

**CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SONORA
FEBRUARY 17, 2015**

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 Ronald Stearn, Mayor Pro-Tem Connie Williams, Councilmembers: Bill Canning, George Segarini and Jim Garaventa; City Administrator Tim Miller, City Clerk Marijane Cassinetto, Engineer Gerard Fuccillo, Attorney Byron Smith, Community Development Director Rachelle Kellogg, Interim Finance Director Bijan Sadeghian, Police Chief Mark Stinson and Acting Fire Chief Grant Miller. Absent: None.

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/COMMENDATIONS

Fire Chief Stinson introduced and swore in newly hired Police Officer Joel Memmer who was welcomed by the Council. Memmer's badge was pinned by his wife.

Police Chief Stinson recognized the Police Department's 2014 *Employees/Volunteers of the Year* as follows:

Civilian Employee of the Year:	Tammy Gillespie
Reserve Officer of the Year:	Sgt. Glenn Roberts
PACT Member of the Year:	Steve Bailey
Explorer of the Year:	Matthew Roberts
MADD Officer of the Year:	Jonathan Ma
Officer of the Year:	Ryan Webb (not present)

Congratulations and thanks were expressed by the Council.

Presentation of "Years of Service Award" to eligible City Employees and Elected Officials for 2014. Administrator Miller introduced the matter. Awards were presented as follows:

Elected Officials: Marijane Cassinetto, City Clerk - 20 Years
Ronald Stearn Councilmember - 50 Years
(previously presented)

Community Development Department: Sheala Wilkinson
Special Programs Coordinator - 15 Years

Fire Department: Craig Peterson, Part-time Fire Prevention
Inspector/Relief Fire Captain - 35 years

Police Department: Mark Stinson, Police Chief - 10 years
Krishna Livingston - Dispatcher/Records
Specialist - 10 years
Turu Vanderwiel - Sergeant - 10 years
(not present)
Tammy Gillespie - Dispatcher/Records
Specialist - 15 years

Public Works Department: Robert Ennis - Public Works
Specialist - 30 years (not present)

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Councilmember Garaventa, second by Councilmember Canning, and unanimously carried that the Consent Calendar be approved as follows:

1. Approval of Minutes for the Closed Session of January 12, 2015, and Closed and Regular Council Meetings of February 2, 2015;
2. Approval of invoices for previously budgeted expenses to be paid on February 18, 2015, in the amount of \$398,161.43; and
3. Approval of disbursements in the amount of \$142,827.83 on February 6, 2015, for payroll, inclusive of employee salaries, employer and employee taxes and retirement contributions, and miscellaneous voluntary employee deductions.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA

City Clerk Cassinetta advised Council that at 8:45 a.m. on the 12th day of February, 2015, the Agenda for the City of Sonora Council Meeting scheduled for this date was posted outside City Hall for public view.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Shirley Sarno, Executive Director of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce, presented a preliminary concept to promote a partnership between the Chamber and the City of Sonora to develop an Event Management and Presenter Program (EMPP) to brand, organize, promote and professionally manage events that enhance tourism, economic development and community pride in Sonora and Tuolumne County. The mission of the EMPP would be to be a respected producer of themed events, which enhance the quality of life, build a sense of belonging to a unique region, and invite participation and involvement in the community, increase public awareness regionally for greater Sonora and the surrounding area. The goal would be for the Chamber and the City of Sonora to work together to do more signature events. Micki Rucker, owner of Funky Junk, appeared with Sarno exhibiting a posterboard with suggested events. Staff was directed to set up a meeting with the appropriate committee and bring it back to the Council.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES (Non-Agenda)

Lisa Mayo, Executive Director of the Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau, distributed its publication, *Yosemite Gold Country Vacationland!*, to the Council, and reviewed its distribution.

Connie O'Connor, Executive Director of the Tuolumne County Arts Alliance, encouraged the Council to become a partner with the Sonora Chamber as above presented by Shirley Sarno, and reported that the Arts Alliance is excited about the possible partnership venture and would like to partner as well.

Elena Linehan reviewed her history with the City as the Council-appointed Main Street Manager in 1986. She urged the City not to support the Vision Sonora Plan as it has been presented to the public so far. She proposed alternative street closures to those presented in the Plan which she feels

would better serve traffic flow and promote business. She requested that Staff be directed to do traffic counts on the downtown streets annually.

