



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

**June 2, 2020 7:00 PM
Council Chambers
400 N. Douty Street**

Video Teleconference via Zoom. Council Members attended remotely.

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

Mayor Draxler called the Study Session to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL BY THE CITY CLERK:

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

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.*

*Comments from the public are limited to items 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.*

Jack Schwartz asked about the funding source(s) and amounts of the Pavement Management System costs. He also asked how and why the City of Hanford allowed a backlog of deferred maintenance.

STUDY SESSION:

- A. Public Works: Presentation of the Pavement Management System Update for the City of Hanford.

Public Works Director John Doyel presented the Pavement Management System Update, with four scenario options. Council gave direction to stay with Scenario One (City's Existing Budget) and bring it back to Council for another Study Session, with potential revenue streams available.

- B. Finance: Presentation and discussion of the proposed Fiscal Year 2020/2021 General Fund budget for the City of Hanford.

Finance Director Paula Lofgren presented the overview of the proposed Fiscal Year 2020/2021 General Fund budget and an overview of the budget with COVID-19-impacting revenue. City Manager Mario Cifuentez discussed actions for the Council to consider to reach the goal of a balanced budget. Direction from Council is to have a special meeting, with a second General Fund study session, Thursday, June 18, 2020, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned to Closed Session at 6:45 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF THE FOLLOWING:

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

Property: Nation Guard Armory, 905 N. 11th Ave. APN: 010-490-018

Agency Negotiators: Mario Cifuentez and Ty Mizote

Negotiating Party: State of California

Property: APNs 028-240-018, 028-240-020, 028-310-005, 028-310-007, 028-310-008, 028-310-025

Agency Negotiators: Mario Cifuentez and Ty Mizote

Negotiating Party: City Farm Industries, Inc.; Ross Lyndon-James

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

One potential case.

7:00 PM CALL TO ORDER REGULAR SESSION:

Mayor Draxler called the Regular Session to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

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

INVOCATION:

Invocation led by Police Chief Parker Sever.

FLAG SALUTE:

Mayor Draxler led the flag salute.

CLOSED SESSION ACTION REPORT:

City Attorney Mizote reported no actions taken; however, the Council will reconvene to Closed Session after the regular meeting to finish discussion.

RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

A. National Public Works Week Proclamation

Mayor Draxler read the document proclaiming May 17-23, 2020 National Public Works Week. He expressed appreciation for our Public Works Department and its employees.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

City Manager Cifuentez reported that he gave a presentation at a Rotary meeting on the State of the City, Council Goals and Objectives Sessions, City finances, and other project updates. He attended the Road Map to Reopening meeting on June 1. They continue to work on opening as quickly as possible. He reported that City offices opened June 1, in compliance with COVID-19 guidelines. The City was also able to open the skate park. Parks and Community Services Director Brad Albert has been diligently researching CDC guidelines on a variety of sports projects and other amenities we hope to open soon. He deferred to Community Development Director Mata to explain a new policy, which he approved as an emergency order.

Director Mata stated that, in order to reopen indoor dining, restaurants are required to reduce their capacity by fifty percent. In an effort to relieve some of that hardship, staff has created an expedited outdoor dining permit, for use during this emergency order approved by the City Manager. It would allow dining in unused adjacent parking or patio areas not already used for outdoor dining. The permit is free and will be approved in one day, providing all criteria are met. This went into effect last week and will require Council ratification, if there is a need to continue beyond the emergency order.

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS:

A. Council Comments

Vice Mayor Ramirez will attend his last WELL meeting this week.

Council Member Sorensen reported that she had spoken with several community members. She also spoke Michelle Brown (to follow up with Main Street Hanford), with Jeff Garner (KCAO) regarding CDBG funds, and with a representative of Kings Gospel Mission, about their needs. She expressed disappointment with the State's lack of commitment to our economy and to our people. She is excited about our new Parks and Community Services Director and encouraged support of youth programs. She asked Director Mata to answer, later, how we are getting info to restaurants regarding the new temporary outdoor dining permit.

Council Member Brieno agreed with the importance of supporting programs for the children. He reported that he had met with Director Albert and was impressed with his enthusiasm and speed in getting to work. He spoke with Dave Clevenger regarding Kings Gospel Mission projects, and he encouraged prayer for our police officers.

Council Member Devine was happy to see that things are starting to get back to normal. He attended LAFCO, KCAG, and KAPTA/KART meetings. The KAPTA budget is balanced for 2020-21, and they have closed on property for a new KART building.

