



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

November 5, 2019 7:00 PM

Council Chambers

400 N. Douty St.

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

Mayor Sorensen called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK:

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John Draxler	Vice Mayor	Present	5:25 PM
Martin Devine	Council Member	Present	5:06 PM
Sue Sorensen	Mayor	Present	5:22 PM
Art Brieno	Council Member	Present	5:30 PM
Francisco Ramirez	Council Member	Present	5:23 PM

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. Finance: Finance: Treasurer's Report of Investments and Cash for FY2018-19 and 10 year Investment Analysis.

Finance Director, Paula Lofgren presented the Council with a report of the City's investments and cash for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

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

- B. City Clerk: Review and discuss the Naming Policy for City-owned facilities and property such as: parks, buildings, and amenities at such locations.

City Clerk, Sarah Martinez developed a Naming Policy for City owned facilities and property such as: parks, buildings, and amenities at such locations. The Council agreed to include a statement that naming privileges in response to monetary contribution should be reserved for those who contribute a minimum of 51% of the costs. The Council also agreed that when naming is in recognition of a person it is preferred the person's death has occurred a minimum of one year before the name is bestowed upon the building, amenity, or structure. Ms. Martinez noted the Council's inclusions and will present the revised naming policy to the Parks & Recreation Commission at their next available meeting.

Mayor Sorensen adjourned to Closed Session at 6:14 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF THE FOLLOWING:

- A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (GC 54956.9(d)(2))

One potential case..

- B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

Job Title: City Manager

- 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

SJVEDC v. City of Hanford
Kings County Case No. 17C0142

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

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

Agency Designated Representatives: Mike Olmos, Sarah Cardoza, Paula Lofgren, and Ty Mizote
Employee Organizations: Hanford Police Officers Association (HPOA); Hanford Firefighters Local 3898 (IAFF); Hanford General Employees Management Association (GEMA); and Service Employees International Union, Local 521 (SEIU)

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

Property: APN 028-030-047; South of Idaho Ave., approximately 92 acres.
Agency Negotiators: Mike Olmos, Ty Mizote
Negotiation Party: BMC Realty, Inc.

Property: APN 012-086-004
Agency Negotiators: Mike Olmos and Ty Mizote
Negotiating Party: Anand Investments, LLC

7:00 PM CALL TO ORDER REGULAR SESSION:

Mayor Sorensen called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

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

INVOCATION:

Invocation led by Pastor Alex Nava.

FLAG SALUTE:**CLOSED SESSION ACTION REPORT:**

No action taken on Closed Session items A, B, and C.

Action taken on Real Property Negotiations: Acceptance of a 60-day exclusive negotiating period with AG Greens Farming for City-owned property on Laurel Ave.

RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:**A. Small Business Saturday Proclamation**

Michelle Brown from Main Street Hanford accepted the proclamation for Small Business Saturday.

B. Recognition of Explorers

Police Chief Parker Sever presented the Hanford Explorers with recognition for their achievements at their recent statewide competition.

C. Oath of Appointment

City Clerk, Sarah Martinez swore in Fire Chief Steven Pendergrass. Chief Pendergrass's badge was pinned on him by Retired Assistant Fire Chief Dan Anglan.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

Interim City Manager, Mike Olmos - He expressed his appreciation for the City of Hanford and Staff during his service as Interim City Manager.

Police Chief Parker Sever - He asked that those present keep the Lemoore Police Department and the family of Officer Jonathan Diaz in their prayers.

Community Development Director, Darlene Mata - She provided details on a project coming to Hanford.

Public Works Director, Lou Camara - The airport will be closed for the next eleven days to resurface the runway.

Fire Chief Steve Pendergrass - The new ladder truck goes into service this evening and will be housed at Station 3.

Finance Director, Paula Lofgren - The auditors will be here next week. The Finance Manager position posted. Dir. Lofgren also thanked Mr. Mike Olmos for his work as Interim City Manager.

Utilities & Engineering Director, John Doyel - The Parks & Recreation Commission tabled approval and recommendation of the Parks Master Plan until December.

A. Utilities and Engineering: Status Report for Capital Improvement Projects in Construction

PUBLIC COMMENT:

*This is the time for citizens to comment on subject matters not on the agenda and that are 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 city of residence.*

Norma Martinez, Hanford - Spoke in support of keeping Hidden Valley Park.

Mark Pratter, Hanford - Spoke in support of using 18 acres adjacent to Hidden Valley Park for future park expansion.

Michelle Brown, Main Street Hanford - She told the Council that Main Street Hanford is launching a new social media campaign.

Ken Franks, Hanford - Spoke in support of future expansion to Hidden Valley Park.

