



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

May 21, 2019 7:00 PM

Council Chambers

400 N. Douty St.

5:30 CALL TO ORDER STUDY & CLOSED SESSION:

Mayor Sorensen called the Study and Closed Session to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL BY THE CITY CLERK:

Present: Sue Sorensen, John Draxler, Martin Devine, Francisco Ramirez, and Art Brieno

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Comments from the public are limited to items listed on the agenda (GC 54954.3a). A maximum of three minutes is allowed for each speaker. Please begin your comments by stating your name and providing your city of residence.

No comments.

STUDY SESSION:

A. Discussion and Direction regarding Municipal Code land use issues

City Attorney Bob Dowd led a discussion with the Council about the Hanford Municipal Code (HMC) and what it takes to make changes to it. Council Member Ramirez felt that it would be helpful for prospective businesses to be provided with an informational brochure with a step by step guide on starting a business in Hanford in compliance with the HMC. City Manager Darrel Pyle said that in a conversation with the Hanford Chamber of Commerce, they stated that an educational campaign might be a possibility to help businesses be prepared for when and how different ordinances will affect them.

Mayor Sorensen said she would be in support of having the Chamber of Commerce provide this type of information to new businesses. Council Member Ramirez said that in an effort to not duplicate services, the Kings EDC provides this information as well.

Mayor Sorensen adjourned to Closed Session at 6:26 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF THE FOLLOWING:

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - LABOR NEGOTIATIONS (GC 54957.6)

Agency Designated Representative: Darrel Pyle, Sarah Cardoza, Paula Lofgren, and Mario Zamora

Employee Organizations: Hanford Firefighters Local 3898, IAFF; Hanford General Employees Management Association (GEMA); Hanford Police Officers Association (HPOA); and Service Employees International Union, Local 521 (SEIU)

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS (GC 54956.8)

Property: 122 E. Eighth Street and 128 E. Eighth Street (APN 010-276-006, 010-276-008)
Agency Negotiators: Darrel Pyle, Darlene Mata, and Ty Mizote
Negotiating Party: William and Maryann Grimm

C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (GC 54956.9(d)(1))

Valdez v. City of Hanford
Eastern District Case No. 1:17-cv-00430

Sara Perez v. City of Hanford
Kings County Case No.: 17C0335

Medina v. City of Hanford
Kings County Case No. 18C0358

State of CA v. City of Hanford
Kings County Case No.: 18C0218

D. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - POTENTIAL LITIGATION (GC 54956.9(d)(2))

1 potential case.

CALL TO ORDER REGULAR SESSION:

Mayor Sorensen called the Regular Session to order at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John Draxler	Vice Mayor	Present	5:30 PM
Martin Devine	Council Member	Present	5:30 PM
Sue Sorensen	Mayor	Present	5:30 PM
Art Brieno	Council Member	Present	5:30 PM
Francisco Ramirez	Council Member	Present	5:30 PM

INVOCATION:

Invocation led by Police Chief Parker Sever.

FLAG SALUTE:

CLOSED SESSION ACTION REPORT:

No actions taken.

RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

Public Works Director Lou Camara - He updated the Council of the Spring Clean Up program; there were 1,591 transactions of people who used the vouchers for the dump.

Utilities & Engineering Director, John Doyel - Well 44 and 45 are still being worked on. Well 45 is close to completion. There will be a BBQ at Public Works to celebrate Public Works Appreciation Week.

Interim Fire Chief Eric Brotemarkle - He provided a map of the three fire stations and their response areas.

Parks & Recreation Director, Craig Miller - He informed the Council there will be a Senior Health Fair at the Civic tomorrow.

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. This is also the public's opportunity to request an item from the Consent Calendar be pulled for discussion purposes or to comment on any item on the agenda. Comments related to 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.*

Bobbi Wardsen, Kings Commission on Aging - She described the services that her program provides. She's needs approximately \$68,000 for the KCA programs and requested \$10,000 from the City of Hanford.

Dustin Costa, Hanford - He is a firefighter and president of the IAFF union. He said there is no plan to increase staffing.

Jacob Sanchez, Hanford - He voiced his concern for the Hanford Fire Department staffing levels.

