

**CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF SONORA  
MAY 4, 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: George Segarini and Jim Garaventa; City Administrator Tim Miller, City Clerk Marijane Cassinetta, Engineer Gerard Fuccillo, Attorney Byron Smith, Community Development Director Rachelle Kellogg, Interim Finance Director Bijan Sadeghian, Police Chief Mark Stinson and Fire Chief Aimee New. Absent: Councilmember Bill Canning.

Mayor Stearn reported that there was no Closed Session this date.

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

City Clerk Cassinetta advised Council that at 12:15 p.m. on the 30th day of April, 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**

No changes.

**PRESENTATIONS**

None.

**PUBLIC FORUM (Non-Agenda)**

**Sonora Postmaster David Wells** announced that the National Rural Letter Carriers Association is having a *Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive* on Saturday, May 9, 2015, asking the public to put non-perishables in bags by their mailboxes for pickup by Carriers and delivery to a local food bank. Wells also announced that in honor of the release of the new Special Olympics World Games Forever Stamp, the public is encouraged to write letters of support to Special Olympics Athletes on Team USA. Wells noted that our local athlete is Joseph Delgado from Sonora who is competing in Aquatics. Letters can be sent to: Special Olympics, Northern California, 3480 Buskirk Avenue, Suite 340, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523, and additional information can be found at [nationalevents@usps.gov](mailto:nationalevents@usps.gov).

**REQUESTS TO APPEAR**

**On Behalf of Foothill Leadership Academy, Leslie Smith, Erin Conn and Emily McFay** presented the donation of \$4,500 to the City for the Dragoon Gulch Trail Extension Project. The funds were raised through the Dragoon Gulch 5K/Run/Walk held on April 12, 2015, and a door-to-door campaign. The Academy hopes the 5K/Run/Walk will be an annual event on the last Sunday of February.

Karl Dambacher commented on his support for the Vision Sonora Plan; he stated he erroneously signed a Petition which objects to the proposals of Vision Sonora. He feels that Sonora could thrive through Vision Sonora, that the Plan provides opportunity for economic development, and stated that there is great opportunity for those who oppose it to connect and discuss their concerns with those who are in favor. He suggested that Town Hall Meetings be held every 12 weeks. Noting that all Vision Sonora Committee Meetings are open to the public, Mayor Pro-Tem Williams invited the public to the next Meeting which will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 28, 2015, at City Hall.

#### CONSENT CALENDAR

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

1. Approval of Minutes for the Regular Council Meeting of April 20, 2015;
2. Approval to pay invoices for previously budgeted expenses on May 5, 2015, in the amount of \$101,615.49; and
3. Approval of disbursements in the amount of \$158,419.68 on May 1, 2015, for payroll, inclusive of employee salaries, employer and employee taxes and retirement contributions, and miscellaneous voluntary employee deductions.

#### PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 828 - Unlawful Open Burning. The Council considered waiving the second reading and adopting Ordinance No. 828 which is a new Ordinance to be placed in Title 8, Chapter 8.32, Section 8.32.010, of the Sonora Municipal Code concerning "Unlawful Open Burning". Fire Chief New presented the Ordinance recommending approval. There being no public comment, **MOTION by Councilmember Garaventa, second by Councilmember Segarini, and unanimously carried that the second reading of Ordinance No. 828 be waived, and said Ordinance be approved and adopted as recommended.**

#### NEW BUSINESS

Appointment to Planning Commission. The Council considered confirming the Mayor's appointment of Darren Eaton to the City Planning Commission effective July 1, 2015. Community Development Director Kellogg reported that Commissioner John Andersen will not seek another term, and notice of the pending vacancy was published in the Union Democrat, with three applications being received from Darren Eaton, Robert Petersen and Martin Minners. It is Mayor Stearn's recommendation to appoint Darren Eaton to fill said seat. There being no public comment, **MOTION by Councilmember Segarini, second**

by Mayor Pro-Tem Williams and unanimously carried that Mayor Stearn's appointment of Darren Eaton to the Planning Commission for said four-year term effective July 1, 2015, be confirmed. Kellogg noted that a plaque will be presented to John Andersen at the next Planning Commission Meeting honoring his service to the City. Councilmember Segarini also requested that Andersen be honored with a plaque from the City Council.

