

**TAFT CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY
JOINT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 15, 2016**

REGULAR MEETING

6:00 P.M.

The March 15, 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 [6:02:04 PM](#). The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Miller, followed by an invocation given by Michael Chiaramonte of the Lighthouse Foursquare Church.

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. CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION - BETHANY FITZSIMMONS

Mayor Miller presented a certificate of recognition to Bethany Fitzsimmons for her outstanding performance and record earned for most goals scored while playing soccer for Taft Union High School.

2. CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (HCD) ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORTING (APR) FOR 2015

Motion: Moved by Hill, seconded by Bryant to accept the Annual Housing Element Progress Report for the 2015 calendar year.

The Council voted unanimously to accept the Annual Housing Element Progress Report.

3. ADOPTION OF REVISED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

Finance Director Binkley gave presentation of revised budget figures.

Motion: Moved by Noerr, seconded by Bryant to adopt a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT ADOPTING THE CITY OF TAFT REVISED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016.** (*Resolution No. 3750-16*)

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

4. CITIZEN REQUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kathy Johnson of West Kern Adult Education Network shared about a new state funded education program being offered and invited people to attend the upcoming grand opening of their office at The Fort.

5. COUNCIL STATEMENTS (NON ACTION)

Noerr shared that he will be supporting Supervisor Couch as he has recently made his reelection campaign official.

Krier stated he was encouraged by the rising gas prices and wished everyone a blessed Easter.

Bryant thanked Chief Whiting and his officers for how well they handled the recent shooting incident in town and encouraged everyone to attend the upcoming Little League parade and festivities.

Hill thanked the Soroptimist and S Club for all their hard work on the recent downtown cleanup.

Miller encouraged parents to get their children involved in sports early.

6. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

There were none.

7. CITY MANAGER STATEMENTS

There were none.

8. CITY ATTORNEY STATEMENTS

There were none.

9. FUTURE AGENDA REQUESTS

Noerr requested an update report on status of grant programs. Miller concurred.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS 10 – 18

➤ Bryant removed items 13 and 16.

Motion: Moved by Hill, seconded by Bryant to approve consent calendar items 8-12, 14, 15 17 and 18.

AYES: Noerr, Krier, Bryant, Hill, Miller

PASSED: 5-0

10. MINUTES

March 1, 2016 Regular

Recommendation – Approve as submitted.

11. PAYMENT OF BILLS

Warrant# 022616	Check No. 81978-82079	\$ 390,638.60
Warrant# 022516	Check No. 82080	\$ 28,680.05

Recommendation – Approve payment of the bills.

12. STREET CLOSURES FOR KIWANIS KOLOR FUN RUN APRIL 9, 2016

Recommendation –

1.) Motion to adopt a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT AUTHORIZING STREET CLOSURES FOR KIWANIS KOLOR FUN RUN APRIL 9, 2016.** (Resolution No. 3751-16)

2.) Motion to waive fees in the interest of public benefit.

14. NATIONAL WALKING DAY

Recommendation – Motion to approve allowing available employees to participate in the walk on Rails to Trails as part of National Walking Day.

15. RESOLUTION MAKING FINDINGS REGARDING UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS IN THE CITY OF TAFT

Recommendation – Motion to adopt a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT MAKING FINDINGS REGARDING UNMET TRANSIT NEEDS IN THE CITY OF TAFT.** (Resolution No. 3752-16)

17. FUNDING TO THE TAFT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR THE QUARTER OF OCTOBER 2015 TO DECEMBER 2015.

Recommendation – Motion to approve the 25% allocation of the Transient Occupancy Tax to the Taft Chamber of Commerce for the quarter of October 2015 through December 2015.

18. AWARD OF CONTRACT TO CUSHMAN CONTRACTING CORPORATION FOR THE CITY OF TAFT WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT MAINTENANCE 2015 PROJECT.

Recommendation – Authorize a Contract with Cushman Contracting Corporation in the amount of \$2,793,362.90 from USDA loan funds. In addition, authorize the expenditure if needed of up to \$279,362 in contingency funds for the project also from USDA loan funds.

At [6:47:33 PM](#) the regular meeting was recessed to closed session.

- Bryant recused himself and abstained from participation on these items due to his affiliation with the Westside Little League.

13. WESTSIDE LITTLE LEAGUE PARADE & OPENING CEREMONY 2016

Recommendation –

- 1.) Motion to adopt a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT AUTHORIZING STREET CLOSURES FOR WESTSIDE LITTLE LEAGUE PARADE & OPENING CEREMONY APRIL 2, 2016.** (Resolution No. 3753-16)
- 2.) Motion to waive fees in the interest of public benefit.

16. SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT – WESTSIDE LITTLE LEAGUE 2016 OPENING CEREMONIES EVENT AND PARADE ALONG CENTER STREET, RAILS TO TRAILS, AND AT THE OIL WORKERS MONUMENT AND STAGE AREA, ON APRIL 2ND 2016

Recommendation – Motion to approve a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT APPROVING A SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT, AUTHORIZING WESTSIDE LITTLE LEAGUE TO HOLD AN OPENING CEREMONIES EVENT, ALONG CENTER STREET AND ON CITY PROPERTY AT THE OIL WORKERS MONUMENT AND STAGE AREA, EAST OF 6TH STREET BETWEEN MAIN STREET AND SUPPLY ROW, ON APRIL 2ND 2016.** (Resolution No. 3754-16)

Motion: Moved by Hill, seconded by Noerr to approve items 13 and 16.

AYES: Noerr, Krier, Hill, Miller
ABSTAIN: Bryant
PASSED: 4-1-0

CLOSED SESSION

- A. CONFERENCE WITH PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR, CITY MANAGER, CRAIG JONES
Government Code 54956.8 – 400 Hillard Street, Taft, CA
- B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
Government Code Section 54956.9 (a) - Sierra Club v. City of Taft and Taft City Council.
- C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
Government Code Section 54956.9 (a) – City of Taft vs. CDCR.
 - The City Council discussed in closed session those items agendized for closed session discussion and direction was given to staff.

ADJOURNMENT - With no further business to conduct the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 PM.

Yvette Mayfield
City Clerk

Randy Miller
Mayor