

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
YREKA HELD IN SAID CITY ON APRIL 17, 2014

On the 17TH day of April 2014, the City Council of the City of Yreka met in the City Council Chambers of said City in regular session, and upon roll call, the following were present: Robert Bicego, Bryan Foster, Rory McNeil, and David Simmen. Absent – John Mercier.

Consent Calendar: Mayor Simmen announced that all matters listed under the consent calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion unless any member of the Council wishes to remove an item for discussion or a member of the audience wishes to comment on an item:

- a. Approval of Minutes of the meeting held April 3, 2014.
- b. Approval/ratification of payments issued from April 4, through April 17, 2014.

Following Council discussion, Councilmember McNeil moved to approve the items on the consent calendar as submitted.

Councilmember Foster seconded the motion, and upon roll call, the following voted YEA: Bicego, Foster, McNeil, and Simmen.

Mayor Simmen thereupon declared the motion carried.

Authorize the City Manager to enter into public private party agreement and execute the necessary paperwork for relocation of the Fire Hall water dispenser.

City Manager Steve Baker reported that County residents have come to rely on the ability to fill their water tanks with non-potable water from the City's dispenser located at the Fire Hall that has an antiquated coin-vending box that dispenses 1,000 gallons of water for \$3. The coin box has been ratcheted up to the maximum and the gallon volume is dialed down to its minimum, and the water dispenser is frequently inoperable. Due to the limitations of the machine, the City has historically provided water to the public for less than the cost to provide the service. The entire dispenser needs to be replaced, however, the water dispenser is in an inappropriate place as it interferes with access and parking areas of the Yreka Volunteer Fire Department.

City Manager Baker further reported that safety is also an issue, this winter leaks and problems with the dispenser created an ice flow hazard into the sidewalk and roadway, as well as the problems the location brings to the Fire Department when responding to emergency calls.

Public Works Maintenance Manager Matt Bray addressed the Council reporting that his staff becomes involved when the water filling station is down, coins jammed, and other mechanical issues of the coin box malfunctions. During the summer, the box usually needs to be emptied every other day.

Maintenance Manager Bray further reported that the City also rents fire hydrant meters by day, week or month to local contractors who have the need to fill their trucks for construction projects and other needs. Currently, the contractor receives a permit showing that they have paid for the

use of the hydrant meter and is then allowed to pump water. The problems with access to the City's fire hydrants is that they can be improperly tapped, not shut off completely, causing the hydrant drain valve to erode the footing underneath, and potential water hammering on the pipeline, which is caused by opening or shutting off the valve too quickly. In addition, hydrant threads and bonnets have been damaged by use of improper wrenches.

In seeking a solution for relocation of the water filling station, the City is also looking to include a contractor filling area that maintains the required high flow high-pressure volume to fill a water truck.

City Manager Baker stated that given the safety concerns, reliability and overhead to operate, staff is seeking approval to negotiate and to enter into an agreement with Mr. Cowley, owner of Magic Rain Car Wash, for the relocation of the water filling station to his business located on the corner of S. Oregon and Greenhorn Road. Mr. Cowley has researched the project and is willing to work with the City. The fiscal impact is estimated to be \$12,500 for the City to construct a water service to the City's main. Mr. Cowley's initial cost is estimated to be \$5,000.

Following Council discussion, Councilmember Bicego moved to authorize the City Manager to negotiate an agreement with Mr. Cowley to be brought back to City Council for approval.

Mayor Simmen seconded the motion, and upon roll call, the following voted YEA: Bicego, Foster, McNeil, and Simmen.

Mayor Simmen thereupon declared the motion carried.

Housing Element Implementation – Introduce Ordinance No. 837 – An ordinance amending Title 16 Zoning, of the Yreka Municipal Code to implement a number of programs contained in the 2009-2014 Housing Element. The amendments address density bonuses, emergency shelters, employee housing, group care homes, single-room occupancy residential units, supportive housing, and transitional housing.

Public Hearing

This being the time and date schedule for the public hearing, Mayor Simmen opened the hearing to the public.

