



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Winters City Council
Held on February 18, 2020

Mayor Bill Biasi called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Council Members Harold Anderson, Jesse Loren, Pierre Neu,
Mayor Pro Tem Wade Cowan, Mayor Bill Biasi

Absent: None

Staff: City Manager John W. Donlevy, Jr., City Attorney Ethan Walsh,
Environmental Services Manager Carol Scianna, Management
Analyst Kristine DeGuerre, Civic Spark Fellow Christopher Flores,
Police Chief John Miller, Police Chaplain Robert Duvall & K9 Kepi,
and City Clerk Tracy Jensen

Kurt Balasek led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Council Member Neu, second by Council
Member Loren to approve the agenda with no changes. Motion carried with the
following vote:

AYES: Council Members Anderson, Loren, Neu, Mayor Pro Tem Cowan,
Mayor Biasi

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS: Verbal updates were provided by Council.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Daniel Williams, 26510 Co. Rd. 34, Winters, said he was
asked to come to a meeting and said he likes the City of Winters and wants to
keep it growing at a steady pace. He is concerned that a large development is
too much too soon. Mr. Williams said he was originally from Long Beach, where
homes were removed and replaced with multi-use housing.

Bill Lagattuta, 26758 Via Robles, Winters, wanted to tell everyone more about the initiative for the November ballot regarding future annexation in Winters. Mr. Lagattuta wanted to assure Council this is very serious and he takes this responsibility very seriously. The initiative documents and fee will be presented to the City Clerk on March 4th. After 15 days, petitions can be circulated. Mr. Lagattuta respectfully requested to Council that City staff schedule a presentation at a City Council meeting about who they are and what they want. An amendment to the General Plan will come to Council to be passed into law or certified for the November ballot.

Bethany Gale, 623 Snapdragon St., Winters, said she supports the Keep Winters Winters initiative and said she loves Winters. Ms. Gale said she is not anti-growth, but supports smart, sustainable growth. She is hesitant to see that much growth at once and requested that citizens are given a voice in the decision to expand beyond the City limits.

Marcia Gibbs, 204 Main St., Winters, said she participated in the Economic Development Advisory Committee, whose task was to come up with recommendations to focus on economic development. Ms. Gibbs and Sandy Vickery drafted a final report and presented it to the committee at a joint meeting of the Planning Commission and City Council in 2019, where Ms. Gibbs said some of the recommendations were reviewed. As part of the committee, they did some dedicated work and were hopeful their ideas would be useful. As of today, no other recommendations have been acted upon.

Ellie Yeatman, 209 Abbey St., said she supports the Keep Winters Winters movement. She has seen so much change in northern California since 1970. She said she loves Winters and wants to keep the character of this beautiful town. Change is inevitable and the young will reap the benefits for the time she has spent preserving what we have. As a volunteer at Meals on Wheels, she comes from ag land surrounding us and hates to see it destroyed by planning that is not careful and judicious. She wants to have a say in that planning and appreciates the work Council and the City Manager does.

Kate Laddish, 400 Morgan, Winters, thanked the City Manager for his weekly Friday updates, which provides an excellent roundup of information. The City is planning to meet with CalTrans to pursue automatic license plate readers (LPR) on Grant Avenue, but she voiced her concerns regarding mass surveillance that has potential and documented problems. She cited one example: ICE has accessed privately held data and used it to locate and arrest people without documentation. An LPR requires a privacy policy and crafting it would be a public process. The Police Department and City staff are working to keep the City safe, but she requested that Council direct staff to hold public discussions before going to Council in order to avoid unintended consequences.

Tina Lowden, 320 Niemann, said she and her husband bike, walk, and play in Winters and they love Winters. She requested that Council look at what Keep Winters Winters is all about. She also said Census 2020 is coming and Yolo County needs money.

