

**CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF SONORA  
OCTOBER 5, 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, 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 (present at 5:05 p.m.). Absent: Mayor Pro-Tem Connie Williams and Interim City Engineer Gerard Fuccillo.

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

City Clerk Cassinetto advised Council that at 11:15 a.m. on the 1st day of October, 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**

At the request of Administrator Miller, consideration of New Business Item #5 was moved to be considered after New Business Item #2.

**PRESENTATIONS**

None.

**PUBLIC FORUM (Non-Agenda)**

None.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

1. Approval of Minutes for the Closed and Regular Council Meetings of September 21, 2015;
2. Approval to pay invoices for previously budgeted expenses on October 6, 2015, in the amount of \$100,949.40; and
3. Approval of disbursements in the amount of \$149,493.38 on October 2nd, 2015, for payroll, inclusive of employee salaries, employer and employee taxes and retirement contributions and miscellaneous voluntary employee deductions.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Public Hearing - Ordinance No. 830, Rezoning.** This was the time and place set for a Public Hearing to introduce by title and waive the first reading of Ordinance No. 830 which amends the City of Sonora Zoning Map by rezoning Assessor's Parcel Nos. 056-082-03, 05, 15 and 16, located at 86 Mono Way, and 647 and 677 South

Stewart Street, from Commercial (C) to Multifamily Residential (R-3). The proposed rezoning of Parcels 056-082-03, 15 and 16 is initiated by the City; Richard and Holly Hedrick submitted the application to rezone their property at 86 Mono Way, A.P. #056-082-05. Recommending approval, Community Development Director Kellogg reviewed the noticing process reporting that the rezoning was approved by the Planning Commission, and no concerns were received from the public nor from property owners. Kellogg stated that all Parcels currently have legal nonconforming uses, and that Staff has determined that the Multifamily Residential zoning is more consistent with existing uses.

Mayor Stearn opened the Public Hearing at 5:12 p.m. Applicant Holly Hedrick appeared in favor of the rezoning. There being no further appearances, the Public Hearing was closed at 5:13 p.m. **MOTION by Councilmember Segarini, second by Councilmember Canning, and unanimously carried that Ordinance No. 830 be introduced by title and the first reading be waived.**

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution No. 10-05-2015-B Authorizing Street Closures for Homecoming Parade.** The Council considered approving Resolution No. 10-15-2015-B authorizing the temporary closure of State Route 49 (Washington Street) and other City Streets to accommodate the 2015 Sonora High School Homecoming Parade, which will be held on Friday, October 16, 2015. Sonora High School Student Body President Ross Irwin presented the request and reviewed Homecoming activities. Said request has been approved by Staff. There was no further public comment.

**MOTION by Councilmember Garaventa, second by Councilmember Canning, and unanimously carried that said Resolution be approved and adopted as requested.**

**Art and Humanities Month Proclamation.** The Council considered a request by the Tuolumne County Arts Alliance to Proclaim the month of October 2015, as "*Arts & Humanities Month*" in concert with the annual National and State Arts & Humanities Month. Administrator Miller recommended approval. There was no public comment. **MOTION by Councilmember Garaventa, second by Councilmember Canning, and unanimously carried that the Month of October, 2015, be declared "*Arts & Humanities Month*" as requested, and that the Mayor be authorized to sign said Proclamation on behalf of the City.**

**Agreement for Stewart Street Restroom Facility.** The Council considered approving an Architectural Services Agreement in the amount of \$19,900 with Aspen Street Architects, Inc., for the

Stewart Street Public Restroom Facility Project, and authorizing the City Administrator to finalize and execute the same on behalf of the City. The Project includes design and construction plans for public restrooms along with a small office and storage area, and includes sidewalk work to make the premises ADA compliant. Recommending approval, Community Development Director Kellogg noted that two Proposals were received, and that Aspen Street Architects, Inc., had the higher rating. Kellogg reported that the Project will renovate the City-owned 1200 sq. ft. building at 201 South Stewart Street which previously housed the Senior Lounge. She noted that \$10,000 was included in the 2015/16 Budget (Fund 303-1061-206) for said Project. Kellogg stated that an additional cost of \$2,500 may be necessary for a topological survey, but that the City Engineer may be able to supply adequate information making that additional cost unnecessary. There was discussion regarding availability of additional funding for the remaining \$9,900. Administrator Miller noted that it will come out of Economic Development Fund 303-1061-206, and he stated that if any change orders are necessary, funding could be allocated at that time.

