



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

Video Teleconference via ZOOM. Council Members will attend remotely.
(Limited virtual access.)

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

ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

*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 Swartz, Hanford - He expressed concerns on the conditions of City parks and how funds are being utilized in all the parks.

Bob Ramos, Hanford - He asked questions regarding Prop 68 allocation program funds and the intentions of the Parks and Recreation Department applying for grants in the future. He also asked that item B be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

STUDY SESSION:

- A. Presentation by the Hanford Chamber of Commerce to update Council on their current operations and potential Council actions related to the existing Agreement between the Chamber and the City of Hanford.

New CEO, Amory Marple, gave a presentation on their current operations and their plan to become self-sufficient, with the City's continued contributions through the end of the year.

The Council agreed to bring back the Hanford Chamber of Commerce for a follow-up on their progress, with the commitment of the first-quarter contribution payment to them.

- B. Parks and Community Services: Discussion and Council recommendations on the proposed park projects to be funded by Proposition 68 Per Capita Allocation program.

Parks and Community Services Director Albert gave a presentation on four recommended park projects for possible funding by the Proposition 68 Per Capita Allocation Program. The City of Hanford was awarded \$177,952, which was based on population.

Mayor Draxler, Vice Mayor Ramirez, Sorensen, and Devine were in support of the pickleball project at Lacey Park and recognized the importance of cameras at the parks. Council asked Director Albert if there are other funds available for the camera project. Brieno felt that the barrier restroom walls at Lacey Park and the cameras at Centennial Park should take priority over the pickle ball court.

Council directed Director Albert to take the Council's input to the Parks and Recreation Commission and bring a resolution back to City Council.

CLOSED SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF THE FOLLOWING:

Mayor Draxler called for Closed Session to be held after the meeting.

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUSEL - REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS (GC 5495.8)

Property: 109 E. Eighth St.

Agency Negotiations: Mario Cifuentez and Ty Mizote

Negotiating Party: The Carnegie Museum

7:00 PM CALL TO ORDER REGULAR SESSION:

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

ROLL CALL:

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John Draxler	Mayor	Present	7:00 PM
Martin Devine	Council Member	Present	7:00 PM
Sue Sorensen	Council Member	Present	7:00 PM
Art Brieno	Council Member	Present	7:00 PM
Francisco Ramirez	Vice Mayor	Present	7:00 PM

INVOCATION:

Invocation led by Pastor Thomas King.

FLAG SALUTE:

CLOSED SESSION ACTION REPORT:

No action taken.

RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS:

A. Proclamation for Parks and Community Services "Parks Make Life Better!" Month.

A Proclamation for Parks and Community Services "Parks Make Life Better!" Month was presented to Commissioner Joseph Castaneda.

B. Recognition of Mr. Ruben Valdavinos, PAL Program

Sergeant Cano presented a recognition certificate to Mr. Ruben Valdavinos.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

City Manager Cifuentez reported that the Community Development Department is working with local restaurants to help facilitate more of the outdoor seating, due to the governor's shutdown of dine-in seating. Seventh Street has been closed due to a fire and should be open by tomorrow, which is sooner than planned. He mentioned that the City of Hanford received almost \$733,000 in allocations from CARES funding and allocations from the State budget, to help pay for COVID-related expenses. He stated that Fire Chief Pendergrass has been tracking COVID-related expenses, in order to recoup the bulk of those expenses to help offset the deficit budget.

Police Chief Sever gave an update of promotions in the Police Department: James Edlund was promoted to Lieutenant, Jason Stingley and Frank Martinez were promoted to Sergeant, Jeff Davis was promoted to Corporal, and Albert Cano was promoted to Corporal.

Fire Chief Steve Pendergrass gave an update on the Fourth of July fire calls and statistics, with a total 147 fireworks calls. He stated that some community members were upset because fireworks were not being stopped. He explained that citations or confiscation can happen from a resident's complaint phone call.

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS:

A. Council Comments

Devine - He attended the San Joaquin Valley Regional Council policy meeting and reported reduction of nearly one billion dollars in State transportation funds for Fiscal Year 20/21. He attended the KCAG meeting and the KART/KAPTA meeting and reported an adopted balanced budget. He also shared his concerns regarding face mask guidelines in California.

