

TAFT CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY  
MINUTES  
April 1, 2014

**REGULAR MEETING**

The April 1, 2014, 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 [6:03:59 PM](#). The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Miller, followed by invocation given by Rodney Wikoff, West Hills Church of the Nazarene.

PRESENT: Mayor Paul Linder; Mayor Pro Tem Orchel Krier.  
Council Members Randy Miller, Dave Noerr and Ron Waldrop  
City Manager Craig Jones; City Attorney Jason Epperson;  
Debra Elliott.

**1. PUBLIC HEARING - 2014 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM APPLICATION AND CITIZEN INPUT**

- Ms. Mayfield, Grants Administrator, circulated a sign in sheet for all those present at the public hearing.

The Public Hearing was opened at [6:07 PM](#) to receive testimony from proponents and opponents. Being none, the Public Hearing was closed.

Motion by Noerr, seconded by Miller to hold public hearing and to approve **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING AND THE EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO FROM THE 2014 ALLOCATION OF THE STATE CDBG PROGRAM**

AYES: Krier, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop, Linder

**2. STUDY SESSION – BECOMING A CHARTER CITY PRESENTATION**

Shiri Klima, Law Offices of Richards, Watson and Gershon presented a power point entitled “Becoming A Charter City”. Ms. Klima explained the pros and cons of becoming a Charter City. A General Law City authority is derived from state statutes and the state Constitution, whereby a Charter City derives its authority from the state Constitution with respect to municipal affairs, which are subject to limitations in the state and federal constitutions and in the Charter. Some of the areas that could be transformed by becoming a Charter City could include elections, finances, gifts of public funds, planning and land use, and public works.

**3. CITIZEN REQUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dr. Kathy Orrin, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce reported on upcoming fireworks show fundraiser, car show will take place on May 31, State of the City luncheon will be held at OT’s on April 10<sup>th</sup> at noon, first Friday Cruise night is this Friday.

**4. COUNCIL STATEMENTS (NON ACTION)**

Council Member Waldrop thanked everyone for their condolences regarding his brothers passing.

Council Member Krier wished Council Member Waldrop a happy birthday; invited everyone to attend cruise night this Friday.

Council Member Noerr reminded pedestrians to be safe while walking and crossing on Kern Street.

Council Member Miller reiterated concerns of pedestrians walking and crossing on Kern Street; gave notice of upcoming absence at next council meeting.

Mayor Linder reported on Houchin Blood Banks blood drive that took place earlier today.

**5. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT**

Commissioner Ron Orrin reported on the March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Planning Commission. Housing Needs Assessment report was given by Mr. Staples; approved a letter to California Housing Community Development that will be forwarded to Council for final approval; Arbor Day celebration was discussed as well as forming an ad-hoc committee for annexations. Mr. Orrin reported that several commissioners recently attended the California Mainstreet Alliance conference held in Hanford, California.

**6. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Chief Whiting discussed pedestrian safety and the use of crosswalks and reminded everyone that there are pedestrian's rights as well as pedestrian's duties. Pedestrians should make sure before they enter an intersection, even in a crosswalk, that the intersection is clear. Whiting will be absent from the next Council meeting and will send Lt. Aranda in his place.

**7. CITY MANAGER STATEMENTS**

Mr. Jones reported that the CCF has been running very smoothly and is close to housing 500 inmates at this time.

**8. CITY ATTORNEY STATEMENTS**

Mr. Epperson had no statements.

**9. FUTURE AGENDA REQUESTS**

Council Member Krier requested a proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month (April). Krier also suggested proclaiming the month of May as "Support Oil Industry" month.

Council Member Noerr suggested contacting Supervisor Couch's office to assist with this idea.

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**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS 10 – 23**

- Item 17 was removed from the Consent Calendar by Council Member Krier.
- Item 21 was removed from the Consent Calendar by Council Member Noerr.
- Items 22 and 23 were removed from the Consent Calendar by Mayor Linder.

Motion by Noerr, seconded by Miller to approve Consent Calendar items 10-16 and 18-20.

AYES: Krier, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop, Linder

- Waldrop abstained from Item 10 for the March 18, 2014 minutes due to absence.

