



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
RIDGECREST CITY. SUCCESSOR AGENCY,
FINANCING AUTHORITY, AND HOUSING AUTHORITY**

**City Council Chambers
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, California 93555**

**April 3, 2013
5:30 p.m.**

This meeting was recorded and will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk for a certain period of time from date of approval by City Council/Redevelopment Agency. Meetings are recorded solely for the purpose of preparation of minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Council Present: Mayor Daniel O. Clark; Mayor Pro-Tem Jason Patin; Vice Mayor Marshall 'Chip' Holloway; Council Members James Sanders and Lori Acton

Staff Present: Interim City Manager Dennis Speer; City Clerk Rachel J. Ford; City Attorney Keith Lemieux; and other staff

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- Revision to closed session – potential turned to City of Ridgecrest v Matasantos (California Department Of Finance)

Motion To Approve Agenda As Amended Made By Council Member Acton, Second By Council Member Holloway. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT – CLOSED SESSION

- No Comments Presented

CLOSED SESSION

- GC54956.9 (a) Conference with Legal Counsel – Potential Litigation – Public Disclosure of Potential Litigant Would Prejudice the City of Ridgecrest.
- GC54956.9 (b) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – City of Ridgecrest v. Dale Howard
- GC 54956.9 (b) Conference with Legal Counsel – Liability Claim of Hi-Desert Construction et al. – Claim No. 13-01
- GC54957 Personnel Matters – Public Employee Recruitment – City Manager
- GC54957.6 Labor Negotiations – Confidential Group of Employees – Agency Negotiator Interim City Manager Dennis Speer

REGULAR SESSION – 6:30 p.m.

- Pledge Of Allegiance
- Invocation

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

- Closed Session
 - Amended Agenda to change the title of undisclosed litigation to City of Ridgecrest v MATASANTOS – no reportable action
 - Ridgecrest v. Dale Howard – no reportable action
 - Hi-Desert construction – considered in closed session – rejected – City Clerk directed to send notice.
 - Labor Negotiations – no reportable action
 - Personnel Matters – City Manager recruitment – item to be placed on agenda April 17 for public matter
- Other
 - Report on MATASANTOS dispute between City and State related to dissolution of redevelopment.
 - Enforceable obligation presented and was rejected therefore City has filed litigation
 - Litigation petition for Writ Of Mandate filed asking court to direct the State to make finding of enforceable obligation

PUBLIC COMMENT

Betty Bumgarner

- Representing dollar rent-a-car rental service
- Announced shuttle services for out of town hospital visits or college visits
- Some insurances will cover the services
- Also rents equipment such as trucks and trailers
- Located at corner of China Lake Blvd and Inyokern road

Grant Hanson

- Unhappy with decision to close Pinney pool
- Base also shutting down one of their pools and remaining pools would be inadequate
- Related various teams that utilize the pool facility
- Recreational and exercise swimming
- Swim lessons generate revenue
- Negative impact on community greater than ball field shut down
- Offered solution of a year round facility highlighting suggestion that if City builds a year round facility the base will close all pools thereby providing all business to City.
- Reiterated indoor pool generating revenue and offered support.

Ray Hoffman

- Agrees with Mr. Hanson about the pool.
- Employed by Raytheon, president of swim team and a parent
- Pleads with Council to not close the pool.
- Used swim education to save a life once.
- Suggested if pool closes, it will not reopen.
- Leading cause of death for young children is drowning.
- Asked Council to find a way to keep the pool.

Doug Lueck

- Reported to Council of RACVB news.
- Tough Mudder event preliminary schedule for April 19-20, 2014.
 - Negotiations beginning now.
- Hi-Desert Racing Association for off-road vehicles in town this weekend.
 - RACVB engaged with event with filming and helicopters.
 - 300-400 rooms are booked.
 - Concerned with hotel room availability and have contacted restaurants to prepare with plenty of food.
- SNORE also coming and bringing worldwide travelers.

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Harris Brokke

- Announced wildflower festival next weekend.
- Confident there will be wildflowers to see and encouraged community to support the event and vendors coming from out of town.