In regard to the Vision Sonora Plan, Marianne Wright, downtown business owner of Tar Flat Antiques, urged the Council not to close any downtown streets, including the closure of Linoberg Street, that would interrupt traffic flow, making it difficult for tourists, business owners, residents and delivery vehicles to have convenient access to downtown. She urged the Council to maintain, and even increase, convenient access and parking in downtown. She spoke to her family's five-generation heritage in Sonora and their numerous businesses downtown since the late 1800's, and the past generations' understanding of the importance that accessibility to all streets and buildings be maintained. Wright urged the Council to seriously consider the impact on downtown if traffic flow is interrupted and streets are closed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Accomplishments Under Community Development Block Grant #10-EDEF-7260. This was the time and place set for a Public Hearing to solicit citizens views on the City's accomplishments under Community Development Block Grant #10-EDEF-7260 which provided \$400,000 to fund the Microenterprise Assistance Program. Community Development Director Kellogg reported history of the Program, and that \$164,500 was allocated to provide Business Technical Assistance, and \$150,000 allocated for Micro Loans. Kellogg summarized how the funds were expended within those Programs. Grant administration and activity expenses were also funded. The Grant expired on December 31, 2014.

Mayor Stearn opened the Public Hearing at 6:10 p.m. There being no appearances, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:11 p.m. No action required.

Amendment to CDBG Grant #13-CDBG-8946. This was the time and place set for a Public Hearing to solicit citizens views on amending the City's CDBG Grant #13-CDBG-8946 to add Program Income Supplemental Activities to the Grant contract. The Council will consider adoption of Resolution No. 02-17-2015-A which amends Community Development Block Grant No. 13-CDBG-8946 to add Program Income Supplemental Activities and to authorize the City Administrator to execute all associated Grant documents. Community Development Director Kellogg noted that a prior Public Hearing was held on this Grant to receive feedback from the public regarding this process and provide the opportunity to submit projects for consideration. Kellogg reported that there have been changes mandated by the Federal government to the State that affect how the City can use Program Income funds. Kellogg reviewed the steps in the process allowing Program Income expenditures. The current Fund balance is \$263,180.19.

Kellogg noted that at the prior Public Hearing, there was a request to use said Funds for shelter for the homeless and

related services. Kellogg reiterated that time is of the essence in submitting Program Income Projects to the State, and there are no homeless projects finalized and ready for submittal. Additionally, if Tuolumne County is funding homeless projects, the City is not allowed to expend CDBG monies for the same purpose.

Recommending adoption, Kellogg reviewed the provisions of Resolution No. 02-17-2015-A which will amend said CDBG Standard Agreement to include the following Program Income Supplemental Activities:

- 1) Sonora Residential Fire Flow Improvement Project (Water/Sewer Improvement) - up to \$250,000;
- 2) Microenterprise Technical Assistance and Microenterprise Financial Assistance - up to \$200,000; and
- 3) Program Income General Administration \$27,723 on-hand and 17% of the Program Income received.

Mayor Stearn opened the Public Hearing at 6:19 p.m. Erik Johnson was present on behalf of Tuolumne Utilities District, reporting on the hydrants identified for the Project. There being no other appearances, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:25 p.m.

MOTION by Councilmember Canning, second by Councilmember Garaventa, and unanimously carried that, as presented, the following actions be approved:

- 1) **Approval of Resolution No. 02-17-2015-A approving an Amendment to Community Development Block Grant No. 13-CDBG-8946 to Add Program Income Supplemental Activities and submittal of the Supplemental Activity Request Application to the Department of Housing and Community Development;**
- 2) **The City Administrator, or designee, be authorized and directed to act on the City's behalf in all matters pertaining to the Grant Amendment and Requests for Supplemental Activities, including authorization to sign the required application(s) and all associated Grant documents; and**
- 3) **The City Administrator be authorized to proceed with said Projects and Programs upon approval from the State Department of Housing and Community Development.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Williams gave a brief update on the homeless issue in regard to shelter noting that the homeless have told the Homeless Advisory Committee that they believe the worst storms have passed, and there is not a need to do anything at this time.

Building Code Amendment and Adoption. This was the time and place set for a Public Hearing to consider a Building Code Adoption - Code Amendment, which repeals and replaces Chapters 15.04, Uniform Codes Adopted, 15.08, Electrical Code, and 15.12 Fire Code, to the Sonora Municipal Code; Adding a new Chapter 15.04, Building Codes Adopted; Adding a new Chapter 15.08, General Administrative Code Provisions; Adding a new Chapter 15.10, Building Permits; and Adding a new Chapter 15.12, Inspections and Occupancy. The Council will consider introducing and waiving the first reading of Ordinance No. 825 which repeals and replaces various Building Codes.

