

TAFT CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY
MINUTES
MAY 20, 2014

REGULAR MEETING

6:00 P.M.

The May 20, 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 [6:01:44 PM](#) . The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Linder, followed by invocation given by Jack Turner, Jack Turner Lutheran 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 Jason Epperson;
City Clerk Alina Megerdom.

1. PROCLAMATION– PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

Council Member Noerr read the Proclamation declaring May 18-24, 2014 as Public Works Week. Staff members Chris Krejci & Christy Lowe accepted the Proclamation on behalf of the Public Works Department.

2. PROCLAMATION– MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS MONTH

Council Member Miller read the Proclamation declaring May 2014 Motorcycle Awareness Month. Mr. Robert Zamora accepted the Proclamation on behalf of Abate Local 40 of Bakersfield.

3. PROCLAMATION– PETROLEUM INDUSTRY APPRECIATION MONTH

Council Member Linder read the Proclamation declaring May 2014 Petroleum Industry Appreciation Month. Ms. Susan C. Hersberger, Aera Energy LLC and Dr. Kathy Orrin, Taft Chamber of Commerce accepted the Proclamation.

4. PRESENTATION – PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 BUDGET

Item postponed to the next Council Meeting, June 3, 2014.

5. APPROVAL OF FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013 AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014

Recommendation - Motion 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 2012-2013 AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014.**

Item postponed to the next Council Meeting, June 3, 2014.

6. CITIZEN REQUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Kathy Orrin, Taft Chamber of Commerce:

- Sit and Sip is every Wednesday at 9:00 AM at Taft Chamber of Commerce.
- Wanted to thank the Public Works Department on their hard work on behalf of the Taft Chamber. The Chamber appreciates their willingness to help the Chamber with their events.
- Petroleum Industry Appreciation Rally will be held on Thursday, May 29th at 5:00 PM and the Taft Fort.

- Free showing of “FrackNation” will be at the Taft Fox Theater on Thursday, May 29, 2014, at 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM.
- Taft Chamber Car, Truck, and Motorcycle Show will be on Rails to Trails on Saturday, May 31, 2014.

7. COUNCIL STATEMENTS (NON ACTION)

Council Member Waldrop - None

Mayor Pro Tem Krier

- Oil Industry appreciation month – encourage public education to attend the 2:00 PM or the 7:00 PM showing of “FrackNation” and watch the presentation. People need to get more educated on fracking. The Public should attend the presentation and ask question.

Council Member Noerr

- He stated that unfortunately he will not be able to attend the Petroleum Industry Appreciation Rally. He gave his opinion on the importance of the Oil Industry and how it affects everyone no matter which side they are on. Everyone needs to be educated and understand how everyone depends on this industry and the industry deserves their support.

Council Member Miller

- Concurred with Council Member Noerr. Taft is the quintessential oil town. Citizens see it every day and appreciate what is done to make it safe and clean. People in California want to kill an industry in California, import oil and send our dollars out of the State.
- Apologized for missing May 6th Council Meeting.

Mayor Linder

- Election Officers are needed to work in Taft for the June 3, 2014 election. For more information contact City Clerk, Alina Megerdom at City Hall.
- Spoke on the issue that is going on in the City of Arvin in regards to the City Council placing on their agenda a Resolution that would be non-supportive of fracking in the oil industry. He was told that the issue has to do with new houses that were built on top of existing pipelines that should have been moved some one hundred to two hundred yards away from these houses prior to building the new homes, but they were not. To blame a leaking pipeline that’s underneath houses that is not supposed to be there on fracking is ludicrous. The pipeline had nothing to do with the process of getting oil out of the ground.

8. DEPARTMENT REPORTS – There were none.

9. CITY MANAGER STATEMENTS –

- He wanted to give some information on item number 18 on the consent calendar. He wanted to inform everyone that the item is in regards to surplus items that the City has to offer and the auction site is www.publicsurplus.com. If anyone is interested in purchasing City equipment, that’s the website to keep their eye on.
- Wanted to give an update on PetSmart Spay & Neuter Program. The City was a recipient of a grant from PetSmart for \$50,000. Up to date they have spayed or neutered 361 dogs in the greater Taft area. They have funding available for 259 more dogs.
- Gave an update on Sandy Creek Estates – On Tuesday, May 20, 2014 the City was able to issue a Grading Permit for the project.

10. CITY ATTORNEY STATEMENTS – There were none.

11. FUTURE AGENDA REQUESTS

Miller stated that the Taft High School is producing quite a few Valley Championship teams. He was hoping the staff could look into or contact the High School and see if the Council can give the kids recognition for their accomplishments. All Council Members concurred.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS 12 - 21

Moved by Miller, seconded by Waldrop to approve Consent Calendar items 13, 15, 16, 18, 19 and 21.

AYES: Krier, Linder, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop

13. PAYMENT OF BILLS

Warrant#	5-02-2014	Check No. 77373	\$ 500.00
Warrant#	5-02-2014	Check No. 77374-77463	\$397,336.48
Warrant#	5-13-2014	Check No. 77464	\$ 103.90

Recommendation – Approve payment of the bills.

15. PETROLEUM INDUSTRY APPRECIATION RALLY

Recommendation - Motion to authorize expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for costs related to the Petroleum Industry Appreciation Rally to be held on May 29, 2014.