Lou Martinez, Hanford - Spoke in support of future expansion to Hidden Valley Park.

Les Vierra, Hanford - Spoke in support of future expansion to Hidden Valley Park.

Linda Silveria, Hanford Chamber of Commerce - She informed the Council that she is the newly appointed Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce; the Chamber has a full board again.

Rosie Cervantes, St. Brigid's Community Outreach Center- She explained her organization's recent name change.

Jack Schwartz, Hanford - Spoke in support of future expansion to Hidden Valley Park.

Bob Ramos, Hanford - Spoke in support of future expansion to Hidden Valley Park. He questioned Council Member Ramirez about his trip to Washington D.C.

Nathan Odom, Hanford - Expressed appreciation for Chief Pendergrass. Spoke in support of future expansion to Hidden Valley Park.

Diane Sharp, Hanford - She offered her congratulations on selecting a City Manager. She questioned an item on the Warrant Register.

COUNCIL RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Sorensen informed the audience that the Council had not yet been presented with the Parks Master Plan therefore, no discussion has taken place yet.

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.

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

- A. City Clerk: Approve minutes from the City Council Meeting held on August 6, 2019.
- B. Finance: FY20 Treasurer's Report of Investments & Cash for July 2019.
- C. Finance: FY20 Treasurer's Report of Investments & Cash for August 2019.
- D. Police: Waive second reading and adopt Ordinance 19-11, a repeal of Chapter 8.16 of Title 8 and reinstatement of Chapter 8.16 Smoking and Tobacco Regulations.
- E. City Attorney: Approve the settlement in the case of Michael Valdez v. Hanford Police Department, et al.
- F. Finance: Warrant Register

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A. Community Development: Award of a Commercial Cannabis Business Permit 2019-02 to Harvest of Hanford for a retail storefront and delivery dispensary located on the north side of 6th Street, between Green and White, (APN 012-036-009) in accordance with Section 5.56.170 of the Hanford Municipal Code.

Dir. Mata provided background information on the application and interview process for cannabis businesses. Dir. Mata introduced Lauren Neuhaus, Government Relations Specialist for Harvest of Hanford. Ms. Neuhaus gave a presentation to the Council on the business. Harvest of Hanford is recommended for the second cannabis business permit to be awarded.

Jeff Lunden, a representative for California Erudite Ventures dba Herb-N-Joy addressed the Council. Devon Julian, a representative for Elemental Wellness also addressed the Council.

Mayor Sorensen opened the Public Hearing for Comments.

Public Comment from those IN FAVOR:

Renee - She said there isn't a reason to limit to two permits.

Dwight Wilson, Elemental Wellness - He spoke in support of additional permits.

Public Comment from those OPPOSED:

George Casarez, Hanford - He is a business owner downtown. He is an applicant who didn't score in the top three candidates, but feels he should be given special consideration because he is local.

Conner Johnson - He is a partner of George Casarez and wants the Council to award a permit to George Casarez's business.

Johnny Delvignene - He said he is from San Francisco and serves on a board promoting local cannabis dispensaries. He spoke in favor of the local applicant; he is also a partner of George Casarez. He noted Mr. Casarez is a third generation local Hanford citizen and his parents worked at the Lemoore Air Force Base *[sic]*.

Yolanda Bellismo - She spoke in support of the local applicant, George Casarez.

Quintin Platt - He said he is from San Francisco and another partner of George Casarez. He is in support of George Casarez.

Leslie Eller, Fresno - She spoke about West Care operations and thinks a dispensary nearby the facility would be wrong.

Bob Ramos, Hanford - He stated his opposition to allowing a dispensary in Hanford.

Nathan Odom, Hanford - He voiced his support for a local applicant.

Joseph Ruiz - He is also from San Francisco and a partner of George Casarez. He feels special consideration should be given to a local owner.

Man - Spoke in support of the local applicant.

Dennis Fausone - Owner of building that West Care is located in; he thinks West Care is a youth facility.

Rebuttal from those IN FAVOR:

Lauren Neuhaus - Harvest of Hanford is enthusiastic about Hanford and looks forward to doing business and growing with the community.

Herb-N-Joy representative - He stated they also partner with a local person, Ms. Leandra Dupree.

Elemental Wellness representative - They will not sell vape related items.

Chief Sever responded to the comments and stated there were no additional points awarded for local involvement.

Council Member Ramirez asked about the process for allowing more permit applications. Dir. Mata answered that a new resolution would have to be approved to change the number of business permits to be awarded. Council Member Ramirez said he would prefer if a business were truly local. Dir. Mata told the Council that the top two applicants also have local partners: Herb-N-Joy would lease a building from a local doctor, Sarah Clarke, and Elemental Wellness's partner is Leandra Dupree, a local.