Ramirez - No comments.

Brieno - He expressed concern about the bad economy, due to COVID-19.

Sorensen - She walked another LAD district. She recognized the City Manager and Directors for working hard at putting the budget together.

Draxler - He attended Kings Waste Recycle Authority and reported an approved balance budget. He mentioned that the City of Hanford is in the process of hiring a Recycling Coordinator that will help get the City back in line for the State recycle guidelines. He will be doing another LAD district walk.

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 providing your city of residence.*

Lou Martinez, Hanford - He thanked the Police Department for their hard work and stated that he will always support them. He expressed his concerns for businesses in Hanford and stated that he believes that the City of Hanford is one of the most business-unfriendly towns in the entire Valley. He was opposed to the revocation of Mr. Aguilar's permit.

Amory Marple, Hanford - She introduced herself as the new CEO of the Hanford Chamber of Commerce and promoted the Chamber's upcoming events.

Steve Morrison, Hanford - Opposed to Mr. Aguilar's revocation.

Jeff Mecedos, Hanford - Opposed to Mr. Aguilar's revocation. He also asked about improvements on Seventh Street.

Maurice and Silvia Robinson - Opposed to Mr. Aguilar's revocation.

Chi - Opposed to Mr. Aguilar's revocation.

Mark Pratter, Hanford - He stated that there was no allocation of Prop 68 money for the extension of Hidden Valley Park, and he felt that was against the will of the community. He understood that the City received a grant, with a separate application process, that the City did not invoke. He mentioned his email to Mayor Draxler regarding the Park, to which he did not receive a response. He would like to know if Mr. Zumwalt intends to bid on the engineering work for housing units.

Richard Smith, Hanford - He thanked Chief Sever and Chief Pendergrass, and their staffs, for their work over the holiday weekend. He expressed concern about the negative effects that fireworks have on the community. He spoke to Council Member Devine regarding the issue. He said that he hopes that we can take active creative measures to try to impact this dangerous behavior.

Michelle Brown, Hanford - She gave an update on the Re-open Safely Grant. Main Street Hanford has given out approximately \$15,000, to 30 businesses to assist them in reopening safely. She thanked the City for the grant funds. She also gave an update on the Thursday Night Market Place. Quesadilla Gorilla is opening up soon in downtown Hanford. Main Street Hanford is working on an event that would temporarily close the streets, for small business to create an outdoor shopping and dining experience.

Jerry Irons, Hanford - Opposed to Mr. Aguilar's revocation.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Consent Calendar items are considered routine and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion on 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.

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

- A. City Clerk: Approval of the minutes from the City Council Meeting held on April 21, 2020.
- B. City Clerk: Approval of the minutes from the City Council Meeting held on May 5, 2020.
- C. City Clerk: Approval of the minutes from the City Council Special Meeting held on May 8, 2020.
- D. Administration: Authorization to accept the settlement offers from both AT&T and Verizon, resulting from a class action lawsuit for violating cooperative purchasing agreements and authorization for the City Manager to execute the necessary documents on behalf of the City.
- E. Administration: Approval of the Re-Adoption of Ordinance Nos. 18-05, 18-06, 19-04, 19-06, 19-07, 19-10, 19-11, 19-12, 20-01, and 20-03.
- F. Information Technology: Approval of a 3-year Lease with Dell Financial Services for the replacement of Police Department server storage equipment, in the total amount of \$69,552.62, with a \$1 buyout option at the end of the Lease Term.

