

**CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SONORA
JULY 18, 2016**

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 Connie Williams, Mayor Pro-Tem Jim Garaventa, Councilmembers Matt Hawkins (departed at 6:15 p.m.), Mark Plummer, George Segarini; City Administrator Tim Miller, City Clerk Marijane Cassinetto, City Attorney Byron Smith, Administrative Services Director Jennifer Callaway, Fire Chief Aimee New, Police Lt. Turu Vanderwiell, Community Development Director Rachelle Kellogg. Absent: Interim Engineer Gerard Fuccillo, Police Chief Mark Stinson.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA

City Clerk Cassinetto advised Council that at 9:00 a.m. on the 15th day of July, 2016, the Agenda for the City of Sonora Council Meeting scheduled for this date was posted outside City Hall for public view.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

No changes.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Recognition for Dragoon Gulch Trail Improvements; Community Development Director Kellogg extended thanks to the following contributors: (a) George Reed, Inc., for paving materials and services; and (b) City of Sonora Public Works for installing the base rock.
2. Mayor's Vision Sonora Awards of Appreciation; Mayor Williams thanked and presented the Awards to the following persons: (a) James and Eleanor Plessas for buildings at 31 and 49 North Washington Street; (b) Jayesh Desai for the Sonora Inn and Roadway Inn at 160 South Washington Street and 128 South Green Street (award accepted by the hotel managers); and (c) Brian Wahlbrink for the building at 207 South Washington Street.

PUBLIC FORUM (Non-Agenda)

Former Mayor Ron Stearn passed on to Mayor Williams an oversized and heavy oak limb gavel which was given to him by former Mayor Hank Russell. Mayor Williams presented Stearn with his name plaque, although not the original, which sat on the Council's table for many, many years. Stearn donated the badge to the City that he was issued when he was elected to the Council in 1964. City Historian Pat Perry accepted the badge on behalf of the City which will be displayed in the Administrative Office.

Elena Linehan, Preventions Program Coordinator for the Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency (ATCAA), reported that the *Don't Be A Stat* event hosted by Friday Night Live and Mentoring Works will be held on two dates, July 16, 2016, and July 23, 2016, from 10 a.m to 2 p.m. The first will be held at Gold Mine Storage off Tuolumne Road in Space F-8, and the second will be held in Coffill Park off Washington Street in downtown Sonora. Hands on anti-drug activities for children and adults will fill both days.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Councilmember Hawkins, and second by Mayor Pro-Tem Garaventa, that the Consent Calendar be approved as follows:

1. Approval of Minutes for the Closed and Regular Council Meetings of July 5, 2016;
2. Approval to pay invoices for previously budgeted expenses on July 19, 2016, in the amount of \$124,262.84; and
3. Approval of disbursements in the amount of \$156,690.86, on July 8, 2016, for payroll, inclusive of employee salaries, employer and employee taxes and retirement contributions, and miscellaneous voluntary employee deductions.

There was no public comment, and the above **MOTION passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Residential Fire Flow Improvement Project. This was the time and place set for a Public Hearing to solicit public comment prior to Grant closeout regarding the Residential Fire Flow Improvement Project. Mayor Williams opened the Public Hearing at 5:24 p.m. Reviewing the Project, Community Development Director Kellogg reported that no action was required, and the item is on the Agenda solely for a report and for solicitation of public comment. Kellogg noted that it was a great project with great cooperation between the City and Tuolumne Utilities District. Mayor Williams asked for public comment. Ron Stearn said that on South Stewart Street there are three hydrants where the quick dry cement filler has gone down a bit leaving the roadway a little bumpy. Noting that the City Engineer has signed off on the Project, Kellogg will ask him to recheck that area.

There being no further public comment, Mayor Williams closed the Public Hearing at 5:26 p.m. No action necessary.

Resolution No. 07-18-2016-A Approving CDBG Grant Application. The Council considered adoption of Resolution No. 7-18-2016-A which approves an Application and the execution of contract documents for a Community Development Block Grant for

the 2016 Funding Year. A Public Hearing was held on July 5, 2016, to receive input on possible projects. Recommending approval, Kellogg reported on the activities included in the Application, and the following Projects as set forth in Resolution 07-18-2016-A: 1) Planning & Technical Assistance - Housing Element - Low Income Housing Components, \$75,000; 2) Housing - Homebuyers' Assistance Program, \$494,331; 3) Public Improvements - Focused Water/Sewer Main Replacement Project, \$1,291,134; and funding for General Program Administration, \$139,535. In addition, said Resolution includes application for three Supplemental Activities to utilize any Program Income received during the Grant term.

