

**TAFT CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY
MINUTES
September 2, 2014**

REGULAR MEETING

6:00 P.M.

The September 2, 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 [6:02 PM](#). The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Linder, followed by an invocation given by Pastor Howard Tello, Taft Seventh Day Adventist Church.

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

1. PROCLAMATION-CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH [6:04 PM](#)

Mayor Linder presented the proclamation – Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

2. PRESENTATION – PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 BUDGET [6:06 PM](#)

Teresa Binkley, Finance Director presented a power point presentation on Proposed Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget. A copy of the Power Point Presentation slides were given to all Council Members, entered into record and made available for the public.

Binkley stated that the 2014-2015 proposed budget closely resembles the 2013-2014 budget. The City tried to stay very conservative with the numbers and for the first time in the past several years the financial outlook is looking better. The revenues and expenditures are meeting each other. The 2014-15 proposed budget represents about 6.8 million dollars which is an increase of approximately \$440,000 and through the presentation she was able to explain the difference.

3. APPROVAL OF FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 [6:41:14 PM](#)

Motion: Moved by Noerr, seconded by Miller 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.** (*Resolution No. 3622-14*)

AYES: Krier, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop, Linder
PASSED: 5/0

4. CITIZEN REQUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kathy Orrin, Executive Director of Taft Chamber of Commerce, announced:

- Sit and Sip is every Wednesday at 9:00 AM. On the September 3rd meeting, Mayor Linder will be speaking and giving updates on Oilderado.
- Car Crouse Night on Center Street, Friday, September 5th. Celebrating the 50's.
- Kern County Board of Trade, September 24th, at Pioneer Village. It is open to the public. Tickets are available to anyone who is interested. They may call the Chamber for more information.
- October is the deadline for the next round of offerings for a grant for Board of Trade. The Chamber has been successful in the past with a grant. Their success has manifested itself on billboards along I5 and Highway 99.

5. COUNCIL STATEMENTS (NON ACTION)

Council Member Krier:

- October 25th, Taft Community Garden pumpkin carving for kids, they have invited the Council to be present.
- American Legion in Taft is located on Center Street. They could be looking for new members. Any military person and veteran can join.

Council Member Noerr: There were none.

Council Member Miller:

- Apologized for missing three Council Meetings. He had a medical procedure done, he has recovered and is feeling better. Thanked everyone for their kind words and comments during his recovery.
- He has seen the billboard by Castaic Lake as you are heading north promoting Oilderado and City of Taft.

Council Member Waldrop: There were none.

Mayor Linder:

- He drove by the new location of Taco Bell and he noticed there are grade stakes.
- He is very appreciative of BLM's opinion that they published regarding fracking. Somebody had the courage to stand up and say that fracking is not bad.
- Flags were set up by Kiwanis Club on Labor Day. If anyone is interested in a flag in front of their house or business, contact a Kiwanis member.

6. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Planning Commissioner Renee Hill reported that the Planning Commission: On August 6th, they met to discuss and approve the division of future Taco Bell lot. The lot will be divided in three parcels. On August 20th, they met for a regular schedule meeting. They considered and tentatively approved updated sections to the City of Taft and West Side Recreation Parks Districts Municipal Service Review for Kern County Local Agency Formation Commission. Per a citizens request the Commission reviewed a letter to the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) pertaining to a business on the 600 block of Center Street. The letter written by the Planning Director, Mark Staples requested that the ABC put restrictions on their license. The restrictions included operating primarily as a restaurant, as per their liquor license and use permit, operating time restrictions, proper employee training, loitering and outside smoking provisions. The letter was discussed and approved. Staples updated the Commission on the current status of the Best Western Hotel, the Sandy Creek Estates and the Taco Bell.

Krier asked if the current owners back out or they decide not to put a bar, will that affect future businesses at that location. Hill stated that the restaurant has been closed for more than thirty days. They lost the Conditional Use Permit (CUP); anyone who tries to open a business there will need to apply for a CUP.