Guy Scott addressed the Council, on behalf of the Beacon of Hope Gospel Mission, stating that their group is hoping to fill a gap in resources for homeless individuals and families in Yreka and Siskiyou County. Mr. Scott stated that a representative from the Good News Rescue Mission in Redding gave a presentation to their group on how to model a homeless shelter in Yreka that would fit our needs. Mr. Scott distributed a copy their survey "Yreka Homeless Census" prepared by members of their group, stating that as of April 13, 2014, they were able to conduct 30 surveys.

In closing Mr. Scott stated that the Beacon of Hope Gospel Mission is working on preparing a 3-5 year plan with the support of other local churches and organizations, and hope to receive support from the City of Yreka with the zoning regulations when choosing a suitable site.

Robert Youngblood and Daniel Simon both spoke as proponents to a Homeless Shelter in Yreka.

Steve Radford addressed the Council stating that he is not in favor of State mandates and feels that the City of Yreka should be able to adopt rules and regulations that meet the needs of our community, not the state.

There being no further statements or comments from the public, Mayor Simmen closed the public hearing.

Introduce Ordinance No. 837 amending Title 16 Zoning, of the Yreka Municipal Code by adding definitions to Chapter 16.12; amending Sections 16.18.050, 16.20.050, 16.20.070, 16.22.050, 16.22.070, 16.24.050, 16.26.050, 16.30.070, 16.34.070, 16.36.070, 16.38.060, 16.40.050, 16.40.070, 16.42.050; adding Section 16.46.150, Single-room occupancy residential unit (SRO); adding Section 16.46.160, Emergency shelters; and determine that the proposed project is exempt from further review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section §15061(b)(3).

Following the reading of the title of the Ordinance and Council discussion, Councilmember McNeil moved to waive the reading of the body of the Ordinance and to Introduce the Ordinance as submitted.

Councilmember Bicego seconded the motion, and upon roll call, the following voted YEA: Bicego, McNeil, and Simmen. Nays, Foster, stating that he is not against the Ordinance, just the mandate from the State.

Mayor Simmen thereupon declared the motion carried.

Adopt Resolution approving requests associated with special event of the Re-enactors of the American Civil War Inc., to be held May 30 – June 1, 2014.

City Manager Baker reported that the City received a request from Joseph Allison on behalf of the Re-enactors of the American Civil War, to bring back their popular event known as the Civil War Days May 30 – June 1, and that Mr. Allison was in the audience to answer any questions regarding the upcoming event.

Following Council discussion, Councilmember Bicego moved to adopt the Resolution approving requests associated with the event as submitted.

Councilmember McNeil seconded the motion, and upon roll call, the following voted YEA: Bicego, Foster, McNeil, and Simmen.

Mayor Simmen thereupon declared the motion carried.

Approve Financing for the Yreka Garden Club's Miner Street Grant Program Application.

Project Assistant Benjamin Matts reported that the Yreka Garden Club submitted an application for the Miner Street Grant Program's Community Project. The project will make a number of improvements to the area/island around the Miner Statue/Yreka sign that is located at the central Yreka I-5 exit.

The project is proposed to be completed in two phases. The first phase being a City installed water service, and the second phase being landscape improvements/construction of a planter around the statue, which would be done by the Yreka Garden Club.

Approval of the application would require reimbursement of up to \$2,760 for the Yreka Garden Club's portion of the project, and expenditure of an estimated \$6,242.12 for the City's portion of the project.

Following Council discussion, Councilmember Bicego moved to approve the application as submitted, noting that he hopes that there will still be room for visitors to stand and take a photo with the sign commemorating their trip to Yreka.

Councilmember McNeil seconded the motion, and upon roll call, the following voted YEA: Bicego, Foster, McNeil, and Simmen.

Mayor Simmen thereupon declared the motion carried.

Adopt Resolution approving consultant agreement with Farr West Engineering for the development of the Geographic Information System (GIS).