Unknown Speaker

- Asked Council not to close the pool for youth and seniors.
- Base pool is full so there is a need for the children to have a pool.

Albert Halman

- Been in community for 15 years
- Five children who were taught to swim in San Clemente and a grandson who learned to swim in Ridgecrest and is now on the swim team
- Valuable part of education and can be a matter of life or death
- Spoke on their life in San Clemente who closed their pool in the 1970's
- San Clemente promised they would close the pool with idea to build a new pool. Pool was closed but never built a new pool and population has increased.
- If Pinney Pool is closed before construction of another pool is begun, it will not happen and community will be without a pool and the education the young people need.
- Asked Council to consider the subject carefully and find a way to keep the pool open.

Chris Nicolson

- Property owner since 1958 and owns a rental property
- Reprehensible that City will spend money to have feasibility study for compliance to extend Sunland to Bowman when cannot fix current street.
- 533 Inyokern Road condemned and nothing done. Additionally tall weeds that create a hazard for residents.
- Asked about the shortfall in the gas tax.

Ken Amstar

- Attended several meetings and like the efforts to keep Pinney Pool open
- Asked Council to evaluate needs assessment such as roads, parks, etc. rather than revenue generation
- Goal of City government is to provide for the needs.
- Wide gap between an aquatic center and a bandage on existing pool, need to go in-between and look toward a 12-month indoor pool.
- Suggested adapting locker rooms and present facility.
- Suggested bubble structure rather than brand new building.

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Heidi Castandale

- Supports the Pinney Pool and does not want to see it closed
- Recounted accomplishments of various swim teams

Tina Halterman

- Supports the Pinney Pool and does not want it to close.
- Related personal family experience with children and the pool
- Referred to the importance of young swimmers learning for safety and seniors for exercise.
- Worried that son would not be able to continue competitive swimming as he grows up.
- Asked Council to keep the pool open and possibly improve it.

Dave Matthews

- Supports keeping the pool open as long as possible.
- Salutations on Council's decision to sue the State, first step toward what was previously suggested.
- Mentioned events in town including the free April 12 at 6:00pm showing movie about the oppression against Catholic Church in Mexico in the 1920's. Seeing a tendency to do the same thing in this country. Invites community to attend.

Tony Small

- Supports Pinney Pool
- Spoke on competitive swimming for the youth
- Family activity for limited cost
- Fear that if the pool is closed will never open again.

Unknown speaker

- Supports keeping Pinney Pool open.
- Asked Council to give community a chance to work on solution.

Jimmy Brantley

- Chairman of Veterans Advisory Committee
- Spoke on the veteran's stand-down which provides unmet needs for local veterans
- Looking to reach out to Inyokern and Trona
- Asked for local community to support the veterans by offering services in this year's veteran's stand-down.
- Commented on what was offered throughout the past year.
- September 27, 2013 is date for next veteran's stand-down
- Meetings scheduled the 1st and 3rd meeting of each month at 6:30pm in City Hall.

Mike Neel

- Observation about the pool, support was for Pinney Pool, not an aquatics complex.
- Reiterated data about DUI checkpoints.
- Recounted local checkpoint information.
- Encouraged more saturation patrols that do not impede the average driver.

Terry Beyer

- Supports Pinney Pool and noted it is challenged to accommodate the number of functions requested each year.
- Spoke on successes of the girls swim team.
- Mentioned potential scholarships for local students that will disappear if the pool is closed.
- Supports youth and seniors who cannot all afford to pay for in-shape or who do not have access to the base pool.
- Asked Council to consider leaving the pool open.
- Some families may support an assessment district however there are people who do not utilize the pool and would not support taxes without proper education.

Jerry Taylor

- Family members have all been lifeguards
- Asked council to speak with the school district who pay utilities several months of the year.
- Asked council to consider community guidance and compared cost of cafeteria cash out for health benefits to employees who do not have insurance coverage.
- CalPERS is going up, can't take away benefit packages for current employees but strongly look at a multi-tier retirement plan.
- Between 30 years service retirement combined with Social Security employees will make more at 65 than their final salary as an active employee.
- Provide a package comparable to the other citizens of Ridgecrest.
- Mentioned Sunland is on Measure 'L' list.
- College heights is ½ mile death trap, bike path cut in half due to lack of funding.