Mayor Draxler appreciated the expedited outdoor dining permits and the ability to accommodate restaurant owners in a timely manner. He mentioned that the letter of support for Senator Hurtado was placed on the Consent Calendar because it was time sensitive. He notified the Council Members that they will receive information soon regarding their self-evaluations.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

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Bob Ramos spoke in favor of the proposed video streaming of Council meetings. He refuted Council Member Sorensen's comment in the

May 19 meeting regarding misrepresentation of her position on selling the 18 acres adjacent to Hidden Valley Park, and he stated that a City survey indicated that 48% of Hanford residents wanted the 18 acres to be a park.

Mark Pratter stated that the staff report of the May 19 meeting regarding the Citizen's Initiative was incomplete and that the Northwest park exchange location was staff's idea. He feels that Hanford's growth will support a regional park.

Caleb shared a video clip of a hand-held sound level meter, indicating decibel levels up to 96.6 from the rail spur at Pitman Farms. He stated that he lives across the street, and the noise goes on at all hours of the night, with up to 100 railcars. He requested time on a future agenda to discuss the issue.

Lou Martinez reminded Council of the survey they paid for, and the results, and asked them to listen to the people.

Jeff Garner, Executive Director, KCAO, reported that they have increased food distributions throughout Kings County, partnering with Koinonia Church, serving nearly 38,000 pounds of food a week and assisting nearly 4,100 individuals a week. He announced two upcoming food distributions: June 3 and June 19, at Koinonia Church, at 9:00 a.m.

Ashley Neeley stated that she has organized Hanford Peaceful Protest for Saturday, June 6, 2:00-5:00 p.m., in Civic Park. She expressed disappointment from the black community that the City has not addressed the George Floyd situation. She has contacted the Police Department and the City Manager, and 262 people have responded to social media with an interest in attending the protest. Hand sanitizers, gloves, and masks will be provided. Almost \$300 has been raised for supplies. She requested City support of the peaceful protest and call for justice.

Diane Sharp thanked Ashley for organizing the peaceful protest. Ms. Sharp announced that the Art Center is opening one-week art programs for kids, and scholarships are available. She encouraged those interested in a scholarship to visit the Kings Art Center website. She thanked Council for the draft allocation for Kings Gospel Mission (KGM), to help build housing for the homeless. She gave a brief update of current and recent KGM projects and stated that KGM will be sending a newsletter to the Council Members every month. .

Shawn Warner, clinical lab scientist, expressed concern regarding reopening, noting an increase of walk-in patients from the Emergency Room. He cited a *New York Times* article that named Hanford-Corcoran as the third largest COVID-19 hot spot in the nation. He urged extreme caution in reopening.

Geni Lefler noted that June is Veteran Community PTSD Month. She requested usage of the Veterans Building for a Flag Day take-out dinner event on June 14. She mentioned that the waiver fireworks booth Temporary Use Fee will help them tremendously. Mayor Draxler encouraged her to speak to Director Albert or City Manager Cifuentez about use of the Veterans Building.

Nate Odom spoke in support of the peaceful protest. He requested a resolution from Council in support of the organized protest. Mayor Draxler responded that it would be difficult to get a resolution in time for Saturday's protest. Vice Mayor Ramirez stated that he would attend.

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.

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Council Member Sorensen requested to pull Item B [SB 1103 letter], Item C [SB 1110], and Item F [Employment Agreement]. A member of the public requested to pull Item D [Swagit]. Vice Mayor Ramirez requested to pull Item E [City Farms Inc. lease]. Council Member Brieno requested to pull Item G [Reso 18-26-R] and Item H [Fireworks Temporary Use Permit fees].

Motion to approve.

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

- A. City Clerk: Approval of the minutes from the City Council Meeting held on April 7, 2020.
- B. Public Works: Approve a Notice of Completion for the Civic Park Restroom Renovation Project and authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest and file said Notice with the Kings County Recorder's Office.
- C. Finance: Warrant Register

ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT:

- A. Administration: Approval of a Letter of Support, on behalf of the City of Hanford, for S.B. 1103, Access to Workforce Training Programs by Senator Melissa Hurtado.

Item pulled by Council Member Sorensen.

Marisol, representing Senator Melissa Hurtado's office, briefly explained the letter of support for SB-1103 and SB-1110.

Motion to approve.

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

- B. Administration: Approval of a Letter of Support, on behalf of the City of Hanford, for S.B. 1110, California Medicine Scholar Program by Senator Melissa Hurtado.

Item B was pulled by Council Member Sorensen.

Motion to approve.

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

- C. ADMIN: Approval of an amendment to the existing service contract with Swagit to include video streaming of Council Meetings and approval of the purchase of a single camera solution at a One Time Cost of \$11,790 and video streaming services for the annual amount of \$10,200.

