

**CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF SONORA  
SEPTEMBER 21, 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, Attorney Byron Smith, Community Development Director Rachelle Kellogg, Interim Finance Director Bijan Sadeghian, Police Chief Mark Stinson, Fire Chief Aimee New and Interim City Engineer Gerard Fuccillo. Absent: None.

**CITY CLERK'S REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA**

City Clerk Cassinetto advised Council that at 11:45 a.m. on the 17th day of September, 2015, the Agenda for the City of Sonora Council Meeting scheduled for this date was posted outside City Hall for public view.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Administrator Miller reported that the Sonora Chamber of Commerce has requested that its presentation regarding City funding of a Downtown Summer Concert Series be continued to Council's next Meeting on October 5, 2015. As requested, said matter (New Business Item 2) will be continued to the next Meeting.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Police Chief Stinson** introduced part-time Community Service Officer Lance Durham who was welcomed by the Council.

**PUBLIC FORUM (Non-Agenda)**

**A member of the public** stated her opinion that there is failure of recycling in our community stating that we should be doing a better job. She proposed public education and a community action committee.

**Elena Linehan**, downtown property owner and employee and former Downtown Revitalization Manager, discussed the psychology of parking in regard to how people view parking outside of an enclosed mall and in the center of an open mall area versus downtown street parking. She stated that when Vision Sonora takes parking off Washington Street and puts it on the third floor of a parking structure and in peripheral lots to be bused into downtown, that psychology says to people "go away".

**BZ Smith**, community resident, said that a billboard sign on the north side of Stockton Street entering into Sonora from the West reads, "Watch Out for E.coli at Your Next Dinner Party",

which is not at all welcoming to our community; it is not a public service message that is very friendly for our community and not encouraging to our downtown restaurants. Mayor Pro-Tem Williams said that the sign is on County property. Councilmember Canning asked that Administrator Miller check with the County Health Department to see if it is one of their signs.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

1. Approval of Minutes for the Closed and Regular Council Meetings of September 8, 2015;
2. Approval to pay invoices for previously budgeted expenses on September 22, 2015, in the amount of \$219,180.47; and
3. Approval of disbursements in the amount of \$141,027.37 on September 18, 2015, for payroll, inclusive of employee salaries, employer and employee taxes and retirement contributions and miscellaneous voluntary employee deductions.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Reschedule Dance in Coffill Park.** The Council considered rescheduling the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday After 8 Summer Send Off Dance in Coffill Park from September 12, 2015, to October 10, 2015. The After 8 Dance Committee previously requested approval for the Dance to be held on September 12, 2015, which action was approved at the September 8, 2015, Council Meeting. Sarah Rogers Nesper, Dance Chair, appeared to request the change of date due to the devastating fires which have occurred; she reported that all necessary documentation will reflect the new date, and all original conditions will apply. There was no further public comment.

**MOTION by Councilmember Canning, second by Mayor Pro-Tem Williams, and unanimously carried that said request to change the Dance date to October 10, 2015, be approved as requested.**

**Acceptance of Volunteer Firefighter Assistance Grant.** The Council considered adoption of Resolution No. 09-21-2015-A which approves an Agreement accepting the 2015 Volunteer Firefighter Assistance Grant in the amount of \$8,413.44, and authorizes the Fire Chief to execute said Agreement and any amendments on behalf of the City. Recommending approval, Fire Chief New presented said matter reviewing the provisions of the Agreement and Resolution which will allow the Fire Department to purchase safety equipment,

fire prevention/defensible space educational materials and updated wildland fire shelters. There was no public comment.

**MOTION by Councilmember Garaventa, second by Mayor Pro-Tem Williams, and unanimously carried that said Resolution be approved and adopted as presented.**

**Amendments to Fire Station Use Policy.** The Council considered approving and adopting amendments to Administrative Policy #42, the Fire Station Meeting Room (EOC) Use Policy. Recommending approval, Fire Chief New presented the requested amendments. New reported that the amendments reflect changes which will help maintain station security, the hours available for rental, and the reduction of rental fees from \$75 per day to \$10, with any over hours charged reduced from \$50 to \$20 per day. Councilmember Garaventa requested three minor typographical changes. BZ Smith, community member, thanked the Council for its "incredibly generous offer" making the facility available to the public, and she encouraged approval. There were no further comments.

**MOTION by Mayor Pro-Tem Williams, second by Councilmember Garaventa, and unanimously carried that said amended Administrative Policy #42 be approved as presented with the three minor typographical changes as requested by Councilmember Garaventa.**

**Accept Notice of Completion for S. Washington Street Overlay Project.** The Council considered accepting the Contract Improvements with George Reed, Inc., as complete for the South Washington Street Overlay Project, and authorizing the City Clerk to file a Notice of Completion with the Tuolumne County Recorder. Recommending approval, Interim City Engineer Fuccillo reviewed the scope of the Project, reporting three change orders reflecting the final contract amount of \$834,527.10, and he reported substantial completion on September 1, 2015. Fuccillo reported an excellent job was done by George Reed, Inc. There was no public comment.

**MOTION by Councilmember Canning, second by Councilmember Garaventa, and unanimously carried that the City accepts the work of said Contract as completed, and that the City Clerk be authorized to file a Notice of Completion with the Tuolumne County Recorder.**

**MONTHLY REPORTS - August, 2015**

1. Community Development Department
2. Public Works Department
3. Police Department
4. Fire Department

**COMMUNICATIONS** - Information Only  
None.

**COUNCILMEMBERS AND DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**Police Chief Stinson** reported numerous recent vehicle burglaries, and urged the public to lock their cars. **Fire Chief New** reported that Engine 752 which was assigned to the Butte Fire will return to Sonora within the next couple days. **Mayor Pro-Tem Williams** reported that she attended the September 8<sup>th</sup> Solid Waste Committee Meeting; that there will be \$5,000 in grant monies which the County will make available to the City for recycling cans; that she attended the Integrated Regional Water Management Authority Meeting and Proposition 1 monies will be available for Storm Water Management Plans; that she would like Staff to look into the possibility of making the Mehun Parking Lot a permitted long term lot; and that the City should consider promoting shopping in downtown on the weekends. **Councilmember Canning** asked when the Request for Proposals for the Stewart Street Public Restroom Facility are due. **Community Development Director Kellogg** responded that they are due September 25, 2015, by 4 p.m., and the Project will come before the Council for award at the October 5, 2015, Meeting. **Councilmember Garaventa** reported that he attended the Sierra Conservation Public Affairs Meeting, the County Chamber Transportation Meeting, the City Planning Commission Meeting, the Sonora Chamber Mixer at Chicken Ranch, and the Trafficking Awareness Forum at the Opera Hall. **Councilmember Segarini** reported that he attended the Tuolumne County Chamber Affairs Meeting this morning, the YES Partnership Meeting last month at which a presentation was given on *Common Core* which he would like to have a presentation given at a Council Meeting, and he reported that the Tuolumne Utilities District Board will meet tomorrow night and a 30% rate increase has been discussed by the Board.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the Meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m. to the Regular Meeting on Monday, October 5, 2015, at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

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Marijane Cassinetto, City Clerk      Date