Councilmember Plummer recused himself and left the Council Chambers. Mayor Williams opened the Public Hearing at 6:41 p.m., and asked for any public comment. There being none, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:42 p.m.

MOTION by Councilmember Segarini, second by Councilmember Hawkins, that Resolution No. 7-18-2016-A be approved and adopted as presented, which (1) approves said Grant Application for funding for the 2016 funding year of the State Community Development Block Grant Program, (2) authorizes execution of the Grant Agreement and any amendments thereto, for the purposes of this Grant, with the State of California, (3) approves all Projects included within the City's CDBG Grant Application, and (4) authorizes the City Administrator to proceed with said Projects upon Grant approval. Said Motion passed unanimously by the following vote: Ayes: Williams, Garaventa, Segarini, Hawkins; Absent: None; Recused: Plummer.

Councilmember Plummer returned to the Council Chambers and to his seat.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion on Possible City, County and Fair Board Partnership. Administrator Miller stated that the item was placed on the Agenda for discussion pursuant to the Council's direction at its last Meeting on July 5, 2016. Mayor Pro-Tem Garaventa noted that no further communications have been received from the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors or the Fair Board. Mayor Williams said that she had received a phone call from newly appointed Fair Board Member Albert Barreno and invited him to attend this Meeting.

Mayor Williams asked for public comment. Barreno reiterated his request made at the last Council Meeting that the Fair Board be allowed to work through the issues at hand.

Councilmember Segarini noted that the Fair Board has started the process to look for a new CEO. Barreno confirmed that a new CEO is being sought, but that he did not know the process. Harry Ohls stated that before the City decides if it wants to do anything with the Fair Board, the City should ask the Board if it has a Mission Statement; he does not think they have one. First District Supervisor Sherri Brennan stated that the County's concern is that the facility is so integral to the City and County; she is in favor of letting the Fair Board Members go through the process, and take hold and try to shape it. The County is very concerned that the reserves have been declining, and the Fair Board needs to have budget accountability. Brennan stated that she will make the commitment to come back to the Council and report as things progress, and she will be watching very closely as to what is taking place at the Fairgrounds. It is her sincere hope that the Fair Board will look for ways to provide local accountability; she also hopes that the Fair Board will be allowed to hire the new CEO.

A person from the public said that it is a State issue, and the City and County "should butt out". She said that new Fair Board Member Barreno was appointed and not elected, and she suggested that people go on the State Fairs and Expositions website to see how a State Fair is run, and how a CEO is hired.

New Fair Board Member Micki Rucker introduced herself. She said that the Board has a lot of work ahead of it, and that she and Mr. Barreno have a lot of good ideas. She welcomes an open conversation with everybody and wants to move forward. There was no further public comment.

Councilmember Hawkins said that the Council should stand back and let the Fair Board handle things; it is his understanding that the County's letter has already been sent. Councilmember Plummer stated that the current Board will go forward and stay in place until their terms are up, and the request to the Governor really has little bearing on the current Board. He wants to morally support the Board of Supervisors, and also support the Fair Board, and he hopes that the Fair Board will move forward, and that all will be resolved. Mayor Pro-Tem Garaventa feels the current Board should have the chance to work out things, and the Council will wait to see what happens. Councilmember Segarini said that the Fair is a very important asset to the City, and it has his and the City's support, and wished the Fair Board good luck in getting its new CEO on board, and good luck through all of its process. Mayor Williams stated her support for the Board of Supervisors in its request for help from the State, and to the Fair Board, stating that it is an important entity to the City, and she offered her and the City's support for any way they can help. This item was solely for discussion and no action was taken.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor's Appointments. The Council considered confirmation of the Mayor's Council, Community and Government Committee and Commission Appointments. Councilmember Hawkins complimented the Mayor on the way she worked out the appointments. Elena Linehan requested a copy for the public. Mayor Williams read the Appointments.

A member of the public said that Clark Segerstrom, appointee to the Tuolumne County Airport Land Use Commission, was not a City resident, and that he has been on the Commission for many years, and there should be "new blood". Mayor Williams responded that it was not a requirement to live in the City. There were no further public comments, and the Mayor asked for a vote on confirmation.