**Ordinance No. 826 - Hours for Use of Public Parks, and Ordinance No. 827 - Regulations for Use and Consumption of Alcohol and Marijuana.** The Council considered waiving the first reading and introducing by title the following:

1. Ordinance No. 826, an Ordinance to Repeal and Replace Title 9, Chapter 04, Section 045, of the Sonora Municipal Code Concerning "Occupying Public Parks, the Dragoon Gulch, and Cemeteries During Certain Prohibited Hours"; and
2. Ordinance No. 827, an Ordinance to Repeal and Replace Title 9, Chapter 08, Sections 010 and 020 of the Sonora Municipal Code Concerning "The Unlawful Public Possession and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages and the Public Use, Consumption, or Smoking of Marijuana".

Councilmember Garaventa requested that the list of Parks in Ordinance No. 826 also include the Rothers Corner Park.

**MOTION by Mayor Pro-Tem Williams, second by Councilmember Segarini that Ordinance No. 826 be introduced by title and the first reading waived, and that Rothers Corner Park be added to the list of Parks therein. There being no public comment, the Motion was unanimously carried.**

**MOTION by Councilmember Segarini, second by Councilmember Garaventa, that Ordinance No. 827 be introduced by title and the first reading waived. There being no public comment, the Motion was unanimously carried.**

#### **MONTHLY REPORTS**

None.

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

None.

#### **COUNCILMEMBERS AND DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**Community Development Director Kellogg** reported on good attendance at the Annual Spring Festival despite the rain in the morning. Kellogg also noted that the Annual Farmers Market will begin on May 16, 2015. **Fire Chief New** handed out her Fire Hazard Assessment Report noting that fire inspections are being conducted to ensure that Sonora neighborhoods are in compliance with defensible space regulations. **Attorney Smith** reported that the Walmart expansion hearing did go before Judge Boscoe on April

21, 2015, but he does know when the written opinion will be issued. **Administrator Miller** noted that the Mother Lode Roundup Parade and Round Up are this coming Mother's Day Weekend, and cautioned the public that many non-parking areas have been designated. **Councilmember Garaventa** reported that tri tip sandwiches will be available at the Fire Museum during the Parade. He noted his attendance at the recent Lamplight Dinner at which Sheala Wilkinson received an award for the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Tour City program, and that Tours will be held over the next two weeks. Garaventa also reported that Sonora took 2<sup>nd</sup> Place at the Fireman's Muster in Columbia last weekend. **Councilmember Segarini** reported that May 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> is National Small Business Week, and asked everyone to shop local; he also wished a Happy Mothers Day to all mothers. **Engineer Fuccillo** reported that this Meeting is his 36 Anniversary Meeting as City Engineer, and he commented on possible future changes in proposed Ordinance No. 827 with regard to parklets and outdoor dining in the Vision Sonora Plan. **Mayor Pro-Tem Williams** reported that at the Vision Sonora Committee Meeting on April 23, 2015, recommendations were made in regard to the benches and trash cans which will be sent to the Council, and there was updated information regarding the transit stops which will also be sent to the Council. She also reported that at the Fire Safe Council Meeting on April 30, 2015, Fire Safe grant monies were discussed for a clearing project for Dragoon Gulch in the Sonora Knowles area. Additionally, Williams hopes that people will stay in town after the Mother Lode Roundup Parade to shop and dine; and she wished mothers a Happy Mothers Day. **Mayor Stearn** asked about the progress in getting brighter street lights at crosswalks; **Administrator Miller** responded that he is working with a PG&E representative, and there may be a conversion to LED lights. **Stearn** also discussed the possible difficulty of enforcement in regard to the numerous regulations being established in Sonora.

#### ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m. to the Regular Meeting on Monday, May 18, 2015, at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall.

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Marijane Cassinetto, City Clerk

Date

**Minutes Approved By**  
**Sonora City Council**  
On 5/18/2015