff for establishing the standards and process for applicants to follow. He is not interested in making any changes.

- B. Community Development: Adopt Resolution 17-63-R declaring two portions of APN 011-090-004 located at the northwest corner of 12th and Woodland Drive as surplus in accordance with Government Code Section 54222.

Community Development Director Darlene Mata provided background information for the Council's review and consideration.

Motion to adopt Resolution 17-63-R.

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

- C. Utilities & Engineering: Introduce and waive the first reading and pass to a second reading Ordinance 17-22, an amendment to Ordinance Section 10.16.130(B) of the City of Hanford Municipal Code, to prohibit parking at any time at Fifth Street - on the north side, from 482' west of the centerline of Douty Street and extending 118' west.

Public Works Director Lou Camara discussed the request by KART and the approved recommendation by Parking & Traffic Commission.

Motion to introduce and waive the first reading of Ordinance 17-22.

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

D. 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 David Ayers.

There were no further nominations.

Council Member Sorensen made the motion to approve and was seconded by Council Member Devine.

The appointment of David Ayers as Mayor was approved unanimously.

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

Council Member Devine nominated Sue Sorensen.

There were no further nominations.

Council Member Ayers made the motion to approve and was seconded by Council Member Ramirez.

The appointment of Sue Sorensen as Vice Mayor was approved unanimously.

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS:

Vice Mayor Sorensen attended Main Street Hanford's monthly meeting and expressed her appreciation of their efforts.

Mayor Ayers attended the Wine & Chocolate event and stated that it was a great turnout. He enjoyed the Christmas Parade, but expressed his disappointment with the citizens for leaving their trash on the streets and sidewalks. The Chamber of Commerce will be meeting tomorrow to select a new director. Mr. Ayers also commented on other upcoming events.

City Attorney Bob Dowd complimented Julissa Zavala from the Hanford Sentinel for a recent article she wrote.

COUNCIL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Council Member Ramirez inquired about the Lime Bike program for a future agenda item. Mr. Pyle stated that questions were submitted to them by staff and are waiting for a response.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Ayers adjourned the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Gomez
City Clerk