

**TAFT CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 5, 2013**

REGULAR MEETING

6:00 P.M.

The February 5, 2013, regular joint meeting of the Taft City Council/Taft Successor Agency, held in the Council Chamber at Taft City Hall, 209 East Kern Street, Taft, CA 93268, was opened by Mayor Linder at [6:14:57 PM](#). The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Krier and invocation given by Cindy Brettschneider, First Methodist Church.

PRESENT: Mayor Paul Linder; Mayor Pro Tem Orchel Krier.
Council Members Randy Miller, Dave Noerr and Ron Waldrop.
City Manager Craig Jones; City Attorney for David Prentice;
City Clerk Louise Hudgens.

1. STUDY SESSION – BUDGET PRESENTATION BY TERESA BINKLEY, FINANCE DIRECTOR

Binkley gave an overview of the past and current project budget. She gave a 5-year comparison in revenues and expenditures, and explained that the current year budget was holding its own with the exception of the unforeseen increase in expenses due to the closure of the Community Correctional Facility. Unemployment expense had not been budgeted for in past years and no one ever thought that the CCF would be closed by the state. Binkley shared some of the areas where savings are being met, primarily in payroll expense as many of the positions vacated during the past year were not being refilled at this time and explained that current personnel were picking up some of the workload.

Noerr praised Teresa for preparing a very comprehensive presentation and stated that the effort undertaken by city employees to step up and make sure that services weren't reduced was to be applauded.

Council Members all praised Binkley for her hard work on the budget and her presentation, and commended staff for all pitching in to fill gaps and for making sure services were being met. Miller pointed out that Los Angeles County would be voting on contracting with the Taft CCF on February 19 and regardless of the outcome, staff would not stop looking for ways to bring revenues back to the city.

2. APPROVAL OF FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012 AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013 [6:45:44 PM](#)

Motion: Moved by Miller, seconded by Noerr, to adopt resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT ADOPTING THE CITY OF TAFT FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012 AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013. (*Resolution No. 3490-13*)

AYES: Krier, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop, Linder

3. APPROVAL OF FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012 AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013 [6:48:08 PM](#)

Motion: Moved by Noerr, seconded by Miller, to adopt resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE TAFT SUCCESSOR AGENCY ADOPTING FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012 AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013. (*Resolution No. 3491-13*)

AYES: Krier, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop, Linder

4. CITIZEN REQUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS [6:48:41 PM](#)

Kathy Orrin, Executive Director of Taft Chamber Of Commerce:

- Extended invitation to the Chamber Installation Dinner, 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 7, to be held at the Rec. New board directors to be installed and honors for businessman, businesswoman and business of the year to be awarded.
- The Greater Taft Economic Development Authority Ad Hoc Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 12, to be held at the West Kern Water District board room.
- GTEDA sponsoring a tour of Taft. They will meet at City Hall on February 15 and tour Taft, visiting areas that might be less than desirable.
- Reported that the film crew for "A Girl Walks Home Alone at Midnight" was wrapping up their filming on Wednesday night and the crew had been a pleasure to work with.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT [6:57:13 PM](#)

Ben Mangum, City Treasurer, reported that the numbers hadn't changed much since his last report except for a growing negative balance for the Transit Fund. Mangum indicated that the reason for the negative number was that the state takes a long time to pay.

6. COUNCIL STATEMENTS (NON ACTION) [6:58:21 PM](#)

Council Member Waldrop:

- Reported that Council were getting involved with working on the new iPads

Council Member Krier:

- Voiced appreciation to all the service organization for the work they do in the community.
- Thanked the Taft Police for the good job they do to keep Taft safe in light of the increased crime rate throughout Kern County.
- Thanked the Chamber of Commerce for their involvement in the community and applauded Mike Long for his leadership at the Chamber for the past two (2) years as president.

Council Member Noerr:

- Referred to the tragic event at Taft Union High School and how everyone acted responsibly, especially the Police Department. However, there were some irresponsible news reports from one or two of the news agencies in their impatience to get a story.
- Stated that there were hundreds of thousands of people who used legally owned guns daily for sport and the incidence of improper use of guns was minimal in comparison
- Shared a story about another tragic event in Wyoming where there was a killing and suicide at a school and the weapon was a knife.
- Emphasized that the problem was a human problem and not the implement used, and that gun control was not the answer.

Mayor Linder:

- Remarked that there had been an increase in burglaries as a result of AB109, or prison realignment. He stressed that people need to be more vigilant and keep their doors locked, and not to leave items of value where they can be observed in cars. Also, to keep an eye out in neighborhoods and to call the Police Department if suspicious activity observed.

7. DEPARTMENT REPORTS 7:14:30 PM

Ed Whiting, Police Chief:

- Stated that Officers are working really hard for the city to keep it safe and that crime is up in all theft related categories by about 30%. Grand theft auto is at 40%. He shared four (4) incidents from the week-end and reported that all vehicles were recovered and all suspects apprehended.
- Admonished everyone to keep their car doors locked and not to leave anything of value in them.
- Indicated that the Police Department had issued 22 Concealed Weapons permits during 2012 and that they had already issued that many in January alone. Countywide, over 5,200 CCWs already issued this year.

