

**CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF SONORA  
SEPTEMBER 6, 2011**

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Sonora was held this date in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 94 North Washington Street, at 5:00 p.m. The following members were present: Mayor Bill Canning, Mayor Pro-Tem David Sheppard, Councilmembers Ron Stearn, Hank Russell, Matt Hawkins; City Administrator Tim Miller, City Clerk Marijane Cassineto, Engineer Gerard Fuccillo, Community Development Director Rachelle Kellogg, Finance Director Karen Stark and Police Chief Mark Stinson. Absent: Attorney Richard Matranga, Fire Chief Mike Barrows. Also present: Fire Captain Todd McNeal in the stead of Fire Chief Mike Barrows.

There was no Closed Session Meeting this date.

**PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/COMMENDATIONS**

None.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Motion by Councilmember Stearn, second by Councilmember Russell, and unanimously carried that the Consent Calendar be approved as follows:

1. Approval of Minutes for the Closed and Regular Council Meetings of August 15, 2011, for the Sonora Redevelopment Agency Meeting of August 15, 2011, and for the Special City Council Meeting of August 25, 2011; and
2. Approval of invoices for previously budgeted expenses to be paid on September 7, 2011, in the amount of \$101,748.61.

**CITY CLERK'S REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA**

City Clerk Cassineto advised Council that at 10:48 a.m. on the 1st day of September, 2011, the Agenda for the City of Sonora Council Meeting scheduled for this date was posted outside City Hall for public view.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES**

None.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES (Non-Agenda)**

None.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Public Hearing Re: Matters Relating to City's Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance District for Sunrise Hills Units I and II for Fiscal Year 2011-2012.** This was the time and place set for a Public Hearing on the question of the levy and collection of proposed assessments for the landscaping and lighting maintenance activities for the City of Sonora Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance District for Sunrise Hills I and II (District) for Fiscal Year 2011-2012, and consideration of all oral statements and all written protests made or filed by any

interested person at or before the conclusion of the Hearing, against the boundaries of the District and any zones or units therein, the proposed assessment diagram, or estimate of the costs thereof, and action upon the Final Annual Engineer's Report. At the conclusion of the Public Hearing, the Council will also consider adoption of Resolution No. 09-06-2011-A which confirms the assessment diagram and annual assessment and provides for the levy of assessments and for the collection of assessments for said District for FY 2011-12.

City Clerk Cassinetto reported that there had been no written comments or protests received.

Engineer Fuccillo presented his Staff Report. Fuccillo noted that the FY 2009-2010 Annual Engineers Report was based upon a financial and performance review of the District in its first 10 years. Significant reductions in the work of the District, as well as reductions in assessments were recommended and made. Assessments on residential lots were reduced from \$223.42 to \$53.96 for that year, and on commercial lots from \$414.73 to \$120.64 for that year. This year's Annual Engineers Report and levy follow the FY 2009-2010 reduction in Assessments, as did last year's.

Mayor Canning opened the Public Hearing at 5:09 p.m. There being no appearances, the Public Hearing was closed at 5:10 p.m.

The Council considered adoption of Resolution No. 09-06-2011-A confirming the Diagram and Annual Assessment, and providing for the levy of Assessments and for the collection of Assessments for the District, and also approval of the Final Annual Engineer's Report.

**MOTION by Councilmember Russell, second by Councilmember Stearn, and unanimously carried that Resolution No. 09-06-2011-A be approved and adopted as presented, including approval for the Final Annual Engineer's Report for FY 2011-2012.**

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Review of Assistance to Firefighters Grants.** Fire Captain Todd McNeal appeared on behalf of Fire Chief Barrows to give a brief review of previous Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) awarded to the Fire Department since 2002, and information on two AFG applications that will be submitted this year. This is an information item only with no action required. Captain McNeal reported that a grant application will be submitted this year for \$380,000 with a City share of \$19,000 to upgrade aging pumper E-755, and one submitted for approximately \$55,000 with the City share of \$2,750 for personal protective equipment for structural firefighting.

**Summary of Extreme Temperature Contingency Plan.** Fire Captain Todd McNeal appeared on behalf of Fire Chief Barrows to give a summary and introduction to the Tuolumne County Office of Emergency Services Extreme Temperature Contingency Plan. This is an information item only with no action required. McNeal reported that the Plan addresses issues such as warming and cooling centers, setting specific locations for the same, and also provides a resource list. It is not geared for resident homeowners. The Plan provides guidelines for extreme temperature emergencies and may require action by the Council if such an event were to occur that impacted the City. The Plan will be submitted to the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors in September for its consideration with a recommendation for approval from the County's Public Safety Committee on which City representatives Fire Chief Barrows and Police Chief Stinson serve.

**WRITTEN STAFF REPORTS**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS** - Information Only

1. Information Sheet from MuniServices on the City of Sonora Sales Tax Summary for the period of April 2010 through March 2011.
2. Information Sheet from Maria Benech, Capitol Christmas Tree Coordinator for the Stanislaus National Forest explaining how each year one of the National Forests provides the U. S. Capitol Tree. This year the Capitol Tree will be provided by Stanislaus National Forest, only the fourth year that California has contributed the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree.

**COUNCILMEMBERS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS**

**Administrator Miller** commented on Communication Item #1 stating that he will provide quarterly reports to the Council as the information is received, that cash receipts are down from those estimated, and that per capita sales tax is declining. Miller also commented on Communication Item #2 noting the November 5 & 6 Tree Cutting Celebration at the Fairgrounds including parade, which will be coordinated with the City. **Police Chief Stinson** reported that the Police Department Residing Project is looking nice with good progress, and that the ADA compliant ballistic glass front door is on order from New York. In addition, Stinson noted that the Quarterly Police Department Employee Award has been given to PACT Member Ricky Roberts. **Finance Director Stark** reported that the auditors did their field work two weeks ago stating that there were no findings, all went very well and a clean report is expected. Stark thanked all office staff and Department Heads for their cooperation and help in providing necessary information. **Administrator Miller** thanked Stark for the work she does which contributes greatly to a clean report. **Engineer Fuccillo** reported that the Mono Way Widening Project will have an open house on September 13, 2011, from 4 to 6 p.m. presenting plans to property owners within 300 feet of the Project. The Project Plans and

Report will be on the Agenda for the next Council Meeting on September 19, 2011, and on the Board of Supervisors Agenda of September 20, 2011. Fuccillo also noted that the field paint color for the Police Department is a lighter version of the trim color which is a light gray/blue. **Councilmember Hawkins** inquired about the bumpy pavement at Mono Way and Greenley Road. Engineer Fuccillo explained that it is temporary and new paving is planned.

**Councilmember Stearn** inquired about the Cash Balances for the Police Department (+ \$56,709) and the Fire Department noting concern about the deficit of \$248,000 for the Fire Department.

**Councilmember Sheppard** stated the the deficit is a result of funding extra firefighters per shift. **Councilmember Russell**

commented on Communication Item #1 asking if things were turning upward. **Administrator Miller** responded that the revenues reviewed are still trending down, are less than anticipated and not matching up with the Budget. Also, that the State will be withholding funds in accordance with the "triple flip" process which will not be beneficial for the City.

#### **ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 5:37 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting on September 19, 2011, at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall.

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Marijane Cassinetto, City Clerk

Date