Bob Ramos, Hanford - Requests to remove Item E from the Consent Calendar. He asked for clarification on when/how an elected will recuse him/herself from the dais. He also spoke against the cannabis issue.

Noor Memon, Hanford - He wrote a letter to the Council regarding the Bastille. He said he wants to speak with the City Manager about buying the Bastille.

Rand Martin, Caliva - Thanked the Council and the City of Hanford for their willingness to discuss the cannabis issues. Caliva is sponsoring the Thursday Night Market Place this week.

Larry Piechoto, Hanford - Appreciates the Police for helping with the homeless issues at China Alley. On the zoning, he urged the Council to think about the whole picture.

COUNCIL RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Sorensen and Vice Mayor Draxler addressed Ms. Wardsen's public comments. Ms. Wardsen explained that her program receives some funding from the County and will match up to a certain amount of donations. Mayor Sorensen asked Mr. Pyle if the City was able to provide in-kind sponsorship by allowing the use of City facilities, to which Mr. Pyle said that it was a possibility. Ms. Wardsen provided the Council with more information on her program.

Mayor Sorensen responded to Mr. Ramos's question about recusal. After attending a training with the League of California Cities, she learned that a council member is not required to leave the room after a recusal. City Attorney Mizote said the critical requirement is that the council member not participate in the conversation.

The Mayor also responded to statements made regarding the Fire Department.

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.

A member of the public requested to pull Item E. Council Member Brieno requested to pull Item F.

Motion to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Art Brieno, Council Member
SECONDER:	Martin Devine, Council Member
AYES:	Draxler, Devine, Sorensen, Brieno, Ramirez

- A. City Clerk: Approve minutes from the City Council meeting held on April 2, 2019.
- B. Utilities and Engineering: Continuance of Emergency Resolution for Treatment Project on Well No. 50.
- C. Police: Air Pollution Control District Grant signing authority.
- D. Fire: Authorization for the Mayor to sign the letter of commitment to participate in the update of the 2015 Multi-Jurisdiction Local Hazard & Mitigation Plan.

ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT:

1. Reject all bids and re-advertise for bids for the FY 17/18 CDBG Pedestrian and Safety Lighting Improvements Project

(Item E)

Dir. Camara explained the project was budgeted for \$210,000.00. When the project was put out to bid, only two bids were received; the lowest was \$275,000.00. Staff evaluated the bid and decided it would be best to reject all bids and re-advertise for the project after the new fiscal year.

Motion to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Art Brieno, Council Member
SECONDER:	Francisco Ramirez, Council Member
AYES:	Draxler, Devine, Sorensen, Brieno, Ramirez

2. Finance: Warrant Register

(Item F)

Council Member Brieno inquired about patrol cars that were purchased for the Police Department. Chief Sever addressed his question.

Motion to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Art Brieno, Council Member
SECONDER:	Francisco Ramirez, Council Member
AYES:	Draxler, Devine, Sorensen, Brieno, Ramirez

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- A. Utilities and Engineering: Award a contract to Pavement Coatings Co. Inc., of Sacramento, CA in the amount of \$1,605,750.00; establish a construction contingency of \$100,000 for this project; and approve an additional appropriation of \$101,750 from the Gas Tax Reserves.

Dir. Doyel provided an overview of the project to the Council and answered their questions about the initial estimate of the project and the received bids.

Motion to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	John Draxler, Vice Mayor
SECONDER:	Martin Devine, Council Member
AYES:	Draxler, Devine, Sorensen, Brieno, Ramirez

- B. City Clerk: Approve Resolution 19-11-R, in support of Balanced Energy Solutions.

City Manager Darrel Pyle introduced Mr. Coby Wells, a representative from Southern California Gas Company. Mr. Wells explained that SoCal Gas is coming together with different cities and counties on this resolution to show the CPUC that all forms of energy should be available to address the green house gas issue including electricity, natural gas, renewable natural gas, hydrogen, solar, and wind.

Mayor Sorensen said she would be comfortable supporting this resolution.

Motion to approve.

