

MINUTES
City Council and Successor Agency to the
Former Redevelopment Agency
Tuesday, February 18, 2014 – 6:00p.m.
City Council Chambers
746 8th Street, Wasco, California 93280

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Cortez called the meeting to order at 6:03p.m.
- 2) **FLAG SALUTE:** Mayor Cortez led the flag salute.
- 3) **INVOCATION:** Bill Lewis with Griffith Avenue Baptist offered the invocation.

4) **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Mayor Cortez, Members: Espitia, Martin, Wegman and West
Student Council Present: Barraza, Blanchard, Castro, R. Moita, Vargas

Absent: City Attorney Schroeter

Also Present: City Manager Allen, City Clerk Rodriguez, Clerk Juan, Finance Director Foltz, Planning Director Mobley, Public Works Director Paris, and Sgt. Chandler

Student Directors: A. Moita, Aispuro, Schmidt

5) **PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS:** None

6) **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE:**

Bill Lewis with Griffith Avenue Baptist asked if the city could inform him of any funding or grants he could apply for.

John Pallares thanked the Sheriff's Department for the neighborhood watch meeting.

CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS:

7) **CONSENT CALENDAR:** The Consent Calendar consists of items that in staff's opinion are routine and non-controversial. These items are approved in one motion unless a Councilmember or member of the public removes a particular item.

- a) Approval of the February 4, 2014 Regular City Council and Successor Agency to the Former Redevelopment Agency meeting minutes and the February 4, 2014 Special Joint Meeting of the City Council and the Charter Advisory Committee.
- b) Approval of Bill Paying List total amount of \$402,231.86
- c) Report and Possible Approval, RE: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WASCO ACCEPTING THE 2014 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN.
- d) Report and Possible Approval, RE: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WASCO APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PLANNING GRANT AND INCENTIVES PROGRAM UNDER THE SAFE DRINKING WATER, WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY, FLOOD CONTROL, RIVER AND COASTAL PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2006 (PROPOSITION 84)
- e) Acknowledge Receipt of Correspondence.
- f) Approve the Reading of All Ordinances by Title Only and Approve Publication of All Ordinances

Member Martin made a motion to approve the consent calendar, 2nd by Member Espitia. Clerk Rodriguez announced the vote was unanimous to approve the consent calendar. All in favor motion carried 5-0-0.

- 8) Report and Possible Approval, RE: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WASCO INCREASING APPROPRIATIONS IN THE WASTEWATER FUND FOR THE RETIREMENT OF DEBT SERVICE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014. (Foltz/Schmidt)
Student Director Schmidt gave report. After some discussion Member Wegman made a motion to approve the resolution, 2nd by Member Espitia. Mayor Cortez announced the vote was unanimous to approve resolution. All in favor motion carried 5-0-0.

- 9) Discussion and Possible Direction, RE: Vegetable Gardens in Residential Front Yards. (Allen/Cruz)
Juan Flores with Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment informed council that his business helps teach local residents on how to grow organic vegetables in a community garden. Some of the surrounding cities have a community garden and they have free trainings in Bakersfield if anyone would like to attend.

Jose Lona, resident, agrees with council about not allowing gardens in front yards because a lot of residents are wasting water. He would like to see a community garden so less water is wasted.

Member Wegman would like to set a committee and meet with Mr. Flores and discuss training for a community garden. Sgt. Chandler mentioned he would like to be part of the committee so he could have the SAL Program get involved.

After some discussion on what land might be available for a community garden, City Council appointed Member Wegman and Sgt. Chandler on the committee.

After some discussion direction was given to staff to bring back an ordinance that does not allow gardens in front & side yards and no corn.

Member Wegman left at 6:56p.m.

- 10) Discussion and Possible Direction, RE: Enacting Water Conservation Ordinance Setting Level of Mandatory Compliance Pursuant to Wasco Municipal Code Section 13.22.050 (B). (Allen/Cruz)

Student City Manager Cruz gave staff report.

Member Wegman returned at 6:57p.m.

There was some discussion on the need of hiring a part-time code enforcement officer and they will be on-call and work on an as needed basis.

Member Martin made a motion to set Stage 2, Mandatory Compliance-Water Shortage Alert, and educate the residents, 2nd by Member West. Mayor Cortez announced the vote was unanimous to set Stage 2 and educate the residents. All in favor motion carried 5-0-0.

- 11) Discussion and Possible Direction, RE: Charter Review and input from Student Government Day Participants. (Allen/Cruz)

Student Barraza reported that she is in favor of the charter but citizens need to be informed on what a charter is and its benefits. She suggested that the benefits of becoming a charter should be published in the newspaper.

Student Blanchard mentioned that the Political Action Committee will be able to help in getting the information out.

Mayor Cortez reminded everyone that the city cannot spend money in lobbying/promotion the charter.

Student Schmidt asked if flyers can be handed out.

City Manager Allen mentioned that a Political Action Committee is being formed and they would possibly be handing out flyers.

Student Blanchard mentioned that those present should spread the word and if they don't know what a charter city is they should learn about it.

12) REPORTS FROM CITY STAFF

Director Foltz informed council that budget workshops will be scheduled soon.

Director Mobley reported that Savage Coal's CUP was approved and he received an appeal and will bring to council on the second meeting in March.

Director Paris reported that the Barker Park walking path is near completion, Hwy. 43 project is moving forward, and 2 positions, Street Sweeper Operator and Sanitation Worker I, were advertised in the Wasco Tribune and Bakersfield Californian.

13) REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER

Mr. Tallon, High School teacher, thanked the City Manager and city staff for their help with Student Government Day.

14) REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL

City Council thanked the City Manager, city staff and Mr. Tallon for their help with Student Government Day.

Student R. Moita asked why the city has so many smoke shops. There was some discussion in regards to the smoke shops.

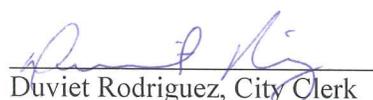
All the students that took part in the Student Government Day thanked city staff, City Council and Mr. Tallon for their help and guidance.

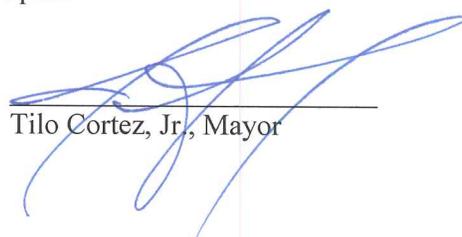
15) CLOSED SESSION:

- a) Approval of Closed Session minutes held on February 4, 2014

Member Espitia made a motion to approve the February 4th closed session minutes, 2nd by Member Martin. Mayor Cortez announced the vote was unanimous to approve the closed session minutes. All in favor motion carried 5-0-0

- 16) **ADJOURNMENT:** Mayor Cortez adjourned the meeting at 7:51p.m.


Duviet Rodriguez, City Clerk


Tilo Cortez, Jr., Mayor