Public Works Administrative Assistant, Jeannette Hook, addressed the Council reporting that staff is requesting the City Council adopt the Resolution approving a professional service agreement with Farr West Engineering, in an amount not to exceed \$127,600, to compile a variety of maps and data sources into a functional Geographic Information System (GIS). The GIS will enable the City to produce better information for staff and public inquiries. It is expected to result in a savings associated with infrastructure research, making repair and risk projections, and more efficient fieldwork by the maintenance team.

Following Council discussion, Councilmember Foster moved to adopt the Resolution as submitted.

Councilmember Bicego seconded the motion, and upon roll call, the following voted YEA: Bicego, Foster, McNeil, and Simmen.

Mayor Simmen thereupon declared the motion carried.

Adopt Resolution approving consultant agreement with Bray and Associates Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors for the engineering of the Foothill Drive Rehabilitation Project.

Public Works Project Manager, Darrell Hook, addressed the Council reporting that the State Transportation Improvement Program has \$60,000 programmed for Plans, Specifications, and Estimates on the City's Foothill Drive Project. Staff anticipates transferring the balance from the \$2 million programed for construction to this phase after funds for construction are allocated by the California Transportation Commission.

Staff is requesting Council to adopt a Resolution approving a Consultant Agreement with Bray and Associates Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors for the engineering of the Foothill Drive Rehabilitation Project in an amount not to exceed \$66,000.

Following Council discussion, Councilmember McNeil moved to adopt the Resolution as submitted.

Councilmember Bicego seconded the motion, and upon roll call, the following voted YEA: Bicego, Foster, McNeil, and Simmen.

Mayor Simmen thereupon declared the motion carried.

Approval of closure of City Hall to the public every Friday during the summer beginning Friday, May 30 2014 through Friday, September 5, 2014.

City Manager Baker reported that staff is recommending closure of City Hall for public access on Fridays through the summer, as a pilot program. City Hall Management staff has been reduced from seven full-time employees to a staff of three managers and one upcoming vacancy with the retirement of our Public Works Director. Staff has absorbed the workload that has been redistributed, but many projects are falling behind. We have been looking at ways to improve workflow, and address the backlog to improve efficiency, documentation and response periods.

In interviewing support staff for potential solutions to address these concerns, the comment to address the disruption of the workday in delivery of project time to complete tasks for coverage comes up again and again.

Fridays are generally the slowest traffic days at City Hall for counter service and staff believes that closing on this day would offer the least disruption of customer access. Administrative staff would be onsite to respond to emergencies such as water main breaks that involve shut off notification. Public Works maintenance team would continue their normal schedule and would be able to contact City Hall staff as needed.

Staff is recommending consideration of this proposal on a trial basis. Friday closure would begin May 30, 2014 and continue until September 5, 2014, at which time continued closure on Fridays would be evaluated for whether it meets resident needs and balances staffing levels.

Following Council discussion, Councilmember Foster moved to approve the pilot program to close City Hall to the public every Friday during the summer beginning Friday, May 30 2014 through Friday, September 5, 2014.

Mayor Simmen seconded the motion, and upon roll call, the following voted YEA: Foster, McNeil, and Simmen. Nays, Bicego, stating that he would prefer 2 ½-day closures, instead of all day Friday.

Mayor Simmen thereupon declared the motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION:

1. Conference with Real Property Negotiator (Government Code Section 54956.8)

Property: 1400 Fairlane Road, Yreka, CA
 Third Party Negotiator: Todd Whipple and Stacey R. Whipple Trust
 City Negotiators: City Manager and Chief of Police
 Under Negotiation: Possible acquisition including price, terms of payment, or both.

2. Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation

Initiation of litigation pursuant to Subdivision (c) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code: (Number of cases to be discussed – 2 - The names of the parties are not disclosed as it is believed that that to do so would jeopardize the City's ability to serve process or to conclude existing settlement negotiations to the City's advantage).

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: Upon return to open session, City Manager Baker reported as to item No. 1 Conference with Real Property Negotiator, the City Council authorized the purchase of the property from Todd Whipple and Stacey R. Whipple Trust in the amount of \$800,000.

No further reportable action was taken in closed session.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business before the Council the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

 David Simmen, Mayor
 Minutes approved by Council
 Motion May 1, 2014

 Elizabeth E. Casson, City Clerk