MOTION by Councilmember Segarini, second by Councilmember Plummer that the Mayor's Appointments be confirmed as presented. Councilmember Garaventa stated that he had a time conflict with the Tuolumne County Chamber Transportation Committee Meetings, and will not be able to serve on said Committee; he feels that the appointed person should be someone who is "up to speed" with transportation matters. Mayor Williams said that she would serve on the Committee in his stead. **The MOTION was amended by Councilmember Segarini, and by Councilmember Plummer, to approve the Mayor's Appointments as presented, with the change for Mayor Williams to be the Tuolumne County Chamber Transportation Committee Appointee. Said MOTION passed unanimously by the following vote: Ayes: Williams, Garaventa, Segarini and Plummer; Noes: None; Absent: Councilmember Hawkins.**

Appropriation of Funds to Prepay CalPERS Unfunded Accrued Liability. The Council considered approving an appropriation of \$350,392 from the General Fund Reserve to prepay the CalPERS unfunded accrued liability of the Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013 (PEPRA) and Classic Retirement Plans for the Miscellaneous and Fire Employees. Noting that the item has been budgeted, Administrative Services Director Callaway presented the request recommending approval and reporting that approving the appropriation for early prepayment will save the City approximately \$11,000. There was no public comment. **MOTION by Mayor Pro-Tem Garaventa, second by Councilmember Segarini, that the appropriation of \$350,392 from the General Fund Reserves to prepay CalPERS Unfunded Accrued Liability (UAL) for both the Classic and PEPRA Classifications of the Miscellaneous and Fire Plans, and approve a lump sum prepayment to CalPERS of the City's Unfunded Accrued Liability in the amount of \$350,392 for these Classifications for the Fiscal Year 2016-17. The MOTION**

passed unanimously by the following vote: Ayes: Williams, Garaventa, Segarini, Plummer; Noes: None; Absent: Hawkins.

MONTHLY REPORTS

1. Community Development Department
2. Public Works Department
3. Police Department
4. Fire Department

Vision Sonora Committee Report

Mayor Williams gave a verbal report as follows and noted that the next Vision Sonora Committee Meeting will be held on July 28, 2016, at 9 a.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall;

- The acknowledgment program to thank downtown building owners has begun which awards the owners for caring to improve the appearance of Historic Downtown Sonora;
- The Transit Project on Washington Street between Church Street and Stockton Street has not yet begun;
- A grant has been applied for in regard to the Red Church Intersection Project;
- The trash and recycle cans are continuing to be purchased and placed, and the Adopt a Bench Project continues with benches still available for adoption at the cost of \$1,500;
- There will be a first meeting of the Destination Branding Committee on July 26, 2016;
- The Design Committee is talking about beautifying downtown with flowers, trees and other adornments;
- The Marketing Committee is working on the historical banners;
- The next Finance Committee Meeting will be on July 30 2016, at City Hall at 3 p.m.;
- The Transportation Committee has not met because there is no project to review at this time.

Mayor Williams asked that anyone interested in serving on any Committee or Sub-Committee please contact City Hall. The Mayor asked for any public comment.

Elena Linehan reported that Dale Batchelor has prepared a presentation on the proposed Red Church Intersection Project which talks about some interesting problems in the safety aspect of it, and problems with traffic flow that would be worthwhile for the City to look at. Mayor Williams asked Linehan to give Dale Batchelor's contact information to Staff.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

COUNCIL MEMBER/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Mayor Williams noted that the Business License Activity Report, between March and June of this year, indicates that the following have applied for business licenses in the City: three boutiques, one new bank, one new restaurant, one new coffee shop, three service providers, two law offices, one medical facility, two physical fitness businesses and one hair dresser. **Administrator Miller** reported that utility work will be done at the end of July on Lyons Street between Hope Lane and Palemone Drive; notice of the dates and times will be published and announced on the radio. **Police Lt. Vanderweil** reported that the Police Department and the Sheriff Department are sponsoring *National Night Out*, a public safety event, at 6 p.m. on August 8, 2016, at the Opera Hall. There will be special speakers and an ice cream social with ice cream served by both the Police Officers and the Sheriff Deputies. **Councilmember Segarini** reported that he attended the Central Sierra Economic Development Committee Meeting on July 8, 2016, and attended the Tuolumne County Chamber Governmental Affairs Committee Meeting; Segarini also reported that the next Merchant/Town Hall Meeting will be held on July 27, 2016, at 9 a.m. in the Council Chambers. **Mayor Williams** reported that the ADA parking spaces and ramp on Green Street behind City Hall have been completed, and that the parking on Level 3 of the City Hall Parking Garage is open to the public; additionally, she cautioned people to lock their cars and houses, and said "if you see something, say something" and also video any such suspicious behavior if you are able to do so.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m. to the next Regular Council Meeting on Monday, August 1, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Marijane Cassinetto, City Clerk Date