

**CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF SONORA  
MARCH 2, 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**

**Police Chief Stinson** introduced new Explorer Scouts Victor Battle and Nick Cragholm who were welcomed by the Council. Their badges were pinned by their parents. Stinson noted that this year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Sonora Police Officer Explorer Program.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Williams, second by Councilmember Canning, and unanimously carried that the Consent Calendar be approved as follows:

1. Approval of Minutes for the Closed and Regular Council Meetings of February 17, 2015;
2. Approval of invoices for previously budgeted expenses to be paid on March 3, 2015, in the amount of \$97,793.73; and
3. Approval of disbursements in the amount of \$145,945.01 on February 20, 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 Cassinetto advised Council that at 11:55 a.m. on the 26th 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**

None.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES (Non-Agenda)**

**Elena Linehan** reviewed her history with the City as the Council-appointed Main Street Manager in 1986, and reported on successful programs including the establishment of the downtown Farmers Market and revival of downtown businesses achieved by the dedicated committee she worked with. She appeared before the Council to warn it off the Vision Sonora Plan as it has been presented so far. Linehan reviewed the four-pronged *Main Street Approach* of the National Trust for Historic Preservation developed to revitalize downtowns, which includes the following: a strong dedicated organizational group consisting

of business and professional property owners and the City working together, a design element that works with downtown, a promotional and marketing aspect and sound economic development to make sure that what is being offered to the public is vital to them. Linehan believes the current Plan is heavy in design and does "lip service at best" to the organization, promotion and economic development aspects. Linehan suggested that the City use funds allocated for the Vision Sonora Plan to enable two Councilmembers to attend the upcoming National Main Streets Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, from March 30<sup>th</sup> through April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Linehan distributed Conference information and curriculum to the Council.

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### **Building Code Amendment and Adoption - Ordinance No. 825.**

The Council considered waiving the second reading and adopting Ordinance No. 825. Said Ordinance repeals and replaces various Building Codes as they were presented when introduced at the Council Meeting of February 16, 2015.

Community Development Director Kellogg presented the Ordinance recommending adoption. There was no public comment.

**MOTION by Councilmember Segarini, second by Mayor Pro-Tem Williams, and unanimously carried that the Council waives the second reading and Ordinance No. 825 be approved and adopted as presented.**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution No. 03-02-2015-A Street Closures for Mother Lode Parade.** The Council considered adoption of Resolution No. 03-02-2015-A which authorizes the closure of State Route 49 (Washington Street & Stockton Street) along with other City Streets for the 2015 Mother Lode Round-Up Parade and Rodeo scheduled for Saturday, May 9, 2015. Police Chief Stinson recommended approval noting that the closures are the same as last year. Ty Wivell representing the Tuolumne County Sheriff's Posse requested approval and thanked the City for its many years of support. There were no other comments from the public.

**MOTION by Councilmember Canning, second by Councilmember Garaventa, and unanimously carried that Resolution No. 03-02-2015-A be approved and adopted as presented subject to the Posse providing the required Certificate of Insurance and indemnification agreement.**

**Resolution No. 03-02-2015-B Establishing Building Code Division Fee Schedule.** The Council considered approval of Resolution No. 03-02-2015-B which establishes the Building Code Division Fee Schedule for the building permit, plan check and grading permit fees. Community Development Director Kellogg recommended approval noting that the requested action to adopt the fees comes in coordination with Ordinance No. 825. Kellogg

reported that a fee study will need to be done for future fee updates which will cost approximately \$8,400, and a funding source will need to be identified for said study and evaluation; fees have not been increased since 1998. Daren Wardell, Interim Building Inspector, reported that legislation requires fees to be appropriate for the services provided.

There was Council discussion. Administrator Miller noted that the fees cannot exceed the cost of providing the services, but that the State has no control over what the City charges. Miller also noted that staff time is required for said fee study, and staff resources are currently committed; funding for such study will be proposed in the 2015-2016 Budget. There was no public comment.

