

**TAFT CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY  
MINUTES  
AUGUST 19, 2014**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**6:00 P.M.**

The August 19, 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 Paul Linder at [6:09 PM](#). The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Ron Waldrop, followed by an invocation given by Reverend Heather Mueller, Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church.

PRESENT: Mayor Paul Linder and Mayor Pro Tem Orchel Krier.  
Council Member Ron Waldrop.  
City Manager Craig Jones; City Attorney Jason Epperson;  
City Clerk Alina Megerdom.

ABSENT: Council Members Randy Miller and Dave Noerr

Item number eight and three were asked to be presented first per Craig Jones, City Manager. All Council Members concurred.

**8. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Chief Ed Whiting introduced Sargent J. Shad Swanson. Sgt. Swanson presented a Power Point Presentation on Mobile Forensics Software. Susteen is the company whose product is the same utilized by the Tehachapi Police Department. It's a combination of hardware and software; it extracts all data from cellular phones, photos, videos, text and call records. It's able to break through security pass codes and capability to retrieve deleted data. Their MSRP is \$12,390. There is a matching funds grant that offsets the cost. The grant is being offered nationwide to 120 law enforcement agencies. Sgt. Swanson applied for the grant and received approval for it, they stated that they would be more than willing to hold their spot, but once they have 120 invoices paid, the grant is closed. The grant that was approved will cover \$7,391 of the \$12, 390. That will bring the matching funds portion that the City would be responsible for under \$5,000.

Mayor Linder stated that the staff report states that the cost of the software program will be coming out of the drug forfeiture money, which is no cost to the tax payer. Sgt. Swanson concurred.

Waldrop asked if the cost is a onetime fee or is there more fees for the software. Sgt. Swanson stated that it's a onetime fee; there might be a possibility of a small fee for software updates.

Linder asked who will be assigned for installing and maintaining the program. Sgt. Swanson stated that it would be Police Staff and his solution is to use one computer for this use only and not have it connected to the internet.

**3. PROCLAMATION PETE GIONOPULOS DAY**

Mayor Linder presented the proclamation to Pete Gionopulos and announced August 23, 2014 as Pete Gionopulos Day.

Trice Harvey, former County Supervisor and Assembly Man gave a brief history of his experiences with Mr. Gionopulos and invited all the Council Members to Mr. Gionopulos 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party on Saturday, August 23, 2014 at the Taft Fort.

The regular meeting was recessed to closed session at [6:51 PM](#).

**CLOSED SESSION**

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

➤ No reportable action.

The regular meeting was back in session at 7:17 PM.

**1. PUBLIC HEARING ON COSTS AND PLACEMENT OF LIENS ON ABATED PROPERTY.**

The Public Hearing (PH) was opened at [7:17 PM](#) to receive testimony from proponents and opponents. Being none, the PH was closed.

**Motion:** Moved by Krier, seconded by Waldrop, to confirm Statement of Expense as submitted and approved resolutions entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT APPROVING AND CONFIRMING THE COSTS FOR THE ABATEMENT OF THE NUISANCE AT ASH AND MARY STREETS, TAFT, CA, APN NUMBER 220-300-17 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,502.91.** (*Resolution No.3618-14*)

AYES: Krier, Waldrop, Linder  
PASSED: 3/0

**2. PUBLIC HEARING ON APPROVING THE CITY'S COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM INCOME REUSE AGREEMENT**

The Public Hearing (PH) was opened at [7:20 PM](#) to receive testimony from proponents and opponents. Being none, the PH was closed.

**Motion:** Moved by Waldrop, seconded by Krier to adopt a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT APPROVING THE CITY'S COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM INCOME REUSE AGREEMENT** (*Resolution No.3619-14*)

AYES: Krier, Waldrop, Linder  
PASSED: 3/0

➤ Linder requested to table items 4 and 5 until there is a full Council present.

