

**TAFT CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY
JOINT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
JANUARY 19, 2016**

REGULAR MEETING

6:00 P.M.

The January 19, 2016, 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 Randy Miller at [6:01:42 PM](#). The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Bryant, followed by an invocation given by Pastor Rodney Wikoff of the West Hills Church of the Nazarene.

PRESENT: Mayor Randy Miller and Mayor Pro Tem Dave Noerr
Council Members Orchel Krier, Josh Bryant and Renee Hill
City Manager Craig Jones and City Attorney Jason Epperson
City Clerk Yvette Mayfield

1. PUBLIC HEARING - TRANSIT FARE INCREASE AND ROUTE CHANGE

The Public Hearing was opened at [6:05:28 PM](#) to receive testimony from proponents and opponents.

City Manager entered into record and presented to City Clerk 64 written responses of opposition received by the Public Works Department.

Rick Connick of Taft spoke in opposition of the fare increase and route change.

Kathy Johnson of Taft spoke on behalf of the West Side Resource Center in opposition of the fare increase and spoke in favor of the route change making a few recommendations to the route change believed to be of benefit to riders.

Olivia Goldwyn a client of the Taft Transition to Independent Living (TIL) Program spoke in opposition of the fare increase and route change.

The Public Hearing was closed at [6:17:07 PM](#).

Motion: Moved by Noerr, seconded by Krier to approve the transit rate increase and change the transit route.

Amended Motion: Moved by Miller, seconded by Krier and accepted by Noerr to make a "friendly amendment" to the motion on the floor to raise senior rates to one dollar and ADA rates to one dollar directing staff to look in to the route changes recommended by speakers.

Amended Motion: Moved by Bryant, seconded by Hill and accepted again by Noerr and Krier to make a "friendly amendment" to the motion tabling the matter until next meeting and to reopen the public hearing allowing additional time for public input.

AYES: Noerr, Krier, Bryant, Hill, Miller
PASSED: 5-0

Noerr stated that there was a lot of citizen outreach done before bringing this item forward, this is a subsidized program and the city is mandated to meet the 10% fare box. City worked hard to reduce costs that were in their control but if the fare box is not met the City will lose the program all together.

Krier asked if there was still the possibility to make some of the changes to the routes that was recommended if warranted. City Manager stated that yes they would look at all the recommendations made tonight and changes can be made.

Bryant agreed that this is a tough decision and wanted to make sure that the recommended route changes are looked at by staff for feasibility and meeting the needs of the riders.

Hill stated that child safety is of utmost importance to her and all the Council Members and asked staff to look at the routes and how they serve the school children's needs.

Miller asked if the County covers any of the costs for the service and City Manager Jones stated that yes they do subsidize the cost of the trips originating in the County and that is about one-third of the business. Miller also asked when the last increase was implemented in fares. Jones shared that the last increase was in 2008 and that since that time the City has tried everything they knew to try to improve the fare box. Miller also requested that citizens who still wish to be heard on this matter please submit their comments, either in person at the continued public hearing or in writing to the City Clerk.

2. CITIZEN REQUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bill Messenger, who operates a business on Center Street, spoke to the Council regarding the homeless hanging around in the downtown area and the concern for how it is affecting the businesses.

Dr. Kathy Orrin, of the Taft Chamber of Commerce, also spoke as to the homeless presence in the downtown area affecting businesses and reminded everyone about the Chamber hosted sit-n-sips every Wednesday and the Chamber Installation Dinner February 11th at the Fox Theater.

3. COUNCIL STATEMENTS (NON ACTION)

Council Member Hill mentioned that it is important that if someone is having issue with homeless affecting their business or customers in the downtown area they need to call in to the Police Department.

Council Member Bryant concurred with statements regarding the homeless in the downtown area and encouraged citizens to call in to the Police Department or even reach out to the City Manager or City Staff.

Council Member Noerr announced that there was a Consumer Affairs report released recently naming City of Taft as the 5th safest city in the nation.

Council Member Krier wished everyone a Happy New Year, thanked the Police Department for all their hard work making Taft one of the safest Cities in the Nation and reminded everyone of the upcoming membership dinner for the Fort.

Mayor Miller shared that it is nice to know that the Police Officers are doing an excellent job and Taft is proud to be recognized as the fifth safest city in the nation.

4. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Commissioner Thompson reported that the Planning Commission set their meeting schedule for 2016 and discussed a work plan for anticipated subjects that the Commission would be addressing over the next year.

5. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

There was none.

6. CITY MANAGER STATEMENTS

City Manager Jones shared that he was proud to announce that according to a recent Consumer Affairs Report that Taft was ranked one of the safest cities in the Nation and also invited citizens to attend Coffee with a Cop, a new relaxed forum meeting, which will be held at 9 am February 11th at Jo's Restaurant.

