



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
January 7, 2020 7:00 PM
Council Chambers
400 N. Douty St.**

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

Mayor Draxler called the Study and Closed Session to order at 5:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK:

Present: John Draxler, Francisco Ramirez, and Sue Sorensen.

Absent: Martin Devine and Art Brieno.

Mayor Draxler noted a quorum was present.

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. City Attorney: Summary of SB 998 - Discontinuance of water service due to non-payment.

City Attorney, Ty Mizote provided information on recent legislation from Senate Bill 998 as it relates to residential discontinuation of water services. The City's current code stipulates a bill becomes delinquent fifteen (15) days after the date of the bill. One of the big changes is that water service providers cannot shut water off until a bill is at least sixty (60) days delinquent. The legislation also has additional rules if the customer is experiencing a financial hardship; if the following three conditions qualify, the City cannot shut off the residential water: 1) The customer submits written certification from a primary care provider that shutoff will pose serious threat to health or safety, 2) The customer demonstrates an inability to pay, and 3) The customer is willing to enter into a payment plan.

Council Member Sorensen stated she felt this discussion should have taken place during the General Business portion of the agenda.

Mayor Draxler adjourned the Council to Closed Session at 6:15 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF THE FOLLOWING:

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

Agency Designated Representatives: Mario Cifuentez, 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)

7:00 PM CALL TO ORDER REGULAR SESSION:

Mayor Draxler called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Mayor Draxler noted a quorum was present.

ROLL CALL:

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

INVOCATION:

Invocation led by Pastor Thomas King.

FLAG SALUTE:

CLOSED SESSION ACTION REPORT:

No action taken.

RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

Fire Chief, Steve Pendergrass introduced Battalion Chief Isaac Buller; he has recently been promoted. BC Buller, thanked the Council, Staff, and Community for the opportunity to serve the citizens of Hanford. He also introduced his family to the Council.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

City Manager, Mario Cifuentez - He has a meeting scheduled with the Tulare Council Homeless Alliance.

Police Chief, Parker Server - Two new officers have been hired. There is a new surveillance camera to watch an area of town where there have been problems.

Public Works Director, Lou Camara - The manhole lifting project is beginning on Monday, January 13th.

Fire Chief Pendergrass - BC Buller's transition is helping things in the department.

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.*

Mark Pratter, Hanford - He spoke on the topics of air pollution and the vacant 18 acres adjacent to Hidden Valley Park.

Lorna Martinez, Hanford - She thanked Chief Sever for allowing her son to do a ride along. She asked why the City didn't apply for Prop. 68 grant money.

Bob Ramos, Hanford - He would like a camera view on top of the Civic for a local news television station.

Linda Silveria, Hanford - She stated effective December 16th, there have been changes to the Hanford Chamber of Commerce. She is currently serving as the Interim Director. She extended an invitation to the Council to a ribbon-cutting ceremony of Gar-Bennett in Armona.

Nathan Odom, Hanford - He thanked Mr. Cifuentez for being on his show.

COUNCIL RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT:

Council Member Ramirez responded to Ms. Martinez's question about grant funding.

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, Vice Mayor
SECONDER:	Sue Sorensen, Council Member
AYES:	Draxler, Sorensen, Ramirez
ABSENT:	Devine, Brieno

- A. City Clerk: Approve minutes from the City Council Meeting held on November 5, 2019.
- B. City Attorney: Amendment to Hanford Municipal Code Chapter 13.04 regarding residential water service billing and discontinuation.
- C. Police: Authorization to accept the 2018 Homeland Security Grant Program MOUs, for the purpose of funding equipment purchases for Police and Fire.

- D. Public Works: Authorization to purchase twelve (12) Autoscope Video Detection Cameras, including technical support services, from Econolite Company of Anaheim, Ca., in the amount of \$64,795.18.
- E. Utilities & Engineering: Initiation of abandonment of road right of way at the intersection of 12th Avenue and Grangeville Boulevard.
- F. Finance: Warrant Register.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- A. Administration: Discussion and Council direction regarding City Commissions pertaining to date of appointments, number of commissioners, and time of meetings.

City Manager Cifuentez provided information of the current ordinance which dictates the commissioner terms expire on December 31st and the Council appoints new commissioners at the first meeting in January. The Council discussed the number of commissioners on each commission and the meeting time for the Planning Commission. Council Member Sorensen stated she felt that it would be beneficial to have the meeting time consistent among the commissions at 5:30 p.m., Mayor Draxler agreed.

Currently the Planning and Parks & Recreation Commission have seven (7) members, and the Parking & Traffic Commission has five (5) members. Council Member Sorensen stated the opportunity for more community involvement was important and she wants to keep the two commission at seven (7) members. Mayor Draxler stated there are benefits to moving the membership to five (5) and Vice Mayor Ramirez agreed. Council Member Sorensen suggested to give it another year and re-evaluate.

Community Development Director, Darlene Mata suggested the Council include language in the code to state commissioners may remain seated until a new commissioner is appointed or reappointed as applicable. Mayor Draxler and Council Member Sorensen were agreeable to this suggestion; however, Mayor Draxler stated he prefers to make a decision on this topic with all five Council Members.

Dir. Mata said she will bring back the item to make a decision on expiration/appointment of commissioner terms. The Council reached consensus on moving the Planning Commission start time to 5:30 p.m.

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

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS:**A. Council Comments**

Vice Mayor Ramirez - He is attending a WELL program in Southern California and then will head to the League of California Cities meeting.

Council Member Sorensen - She asked if there are any meetings to cancel for the 2020 year.

Mayor Draxler - He said they are looking at the second week of February for the Goal Setting meeting. After some discussion the City Manager will try to arrange a date in January.

COUNCIL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**A. Council Future Agenda Items****ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Draxler adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Martinez
City Clerk