**4. PRESENTATION – PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 BUDGET**

**5. APPROVAL OR FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015**

**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 2013-2014 AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015.**

**Motion:** Moved by Krier, seconded by Waldrop to table items 4 and 5 until there is a full Council present.

AYES: Krier, Waldrop, Linder

PASSED: 3/0

## 6. CITIZEN REQUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Todd Lederer, Taft News Now stated that he has submitted a letter to the City of Taft in regards to a section of sidewalk located on 6<sup>th</sup> and North Street which contains the signatures of Robin Williams and Kurt Russell. He is recommending the City to remove that section of the concrete and relocate it in front of The Fox Theater on Center Street. He has spoken to both owners of the current location and Fox Theater. The owner of Fox Theater is in agreement to it and is welcoming the opportunity to display the concrete. The owner of the existing property has some concerns about making sure that the existing concrete is replaced and the adjacent property which has no concrete have concrete added as well. He believes because of the historical value, it would be appropriate. He had some suggestions on future work that could be done to display the signature and future signatures.
- Kathy Orrin, Executive Director of Taft Chamber of Commerce, announced:
  - Pete Gianopulos Birthday party will be from 5:30 to 8:30 PM at the Fort on Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>. There will be a charge.
  - October Fest will be on October 16-19<sup>th</sup>. There will be a carnival at the event.
  - Chamber Golf Tournament, November 1<sup>st</sup>. If anyone is interested to be a sponsor or would like to participate in the Golf Tournament they need to contact the Taft Chamber.
  - Sit-n-Sip is every Wednesday from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM at the Taft Chamber office.
- Jack Lenard, Property owner of the autograph handprint on concrete. He understands the value of moving it to Center Street and expanding it to future autographs. At the time the concrete work was done, he had to inquire a permit from City of Taft. The cost was \$75, which was to be refunded. But the City never refunded him the \$75. If the city gives him his \$75 back, then he will support the movement of the concrete. He has a small location on 529 North Street; he would like to request some cement be put there when they put cement in the section that they remove.

## 7. COUNCIL STATEMENTS (NON ACTION)

**Council Member Waldrop:** There were none.

**Council Member Krier:**

- He attended the ground breaking ceremony for new housing in Taft. New age for Taft, he is happy to be a part of it.
- Newspaper from California newspaper in regards to fracking. The article headlines sometimes do not give the total truth. People should read the article thoroughly. There is no direct evidence of water supply contamination through fracking. He recommends the public to look at the positive that comes out of fracking and the oil industry.
- School has started, everyone should be cautious.

**Mayor Linder:**

- School is back in session and drivers should be more cautious.
- Pleasure to be at the ground breaking of Sandy Creek Estates.

## 9. CITY MANAGER STATEMENTS

- Item No. 22 on the Agenda: Accept the Lowest Responsible Bid. The City originally had planned to do the Safe Routs Project while the schools were out. But, the lowest bidder after they went through the qualification project was not responsive. It has taken them a few weeks to get 2<sup>nd</sup> bidder on the list to get qualified. The kids are now in school but, they

have a small window of time to spend the money therefore they will be out the next two to three months doing the work.

- Item No. 23 on the Agenda: Rails to Trail Phase IV from 2<sup>nd</sup> to Highway 33. They have design money coming to them to start the design work. They also have been having meetings on bids for Rails to Trails extension on Hillard Street too. The projects will be coming to Council soon.

**10. CITY ATTORNEY STATEMENTS** – There were none.

**11. FUTURE AGENDA REQUESTS**

**Council Member Waldrop:**

- Staff Report on what the future schedule is with paving the allies.

**Council Member Krier:**

- Valley Air District: Special City Selection Committee, who is the Delegate and who will attend. City Clerk stated that she received a letter and it was indicated that Council Members Waldrop and Krier are the appointees. She will look into it further and bring back more information to the Council.
- He requested that a resolution regarding the delay of cap & trade regulations relating to gas and diesel fuels be supported and added to a future agenda.
- Downtown Center Street: Would like to meet with Downtown Business Committee, Master Developer and the City to see what the vision is for improvement of Downtown Taft on Center Street.

Jones stated it would be good to meet with Downtown Committee Geary Coats, Master Developer and Planning Department for future improvement plans.

Linder stated that it is not an Agenda Item, but giving the staff direction to organize a meeting with the staff and other parties in regards to the Downtown Taft.

**Mayor Linder:**

- Would like to ask staff to review the procedure and policy that requires any candidate for City Council to solicit for signatures to be on the ballot. He has spoken to the City Attorney, Epperson to see if it's an ordinance, a procedure, or a policy. He does not want to preclude anyone from being able to file for City Council and have an unspoken requirement that the City of Taft requires they go out and get twenty qualified signatures. He is thinking that the signature part of the process needs to go away. He asks staff to look into it and bring it back to Council.