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

- C. Community Development: Waive the second reading of Ordinance 19-06, approving Municipal Code Amendment 2019-02, a request to amend Title 17, Section 17.08.030 of the Hanford Municipal Code by adding to the line D8 “dispensaries (non-storefront retail)” as a conditional use in the IH zone, amending line I23 to allow storefront retail dispensaries as a conditional use in the MX-D zone and amend Section 17.69 to allow medical and adult use commercial operations and to allow dispensaries.

Mayor Sorensen recused herself from the dais due to a potential conflict of interest due to her ownership of a building in the downtown area.

Dir. Mata provided the Council with the final draft of the ordinance. Vice Mayor Draxler asked her if the City has received a lot of calls from interested parties; Dir. Mata replied in the affirmative.

Motion to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED [3 TO 1]
MOVER:	Martin Devine, Council Member
SECONDER:	Francisco Ramirez, Council Member
AYES:	Draxler, Devine, Ramirez
NAYS:	Brieno
ABSTAIN:	Sorensen

- D. Police: Out of state travel to attend National Association of School Resource Officers

Chief Sever explained that Officer Nancy Gallegos was nominated for a National School Resource Officer of the Year award and won. Chief Sever said that Officer Gallegos does an outstanding job and is valued at Sierra Pacific High School. The out-of-state travel request is to send Sergeant Huddleston and Officer Gallegos to the SRO conference to accept her award.

Mayor Sorensen asked if Chief Sever would please bring Officer Gallegos to be recognized at a future Council meeting. Chief Sever said he would.

Motion to approve.

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

- E. Administration: Council to provide direction on joining the Tulare Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

City Manager Pyle said that at a previous meeting there was a consensus to look into joining the Tulare Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Council Member Brieno and Council Member Ramirez both voiced their support for joining. Council Member Devine said that he thinks it's a good move for the City.

Motion to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Art Brieno, Council Member
SECONDER:	Francisco Ramirez, Council Member
AYES:	Draxler, Devine, Sorensen, Brieno, Ramirez

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS:

A. Council Comments

Council Member Brieno - He said that he wants to see what can be done to make businesses accountable for their shopping carts left by the homeless people. Council Member Ramirez said he liked Aldi's model of shopping carts and asked if there's a way to make that a law. City Manager Pyle said that perhaps the approach should be to charge the store for returning abandoned carts. Council Member Devine said he understood that stores likely don't want their carts returned because of a sanitation issue, and suggested charging a fee for disposal. City Manager Pyle said that this topic could be brought back as a future agenda item since it sounded like there was consensus to do so.

Council Member Ramirez - He said he was took Blue Star Moms in a City vehicle to Sacramento for an event with Rudy Salas's office. He said he would like to see a couple Council Members attend the International Convention of Shopping Centers next year. He said he would like to recognize two teachers for their leadership programs.

Council Member Devine - He attended conference on San Joaquin Valley Policy.

Vice Mayor Draxler - He attended the Planning Commission meeting recently and summed it up as basically Main Street vs. Open Retail. He said there were a lot of different views on the pros and cons and what is needed in Kings County.

Council Member Brieno - He continued his comments and said he attended a Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting and the commissioners are concerned about people driving onto the parkland. He asked if signs could be placed out there; Chief Sever said that there are signs posted. Council Member Brieno asked if more signs could be posted.

Mayor Sorensen - She asked about the watering schedule and what the State requirements are for cities. Dir. Doyel answered her question.

COUNCIL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Council Agenda Items

Council Member Ramirez - Asked about adding a hashtag to the HANFORD sign on Lacey Blvd. He also said he will be in Washington D.C. on September 13th-14th and asked for consensus from the Council to stay two more days to talk with constituents. Mayor Sorensen said that this topic can be discussed at the budget meeting the next day.

City Manager Darrel Pyle had a note to discuss a piece of property that was once supposed to be a park in a subdivision and managed by a homeowners' association. That property has since been purchased by Self Help. It was discussed by some homeowners to have the City meet with Self Help to possibly purchase the land to make a park and establish a landscape assessment district. Self Help is preparing to build three houses on the property. City Manager Pyle asked if it would be the Council's consensus to bring back that item, then Staff will hold a study session. Council Member Brieno stated that he just rents the house across the street from the property and doesn't own it; because of that, he said he doesn't have a conflict of interest on the topic. The Council agreed to bring this item back for a study session.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Sorensen adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Martinez
City Clerk