16. INSURANCE CLAIM FOR LOSS DUE TO SEWER LINE COLLAPSE

Recommendation - Motion to authorize the City Manager to sign the Proof of Loss and receive insurance payment in the amount of \$120,978.88.

18. DISPERSAL OF CITY OBSOLETE, UNSAFE AND UNECONOMICAL TO REPAIR EQUIPMENT

Recommendation - Motion to approve disposing of listed equipment through online auction.

19. FUNDING TO THE TAFT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR THE QUARTER OF JANUARY 2014 TO MARCH 2014.

Recommendation - Motion to approve the 25% allocation of the Transient Occupancy Tax to the Taft Chamber of Commerce for the quarter of January 2014 through March 2014.

21. RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN AND EXECUTE ANY DOCUMENTS REQUIRED UNDER THE FTA SECTION 5311 WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Recommendation - Motion to adopt resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT AUTHORIZING THE FEDERAL FUNDING

UNDER FTA SECTION 5311 (49 U.S.C. SECTION 5311) WITH CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.
(Resolution No. 3597-14)

12. MINUTES

- Removed from Consent Calendar at the request of Council Member Noerr
 - **April 8, 2014 Special**

Moved by Waldrop, seconded by Miller to approve April 8, 2014 Special Meeting Minutes.

AYES: Krier, Miller, Linder

- Council Members Krier and Noerr abstained due to being absent at the meeting.
 - **May 6, 2014 Regular**

Moved by Waldrop, seconded by Krier to approve May 6,, 2014 Special Meeting Minutes.

- Council Member Miller abstained due to being absent at the meeting.

AYES: Krier, Linder, Noerr, Waldrop

14. SECOND READING - ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT RELATING TO A VACANT BUILDING REGISTRATION ORDINANCE [6:49:31 PM](#)

- Removed from Consent Calendar at the request of Council Member Waldrop

Recommendation - Motion to approve and amend the City of Taft Zoning Ordinance entitled **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT AMENDING CHAPTER 4.3 OF TITLE 3 OF THE TAFT CITY CODE AND CHAPTERS 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, AND 11 OF TITLE 6 OF THE CITY OF TAFT ZONING ORDINANCE RELATING TO A VACANT BUILDING REGISTRATION ORDINANCE.**
(Ordinance No. 803-14)

Council Member Waldrop wanted to clarify to the public that this is affecting the vacant buildings and it is City wide not just commercial buildings.

City Manager Jones stated that it is affecting vacant buildings city wide and if anyone has any further questions they may contact Planning and Community Director Mark Staples at City of Taft.

Motion: Moved by Waldrop, seconded by Miller to approve and amend the City of Taft Zoning Ordinance entitled **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT AMENDING CHAPTER 4.3 OF TITLE 3 OF THE TAFT CITY CODE AND CHAPTERS 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, AND 11 OF TITLE 6 OF THE CITY OF TAFT ZONING ORDINANCE RELATING TO A VACANT BUILDING REGISTRATION ORDINANCE.**

AYES: Krier, Linder, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop

17. ENGINEERING TASK ORDERS FOR THE MUNICIPAL WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT USDA LOAN PROJECT [6:54:54 PM](#)

- Removed from Consent Calendar at the request of Council Member Waldrop

Recommendation - Motion to authorize Wallace Group to initiate Agreement Tasks 3 and 4 for an amount not to exceed \$487, 200.

City Manager Jones presented the Staff Report.

Council Member Waldrop asked if the City is partners with Kern County. Jones stated that it is Kern Sanitation Coordination. He also stated that it is a forty year loan; they don't plan on carrying the loan for forty years. There is no penalty for early payoff. City of Taft will be responsible for fifty-two percent of the loan and the County will be responsible for forty-eight percent of the loan. The City is planning to pay it off in ten years.

Council Member Miller asked when construction will begin. Jones stated the engineering design phase will probably be first of the year next year. They are hoping the first of construction to be early spring of next year.

Motion: Moved by Waldrop, seconded by Miller to authorize Wallace Group to initiate Agreement Tasks 3 and 4 for an amount not to exceed \$487, 200.

AYES: Krier, Linder, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop

20. RATIFY THE EXECUTION OF THE REVISED LEXISNEXIS LAW LIBRARY AGREEMENTS [7:01:13 PM](#)

- Removed from Consent Calendar at the request of Mayor Linder

Recommendation - Motion to ratify the signing of the revised LexisNexis agreement by the Mayor.

Mayor Linder stated that he wanted the public to know that this law library that the City will be spending about \$10,000 a year on is for the prisoners at MCCF. They already have better healthcare than most of us, a better dental care than most of us, free room and board, cable television, a commissary that they can enjoy and every right to complain about the facility they are in. The only difference is that they can't leave. Now, under the new contract the State is requiring that they are provided a law library so they can further study ways they can sue the City or the State or find ways around it.

Motion: Moved by Noerr, seconded by Krier to ratify the signing of the revised LexisNexis agreement by the Mayor.

AYES: Krier, Linder, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop

- Mayor Linder recessed the meeting to closed session at [7:04:39 PM](#).

CLOSED SESSION

- A. CONFERENCE WITH PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR, CITY MANAGER, Government Code 54956.8 – Parcel Number 032-110-30.
- B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Government Code Section 54956.9(b) – one (1) undisclosed case.

ADJOURNMENT – With no further business to conduct, Mayor Linder adjourned the meeting at 7:47 PM.

Alina Megerdom, City Clerk

Paul Linder, Mayor