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- Linder requested item #24 to be pulled from the Consent Calendar

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS 12 – 25**

**Motion:** Moved by Krier, seconded by Waldrop, to approve consent calendar items 12-23 and 25.

**AYES:** Krier, Waldrop, Linder

**PASSED:** 3/0

**12. MINUTES**

August 5, 2014 Regular

**Recommendation** – Approve as submitted.

**13. PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Warrant# 8-01-2014 Check No. 77946-78021 \$325,614.19

Warrant#	8-01-2014A	Check No. 78022-78037	\$ 20,745.51
Warrant#	8-01-2014A	Check No. 78038	\$ 7,407.14
Warrant#	8/01/2014	Check No. 78039-78040	\$ 1,810.83

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

**14. TREASURER’S REPORT**

**Recommendation** – Motion to receive and file Treasurer’s Report dated August 11, 2014 for the Month of June 2014.

**15. TAFT COLLEGE FOUNDATION PETROLEUM PARTNERS MEMBERSHIP**

**Recommendation** - Motion to purchase annual membership to the Taft College Foundation Petroleum Partners Circle in the amount of \$1,500.

**16. GRANT PURCHASE OF THE SUSTEEN INC SECURE VIEW NEW ULTRA COMPACT**

**Recommendation** - Motion to authorize the Police Chief to sign the agreement with Susteen Inc. and approve the match of \$4,999.00 out of the Drug Forfeiture account.

**17. REIMBURSEMENT OF ADMIN FUNDS TO CDBG PROGRAM INCOME ACCOUNT**

**Recommendation** - Motion to reimburse the amount of \$91,785.32 to the City’s CDBG Program Income Account.

**18. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT SUPPORTING KERN CITIZENS FOR ENERGY**

**Recommendation** - Motion to direct Staff to register the City of Taft as a member of the Kern Citizens for Energy Coalition and to adopt a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT SUPPORTING KERN CITIZENS FOR ENERGY**  
(Resolution No.3620-14)

**19. ANNUAL AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2011-2012 AND 2012-2013**

**Recommendation** - Motion to receive and file the Annual Audited Comprehensive Financial Reports for the years ended June 30, 2012 and June 30, 2013.

**20. CITY INVESTMENT POLICY ANNUAL REVIEW**

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

**21. FINANCIAL CONDITION FOR THE QUARTERS ENDING MARCH 31 AND JUNE 30 2014**

**Recommendation** – Informational only.

**22. ACCEPT THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BID, AWARD THE PROJECT AND TO EXECUTE A CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT WITH DOD CONSTRUCTION, FOR THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL VARIOUS LOCATIONS PROJECT – SRTSLNI – 5193 (034)**

**Recommendation** - Motion to accept the lowest responsible bid, award the project and to execute a construction agreement with DOD Construction, for the Safe Routes to School Various Locations Project – SRTSLNI – 5193 (034).

**23. AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF PROGRAM SUPPLEMENT AGREEMENT NO. 017-N TO ADMINISTERING AGENCY-STATE AGREEMENT NO. 06-5193R; AND ALLOCATE FUNDS FOR PROJECT**

**Recommendation** - Motion to adopt a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF PROGRAM SUPPLEMENT AGREEMENT NO. 017-N TO ADMINISTERING AGENCY-STATE AGREEMENT NO. 06-5193R**; Authorize City Manager to sign said agreements and allocate \$12,000 from capital reserves for Rails to Trails Phase 4. (*Resolution No.3621-14*)

**25. KERN EDC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP**

**Recommendation** - Motion to approve allocation of \$5,000 to Kern Economic Development Corporation for annual membership investment.

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**24. CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION CONTRACT AMENDMENT NO. 2**

Epperson stated that the item was pulled because this is the Amendment to the contact to CDCR and the copy presented to Council included a subsection J on page 49, regarding mental health services, should not have been included. That has been stricken from the contract, so what the City Council will be voting on is Amendment No. 2, identical as it appears before the Council except on page 49 there is no item number J.

**Motion:** Moved by Krier, seconded by Waldrop, to approve Amendment No. 2 to Agreement No. 5600004097 with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, and authorize the Mayor to execute the document.

AYES: Krier, Waldrop, Linder  
PASSED: 3/0

➤ Prior to recessing to Closed Session, the annual meetings for Taft Public Financing Authority and Taft Public Improvement Corporation were held. The regular meeting was reopened and recessed to closed session at 8:03 PM.

**CLOSED SESSION**

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

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION  
Government Code Section 54956.9(b) – one (1) undisclosed case.

➤ City Council discussed in Closed Session what was agendized in close session and staff was given direction.

**ADJOURNMENT-** With no further business to conduct, Mayor Linder adjourned the meeting at 9:06 PM.