- G. Public Works: Approval of the Notice of Completion for the Hanford-Armona Road at Irwin Street/10 ½ Avenue Traffic Signal Installation Project, and authorization for the Mayor to execute, and the City Clerk to attest and file said Notice with Kings County Recorder's Office.
- H. Public Works: Approval of the Notice of Completion for the 11th Avenue Median Landscape Renovation Project and authorization the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest and file said Notice with Kings County Recorder's Office.
- I. Public Works: Approval of the Notice of Completion for the City Hall Roof Re-Coating Project and authorization for the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest and file said Notice with Kings County Recorder's Office.
- J. Public Works: Authorization to advertise for bids for the Stonecrest Basin Equipment Installation Project, and pre-authorize the City Manager to award and execute the contract on behalf of the City to the lowest responsible bidder, provided that the project bid is within current budget appropriation.
- K. Fire: Authorization for the City Manager to execute an Agreement with the California Office of Emergency Services (OES) for Temporary Assignment of Vehicular Equipment for a Type 1 Fire Engine.
- L. Fire: Authorization to transfer approximately \$313,000.00 in accrued funding for the 1998 Ferrara Spartan Fire Vehicle from the Vehicle Replacement Reserve fund to the Fire Equipment Replacement Reserve fund to pay off the loan on Fire Ladder Truck and transfer remaining balance of accrued funding back to the General Fund.
- M. Finance: Acceptance of the Warrant Register for the period of June 19, 2020 through June 30, 2020.

ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT:

- A. Administration: Adoption of Resolution 20-14-R, amending the Handbook of Rules and Procedures to include various amendments as recommended by the Majority of Council.

Item pulled by public, Bob Ramos.

City Manager, Mario explained that he spoke to Bob regarding his questions before he left the meeting. Bob questioned the placement of the camera of our new camera system. He also asked if cameras will be allowed to be placed on the back wall. Mario explained to Bob that the camera will be placed just south of the seating area where the Community Development Director and Police Chief usually sit.

No further discussion by Council.

Motion to approve.

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

- B. Community Development: Approval of Program Guidelines for City of Hanford CDBG-CV Programs CARES Emergency Rental Assistance and Small Business Grant Programs.

Item pulled by Council Member Ramirez.

Director Darlene Mata gave a brief description and qualifications of the Programs.

Ramirez asked if Mr. Aguilar can qualify for this program. Director Mata explained that Mr. Aguilar would have to show a loss of income due to COVID.

Motion to approve.

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A. Community Development: Update on status of previously awarded cannabis dispensary permits and award of one additional Commercial Cannabis Business Permit to California Erudite Ventures, dba Herb N' Joy, located at 102 S. Douty Street (APN 012-095-006) for an adult use and medical dispensary with delivery in approximately 1,700 square feet.

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

Community Development Director Mata presented the staff report and recommended adoption of Resolution 20-16-R. She introduced Jeff Linden, of California Erudite, who then gave a presentation of Herb N' Joy.

Following discussion, Mayor Draxler opened Public Comment.

Comments from those IN FAVOR:

Richard, Hanford - He asked about the dispensary going into the old Serrano's furniture store building.

Director Mata replied that Hanford Harvest withdrew their application, and she gave an update on CALIVA.

Comments from those OPPOSED:

No comments.

Following additional discussion, Mayor Draxler closed the public hearing and called for a motion.

Motion to approve.

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

- B. Award Commercial Cannabis Business Permit to California Erudite Ventures, dba Herb N' Joy, located at 102 S. Douty Street (APN: 012-095-006) for an adult use Medical dispensary with delivery in approximately 1700 square feet.

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

C. Community Development: Revocation of Administrative Approval 2001-03 and 2019-20 consideration of revoking the approvals for a smog and automotive repair business and expansion for failure to comply with conditions of approval. The business is located at 330 E. 7th Street.

Mayor John Draxler opened the Public Hearing for comments from the public.

Comments from those IN FAVOR:

No Comments.

Comments from those OPPOSED:

Richard, Aguilar, Hanford - Opposed.
David Aguilar, Hanford - Opposed.
Hanford Citizen - Opposed.
Fredrick Moro, Hanford - Opposed.
Greg Morano, Hanford - Opposed.
Erin Bowling, Hanford - Opposed.
Mark Silver, Hanford - Opposed.
Luke Robinson, Hanford - Opposed.
Dennis Fausone, Hanford - Opposed.
Joaquin Gonzales, Hanford - Opposed.
Jack Swartz, Hanford - Opposed.
Richard Aguilar, Hanford - Opposed.
Marsh, Hanford - Opposed.

Community Development Director Mata presented the staff report, and recommended that City Council revoke Administrative Approvals 2001-03 and 2019-20. Director Mata provided a recommended alternative motion with additional items with a strict and short time line.

