

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SONORA
MAY 7, 2018

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 Pro-Tem Jim Garaventa, Councilmembers Matt Hawkins, Mark Plummer, George Segarini; City Administrator Tim Miller, City Clerk Marijane Cassinetto, City Attorney Douglas White, Interim Police Chief Turu VanderWiel, Community Development Director Rachelle Kellogg. Absent: Mayor Connie Williams, Fire Chief Aimee New, Interim Engineer Gerard Fuccillo.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA

City Clerk Cassinetto advised Council that at 12 Noon on the 4th day of May, 2018, 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

Administrative Analyst Tracy Skelly introduced Part-Time Office Assistant/Accounting Technician Celia (Sally) Fridley. Sally was welcomed by the Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sharon Marovich representing the Tuolumne Heritage Committee noted that there was rear wall failure at the Washington Street Apartments across from City Hall, the historic building that was built during the gold rush, and it formerly housed an upstairs dance hall and a bakery. Marovich said that the building is eligible for the National Register. She has spoken to City Building Inspector Daren Wardell, who told her that the property owner is seeking help to secure the wall and the building for safety, and Wardell has knowledge of the State Historic Codes, and has a genuine desire to return the building back to historic productive use. Marovich noted that the front of the building is structurally sound, and has no construction issues. She also mentioned that May is National Historic Conservation Month. On behalf of the Committee, Marovich thanked the City and Wardell for working with the property owner to preserve this historic building.

A Member of the Public reported that there are some bricks loose on the wall on Linoberg Street at the location of the Tap Room which may cause instability; she said that two members of the Council "wish to list a partisan issue on the next Agenda" regarding sanctuary status which she objected to saying "take your political

politics and put them elsewhere"; and asked why do the matters like the garbage, trash and recycling that she has asked the Council for three years to consider never get on the Agenda. She commented that the Council is paid \$775 to sit there, and that she is not getting her monies worth.

Steve Stiles, property owner at 116 Ash Street, stated that for about five years he has been seeking abandonment of City property next to his residence so he can make an offer to purchase it to construct home improvements, and he has sent a number of letters with no response. Mayor Pro-Tem Garaventa said that a Public Works Meeting will be held soon, and he will be notified of that Meeting. Stiles also noted that the slate wall at the Lambert Walk-In Center has stones popping out and doesn't know who owns the property, but wanted to mention it to the City; and he additionally stated that three years ago he requested that the City put up a *Dead End* street sign on Ash Street and a *Road Ends Ahead* sign on the prior block notifying motorists because they try to get to the cemetery thinking Ash Street connects through to it which results in a lot of U turns at the dead end.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION by Councilmember Segarini, second by Councilmember Plummer, that the Consent Calendar be approved as follows:

1. Approval of the Council Minutes for the Regular Council Meeting of April 16, 2018;
2. Approval to pay invoices for previously budgeted expenses on May 8, 2018, in the amount of \$132,556.43; and
3. Approval of disbursements in the amount of \$137,106.01, on April 13, 2018, 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 MOTION passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Ordinance No. 849 Regarding Cannabis Businesses. The Council considered introducing by title and waiving the first reading of Ordinance No 849 amending Section 17.60.040, Uses Permitted in Specific Zones, of the Sonora Municipal Code, Relating to Cannabis Businesses. Noting Planning Commission approval and recommendation for adoption, Community Development Director Kellogg reported that the Ordinance sets parameters for the following cannabis businesses in the City, as it applies to Use Permits: Dispensary, Manufacturing and Testing Laboratory.

The Public Hearing was opened at 5:21 p.m. There being no appearances, the Hearing was closed at 5:22 p.m. Councilmember

Hawkins commented that the businesses solely relate to medical cannabis and not recreational use.

MOTION by Councilmember Segarini, second by Councilmember Hawkins, and unanimously carried that Ordinance No. 849 be introduced by title with the first reading waived.

NEW BUSINESS

Request Re: Possession and Consumption of Alcohol at Special Event in Coffill Park. The Council considered the request by the Sonora Chamber of Commerce and 2nd Saturday Art Night to allow the possession and consumption of alcohol at its Special Event series. The event consists of a summer concert series in Coffill Park on June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8 and October 13, 2018. The series coincides with 2nd Saturday Art Nights, and will be held from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Recommending approval, Administrator Miller reported that this is the third year the Sonora Chamber has had concert events, and pursuant to Ordinance No. 827, the Council has the opportunity to grant said approval for possession and consumption as requested. Staff recommends approval be given subject to the following conditions: the Chamber obtains the required ABC License and Police Department approval; provides the required liability insurance with indemnification; and that there be staffing at the entrance and exit locations to control access. The Park would be closed at 6 p.m. for set up, and then after the concert until 10:30 to allow for cleanup.