There was no public comment. **MOTION by Councilmember Canning, second by Councilmember Garaventa, and unanimously carried that Aspen Street Architects, Inc., be approved as the firm to provide architectural services for said design and construction plans, that the City Administrator be authorized to finalize and execute said Agreement on behalf of the City; and that additional needed funds be allocated from Economic Development Reserve Funds, Account 303-1061-206.**

**Presentation and Request to Fund Sonora Signature Events 2016.** The Council considered a request from the Sonora Chamber of Commerce to partner with the Chamber to fund "Sonora Signature Events 2016". Representing the Sonora Chamber, Bryan Adcox gave a presentation on its proposed event series requesting \$85,000 annually for its five year proposal. Adcox stated that the events, which are proposed to be held downtown and at the Mother Lode Fairgrounds, would enhance quality of life, build a sense of belonging to a unique region and invite participation and involvement in the community; events would be themed to draw people locally, regionally and ultimately nationally. The Chamber would not be providing any finances during the five years, but it is the Chamber's goal to be self-funded thereafter.

Administrator Miller stated the importance of understanding the financial implications, that it would be a significant commitment for the City, and suggested that the Council could discuss it at the Council Mini Retreat to be held in November. Councilmember Canning stated that he is wholeheartedly in support; he would like to see it referred to the Finance Committee for report at the next Council Meeting. Councilmember Segarini said that he does not want to rush the process.

Elena Linehan, downtown business owner and resident, stated that \$85,000 per year is a lot of money; that much could be done with such an amount, and suggested that the Council look at the bigger picture before making a decision. A member of the public expressed concern about funding someone else's business. A copy of the proposal was made available to the public. There were no further public comments, and it was Council consensus to refer said request to the Finance Committee.

**Resolution No. 10-05-2015-A Regarding 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Historic Downtown Christmas Parade.** The Council considered approval and adoption of Resolution No. 10-05-2015-A which authorizes the closure of State Route 49 (Washington Street), and other streets, and designates no parking areas for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Historic Downtown Christmas Parade. Recommending approval, Special Events Coordinator Sheala Wilkinson presented the Resolution and asked for approval of the following:

1. Approval to hold said Annual Parade on Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at 5:30 p.m.;
2. Approval and Adoption of Resolution No. 10-05-2015-A authorizing street closures, and no parking areas as set forth therein;
3. Direct Police, Fire and Public Works Departments to coordinate all safety controls;
4. Request the Mayor or Mayor-Pro Tem to represent the City in said Parade;
5. Release the three hour parking restriction from December 15, through December 25, 2015, within the downtown corridor which includes all streets within Zone A; and
6. Accommodate the Trolley stops which are provided for in said Resolution.

Retired Police Sergeant Glenn Roberts appeared in support of the requested actions. There was no further public comment. Wilkinson thanked all Departments for their help in coordinating the Parade. **MOTION by Councilmember Garaventa, second by Councilmember Canning, and unanimously carried that the foregoing requests be approved as presented.**

**Vision Sonora Committee Update.** Administrator Miller stated that there was no report.

**MONTHLY REPORTS**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS** - Information Only

None.

**COUNCILMEMBERS AND DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**Fire Chief New** noted that the approved occupancy load for the Fire Department Conference Room is 49, and also reported that the 155<sup>th</sup>

Fire Fighters Ball will be held on Saturday, October 31, 2015, at the Sonora Opera Hall, and that it is the longest running historical event in Sonora. **Administrator Miller** reported on various upcoming City projects, and he will bring each one forward as the process is worked through. **Councilmember Canning** reported that the *Keep Sonora Clean and Beautiful* annual free dump day for City residents will be held on Saturday, October 10, 2015, at the School Street Parking Lot. **Councilmember Segarini** reported that he attended the Jamestown Walk of Fame event last weekend noting that the inception for the project improvements began 20 years ago, giving an example of how long it sometimes takes to get to a project's fruition; he attended the Tuolumne County Chamber of Commerce Governmental Affairs Meeting this morning where it was reported that the top selling properties are in Sonora and Phoenix Lake; he reported that AB 243, regarding medical marijuana legalization issues, and AB 266 which would protect local control as it establishes state-wide regulations, are both on the Governor's desk. He noted that TUD is proposing significant rate increases, and informational workshops are being held, and the meeting covering the Sonora area will be on October 26, 2015, from 6 to 8 p.m. in TUD's Board Room. **Administrator Miller** reported that TUD will be at the next Council Meeting presenting a summary of its Capital Improvements Plan and rate increases. **Mayor Stearn** said that constituents have complained that tree limbs and bushes are blocking visibility and need to be trimmed at 400 East Bald Mountain Road, and that there are substantial potholes that need to be repaired on Snell Street all the way to School Street.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the Meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m. to the Regular Meeting on Monday, October 19, 2015, at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

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Marijane Cassinetto, City Clerk      Date