

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
YREKA HELD IN SAID CITY ON JUNE 16, 2016

On the 16<sup>th</sup> day of June 2016, 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: Deborah Baird, Bryan Foster, Joan Smith Freeman, and David Simmen Absent - John Mercier.

Mayor Pro tempore Foster announced that the closed session has been pulled from the agenda.

Consent Calendar: Mayor Pro tempore Foster 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/ratification of payments issued from June 3 through June 16, 2016.
- b. Approval of Minutes of the meeting held June 2, 2016.
- c. Acceptance of Treasurer's Report and Budget to Actual for the month of May 2016.
- d. Adopt Resolution authorizing election of SDI Benefits on behalf of Yreka Police Administration Association and Yreka Peace Officers Association.
- e. Approval of the 2015-2016 Operating Budget Revisions.

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

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

Mayor Pro tempore Foster thereupon declared the motion carried.

Accept the dedication on Parcel Map from Mr. Bill Schmidt, to hold recordation of the Parcel Map until an Agreement for the required public improvements is executed, and provide direction to staff regarding the preparation of an Ordinance to designate officials to accept dedications on Parcel Maps in the future.

Director of Public Works, Matt Bray, reported that pursuant to Yreka Municipal Code Section 15.04.060 any subdivision of land in the City must comply with the City's subdivision ordinances. For a parcel map, the City Council considers the offers of dedication and, may accept, subject to improvement, or reject, any offers of dedication, which will be reflected on the map. YMC 15.024.080.

Offers of dedication are made either upon the map itself [Government Code §66439] or dedication may be separately considered and accepted by Resolution (Government Code §66477.2(a)). All parties having any record title interest in the subdivided real property must indicate consent of all aspects of the final map [Government Code §66436(a)], City staff generally recommend that developers present their dedications by deed.

In this instance, the developer is offering dedication of easements for street and pedestrian purposes. The developer offered the dedications by Map rather than by separate instrument. Staff is recommending consideration of the dedications by Council and that it be approved.

The proposed dedications and acceptance of these dedications/parcels is in the City's interests because sidewalk facilities for driveway approaches and curb ramps for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should be in a public easement. The City Engineer has reviewed the offer of dedication and the associated legal descriptions.

The project is ready for map approval, and the Department of Public Works has been working with Mr. Schmidt regarding an agreement for the extension of the water and sewer main and the construction of sewer laterals and water service to each of the parcels to be created by this map. The map cannot be approved or recorded until the execution of the Improvement Agreement and the provision of security for the improvements. [Government Code §66462].

Mr. Schmidt has applied for an Encroachment Permit to begin installing the required improvements and staff is prepared to issue that Permit as soon as the Improvement Plans have been completed and approved. The proposed Encroachment Permit requires Mr. Schmidt to complete the improvement or provide a suitable security (bond) for any improvements remaining incomplete on November 1. It is the opinion of staff that this satisfies the requirement of an agreement and security to complete the improvements for the parcels being created by the Map.

While processing this parcel map for recordation, staff identified an irregularity, which would be resolved with the Council's action on this item. Resolution 2797, approved August 6, 2009, authorizes the City Manager to accept routine deeds and easements that are in the best interest of the City. Staff interpreted Resolution 2797 in such a manner that they signed the Parcel Map. Immediately afterward, this action was identified as inconsistent with GC 66456, which, requires that dedications offered to the City on a Parcel Map, be accepted by the City Council. Staff from the three affected departments are working to improve our development process and to streamline the information we provide to the customer.

Government Code 66458 (d) provides that the City Council may delegate, by ordinance, acceptance of offers of dedication to a designated official. Staff requests direction regarding whether staff should prepare an ordinance to identify such designated officials. One option is to designate the City Engineer and/or the Director of Public Works to accept such dedications offered on Parcel Maps, as the Director of Public Works is the department head most familiar with the impacts of any offers of dedication, both in terms of city needs and maintenance. Such delegation would promote prompt recordation of final parcel maps.

Following Council discussion, Councilmember Simmen moved to accept the dedication of easements as depicted on the Parcel Map, and to direct staff to prepare an Ordinance delegating authority to accept offers of dedication, for Council consideration.

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

Mayor Pro tempore Foster thereupon declared the motion carried.

City's Preliminary bi-annual Budget for the Fiscal Years ending June 30, 2017 and June 30, 2018 – Direction to the Ad-hoc Budget Committee for Budgetary Priorities.

Finance Director Rhetta Hogan reported that the City's street reserves have been depleted. This has resulted in a projected \$337,908 operating shortfall, even with the normal general fund backfill of \$242,475. In addition, the General Operating fund will have a \$417,630 shortfall by the end of fiscal year 2016-17 based on departmental needs and Council requests. Combined with streets, the overall operating projected costs result in a \$755,538 operating gap.

Capital outlay requested for the General Capital Fund would result in another \$395,000 from capital reserves. Capital grants will also require \$81,674 from reserves as match.

Following Council discussion, direction was given to the Ad- Hoc Budget Committee for discussion at their next meeting to be held June 20, 2016.

Review of draft Resolution and Ordinance for Sales Tax Measure on the November Ballot.

City Manager Steve Baker reported that on May 5, 2016 the City Council directed staff to provide information about a sales tax measure on the November Ballot after the results of the June election were known, in particular the status of Measure S, a half-cent sales tax to assist with construction of a new jail. On May 19, 2016, at the request of the Ad Hoc Budget committee, the Council authorized staff to begin working on draft language for a sales tax measure because of the short timelines, to be discussed at the June 16<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

Measure S required a two-thirds vote and received approximately 51% of votes in favor according to unofficial updated election results from the Siskiyou County Clerk's office. The measure therefore did not pass.

The City of Yreka faces continuing financial difficulties providing for basic services such as public safety and streets. The City's streets are deteriorating and require approximately \$18-20 million to bring and keep them up to standard. State gas tax funds are declining, both in the local funds that can be used on all streets for repair as well as the Surface Transportation Improvement Program funds that can be used to fix the City's arterials.

The police force also faces challenges. Recent changes in state law that force convicted criminals back to the County for incarceration have resulted in an overcrowded jail. Criminal activity and calls for service are increasing while the police force remains below its staffing levels of only a few years ago. Arrestees are often getting out the same day, providing little in the way of consequence for criminal activity. Finding qualified police officers continues to be a challenge. In addition, we have discussed at length the costs of a new police facility to replace the deteriorating 100-year-old facility.

While revenues have increased since the depth of the recession, these revenues are not keeping up with costs and deferred maintenance on city facilities. The Ad Hoc Budget Committee recommends that the City Council consider a sales tax to alleviate these needs.

The election time line leaves very little time for decision-making. The purpose of this agenda item is to review the proposal and provide any changes. If the City Council so chooses, the proposal would be brought back on July 7<sup>th</sup> for final adoption. This is the last City Council meeting prior to the deadline set by the County Clerk and State Law for placement of a ballot measure on the November ballot.

Following Council discussion, it was the unanimous consensus of the Council to move forward with the Resolution and Ordinance as presented, placing a measure on the November ballot adding a citywide half-cent sales tax.

Mayor Pro tempore Foster announced that this would be his last meeting as he is resigning from the City Council effective immediately, stating that “It has been a pleasure serving on the Council for the past six years and I had my heart set on serving through the end of my term in November, however, I have some personal and health issues that I need to take care of at this time.”

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

Attest:

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John Mercier, Mayor  
Minutes approved by Council  
Motion July 7, 2016

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Elizabeth E. Casson, City Clerk