7. CITY ATTORNEY STATEMENTS

There was none.

8. FUTURE AGENDA REQUESTS

Hill requested and Miller concurred that there needed to be a workshop or some type of public meeting to help address the homeless issue.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS 9 - 19

➤ Items 11 and 14 were removed by Krier.

Motion: Moved by Hill, seconded by Bryant to approve consent calendar Items 9, 10, 12, 13, and 15 through 19.

AYES: Noerr, Krier, Bryant, Hill, Miller
PASSED: 5-0

9. MINUTES

December 15, 2015 Regular and December 17, 2015 Special

Recommendation – Approve as submitted.

10. PAYMENT OF BILLS

Warrant# 121815	Check No. 81505-81613	\$ 401,530.77
Warrant# 123115	Check No. 81614-81675	\$ 242,133.86
Warrant# 123 115	Check No. 81676-81683	\$ 11,810.18
Warrant# 123115	Check No. 81684	\$ 260,710.68

Recommendation – Approve payment of the bills.

12. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GRAPHIC SOLUTIONS FOR CITYWIDE SIGN PROGRAM AND WAYFINDING

Recommendation –

1. Motion to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Graphic Solutions for the Taft Citywide Sign Program and Wayfinding Project; and
2. Motion to approve \$9,750 from the General Fund.

13. REVISED LONG RANGE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Recommendation – Motion to adopt a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE TAFT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY APPROVING THE REVISED LONG RANGE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT PLAN.** (Resolution No. 3738-15)

15. PROPOSAL FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FROM HDL

Recommendation – Motion to approve the proposal from HdL for an additional \$10,000 from the General Fund and authorize the City Manager to execute the proposal.

16. PLANNING DIRECTOR TO ATTEND THE AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION'S 2016 NATIONAL PLANNING CONFERENCE IN PHOENIX, ARIZONA, APRIL 2-5, 2016

Recommendation – Motion to approve travel for the Planning Director to attend the APA's 2016 National Planning Conference in Phoenix, Arizona, from April 2 to April 5, 2016, with approved expenses up to \$835.00.

17. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH RADIAN DESIGN GROUP, INC. FOR TAFT TRANSIT CENTER

Recommendation – Motion to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Radian Design Group, Inc. for the first two phases of professional design services for the Taft Transit Center in an amount not to exceed \$32,010.

18. FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCE STAFF TO ATTEND TYLER MUNIS 2016 ANNUAL TRAINING IN PHOENIX, ARIZONA ON MAY 1 THROUGH MAY 5, 2016

Recommendation – Motion to approve travel for 5 employees to attend Tyler Connect 2016 training in Phoenix, Arizona from May 1 to May 4, 2016.

19. APPLICATION TO THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION GRANT

Recommendation – Motion to adopt a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION TO THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT FOR THE ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION GRANT AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS.** (Resolution No. 3739-15)

11. DUCT CLEANING OF THE HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEMS AT CITY HALL

Motion: Moved by Bryant, seconded by Hill to approve duct cleaning of the heating/air conditioning systems at City Hall and authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement for services with Professional Duct Cleaning Company and approve \$10,440 from the General Fund.

AYES: Noerr, Krier, Bryant, Hill, Miller

PASSED: 5-0

Krier asked if this is the first time that this is being done and what prompted this request. Jones responded that to his knowledge this is the first time and that it was prompted by the amount of respiratory and allergy issues of staff working in the building.

14. RENEWAL OF THE TAFT CITY SCHOOLS SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER MOU

Motion: Moved by Hill, seconded by Krier to approve the MOU and authorize the City Manager and Police Chief to sign.

AYES: Noerr, Krier, Bryant, Hill, Miller
PASSED: 5-0

Krier commented that he wanted to acknowledge the great partnership the City has with the School District through this program and believes having a Police Officer on campus serves as a positive influence and helps reduce truancy.

Bryant mirrored Krier's statement and added that he was amazed at what a rapport Officer Martinez has built with the kids.

At [7:30:14 PM](#) the regular meeting was recessed to closed session.

CLOSED SESSION

- A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Government Code Section 54956.9(b) – two (2) potential cases
- B. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR, CRAIG JONES, CITY MANAGER
Government Code 54957.6 – All units

- The City Council discussed in closed session those items agendaized for closed session discussion and direction was given to staff. The City Council voted unanimously to authorize the City Manager to execute a settlement agreement with the California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region regarding a citation arising from a prior spill.

ADJOURNMENT- With no further business to conduct the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Yvette Mayfield
City Clerk

Randy Miller
Mayor