Closed Public Comment at 7:35pm

PRESENTATIONS

1. Eileen Shibley Of The Inyokern Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Committee Will Give A Presentation To The Council Of The UAS Program

Clark

Eileen Shibley

- Gave PowerPoint presentation.
- Donations can be provided to Donna Hawker.
- Letters received the past few weeks have helped.

Dave Matthews

- Mentioned idea of unmanned mail delivery system and current ability of delivering packages with unmanned helicopters
- Commented on farmer already using a home built system to monitor property.

CONSENT CALENDAR

2. Approve A Resolution Authorizing A Final Invoice And Balancing Change Orders, Authorizing The Interim City Manager To Sign The Notice Of Completion, Authorizing The City Clerk To File The Notice Of Completion And Authorizing The Release Of Retention On The Eastbound Lanes Of Drummond Avenue Project Between China Lake Boulevard And North Norma Street Speer
3. Approve A Resolution To Approve A Professional Services Agreement With, Quad Knopf Inc. For The Preliminary Engineering Of Sunland Drive From Upjohn Avenue To Bowman Road And Authorize The Interim City Manager To Execute This Agreement Contingent Upon The City Attorney's Review And Approval Of The Agreement Speer
4. Approve A Letter Of Support For The Creation Of An Innovation In Defense, Energy And Aerospace Hub (iDEA Hub) At The Inyokern Airport Speer
5. Approve A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Approving The Lease Agreement With Waste Management Of California, Inc. And Authorizing The Interim City Manager To Execute The Agreement Speer
6. Approve Draft Minutes Of The Regular Council Meeting Of March 20, 2013 Ford

Items Removed

- Item 5

Motion To Approve Consent Calendar As Amended Made By Council Member Patin, Second By Council Member Sanders. Motion Carried By Voice Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent

Item 5 discussion

Dave Matthews

- Researched the property location mentioned in the lease agreement and questioned the zoning for that location.
- Asked if a variance has been placed on the operation.

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Mike Neel

- Questioned if the surrounding businesses and residential properties have filed any complaints about odor from the trucks being parked at the location.

Item tabled to the next meeting on April 17, 2013

DISCUSSION AND OTHER ACTION ITEMS

7. Appointment to Personnel Commission

Clark

Lori Acton

- Nominated Sharon Gereau

COMMITTEE REPORTS

City Organization

Members: Dan Clark, Jim Sanders
Meeting: 3rd Tuesday of the Month at 5:00 P.M.; Council Conference Room
Next Meeting: April 16, 2013

Jim Sanders

- Announced next meeting

Community Development Committee

Members: Jason Patin, Chip Holloway
Meetings: 1st Thursday of the Month at 5:00 P.M.; Council Conference Room
Next Meeting: Cancelled

Jason Patin

- Plan on meeting in meeting.

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Dan Clark, Jason Patin
Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of the Month at 5:00 P.M., Council Conference Room
Next Meeting: April 10, 2013

Jason Patin

- Announced next meeting.

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Quality Of Life

Members: Chip Holloway, Lori Acton

Meeting: 2nd Thursday of the Month at 5:00 P.M.; Kerr-McGee Center

Next Meeting: April 11, 2013 (Dark in June, July, December, and January)

Chip Holloway

- Will be discussing pool at the quality of life committee meeting.
- Announced next meeting

Lori Acton

- Asked community to bring information on what is needed to make Pinney Pool sufficient.

Activate Community Talents And Interventions For Optimal Neighborhoods Task Force (ACTION)

Members: Jim Sanders, Jason Patin

Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the Month at 4:00 P.M., Kerr-McGee Center

Next Meeting: May 21, 2013

Jason Patin

- Next meeting date to be determined

Veterans Advisory Committee

Members: Jason Patin, Lori Acton

Meetings: 1st and 3rd Monday of the Month At 6:00 p.m., Council Conference Room

Next Meeting: April 8, 2013

Dan Clark

- Attended in the absence of Council Members Patin and Acton
- Introduced new logo for the veterans committee.
- Working on logo polo shirts for sale as a fund raiser.