7. DEPARTMENT REPORTS - There were none.

8. CITY MANAGER STATEMENTS - There were none.

9. CITY ATTORNEY STATEMENTS - There were none.

10. FUTURE AGENDA REQUESTS – There were none.

- Noerr requested item #15 to be pulled from the Consent Calendar
- Linder requested item #16 to be pulled from the Consent Calendar

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS 11 - 16

Motion: Moved by Krier, seconded by Waldrop, to approve consent calendar items 11-14.

AYES: Krier, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop, Linder

PASSED: 5/0

11. MINUTES

August 19, 2014 Regular

Recommendation – Approve as submitted

- Council Members Miller and Noerr abstained due to being absent at the meeting.

12. PAYMENT OF BILLS

Warrant#	8-15-2014	Check No. 78041-78131	\$398,242.51
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Warrant#	8-15-2014A	Check No. 78132-78136	\$ 48,863.45
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Recommendation – Approve payment of the bills.

13. AMENDED AGREEMENT WITH WESTSIDE HEALTH CARE DISTRICT FOR INMATE MEDICAL SERVICES

Recommendation - Approve the amended agreement with Westside Health Care District to provide medical services at the Taft MCCF in accordance with the contract between the City of Taft and CDCR.

14. CORRECTIONAL PROGRAM INSTRUCTOR - CREDENTIALLED

Recommendation - Motion to approve and adopt **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT AMENDING THE POSITION CLASSIFICATION PLAN AND ESTABLISHING CORRESPONDING COMPENSATION RATES.**

(Resolution No. 3623-14)

15. DELAYING IMPLEMENTATION OF CAP & TRADE ON GAS & DIESEL

Noerr gave his view on Assembly Bill 69 and why it should be supported by the Council and Citizens of Taft. He is very concerned about the impact of the fuels-under-the-cap regulation on the Taft area and the increased price of fuel for consumers. All Council Members concurred.

Motion: Moved by Krier, seconded by Noerr to approve a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL 69 SEEKING DELAY IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE “FUELS-UNDER-THE-CAP” REGULATION**
(Resolution No. 3624-14)

AYES: Krier, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop, Linder

PASSED: 5/0

16. SOLIDS REMOVAL AT THE TAFT MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT 7:13 PM.

Linder stated that it is important that the citizens know that it costs money to operate a Waste Water Treatment Plant. It is an ongoing maintenance at the facility. The rates they are charging right now

have allowed the City to make sure they have adequate funding to do proper maintenance to keep the system operational.

Motion: Moved by Miller, seconded by Noerr to approve expenditures not to exceed \$100,000 out of WWTP Capital Reserves for solids removal at the Taft Municipal Waste Water Treatment Facility.

AYES: Krier, Miller, Noerr, Waldrop, Linder

PASSED: 5/0

17. DISCUSS AND DIRECT STAFF REGARDING RELOCATION OF SIDEWALK SIGNED BY ROBIN WILLIAMS 7:15 PM.

Recommendation - Discuss and give staff direction.

Todd Lederer, Taft News Now spoke for removal and relocation of the signed sidewalk. He has had discussion in length with the property owner. Taft News Now will reimburse Mr. Lenard \$80 for the cost of the permit that he paid at the City of Taft. He will pay the City for the work that will be done by the City. He expressed different ways to relocate the concrete. He will take all the care necessary to do the job properly. He has spoken to other business owners on Center Street and has received positive feedback on continuing the process alongside the sidewalk of Center Street for future signatures down the line.

Miller stated that the City has excellent and experienced cement workers that will take a great care to do the job.

All Council Members stated that they were concerned about vandalism. If they could remove it and hold it for a while and/or do plaster cast and use that one on Center Street. Their main concern was that it does not get destroyed in the removal process. They need to find out what type of concrete can be used to make sure it last a long time. Council members concurred that it's a great idea, let's work on a plan and get it done correctly.

The regular meeting was recessed to closed session at [7:27 PM](#).

CLOSED SESSION

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

➤ No reportable action.

B. CONFERENCE WITH PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR, CITY MANAGER, Government Code 54956.8 –
Rails to Trails Right-of-Way west of Hillard Street, Taft, CA

➤ No reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT - With no further business to conduct, Mayor Linder adjourned the meeting at 8:30 PM.