



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Winters City Council Held via Teleconference
(Zoom) on April 6, 2021

Mayor Cowan called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

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

Absent: None

Staff: City Manager Kathleen Tropa, Director of Financial Management Shelly Gunby, Chief John Miller, and City Clerk Ashley Bussart

Legal: Iris Yang and Joanna Gin

Mayor Cowan announced that there is a closed session meeting being held before commencement of regular open meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Lisa Salinas let Council know that there have been threats reported in the City of Woodland against Asian Americans and wanted the City of Winters to be aware of their surroundings as we are so close.

Staff returned to regular open session at 6:30PM.

Council Member Pierre Neu led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda:

City Manager Tropa had no changes to the agenda. Motion by Council Member Neu, second by Council Member Loren to approve the agenda. Motion carried with the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Celina Alvarez, Associate Director for Empower Yolo was in attendance to receive the Resolution for Child Abuse Prevention being presented under consent calendar. Celina shared StrongFamiliesYolo.org as a community resource to help support children and families recognize, report, and prevent child abuse.

COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS:

Verbal updates were provided by Council Members.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Winters City Council Held on Tuesday, March 2, 2021
2. Joint Mayors Child Abuse Awareness Outreach

City Manager Trepa provided an overview of the consent calendar items. Motion by Council Member Neu, second by Mayor Pro Tem Biasi to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion carried with the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Yolo County Youth Empowerment Summit (Y. E. S.) Update/Upcoming Civic Engagement Overview 2020 Election

Council Member Loren can hardly wait to attend.

Kate Laddish thanked County staff for everything they did with elections. Kate is excited about the continued work for the Youth Empowerment Summit and congratulated them on getting the Secretary of State as a speaker.

2. Mosquito Control Matters, Fight the Bite, Current Issues and Challenges Related to Mosquito Control

Marianne Boyer thanked Gary and Gar for the presentation. Marianne was curious if Mosquito Plants kept mosquitos away. Gary responded that there are plants that have natural replant properties, but they do not work 100% of the time. Wintergreen is another good plant that may work.

Gar applauded Gary, Luz, and the entire staff for their hard work.

Mayor Cowan also thanked Gary and Gar for all the information over the last few years.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Annual Impact Fee Report

Mayor Pro Tem Biasi asked if we are on track for our five-year goal of spending the fees.

Director Gunby explained that we do not have to spend the fees in five years, but we must report every five years what has not been spent and why. We spent all the Street and Park Fees. We over expended the fees for the Sewer Plant, we borrowed funds from O&M, which has been paid back. She also indicated she would bring a five-year expenditure plan back to the City Council for review and approval.

Motion by Council Member Loren, second by Council Member Neu. Motion carried with the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

2. Consider Modifying City Hall Hours Every Other Friday and During Lunch

City Manager Trepka presented the report.

Mayor Pro Tem Biasi asked if we will have a full year's schedule posted.

City Manager Trepka she understands it will take some getting used to but thinks that we will provide better service to the public if we are fully staffed.

Mayor Pro Tem Biasi thinks this is a great benefit to offer our employees.

Sandra Vickrey asked in the chat "How is the general public to know which Friday they are open and which they are closed? Can you stagger the days off such some take Friday and some take Monday off?" City Manager Trepka explained that we would be posting and pushing the hours out on all social media platforms, the website and on the City's doors. She also explained that staggering Mondays and Fridays would result in being short staffed on those days.

Motion by Council Member Loren, second by Council Member Neu. Motion carried with the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

3. American Rescue Plan Overview

City Manager Trepá presented the report.

Mayor Cowan appreciates the information and looks forward to the goal setting this summer.

Kate Laddish wanted more information regarding the possible projects slide, economic hardship experienced by the City, and revenue loss from decreased taxes and shuttered facilities.

City Manager Trepá explained that we must certify for why we are receiving the funds and how we are using them, by comparing a base year to the next 12 months to show economic harm, for example, lost sales tax, gas tax, program fees, facility rental fees etc.