Will Meakle, address unknown, said he has been living here for six years and loves the City. He left Huntington Beach because it was destroyed by over-development and land values that went crazy. Housing prices in San Francisco are basically outrageous and people who work in San Francisco buy properties here. He said he will do everything in his power to keep Winters Winters. He wants Council to put the brakes on unabated growth and to think about what they're doing. He loves it here and wants to keep it where it is.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Winters City Council and Winters Planning Commission Held on Tuesday, January 21, 2020
- B. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Winters City Council Held on Tuesday, February 4, 2020
- C. Final Acceptance City Parking Lot Project

City Manager Donlevy gave an overview. Council Member Anderson recused himself from Item C due to a possible conflict of interest due to the location of his property in relation to this item. Motion by Council Member Loren, second by Council Member Neu to approve Consent Items A and B. Motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Anderson, Loren, Neu, Mayor Pro Tem Cowan,
Mayor Biasi
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Motion by Council Member Loren, second by Council Member Neu to approve Consent Item C. Motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Loren, Neu, Mayor Pro Tem Cowan, Mayor Biasi
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: Council Member Anderson

PRESENTATIONS

Ron Turner, President of the 100 Club of Solano & Yolo Counties, presented a check to Chaplain Robert Duvall and K9 Kepi of the Winters Police Department Crisis Intervention Team. Mr. Turner said the 100 Club is a non-profit organization that supports police, fire, and first responders and addresses the needs of families in the first 72 hours, presenting a twenty-thousand dollar check to the family of those who have fallen. Funds are received through gracious donors of business and community members. The check presented to Robert & K9 Kepi was based on a donation received from Kaiser Permanente, who identified Robert and K9 Kepi as recipients of these funds. Board Members Ron and Margie Keck said they became aware of the work being done by The 100 Club of Solano and Yolo Counties and wanted to partner with them to support the families of those who have died in the line of duty. Robert said he and K9 Kepi work with 60 agencies throughout Yolo and Solano Counties as part of a crisis intervention team to identify PTSD and depression. They also work with CalFire as part of a peer support unit, spent 14 days on deployment and spent an additional 30 days on the Camp and Carr fires in 2019. Robert thanked everyone for their support and said any resources they receive would be very helpful and this donation will be added to the fund. Mayor Biasi thanked Robert and K9 Kepi for comforting people in their time of need. It is a hard job and they do it so well and their service is very much appreciated. Mayor Biasi also thanked the 100 Club of Solano and Yolo Counties.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Council Direction Requested by the Winters Putah Creek Committee (WPCC)

Kurt Balasek, Chairperson for the Winters Putah Creek Committee (WPCC), said the planned projects have been completed on the creek and now they're down to maintenance and they are interested in expanding their role. Streamkeeper Rich Marovich suggested expanding Dry Creek upstream against invasive weeds and suggested the formation of a Winters Natural Resources Committee. Kurt spoke about unresolved issues from a pedestrian bridge and a south bank trail. He requested feedback from Council about what they would like the WPCC to do. Council Member Anderson asked about a crossing attached to the freeway and Kurt responded by saying CalTrans said it would be possible. Mayor Pro Tem Cowan said he wants to keep the WPCC active and bringing in Dry Creek would be a nice addition. Mayor Biasi said he has been on the WPCC since 2006 and a lot has been accomplished. Streamkeeper Rich Marovich has obtained a lot of money through grants and the walkable trail is one of the best amenities we have. Kurt said there are world renowned experts on the WPCC and he wants to keep them challenged and engaged. He added that grant writing can also be discussed and emphasized looking at the entire watershed to avoid duplicate

efforts. Tina Lowden said she attended the Youth Day Duck Race at Putah Creek and it was hard to get down the trail. Kurt said a new, extended ramp is being installed. Kate Laddish, a member of the WPCC, said the creek is a special place and a tremendous resource. She said discussion has occurred, due to Carol Scianna's retirement and wrapping up projects, about whether the committee ends or continues. They decided strategic planning was needed going forward. There is a lot of expertise on the committee and a good knowledge base of those property owners along the creek. Due to the number of organizations working along the creek, we must be careful of impacts. The WPCC could be a nexus between organizations to avoid efforts being at odds. The WPCC is a valuable organization and Kate said she is looking forward to invigorating their mission going forward.