**10. MINUTES**

March 4, 2014 Regular  
March 18, 2014 Regular

**Recommendation** – Approve as submitted.

**11. PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Warrant#	3-14-2014	Check No. 77090-77091	\$ 2,663.50
Warrant#	3-14-2014	Check No. 77092	\$ 6,000.00
Warrant#	3-14-2014	Check No. 76994-77089	\$ 637,297.07

**Recommendation** – Approve payment of the bills.

**12. PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR/SAFETY OFFICER POSITION**

**Recommendation** - Motion to adopt a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT APPROVING JOB CLASSIFICATION AND ADOPTING JOB SPECIFICATION AND SALARY RANGE FOR PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR/SAFETY OFFICER.**

**13. DISPATCHER/MATRONS POSITIONS**

**Recommendation** - Motion to adopt a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT APPROVING JOB CLASSIFICATIONS AND ADOPTING JOB SPECIFICATIONS AND SALARY RANGES FOR DISPATCHER/MATRONS I AND II AND SUPERVISING DISPATCHER MATRON.**

**14. APPROVAL OF EXTRA-HELP STUDENT INTERN**

**Recommendation** - Motion to adopt a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT AMENDING THE POSITION CLASSIFICATION PLAN AND ESTABLISHING CORRESPONDING COMPENSATION RATES FOR EXTRA HELP STUDENT INTERN POSITION.**

**15. CHANGE IN SIGNATURE AUTHORITY BY NAME AT UNITED SECURITY BANK FOR ALL ACCOUNTS**

**Recommendation** - Motion to adopt a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT AUTHORIZING CHANGE IN SIGNATURE AUTHORITY BY NAME AT UNITED SECURITY BANK.**

**16. CITY OF TAFT RESPONSE TO KERN COG ISSUANCE OF DRAFT REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS ALLOCATION (RHNA)**

**Recommendation** - Authorize the Planning Director to send the response letter, as drafted, to the Kern Council of Governments regarding the Issuance of Draft Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) for the City of Taft.

**18. AMEND AGREEMENT FOR CONSULTANT CITY ENGINEERING SERVICES WITH HELT ENGINEERING, INC.**

**Recommendation** – Motion to Amend Agreement for Consultant City Engineering Services with Helt Engineering, Inc.

**19. PROGRAM SUPPLEMENT AGREEMENT N016-REV. 1 AGENCY-STATE AGREEMENT NO. STPLE-5193(035)**

**Recommendation** – Motion to adopt a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF STATE OF CALIFORNIA PROGRAM SUPPLEMENT N016 REV.1 TO ADMINISTERING AGENCY STATE AGREEMENT NO. 06-5193(035) BETWEEN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE CITY OF TAFT AND AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN SAID AGREEMENTS.**

**20. THE INITIATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PHASE OF THE RAILS TO TRAILS PHASE IV PROJECT**

**Recommendation** – Motion to authorize the initiation of the Environmental Phase of the Rails to Trails Phase IV project.

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**17. 5<sup>TH</sup> STREET PLAZA IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Motion by Noerr, seconded by Miller to approve the expense as outlined in the amount of \$7,950 for 5th Street Plaza Improvement Project.

Council Member Krier inquired as to the cost of using artificial turf instead of sod. Mr. Jones replied that artificial turf is much more expensive and emits heat, so it would not be feasible in this area.

Miller and Noerr suggested the painting of a mural on the wall of the building in the plaza if permission could be granted by the owner.

AYES: Krier, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop, Linder

**21. OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1017: OIL SEVERANCE TAX**

Motion by Krier, seconded by Noerr to adopt a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT OPPOSING SENATE BILL 1017 (Taxation: Oil Severance Tax).**

Council Member Noerr read Council's letter of support in opposing Senate Bill 1017 into the record.

AYES: Krier, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop, Linder

**22. CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION CONTRACT AMENDMENT NO. 1**

Motion by Noerr, seconded by Waldrop to approve Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. 56000004097 with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation authorizing the

Mayor to make a revision to the contract that would allow a 60-day grace period on the dental portion of the contract and authorize the Mayor to execute the document.

Council Member Noerr stated that these requirements will allow the increase of 88 additional inmates to the CCF. This increase will not compromise the safety of the inmates or the officers working there.

AYES: Krier, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop, Linder

**23. DONATION TO THE TAFT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO HELP COVER COST OF 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY CELEBRATION**

Motion by Noerr, seconded by Krier to approve a donation in the amount of \$3,000 to the Taft Chamber of Commerce to assist in payment of the 2014 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration fireworks display.

AYES: Krier, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop, Linder

**CLOSED SESSION**

- A. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR, CRAIG JONES, CITY MANAGER,  
Government Code 54957.6 – All units.

No reportable action.

- B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION  
Government Code Section 54956.9 (a) – City of Taft vs. CDCR.

Direction given to Staff.

**ADJOURNMENT** – With no further business to conduct, Mayor Linder adjourned the meeting at 8:40 PM.

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Debra L. Elliott

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Paul Linder, Mayor