Council Member Ramirez made a motion to award a cannabis business permit to Harvest of Hanford and to add two more dispensary permits in place of the two delivery-only permits; seconded by Council Member Devine. Council Member Brieno asked what area the business were zoned to be in; Dir. Mata answered they are zoned for the MX-D district, Downtown Hanford per the Council's decision earlier in the year. Council Member Brieno said he has a problem with allowing four of the same business in one area. Council Member Devine pointed to a downtown furniture store owner who said he would love to have other furniture stores around because competition drives the market. Council Member Brieno prefers to expand the allowed zoning to the East and the West. Council Member Devine rescinded his second to Council Member Ramirez's motion. Dir. Mata said the motion should be to recommend to Staff to bring back the resolution for discussion and direction.

Vice Mayor Draxler said the Council should be careful about stating they want somebody local because all applicants if it had been a stipulation way back when the application process was first decided on, all applicants would have easily met that requirement. Vice Mayor Draxler stated the previous members of the Council were the ones who determined the process. Vice Mayor Draxler said he was not comfortable with adding four total permits.

Mayor Sorensen made a motion to approve the recommended cannabis business permit to Harvest of Hanford as stated in the Staff Report; seconded by Vice Mayor Draxler. Motion passed 3-2.

Council Member Ramirez made a motion to direct Staff to bring back the resolution for discussion on the number of permits to be awarded; seconded by Council Member Devine. Motion passed 4-1.

RESULT:	APPROVED [3 TO 2]
MOVER:	Sue Sorensen, Mayor
SECONDER:	John Draxler, Vice Mayor
AYES:	Draxler, Devine, Sorensen
NAYS:	Brieno, Ramirez

- B. Utilities and Engineering: Conduct a public hearing and take testimony for the modification of the Hanford Development Impact Fee Program and adopt Resolution 19-41-R adjusting the Fire Facilities Impact Fee, Police Facilities Impact Fee, Water Facilities Impact Fee, Wastewater Facilities Impact Fee, Storm Drainage Impact Fee, Parks Facilities Impact Fee, Refuse Impact Fee, and the Transportation Impact Fee, and adopting the Engineering Cost Index published by the Engineer News Record for the previous twelve months as the automatic adjustment on July 1 of each fiscal year.

Dir. Doyel presented the Impact Fee Report and responded to questions from the Council.

Mayor Sorensen opened the Public Hearing for Comments.

Public Comment from those IN FAVOR:

Brian Todd - He spoke in support of the modifications to the Impact Fee Schedule and its adoption.

Public Comment from those OPPOSED:

Jack Schwartz - In opposition because he thinks Hanford has a very inefficient use of land.

Rebuttal from those IN FAVOR:

Brian Todd - He said the fee schedule complies with State law.

Motion to approve.

RESULT:	APPROVED [4 TO 1]
MOVER:	John Draxler, Vice Mayor
SECONDER:	Martin Devine, Council Member
AYES:	Draxler, Devine, Brieno, Ramirez
NAYS:	Sorensen

GENERAL BUSINESS:

A. Administration: City Manager Employment Agreement.

Mayor Sorensen introduced the newly hired City Manager, Mario Cifuentez.

Motion to approve.

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

B. Utilities and Engineering: Award a contract to WITBRO Inc., dba Sealrite Paving and Grading, of Fresno, CA in the amount of \$277,388.00 for the FY 17/18 CDBG Pedestrian and Safety Lighting Project, and establish a construction contingency of \$27,500.00, and approve the amended budget page adding the FY19/20 CDBG funds to the FY17/18 CDBG funds for this project. (Harris Street, Brown Street, Seventh Street, and Eleventh Street)

Dir. Doyel presented information on the budget amendment.

Motion to approve.

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

C. Utilities and Engineering: Authorize the Interim City Manager to execute Amendment No. 1 to the Administrative Services Agreement with California Choice Energy authorizing the City Manager, Interim City Manager, and Utilities and Engineering Director to enter into energy contracts on behalf of the City of Hanford.

Dir. Doyel stated this was an edit to the text to insert position titles rather than specific names.

Motion to approve.

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

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS:

A. Council Comments

Council Member Ramirez - He expressed appreciation for the people that attended the meeting that evening.

Mayor Sorensen - She said she played pickleball at the high school.

COUNCIL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Council Future Agenda Items

CLOSED SESSION:

Mayor Sorensen adjourned to Closed Session at 11:38 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no action taken from Closed Session, Mayor Sorensen adjourned the meeting on Wednesday, November 6th at 12:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Martinez
City Clerk