Community Development Director Kellogg introduced the matter recommending approval, and distributed copies of the following two small additions which have been added to the Ordinance at the request of the City Engineer:

- 1) Inclusion of "Appendix J" to Section 15.04.010 Codes Adopted; and
- 2) Inclusion of "(o) Grading of 50 cubic yards or less" to Section 14.10.020 Work Exempt from Permit".

Will Crew, the City's Acting Building Official, reviewed background information and the provisions of said Ordinance.

Mayor Stearn opened the Public Hearing at 6:36 p.m. There being no appearances, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:37 p.m. **MOTION by Mayor Pro-Tem Williams, second by Councilmember Canning, and unanimously carried that Ordinance No. 825, inclusive of the above-two additions, be introduced with the first reading waived.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Adoption of New Farmers Market Fees. The Council considered adoption of new Farmers Market Fees. Community Development Director Kellogg reported that the increase is due to State mandated additions and penalties related to California Farmers Markets. Recommending approval, Kellogg noted that the City is required to pay \$2 fee for each vendor for every Market Day. The proposed \$5 increase will cover the State fee as well as increased expenses for the City's operation of the Market. Kellogg announced that this year's Market begins on the 16, 2015, and will run through mid-October, 2015.

MOTION by Councilmember Segarini, second by Councilmember Garaventa, and unanimously carried that the stall fees for all vendors at the Sonora Certified Farmers Market be increased from \$30.00 to \$35.00.

FY 2015 Mid-Year Budget Adjustments. The Council considered approving the Fiscal Year 2015 Mid-Year Budget Adjustments. Administrator Miller presented said Budget review reporting that overall, total General Fund revenues and expenditures are on track for a balanced budget at year end. A full copy of Miller's Staff Report, including recommended Adjustments, is attached hereto as Exhibit "A", and made a part hereof.

MOTION by Councilmember Canning, second by Mayor Pro-Tem Williams, and unanimously carried that said FY 2015 Mid-Year Budget Adjustments be approved as presented.

WRITTEN STAFF REPORTS - January, 2015

1. From Community Development Director Kellogg for the Planning/Building Department.
2. From Public Works Supervisor Bill Seldon for the Public

- Works Department.
3. From Police Chief Stinson for the Police Department.
 4. From Grant Miller, Acting Fire Chief, for the Fire Department.

COMMUNICATIONS - Information Only

None.

COUNCILMEMBERS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

Community Development Director Kellogg reported that the "Grow Your Business Expo - 2015" will be held at the Sonora Opera Hall on April 1, 2015, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and the Dragoon Gulch 5K hosted by Foothill Leadership Academy will be held on April 12, 2015. **Engineer Fuccillo** reported that the Mono Way Widening Project is complete with only a minor punch list remaining. **Administrator Miller** reported that the County is in the process of removing the seven diseased and/or hazard trees from Courthouse Park, and sections of the Streets affected by the removal will be temporary closed with detours.

Mayor Pro-Tem Williams reported that Priscilla Davis, owner of the Myers Hill house that recently had a fire, was very thankful to the Fire Department and other City safety personnel for the efforts in fighting the fire. **Williams** requested that the Parking and Traffic Committee look into striping at the intersection of Bald Mountain Road and Cielo Vista Way to encourage drivers to not cut the corner when turning. **Williams** asked if the fly problem in parts of downtown has been solved.

Administrator Miller responded that personnel has not found an attributable source which is causing them to hover around a number of areas; staff will check with County Agriculture for their recommendations. **Williams** also asked that the Council Chambers' microphone system be checked out to make sure it is working properly; she said that people in attendance are having a difficult hearing the Councilmembers unless they speak directly into their microphones. **Councilmember Segarini** reported that he attended the Board of Supervisors workshop regarding updating the General Plan; he attended the YES Partnership Meeting on February 12, 2015, which had a presentation by the National Association of Mental Illness which was very interesting; he reported that ATCAA is providing a free tax preparation service for those qualify, call (209) 533-1397 or go the web at www.myfreetaxes.com for information; he attended the Board of Supervisors Meeting honoring retiring Tuolumne County Health Director Todd Stolp. **Mayor Stearn** reported that last weekend's 2nd Saturday downtown event was very successful with a large attendance.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the Meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m. to the Regular Meeting on Monday, March 2, 2015, at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Marijane Cassinetto, City Clerk Date