Mayor Pro Tem Biasi reminded us that these are one-time funds, we need to keep in mind that the funds should be spent on things that will not cause recurring debt. Economic Development is at the top of his list for the funds, including helping the Chamber and the Downtown Business Association, Senior Services and Senior Center, Sewer and Water Projects, and the specific plan, guidelines permitted. The Community Center is another key City resource that the City uses for many different things that could use upgrades. Mayor Pro Tem would also like to look at park projects and T.O.T.

Mayor Cowan agrees with Mayor Pro Tem Biasi.

Council Member Loren agrees with Mayor Cowan and Mayor Pro Tem. Council Member Loren is in support of using some of the money towards looking into cannabis businesses as requested by the Downtown Business Association.

Mayor Cowan reminded everyone that Abbey house paid a significant amount in TOT. He would like to spread the money as far as possible without doubling up, maximizing the benefits.

4. Introduction and First Reading of Ordinance 2021-01 Amending Section 16.12.010 of the Winters Municipal Code and Authorizing the Dedication of Streets and Easements Pursuant to the Subdivision Map Act

Assistant City Attorney Gin presented the report.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Biasi, second by Council Member Loren. Motion carried with the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

5. Public Hearing to Consider an Application for Funding under the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 State Administered Community Development Block Grant under the CARES ACT for COVID-19 Response and Recovery

City Manager Trepa presented the report.

Mayor Pro Tem Biasi asked for clarification on whether this can be used for Senior Services.

Colleen Brock explained that the CDBG funds being discussed are specifically for COVID-19 related issues but there will be another CDBG Application that will be for program planning and a Program Supervisor for Senior Services and the Senior Center.

Mayor Cowan would like the After School program be considered, if possible.

City Manager Trepa believes that the After School Program may be eligible and it is on the list of ideas to look into.

Public Hearing Opened at 8:16PM

Dr. Tico Zendeja with RISE, Inc provided information about the satellite office in Winters. The office has been open and providing services to students in person 4 days a week through the COVID-19 pandemic. They would like to continue and increase capacity by expanding, but they have limited resources. They look forward to working with the City to explore how this grant funding could possibly help them.

Colleen Brock added that the focus originally was to work with RISE for a smaller grant, and there is also a County focus on supporting families in rural areas that do not have access to Wave broadband. There are 160 children in El Rio Villa without internet services; these funds can help with getting the youth up to the capacity they should be educationally.

Mayor Pro Tem Biasi agrees that we should looking into the funding going to Rise and other disadvantaged youth, especially with all the restrictions.

Motion by Council Member Loren, second by Council Member Neu. Motion carried with the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Mayor Pro Tem Biasi would like Dr. Tico Zendejas to come back and give more updates on Rise.

CITY MANAGER REPORT:

One week left for input on Housing Element survey, City Manager Trepa wants to encourage as many people as possible to participate. The survey will be pushed out on all platforms over the next week. The survey closes April 12th, the draft will be finalized and released for public comment. As a reminder, Measure A is applicable to the Housing Element.

Neighborworks is still trying to pull their packets together; the City submitted a draft Development Agreement to Neighborworks in December. They will provide feedback when they get all of the information. Names and contact information have been continuously collected for those interested.

Blue Mountain Terrace is expected to open in May; they are actively taking applications.

Assistant City Attorney Gin reminded Mayor Cowan to close the public hearing.

Mayor Cowan closed the public hearing at 8:26 PM.

Mayor Cowan mentioned that he is disappointed we haven't had more participants in the Housing Element Survey.

Kate Laddish requested that the closing date of the Housing Element survey be added to the website?

City Manager Trepa noted she would check the website and update it as necessary.

INFORMATION ONLY:

1. January 2021 Investment Report
2. January 2021 Treasurer Report

ADJOURNMENT:

8:28 PM



Wade Cowan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ashley Bussart, City Clerk