Item C was pulled by a member of the public.

IT Manager Forcey presented the staff report. Discussion followed. Mayor Draxler asked IT Manager Eric Forcey to explore the cost of adding closed captioning and present it to Council at a future date, if necessary.

Motion to approve.

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

- D. Administration: Approval of Second Amendment of the existing Lease Agreement between City Farm Industries, Inc. and the City of Hanford for 960 acres of City-owned farmland.

Item pulled by Council Member Ramirez.

Ty Mizote made recommendation for Council to approve the second amendment to the lease, with the new fifty-thousand-dollar condition.

Motion to approve.

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

- E. Administration: Approval of the First Amended and Restated Employment Agreement for the City Manager.

Item pulled by Council Member Sorensen.

Ty Mizote summarized the First Amended and Restated Employment Agreement for the City Manager.

Discussion followed.

Motion to approve.

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

- F. Community Development: Adoption of Amended RESOLUTION NO. 18-26-R; Supporting an Application for Funding from the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME).

Council Member Brieno requested that this item be pulled.

Housing Analyst Sandra Lerma Martinez and Community Development Director Darlene Mata, explained the amendment. Discussion followed.

Motion to adopt.

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

- G. Fire: Temporarily waive Temporary Use Permit fees to address revenue concerns caused by the Coronavirus 2019 pandemic.

Council Member Brieno requested that this item be pulled.

There was brief discussion.

Motion to approve.

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A. Community Development: Conduct a Public Hearing and Adopt Interim Urgency Ordinance No. 20-06 Extending Ordinance 19-08, an interim zoning/urgency ordinance of the City Council of the City of Hanford, restricting the commercial cultivation and manufacturing of industrial hemp (CBD) products in all zones pending enactment of an update to the City's Municipal Code.

Mayor Draxler opened the public hearing and called for the staff report.

Director Mata presented the staff report, recommended approval, and answered Council Members' questions.

Mayor Draxler opened Public Comment. There being no comments, Mayor Draxler closed the Public Comment portion of the hearing and invited additional questions from Council.

Following Council Members' questions, Mayor Draxler called for a motion.

Motion to approve.

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

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG): Amendments to the CDBG Citizen Participation Plan, the 2019-2023 Consolidated Plan and the 2019-20 Action Plan, and adoption of the 2020-21 Action Plan.

Mayor Draxler opened the public hearing and called for the staff report.

Housing Administrative Analyst Lerma Martinez presented the staff report, recommended approval, and addressed questions from Council.

Mayor Draxler opened Public Comment:

IN FAVOR

Jack Schwartz asked if the funds will be administered in-house or through a third party, and what will be done to advertise availability of those funds.

Bob Ramos suggested that perhaps Kings County Community Action could administer the rental assistance program funds, since they already provide rental assistance.

OPPOSED

None.

Mayor Draxler closed Public Comment, and Director Mata answered questions. Discussion followed.

Mayor Draxler closed the public hearing

C. Approve the proposed amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan and the 2019-2023 Consolidated Plan.

Motion to approve.

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

D. Approve and appropriate the 2019 Annual Action Plan Amendment, in order to utilize the CDBG-CV funds.

Motion to approve.

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

E. Approve and adopt the proposed 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan.

Motion to approve.

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

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- A. Public Works: Adopt Resolution 20-08-R, approving the Annual Engineer's Report and Intention to Levy and Collect Assessments as outlined, pursuant to Chapter 3 of the Landscape and Lighting Act of 1972, and set July 17, 2020 as the Public Hearing date to consider the increases in assessments as proposed.

Director Doyel presented the staff report and answered Council Member's questions.

Motion to adopt.

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

- B. Public Works: Approval of a request to add a Refuse Coordinator position, within the Refuse Division of the Public Works Department, and authorization for the City Manager to start the recruitment process prior to July 1, 2020.

Director Doyel presented the staff report and answered Council Members' questions.

Motion to approve.

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

- C. Administration: Discussion and Adoption of Resolution No. 20-09-R and Ordinance No. 20-07 thereby rescinding the City's Local Emergency Resolution and Modifying the the terms of the Ordinance to follow the updated State Guidance.

City Manager Cifuentez presented the staff report and recommended adoption.

Motion to adopt.

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

COUNCIL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Council Future Agenda Items

City Clerk Sarah Martinez announced that the date for the Fire Dog swearing in at the City Hall Training Room had been changed to June 8.

Council Member Brieno requested going back to holding meetings in person again, as soon as possible.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Draxler adjourned the meeting at 10:16 before returning to Closed Session.

There was nothing to report from Closed Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Black
Deputy City Clerk