



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 21, 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:

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

ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK :

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

PUBLIC COMMENT :

*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. Public Works: Discussion regarding a proposed Sidewalk Repair Ordinance for the City of Hanford

Public Works Director, John Doyel presented a preliminary draft of the proposed sidewalk repair ordinance with appropriate modifications to the ordinance. The modifications presented included sharing cost responsibility with property owners and establishing time frames for property owners to comply. Questions from council were answered by Director Doyel. The Council reached consensus that the ordinance will return to Council August 18th for consideration and approval.

B. Police: HART Update

Officer Jurdon presented an update on the HART (Homeless Assistance Resource Team) objectives and accomplishments. Officer Jurdon also recognized Public Works Refuse Supervisor Ryan Choate and the Refuse Department for their efforts in helping clean up homeless camps.

The HART one year update included:

- Responding to 1630 CFS (calls for service)/Incidents
- Contacted almost 200 homeless individuals
- Assisted eighteen people with family re-unification
- Handed out over 60 care packages

- Have made 153 arrest with violations including arson, warrants, trespassing, and crimes against the community
- Issued 54 Citations
- 189 field interviews
- Conducted or directed over 40 clean ups

Camps cleaned up:

- Cross Roads Charter School 418 W. Eighth St.
- Centennial Park
- In & Out
- Popeye's area
- BNSF Track (3 camps)
- 12236 W. Lacey Blvd. (across from Aldi's Grocery store)

The Council commended the officers of HART for their efforts and accomplishments. Council member Devine and Vice Mayor Ramirez questioned a timeline for the shopping cart ordinance. Officer Jurdon reported a delay in their progress due to COVID-19.

CLOSED SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF THE FOLLOWING:

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIAIONS (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 7:05

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 was led by John Escalera.

FLAG SALUTE:

Council Member Brieno led the flag salute.

PUBLIC HEARING:

- A. Public Works: Conduct a Public hearing to receive public input regarding the proposed reduction, no change, or proposed increase in the assessment and imposition of the annual assessment for the City of Hanford's Landscape Assessment Districts, per the Annual Engineer's Report for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021, and adopt Resolution 20-15-R confirming levy and collection of annual assessments pursuant to Chapter 3 of the Landscape and Lighting Act of 1972.

Mayor Draxler opened up the public hearing and called for the staff report at 7:08 p.m.

Public Works Director Doyel presented the staff report and answered questions from Council Members.

Mayor Draxler opened up Public comment.

OPPOSED

None.

IN FAVOR

None.

Mayor Draxler closed the public hearing at 7:12 p.m. to allow staff to begin counting ballots. Results of the ballots will be reported during General Business.

CLOSED SESSION ACTION REPORT:

Nothing to report. Closed Session reconvened after the meeting.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

City Manager Mario Cifuentez reported on the east side super project. City Manager Cifuentez announced that the Finance department has amended their counter hours due to limited staffing.

Parks and Community Services Director Brad Albert reported on the reopening of the Plunge as well as the park splash pads with staff available for monitoring and enforcing CDC guidelines.

Community Development Director Darlene Mata gave an update on continuing to work with restaurants to obtain permits for outdoor dining as well creating a similar policy for gyms that have inquired about outdoor workout locations. Director Mata also reported that some salons have inquired about outdoor services as well.

Public Works Director John Doyel introduced the new Deputy Public Works Director, Jim Ross.

Chief Sever announced new officer, Harley Reed and gave an update on the cannabis front and the progress of Herb N' Joy.

Fire Chief Pendergrass reported the rapid increase of response calls due to COVID-19. He also expressed how eager he is to introduce the new staff to Council.

COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS:

A. Council Comments

Vice Mayor Francisco Ramirez recognized Parks and Community Services for the new playground zip line at Coe Park.

Council Member Devine reported on the meetings he attended.

Council Member Sorensen reported on attending the Parks and Community Services meeting and she will be attending the upcoming Main Street Hanford Meeting.

Mayor Draxler gave an update on his surgery. He also reported that the hospital was close to capacity due to COVID-19 and stressed the importance of staying safe and healthy.

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.*

Richard Aguilar thanked the Council and gave an update on his businesses progress.

Bob Ramos suggested that the presented placement of the new pickleball courts at Lacey Park be moved to the other side of the park and replace the small pool with a splash pad.

Michelle Brown reported that her encroachment permit was approved to close 7th Street between Irwin Street and Harris Street for outdoor dining for downtown restaurants. This event will take place every Friday 5pm - 9pm.

Rob Bently thanked the Council for their leadership at this time he also reported that the school district will no longer be providing bus service to the students in the Stonecrest subdivision on 11th Ave. Mr. Bently suggested that when school goes back into in-person session, a traffic study should be done to determine a traffic pattern for safe crossing on 11th Ave.

Diane Sharp, thanked Council Member Devine for mentioning the kick-off of the Connerstone construction as well as thanked the HART officers for their presentation. Ms. Sharp also stated that she is excited about outdoor barbering.

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.

Council Member Sorensen requested to remove Item A and Council Member Ramirez requested to remove Item B.

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar except for the items pulled for separate consideration.

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

- A. Police: Approval of a contract with Milo Range for the Purchase of a Training Simulator for the Hanford Police Department and appropriation of \$44,991.38 in funding from grants and asset forfeiture funds to cover the cost of the purchase.