2. Climate Action Plan (CAP) Development Board Appointment Process

Civic Spark Fellow Christopher Flores gave an overview and said the target date to hold their first board meeting was sometime in March, which means a quick turn-around selection process is needed. Christopher said he has approached different community organizations and eleven applications have been submitted between early January and February 3rd. He said he also reached out to the school, but no applications have been received, but this will be a participatory role and will not be required for the decision-making process. The selection committee will conduct interviews and come back to Council to suggest the top five applicants for appointment. Council Members Loren and Neu volunteered to sit on the selection committee.

3. Discuss Appointment Procedure to Fill Planning Commission Vacancy

City Manager Donlevy said a conflict has arisen between Lisa Baker's role with Yolo County Housing and the implementation of an intergovernmental agreement and serving on the Planning Commission, resulting in a vacancy on the Planning Commission. Mayor Pro Tem Cowan, who sits on the Planning Commission Selection Committee with Council Member Loren, suggested opening the position for new applicants for a short period of time, conduct interviews, and come back to Council by March 17th with a recommendation to complete Lisa's term, which expires in July, 2021. Mayor Pro Tem Cowan confirmed that prior applicants would also be considered. No public comments were made and there was a consensus from Council to review past applications as well as opening the position for new applicants.

4. Community Engagement Review

City Manager Donlevy said he was reporting back and providing framework of the input on the development of a strategy for overall community engagement received at a joint workshop of the City Council and Planning Commission that was held on January 21. Staff received numerous responses, and with the assistance of community members Debra DeAngelo and Sally Brown, completed the framework for an overall strategy.

Mayor Biasi said it is crucial to get the strategy together and receive as much input as we can. It's going to take a lot of volunteers to step up and help get the information out. Facilitated workshops work well, ie: Complete Streets, Creek project, and the Downtown Master Plan and he thanked the City Manager for pulling it all together. Council Member Loren said this is a great process to engage the community and validate that the community is heard. She thanked the City Manager for making it a priority.

Kate Laddish, 400 Morgan, said during the Complete Streets process, an independent, outside facilitator was utilized. They broke out into small groups, came up with a consensus, presented it to a larger group, and discussed it together. She thanked staff for putting it together and said she looked forward to participating.

Mayor Pro Tem Cowan said Bill Lagattuta brought up at the last City Council meeting the City's substandard audio/video system and volunteered to assist in improving it. People that are at home should be able to tune in to Council and Planning Commission meetings and we would also be able to engage more people with an improved system. City Manager Donlevy said it's been a couple of years since our Internet was upgraded by pulling a fiber line out to the Public Safety Facility, enabling us to broadcast through the Internet. The City will try to do our best.

Mayor Biasi said putting together the community engagement information is something we really need. City Manager Donlevy said staff will put it out on social media for more public comments and will work on putting together an advisory committee in an effort to make everything transparent. Staff will create an outline for community engagement and will advertise for committee members.

CITY MANAGER REPORT: Will be attending four meetings in Sacramento beginning next week as part of a team regarding Chromium 6, which has become very real very quickly. During 2020, the State will consider maximum contamination limits. Another rising issue is TCP123, ag pollution in wells. Staff met with the water regulator for licensing who reviewed of all City wells, receiving a glowing report except for the ag pollution on Well 5 on Neimann Street. Staff will schedule a meeting with the Solano County Water Agency.

A transparency page is being added to the City's website within the next week that will include all emails received from Keep Winters Winters and interaction with major developers. This will be a very important way for people to receive accurate information.

INFORMATION ONLY: None

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Biasi adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.



Bill Biasi, MAYOR

ATTEST:



Tracy S. Jensen, City Clerk