Ramirez - He asked Aguilar to approach the podium to give the Council a realistic timeline and business goals. He also asked Director Mata what the process would be for Aguilar to get four lifts.

Director Mata responded that it would require a zone change, and that there are few alternative zoning options.

Brieno - He asked Aguilar what prospects he has to obtain funds. He also said it is not necessary to send the Fire Marshal and Code Compliance to inspect his business because Fire Marshal inspections have not been completed in the past. He does not agree with all conditions in the alternative resolution. He would like to bring Aguilar back to Council, if needed.

Sorenson - She said the important thing is to help Aguilar work in a safe environment for him, his employees, and customers and protect him in his service to the community. The details need to allow flexibility to help accomplish the goal in a timely manner.

Mayor Draxler - He shared his concern for Aguilar needing to finish this project within the timeline given before the State passes new regulations that might affect his business.

Motion to approve Resolution 20-17-R to confirm the continuation of the permit to allow an additional extension of time to comply with conditions of approval, amended to add a condition of a consecutive 180 days to comply with all conditions and the removal of the condition "Failure to comply will result in immediate revocation." Conditions of approval:

1. That within seven days, or by July 14, an inspection of the premises is made by Fire, Code Enforcement, and Building. This is to ensure compliance with storage of vehicles and used part storage and potentially other violations of the conditions that may be occurring on site.
2. That the applicant be issued a building permit within 14 days, or by July 21 on the trash enclosure lifts, and parking lot.
3. That construction begins within 30 days or by August 7, 2020.
4. That construction be completed within 90 days or by October 7, 2020.
5. That the applicant must require that all patrons park in designated parking spaces only once the parking lot is properly striped. Currently there is an issue with vehicles parking in the public right of way and in some instances double parked in the street.
6. That no servicing of vehicles may occur in the parking lot or public street.
7. That all cars that are kept overnight must be placed in the screened-in area behind the building. No cars shall be left in the parking lot.
8. That the applicant dispose of used parts on a regular basis. The applicant previously requested to be allowed to dispose of parts twice a year. The request was denied.
9. That all other conditions of Administrative Approvals 2001-3 and 2019-10 continue to apply.
10. That the applicant must comply with all requirements within 180 consecutive days.

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

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- A. Police: Approval of a Purchase and Sale Agreement with the California Department of General Services and authorization for the City Manager to execute the appropriate documents for the purpose of purchasing the National Guard Armory for a Purchase price of \$437,000.00.

Chief Sever requested the Council's approval to purchase The National Guard Armory. The facility is currently used by the Police Department for the PAL boxing program, SWAT briefing, SWAT training, and storage of the PD vehicles. There has been \$15,000 of improvements on the facility. The facility is to be used countywide, as a K9 training facility. The purchase price is not to exceed \$437,000 plus additional fees that may include transfer, title, insurance premiums, recording, and escrow fees.

Motion to approve.

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

- B. Public Works: Authorization to award a contract to J.L. Plank Inc. dba Cen-Cal Construction of Bakersfield, CA in the amount of \$114,735.00 for the FY 19/20 Manhole Raising Project; establish a construction contingency of \$10,000.00; and approve an additional appropriation of \$70,435.00 from the Water Capital Reserves and \$54,300.00 from the Wastewater Capital Reserves.

Public Works Director Doyel presented the second phase of the downtown street resurfacing project. He requested additional appropriation of funds, because all funds were utilized for the resurfacing project to do as much resurfacing as they could.

Following discussion, Mayor Draxler called for a motion.

Motion to approve.

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

COUNCIL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Upcoming Dates

July 13: *First Day to Pull Nomination Papers from the City Clerk's Office for the November 3, 2020 Municipal Election*

July 17: Movies in the Park, Hidden Valley Park, dusk

July 21: City Council Meeting

July 31: Movies in the Park, Civic Park, dusk

August 4: City Council Meeting

August 7: Last Day to File Nomination Papers with the City Clerk, **5:00 p.m. deadline**

August 12: Last to file Nomination Papers during Extension Period, **5:00 p.m. deadline**

August 18: City Council Meeting

A. Council Future Agenda Items

Draxler called to move the closed session item to the July 21st meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Draxler adjourned the meeting at 10:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Natalie Ortega
Interim City Clerk