Mayor Pro-Tem Garaventa asked for public comment. Bryan Adcox, Executive Director of the Sonora Chamber, thanked the Council for its past approvals and cooperation allowing the event which provides the opportunity for locals to get out downtown and to stay downtown though out the evening. Adcox noted that the events are very well attended with standing room only, and the Chamber is waiving an entrance fee to encourage attendance. He reviewed the plans for the event and ensured that the conditions of approval will be met.

A member of the public commented that there is a problem with trash in the Park and hopes that the cans will be dumped and the Park cleaned up before the event. Administrator Miller reviewed Public Works cleanup procedures.

MOTION by Councilmember Hawkins, second by Councilmember Plummer, that said approval to allow the possession and consumption of alcohol in Coffill Park for the concert series events be granted as requested subject to the above conditions. Councilmember Segarini asked that the alcohol be limited to beer and wine only. The MOTION was amended with the consent of the second and passed unanimously.

Discussion Regarding Homeless Task Force Recommendation. Administrator Miller reported that at its April 12, 2018, Meeting,

the Homeless Task Force passed the following Motion: Moved to recommend to the City Council to facilitate a County-wide task force including, but not limited to, the City of Sonora, Tuolumne County, service providers and local businesses to develop a County-wide plan for the homeless. Miller noted that the Agenda Item for tonight is solely for discussion and consideration of the City's options with possible Staff direction. Miller added that he is aware that the Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency (ATCAA) is taking steps to form a County-wide Task Force which then may render the requested action by the Homeless Task Force unnecessary.

The Council discussed the talk of ATCAA's possible formation of a County-wide Task Force. There was discussion of the need for the City to work with the County and other agencies.

Mayor Pro-Tem Garaventa asked for public comment. Richard Darrow said that it is embarrassing to witness what has happened on the Homeless Task Force, they have spent months working on this. He thinks the City should get behind the County and support them to get this moved ahead; that there is a lot of community support right now, and it is time to take advantage of it.

The Council continued discussion. Administrator Miller asked for clarification of the Council's desire stating that what he is hearing is that the City wants to define its roll in a larger organization that needs to be formed, and he can agendize it for another Meeting. After further discussion, it was the consensus to wait to see how ATCAA's effort evolves and place something on the Agenda at that time.

2017 SAFER Grant. The Council considered authorizing the Mayor to sign a letter on behalf of the City committing to maintaining the current staffing levels of the Fire Department during the period of performance for the 2017 SAFER Grant. In the absence of the Fire Chief, Administrator Miller reviewed the matter and recommended approval. Mayor Pro-Tem Garaventa asked for public comment. There being none, **MOTION by Councilmember Plummer, second by Councilmember Segarini, and unanimously carried that the Mayor/Mayor Pro-Tem be authorized to sign a letter on behalf of the City committing to maintaining current Fire Department staffing levels including the SAFER funded position, not incurring any layoffs during the three-year period of performance, and designating the Fire Chief as the City's representative.**

MONTHLY REPORTS

None. No public comment.

VISION SONORA COMMITTEE REPORT

None. No public comment.

COMMUNICATIONS

None. No public comment.

COUNCILMEMBER/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Community Development Director Kellogg reported that the Farmers Market will open Saturday, May 19, 2018. **Chief VanderWiel** reported that the annual Peace Officers Memorial will be held at Noon on May 10, 2018, by the Sierra Building at the Fairgrounds. **Attorney White** said that he is keeping watch on SB1302 which will allow statewide distribution of marijuana. **Administrator Miller** noted that this coming weekend the Sonora Round-Up Parade will take place beginning at 10 a.m. followed by the Rodeo in the afternoon at the Fairgrounds, and the Rodeo continues on Sunday. Public Works will be doing the usual preparations for street and parking space and lot closures. **Councilmember Hawkins** noted that he attended the *Coffee and Cars* event at Sonora High School which was a Senior Project fundraiser for the Sonora High School Band; noted that he did a ride along with the Police Department; and that it is one year this Friday since he has not been homeless. **Councilmember Segarini** reported that he attended the Townhall/Merchants Meeting, the Affordable Housing Project sponsored by the Economic Development Authority, and the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and tour of the new Cancer Center. **Mayor Pro-Tem Garaventa** reported that he also attended the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the Regular Session Meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting on Monday, May 21, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Marijane Cassinetto, City Clerk Date

**Minutes
Subject To
Council Approval**