

**MINUTES**  
**City Council and Successor Agency to the**  
**Former Redevelopment Agency**  
**Tuesday, March 17, 2015 – 6:00p.m.**  
**City Council Chambers**  
**746 8th Street, Wasco, California 93280**

1) **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Espitia called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

2) **FLAG SALUTE:** Mayor Espitia led the flag salute.

Mayor Pro Tem Wegman asked to dedicate the meeting to former Council Member Fred West Jr.

3) **INVOCATION:** Danny Arellano with Primera Iglesia Bautista offered the Invocation.

4) **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Mayor Espitia, Members: Martin and Wegman

Also Present: City Manager Paris, City Clerk Rodriguez, Finance Director Sanchez, Planning Director Mobley, Public Works Director Wren, Lt. Posey, and Sgt. Chandler

Absent: Members Cortez and Hively

5) **PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS:** Proclamation declaring April 2015 to be DMV/Donate Life Month in the City of Wasco

Mayor Espitia asked Mayor Pro Tem Wegman to present the Proclamation because she's a donor. Mayor Pro Tem Wegman presented the Proclamation to representatives from Donate Life. Representatives introduced themselves and two of them are donor recipients.

**Council Member Cortez arrived at 6:04p.m.**

6) **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE:**

Bob Reeves, resident, asked council why Bank of America was closing and if the new street sweeper was returned and if it's working.

Alex Dominguez, representative from Congressman Valadao's office, introduced himself and informed council that they could contact him with any questions or concerns.

**SUCCESSOR AGENCY BUSINESS:**

7) Receive and file department payments totaling \$30,712.50

Council Member Wegman made a motion to approve the Successor Agency payments totaling \$30,712.50, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Member Cortez. All in favor motion carried 4-0-1. Clerk Rodriguez announced the vote:

AYES: Espitia, Cortez, Martin, Wegman

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Hively

**CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS:**

8) **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 March 3, 2015 Regular City Council and Successor Agency to the Former Redevelopment Agency meeting minutes.

b) Receive and file department payments totaling \$1,010,739.79

c) Report and Possible Approval, RE: Transfer of \$148,000 in funds allocated in the 2014/15 budget to repair, video & install a VFD on Well # 8 and to replace bowls and install emergency generator on City Water Well 7 to advance the installation of new water line in Iris between Griffith and Annin Avenue that will replace the 6" waterline contained in the backyards of 32 homes located between Margalo Street and Iris Street.

d) Report and Possible Approval, RE: Request for Proposal (RFP) for an Exclusive Franchise Agreement for Bill Redesign, Printing, and Mailing Services.

e) Acknowledge Receipt of Correspondence.

f) Approve the Reading of All Ordinances by Title Only and Approve Publication of All Ordinances.

Council Member Martin asked to pull item 8c and 8d for discussion.

Council Member Wegman made a motion to approve the remainder of the consent calendar, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Member Martin. All in favor motion carried 4-0-1. Clerk Rodriguez announced the vote:

AYES: Espitia, Cortez, Martin, Wegman

NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Hively

Item 8c, Council Member Martin asked for more information on the waterline installation. Director Wren gave report.

Item 8d, Council Member Martin asked if the RFP was for water meter reading. City Manager Paris explained it was for utility billing and the current company is from Texas so bills are delivered 1-2 days later.

Without any further discussion Member Martin made a motion to approve items 8c and 8d, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Member Cortez. All in favor motion carried 4-0-0-1. Clerk Rodriguez announced the vote:

AYES: Espitia, Cortez, Martin, Wegman  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Hively

**9) Report and Possible Approval, RE: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WASCO TERMINATING HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS. (Paris)**

City Manager Paris gave report.

Council Member Cortez would like to continue the benefits for elected officials. He suggested that maybe elected officials can elect the stipend or the insurance, instead of both.

Council Member Martin asked how long elected officials have been receiving benefits. He believes it's a good thing for elected officials to have.

Mayor Pro Tem Wegman would like to have the benefits terminated. She took this position to serve the community.

Mayor Espitia would like to have the benefits terminated because council members are part-time employees and no other business offers insurance to part-time employees.

Council Member Cortez feels he works full-time for the city.

Council Member Cortez made a motion to take a vote on this item tonight; there was no 2<sup>nd</sup> so motion died due to lack of 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Council Member Martin made a motion to table the item to the next council meeting when there's a full council present, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mayor Pro Tem Wegman. All in favor motion carried 3-1-0-1. Mayor Espitia announced the vote:

AYES: Espitia, Martin, Wegman  
NOES: Cortez  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Hively

**10) Report and Possible Approval, RE: Approval of Budget Adjustment for Assistant Planner Position. (Mobley)**

Director Mobley gave report. There was some discussion on the job description and salary difference between Planning Technician and Assistant Planner.

Without any further discussion Member Cortez made a motion to approve the budget adjustment for Assistant Planner Position, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mayor Pro Tem Wegman. All in favor motion carried 4-0-0-1. Clerk Rodriguez announced the vote:

AYES: Espitia, Cortez, Martin, Wegman  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Hively

**11) Report and Possible Direction, RE: Public Request for Reduction of Speed Limit on Highway 43 between Filburn Avenue and Poso Avenue. (Wren)**

Director Wren reported that the speed study was done in March 2014 and they are currently looking into a "35mpg ahead" sign to be posted. He informed council that CalTrans will not reduce the speed from 55mph.

John Pallares, resident, would like to see stop signs at Filburn and Hwy. 43 and to have the speed reduced.

Director Wren informed council that there was a conversation with CalTrans regarding stop signs and they were also informed that they would not put stop signs.

Mayor Espitia asked if staff could follow up with CalTrans regarding lowering the speed limit.

**12) REPORTS FROM CITY STAFF**

Sgt. Chandler reported on the body worn cameras. He gave statistical data and informed council that the Tribune will start having a section with information on arrests.

Director Mobley reported that Bank of America will have an ATM available at Barker Square.

Director Sanchez informed council that staff is looking into having a full-time IT person in the future and will do a cost analysis.

Director Wren reported on the striping on Poso Avenue and the Wal-Mart project is moving forward.

**13) REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Paris informed council of the water tower survey that is on the city website. He reported regarding the State Water Resource Board, High Speed Rail, and Wal-Mart. He reminded council that he would be out of the office tomorrow Wednesday but will be back on Thursday.

**14) REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL**

Member Martin asked regarding the kiosk signs, dead trees, cars speeding on Poso Avenue and sirens.

Member Wegman reported that there was a grand opening for the dance hall.

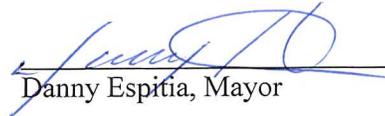
Mayor Espitia asked staff to check the wall on Hwy. 43 that was damaged and that residents have mattresses on there for now. He requested for a closed session item at the next meeting and would speak with City Manager regarding the item.

**15) CLOSED SESSION:** None

**16) ADJOURNMENT:** Mayor Espitia adjourned the meeting at 7:07p.m.



Duviet Rodríguez, City Clerk



Danny Espitia, Mayor