8. CITY MANAGER STATEMENTS 7:19:26 PM

Craig Jones, City Manager:

- Commended the Police Department for doing their job without getting discouraged because of the early release of the criminals due to AB109.
- Rails-to-Trails project is finally moving along after a favorable word from Fish and Game to proceed. He said that there was an issue with squirrels that cost the city \$20,000 and would result in the loss of some of the amenities in the project.
- The Oil Companies are relocating some of their facilities along Hillard St.
- Reported a bid opening for the 10th Street paving project which will be paving from Ash Street to Kern Street and includes re-striping of the road and a 4-way stop at San Emidio and 10th Street.

9. CITY ATTORNEY STATEMENTS - None.

10. FUTURE AGENDA REQUESTS – None.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS 11 – 18 7:22:36 PM

Motion: Moved by Krier, seconded by Waldrop, to approve Consent calendar Items 11 – 12 and 14 – 18.

AYES: Krier, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop, Linder

11. MINUTES

January 15, 2013 Regular
January 23, 2013 Special

➤ Minutes were distributed at meeting

Recommendation – Approve as submitted.

12. PAYMENT OF BILLS

Cash Disbursements	Warrant #010713	Check No. 74713-74719	\$ 62,848.54
Cash Disbursements	Warrant #011813	Check No. 74720-74805	\$ 227,573.78
Cash Disbursements	Warrant #011813S	Check No. 74806-74807	\$ 516,243.85

Recommendation – Approve payment of bills.

14. REVISED ANNUAL SINGLE AUDIT REPORT FOR FY 2010-2011.

Recommendation – Motion to receive and file the Revised Annual Single Audit Report for the year ended June 30, 2011.

- This item tabled from the January 15, 2013, agenda. Audit included with the January 15, 2013, Staff Report.

15. TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT FUNDS ANNUAL AUDIT – FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011.

Recommendation – Motion to receive and file the City of Taft Transportation Development Act Funds Annual Audit for the fiscal year 2010-2011.

16. CITY INVESTMENT POLICY ANNUAL REVIEW

Recommendation – Motion to concur with the Finance Committee’s recommendation to adopted the policy with no changes.

17. RESOLUTIONS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT REVISING PROMISSORY NOTES #16 THROUGH #25 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAFT AND THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Recommendation – Motion to adopt resolutions entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT REVISING: (*Resolution No. 3493-13 through 3502-13*)

- a) PROMISSORY NOTE #16 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAFT AND THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.
- b) PROMISSORY NOTE #17 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAFT AND THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.
- c) PROMISSORY NOTE #18 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAFT AND THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.
- d) PROMISSORY NOTE #19 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAFT AND THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.
- e) PROMISSORY NOTE #20 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAFT AND THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.
- f) PROMISSORY NOTE #21 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAFT AND THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.
- g) PROMISSORY NOTE #22 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAFT AND THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.
- h) PROMISSORY NOTE #23 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAFT AND THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.
- i) PROMISSORY NOTE #24 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAFT AND THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.
- j) PROMISSORY NOTE #25 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAFT AND THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.

18. A RESOLUTION OF THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY REVISING PROMISSORY NOTES #16 THROUGH #25 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAFT AND THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Recommendation – Motion to adopt resolutions entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY REVISING (*Resolution No. 3503-13 through 35102-13*)

- a) PROMISSORY NOTE #16 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAFT AND THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.
- b) PROMISSORY NOTE #17 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAFT AND THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.
- c) PROMISSORY NOTE #18 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAFT AND THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.
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- j) PROMISSORY NOTE #25 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAFT AND THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY.

13. ABEYANCE OF MERIT INCREASE FOR DEPARTMENT HEADS

➤ Removed from Consent Calendar by Linder

Motion: Moved by Waldrop, seconded by Krier, to Approve A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT ADOPTING THE ABEYANCE OF MERIT INCREASES FOR POSITIONS DESIGNATED AS DEPARTMENT HEADS FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2012/2013 FISCAL YEAR. (*Resolution No. 3492-13*)

Linder wanted everyone to know that this was at the request of the department heads and not at the request of Council. Linder stated that the step increases were earned and due the department heads and that the individuals were to be commended for putting the needs of the city first.

AYES: Krier, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop, Linder

14. CLOSURE OF PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC'S TAFT CREW YARD [7:35:05 PM](#)

Council Members concurred that a letter should be written to urge PG & E to keep the local crew yard open. Miller pointed out that Taft is on the verge of growth and that this was not the time to take

away the yard. Also, in the event of a natural disaster, it was nice to know that there was a crew on the west side.

Kathy Orrin stated that the Chamber of Commerce would also be interested in corresponding with PG & E officials to object to the yard's closure. Linder indicated that he had done some research and had compiled a list of individuals and their e-mail addresses that could be shared.

Mayor Linder reported that the Closed Session Item A, Labor negotiations for all units, was being removed from closed session. He then recessed the regular meeting to closed session at [7:39:51 PM](#). The meeting reconvened at 8:36 PM with all members present.

CLOSED SESSION

- A. At this time the City Council will hold a closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6 to give direction to its labor negotiator concerning labor negotiations: All units
 - Removed from Closed Session.

 - B. At this time the City Council will hold a closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 for the Council to give instructions to its negotiator, Craig Jones, regarding negotiation for real property – Sunset Rails.
- ACTION TAKEN:** No reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT – with no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 8:36 PM.

Louise Hudgens, CMC
City Clerk

Paul Linder, Mayor