Ridgecrest Area Convention And Visitors Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Jason Patin, Chip Holloway

Meetings: 1st Wednesday Of The Month, 8:00 A.M.

Next Meeting: May 1, 2013 at location to be announced

Chip Holloway

- Presented the RACVB Directors Report from today's meeting. *(Copy available in the City Clerk's Office)*
- Next meeting at Marriott Springhill Streets

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

Dan Clark

- Asked for meeting dates of the youth advisory committee

Jason Patin

- Youth Advisory Committee is Friday in the Council Chambers

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Dennis Speer

- Moving toward budget hearings, requested dates April 22-30, 2013. Asked Council to pick 3 dates to hold hearings.
 - Lori Acton – asked for evening meetings and include a Saturday.
 - Jason Patin – will be there for any dates scheduled
 - Jim Sanders – no on the 24th, available the other dates
 - Chip Holloway – available anytime.
 - Dan Clark – suggested Thursday & Saturday all day. April 25 and April 27
 - Acton – keep Monday as placeholder if needed.

Budget Hearing Dates:

- April 25 6-9pm
- April 27 9-12am & 2-5pm
- April 29 reserve evening for adjournment if needed
 - Held in Council Chambers
 - Televised

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Lori Acton

- Appreciated comments about the pool

Jim Sanders

- Thanked Eileen for efforts on the UAS program
- Appreciate comments on the pool. Council will take these into account during budget hearings.
- Would like to hold regular town hall meetings for the community. Suggested quarterly.

Chip Holloway

- Supports town hall meeting, participation is light unless there is a hot topic.
- Thanked Eileen and the China Lake Alliance for the support of the UAS program. Frustrated with the State of California for not being engaged in the efforts.

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Jason Patin

- Participated in town hall meetings and attendance was poor. Suggested setting up individual meetings which usually have a better attendance.
- Supports a parks plan which includes the pool. Not ok with the options being presented right now that does not include a pool.
- Other factors pending that will affect the pool
- Asked community to get engaged with the discussions and provide ideas that can be brought before council.
- Hope to have budget completed by the end of the month. Tough decisions to be made and need to live within our means and forget about one time money.

Dan Clark

- Thanked Eileen for presentation on the UAS.
- Thanked other attendees
- Announced memorials for Rose Vargas and Diane Grattarotti
- Asked for survey of Measure 'L' from community perspective. Asked for council input on the process. Read suggested survey questions.
 - Jason Patin – input objection of community putting percentages of the budget to departments or measure 'I' functions.
 - Lori Acton – agrees with Jason, does not understand what good another survey will do since the numbers were already decided when Measure 'L' was drafted.
- Expectations for Measure 'L' did not happen due to circumstances, next year's priorities in the community may change.
 - Lori Acton – community elected council to make the decisions. Input received at the meetings is beneficial but do not see a benefit to this survey.
 - Jason Patin – do not recall definite money split ever being identified, just functions. Split is based on the need.
 - Jim Sanders – not sure how a survey such as this can get an accurate sampling of the community. Want public support at the meetings from those who do pay attention to the community.
 - Chip Holloway – Leary about rejecting information in any form but agree with the comments made. If going to do some kind of poll, suggest the chamber survey and also use the survey that was already performed for Measure 'L'. Not ready to move forward but not totally opposed to do some type of poll.
- Agree with fellow Council; only put this together on the suggestion of a few persons attending the meetings.
 - Jason Patin – not in favor of a survey related to the budget because most people do not understand the full budget.
 - Lori Acton – asked community to attend budget hearings. Also suggested getting down to basics with pennies in jars.
- Scrap the survey at this time due to lack of time to hold and evaluate the results.

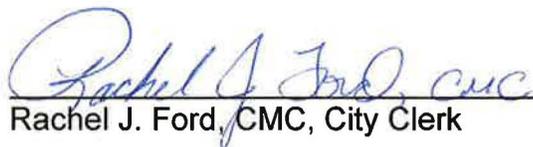
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- Encouraged public to attend the budget hearings and speak with Council Members to provide input.

ADJOURNMENT at 8:51 pm



Rachel J. Ford, CMC, City Clerk