**MOTION by Mayor Pro-Tem Williams, second by Councilmember Garaventa, and unanimously carried that Resolution No. 03-02-2015-B be approved and adopted as presented.**

**Special Event Pre-Approval Street Closures.** The Council considered approving the inclusion of Theall Street from Washington Street to Stewart Street on the Special Event Permit Application City Council Pre-Approved Street Closures List. Community Development Director Kellogg noted that a request for temporary closure came from the Tuolumne County Arts Alliance which would like to utilize Theall Street during the City's Spring Festival event. Kellogg requested that said closure be added to the Pre-Approved List which will allow Staff to approve the Alliance's request along with closure requests for future events. MOTION by Councilmember Canning, second by Mayor Pro-Tem Williams that said request be approved.

Mayor Stearn asked for public comment. Elena Linehan felt that there are other and better choices than closing Theall Street. Linehan asked that the City let businesses know they are considering closure before taking action. Kellogg noted that Special Events Coordinator Sheala Wilkinson had talked to the business owner at the corner of Stewart and Theall Streets. Kellogg reported that said Street has been closed from time to time for special events; if the Council approves closure at this time, it can be reconsidered at any time and pulled from the List. Councilmember Segarini requested postponement of action until the business owner at the corner of Theall and Stewart Streets is notified. Councilmember Canning, with consent of Mayor Pro-Tem Williams, withdrew the Motion, and the matter was continued to the next Council Meeting on March 16, 2015.

**Matters Related to Administrative Analyst.** The Council considered the following actions:

- a. Adopt the amended Job Description for the Classification of Administrative Analyst;
- b. Assign this Classification to Salary Range 2354;
- c. Tie this unrepresented Classification to the Sonora Employees Association (SEA) for all issues relating to salary.

Administrator Miller presented said matters recommending

approval. **MOTION by Councilmember Segarini, second by Councilmember Canning that the above actions be approved as presented.** Mayor Stearn asked for public comment. There being none, **said Motion was unanimously approved.**

**Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) Projects.** The Council considered submission of projects to be included in the IRWMP for possible funding. Administrator Miller reported that the Plan Amendment cycle was brought to him by Mayor Pro-Tem Williams, and that the City can submit projects which could lead to possible funding; funding is contingent on availability and a competitive process. Presentation to the IRWMP Committee is due on March 18, 2015. Projects that have been discussed include the installation of a well at Woods Creek Rotary Park for irrigation and/or the preparation of a Storm Water Drainage Master Plan. Miller reported that a well would tie into the existing irrigation system which receives TUD water and could provide irrigation to Woods Creek Rotary Park.

Mayor Pro-Tem Williams asked if improvement to the waterline servicing Knolls Hill could also be submitted as a project. Community Development Director Kellogg responded that Staff has worked with TUD to place the Knolls Hill pipeline improvement into the projects being funded by the Hazard Mitigation Fund, and she is waiting for notification. It was Council consensus to authorize Staff to work on both the Woods Creek Rotary Park well and the Storm Water Drainage Master Plan submittals as time permits.

#### **WRITTEN STAFF REPORTS**

None.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS** - Information Only

None.

#### **COUNCILMEMBERS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS**

**Police Chief Stinson** reported that an automobile hit the new retaining wall constructed as part of the Mono Way Widening Project. **Engineer Fuccillo** noted that there was minor damage which chipped the simulated rock surface, and that it can be repainted. **Community Development Director Kellogg** introduced Interim Building Inspector Daren Wardell. **Councilmember Garaventa** reported that he attended the Fire Safe Meeting in the Fire Station Conference Room last week at which thinning projects were discussed, including the possibility of thinning at Dragoon Gulch. **Councilmember Segarini** noted that the stop light at the Restano Way intersection was not working properly.

**Engineer Fuccillo** responded that sensor loops were cut through during the recent TUD water line project, and the problem will be solved by replacing the loops when the Spring overlay project is done. **Councilmember Canning** requested that the fee schedule for permit parking be sent to the Finance Committee; the Council concurred. **Mayor Pro-Tem Williams** requested that the usage of the permit parking lots be surveyed.

