

**SONORA CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SONORA
May 4, 2020**

A Closed Session Meeting of the City Council of the City of Sonora was opened this date in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 94 North Washington Street, at 4:00 p.m. with the following Members present: Mayor Jim Garaventa, Mayor ProTem Matt Hawkins, Councilmember Connie Williams, Mark Plummer, Colette Such; City Attorney Douglas White; City Administrator Mary Rose Rutikanga.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. None

ADJOURN INTO CLOSED SESSION

1. Conference with Legal Counsel- Anticipated Litigation- Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2): One Case
2. Threat to Public services or Facilities (Gov. code Section 54957) Consultation with: Douglas L. White, City Attorney.

REPORT OUT ON CLOSED SESSION

1. Conference with Legal Counsel- Anticipated Litigation- Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2): One Case

Motion by Councilmember Plummer, second by Councilmember Such unanimously carried on a vote of 5-0 to settle the claim of Michael Thompson for \$28,500.00 and authorized the City Administrator to formulate the agreement.

RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Sonora was opened this date in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 94 North Washington Street, at 5:00 p.m. with the following Members present: Mayor Jim Garaventa, Mayor ProTem Matt Hawkins, Councilmember Connie Williams, Mark Plummer, Colette Such; City Attorney Douglas White City Administrator Mary Rose Rutikanga.

REPORT ON POSTING OF THE AGENDA

City Administrator Mary Rose Rutikanga advised the Council that at 12:00 p.m. on the 30th day of April 2020, the Agenda for the City of Sonora Council Meeting was posted outside City Hall for public view.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

1. There were no changes to the Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

1. None

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of disbursements in the amount of \$146,687.42 for payroll, inclusive of employee salaries, employer and employee taxes and retirement contributions and miscellaneous voluntary employee deductions.

Motion by Councilmember Plummer, second by Mayor Pro-Tem Hawkins, unanimously carried on a vote of 5-0 that item 1 of the Consent Calendar be approved.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(Video Time 10:25)

1. Informational item to discuss Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-33-20 requiring all citizens to stay at home unless needed to maintain operation of essential critical infrastructures.

City Administrator Mary Rose Rutikanga discussed Governor Newsom's Order N-33-20. We are moving into phase 2 of the COVID pandemic reopening plan on May 8th, 2020. Phase 2 comes with restrictions it is not a general opening of all business, retail with curbside and some manufacturing and supply chains to be open as well. Governor Newsom will be allowing Counties to take a Regional approach to reopen businesses. **City Attorney Douglas White** answered some questions regarding the phase 2 reopening plan and guidelines.

- Members of the public asked questions regarding the phase 2 reopening plan and what it will look like for the businesses.

Councilmembers discussed appeals for possible fines for businesses that are not complying with the Public Health Guidelines for COVID-19.

NEW BUSINESS

(Video Time 41:19)

1. Authorize the Sonora Fire Department to electronically submit Federal Management Agency (FEMA) SAFER Grant; authorize the City Administrator and/or Fire Chief to execute all documents relating to the grant application; and direct the Fire Chief to return to the City Council with the application results and to accept the awards.

Fire Chief Aimee New is asking the City Council to authorize the Fire Department to apply for the Federal Management Agency (FEMA) SAFER Grant the Grant will provide funding for the staffing to fill the part-time Engineer position. The grant is a three year grant the Federal funding will cover 65% the first year and second year and 35% the third year. The City would be required to match 35% for the position for the first and second year and 65% the third year. The Fiscal impact: there would not be any additional cost to the City. Councilmembers discussed. No public comment.

Motion by Councilmember Williams, second by Councilmember Plummer, unanimously carried on a vote of 5-0 to authorize the Sonora Fire Department to electronically submit Federal Management Agency (FEMA) SAFER Grant; authorize the City Administrator and/or Fire Chief to execute all documents relating to the grant application; and direct the Fire Chief to return to the City Council with the application results and to accept the awards.

(Video Time 52:05)

2. Accept FY 2019/2020 Budget Update with recommendation changes to account for the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the City's revenues; approve related budget transfers (requires 4/5s vote).

City Administrator Mary Rose Rutikanga and Finance Director Chris Gorsky presented a power point presentation discussing the COVID-19 pandemic has created considerable uncertainty to the City revenues. Governor Newsom's Stay-at-Home order and the closing of non-essential local businesses quickly reduced Sales Tax and Transient Occupancy Tax revenues. Councilmembers discussed.

- A member of the public stated that going to recreational Marijuana use could help the City's revenue with Sales Tax.

Motion by Councilmember Plummer, second by Councilmember Williams, unanimously carried on a vote of 5-0 to accept FY 2019/2020 Budge Update with recommendation changes to account for the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the City's revenues; approve related budget transfers.

COMMUNICATIONS

(Video Time 1:17:18)

1. Letter from League of California Cities to Governor Newsom urging support to establish California city revenue stabilization; share of allocation for cities with populations under 500,000 of State's \$8.4 billion CARES Act funding; and creation of a COVID-19 financing vehicle for cities to access to support immediate cash flow needs.


City Administrator Mary Rose Rutikanga brought this forward as an informational item. This letter is urging for backfill revenue and allowing City's to receive a portion of the \$8.4 Billion CARES act funding. No public comment.

COUNCILMEMBER/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Fire Chief Aimee New, today is international Firefighter day, and wanted to thank all her employees for their hard work. Mayor Jim Garaventa reported attending many zoom meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.



Sonora City Clerk

3/30/2021
Date