- B. Public Works: Approval of the Suggested Routes to School plans for Hanford Elementary School District and Saint Rose-Thomas McCarthy School for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year.
- C. Public Works: Authorization to issue a Purchase Order to Toter Wastequip, LLC., for the purchase of residential refuse containers in an amount not to exceed \$93,000 in fiscal year 2020/21 (tax and freight included).

ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT:

- A. City Council: Authorization for Council Signatures on a letter, from Congressman TJ Cox to Congressional Leadership, in support of provisions in the House-passed Heroes Act (H.R. 6800) providing direct funding to local governments and provisions in the bipartisan Coronavirus Community Relief Act (H.R. 6467)

Item A was requested to be pulled by Council Member Sorensen.

Both Council Members Devine and Sorensen expressed their concerns. Council Member Sorensen asked for an explanation on the request of signatures on the letter of support. Both City Manager Cifuentez and TJ Cox Representative, Gilbert Felix addressed Councils concerns and answered their questions.

Motion to approve authorized individual Council Members signatures on the Letter of Support to Congressional Leadership.

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

- B. Administration: Approval of the attached salary schedules last updated effective July 13, 2020.

Item B was requested to be pulled by Council Member Art Brieno.

Council Member Brieno asked for clarification for the approval of the salary schedule. City Manager Cifuentez explained that it is a requirement of PERS that the annual salary schedule be approved by Council. City Manager Cifuentez also clarified that the salary schedule is not city employee pay increases.

Motion to approve.

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

PUBLIC HEARING:

- A. Community Development: Adoption of Resolutions 20-18-R and 20-19-R, authorizing the City Manager to apply for and accept funds from the State of California's Permanent Local Housing Allocation program in an amount not to exceed \$1,532,808 to support local affordable housing.

Mayor Draxler opened up the public hearing and called for the staff report at 8:02 p.m.

Community Development Director, Darlene Mata and Director of Real Estate Development at Self Help Enterprises, Betsy McGovern jointly presented the staff report. Director Mata noted that Resolution 20-18-R was not included in the staff report and was submitted to Council via email.

Mayor Draxler opened up Public comment.

IN FAVOR

Kiel Lopez Schmidt stated he is a Project Manager with Upholdings Company and excited to be collaborating on a development opportunity in Hanford.

Michelle Smith with Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance submitted an email for public comment; asking council to resolve to pursue these resources with an allocation for the development of affordable rental housing with integrated permanent supporting housing units.

OPPOSED

None.

Mayor Draxler closed public comment at 8:14 p.m.

Council Members questions were answered by Betsy McGovern.

Motion to approve Resolutions number 20-18-R and 20-19-R.

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

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- A. Police: Authorization for Staff to implement the Food for Fines Drive, which will allow for donation of food items in lieu of parking fines for citations issued during the month of December.

Chief Sever proposed to implement a Food for Fines Drive, which will allow for donation of food items in lieu of parking fines for citations issued during the month of December and invited questions of the Council.

Motion to approve.

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

- B. Public Works: Approval of a Sole Source Contract with TelStar Instruments of Hanford, CA in the amount of \$66,074.00, for the purchase and installation of one double containment tank, chlorine pump, injection system, and related electrical and SCADA programming at Water Tank No. 4 and appropriation of \$66,074.00 from Water Capital Reserves to fund the project. (Iona Avenue and 11th Avenue)

Public Works Director John Doyel provided background information for the Council's review and consideration.

Motion to approve.

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

C. Report on the voting results for balloted districts and adoption of Resolution 20-15-R (See attachment on Public Hearing: LAD)

City Manager Cifuentez reported the ballot results:

Gateway Estates 94-01

- A. Increase annual benefit district assessment amount from \$26.00 to \$54.60 DISAPPROVED (17-10)
- B. Establish an Annual Benefit District Assessment adjustment for inflation allowance DISAPPROVED (19-7)
28 ballots received.

Portofino 92-01

- A. Increase annual benefit district assessment amount from \$50.80 to \$93.60 DISAPPROVED (18-4)
- B. Establish an Annual Benefit District Assessment adjustment for inflation allowance DISAPPROVED (18-4)
22 ballots received.

Quail Run Estates 94-03

- A. Increase annual benefit district assessment amount from \$59.00 to \$102.50 DISAPPROVED (48-43)
- B. Establish an Annual Benefit District Assessment adjustment for inflation allowance DISAPPROVED (58-32)
91 ballots received.

Rosewood Estates 97-01

- A. Increase annual benefit district assessment amount from \$35.00 to \$51.30 APPROVED (4-2)
- B. Establish an Annual Benefit District Assessment adjustment for inflation allowance DISAPPROVED (4-3)
7 ballots received.

Director Doyel stated the next step in the process is to adopt the modified resolution to correlate with the results of the votes and submit to the King's County Assessor by August 10th, 2020.

Motion to adopt the resolution as amended to reflect the results of the votes.

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

COUNCIL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Council Future Agenda Items

Council Member Sorensen asked for the Council Future Agenda Items list. City Manager Cifuentez assured the Council that it will be included going forward as well as notifying Council Members of their incoming mail and any upcoming event dates.

ADJOURNMENT :

Mayor Draxler adjourned meeting at 9:01 p.m. and called to move to Closed Session at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Natalie Ortega
Interim City Clerk