

**TAFT CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY
JOINT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 16, 2016**

REGULAR MEETING

6:00 P.M.

The August 2, 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 [6:06:50 PM](#). The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Bryant, followed by an invocation given by Bob Jordan from Light House Foursquare Church.

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

ABSENT: Council Member Renee Hill

1. CITIZEN REQUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Don Braun spoke regarding concerns stemming from the recent fires around town.

DeAnna Jacobs spoke about her concerns regarding the recent fires, vagrancy and vacant buildings.

Kathy Orrin, Director of the Taft Chamber of Commerce, shared about the success of the business mixer and reminded everyone of upcoming events.

June Braun praised the police department for all that they do to keep the city safe.

2. COUNCIL STATEMENTS (NON ACTION)

Council Member Bryant encouraged residents to report concerns and also invited everyone to get involved and attend the upcoming Public Safety Committee Meeting.

Council Member Krier mentioned that the City should find out what it can do to help address the problems with vagrancy, invited attendance at upcoming Public Safety Committee meeting, and encourage everyone to support downtown businesses.

Mayor Pro Tem Noerr shared that he attended First Friday Cruise Night and encouraged others to attend and enjoy also.

Mayor Miller mentioned that the City is not ignoring the issue of vacant buildings on Center Street but that hands are tied in some instance. He stated that they can look to pass ordinances to help deal with issues of vacant buildings, absentee landlords and vagrancy.

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Director of Planning and Development Services Staples reported on Center Street vacant building issue and steps being taken by his department to track the issues.

Chief Whiting encouraged involvement by residents to report concerns to the City and to participate in the upcoming Public Safety Meeting. He also updated everyone on the recent fires stating that there are still active investigations going on.

4. CITY MANAGER STATEMENTS

City Manager Jones reported that the City applied for funds to make safety updates on Kern Street and should hear if successful in a couple of months. He also shared that there is a fast food chain making a decision next week about opening a location in Taft and he is hopeful there will be good news to share soon.

5. CITY ATTORNEY STATEMENTS

City Attorney Epperson addressed the building and code enforcement concerns stating that the city depends on eyes of the public to report issues. He also briefly explained the constraints and timelines required by law for addressing code issues.

6. FUTURE AGENDA REQUESTS

Bryant requested a report be given on current code enforcement activity. Noerr concurred.

Miller requested that an item be brought to the Council at next meeting to consider a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of anyone involved in arson fires. Noerr concurred.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS 7- 14

- Item 12 was removed by Krier.
- Item 14 was removed by Noerr and tabled to be heard at another meeting. Miller concurred.

Motion: Moved by Bryant, seconded by Krier to approve consent calendar items 7-11 and 13.

AYES: Noerr, Krier, Bryant, Miller
PASSED: 4-0

7. MINUTES

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Recommendation – Approve as submitted.

8. PAYMENT OF BILLS

Warrant# 072916 Check No. 83112-83188 \$ 488,392.86

Recommendation – Approve payment of the bills.

9. TREASURER’S REPORT

Recommendation –Motion to receive and file Treasurer’s Report dated July 14, 2016 for the Month of May 2016.

10. SECOND READING –CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE RELATING TO TOBACCO RETAILERS PERMIT

Recommendation – Motion to approve an ordinance entitled **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT ADDING CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 3 TO THE TAFT MUNICIPAL CODE WHICH ADOPTS ORDINANCE NOS. G-7724, G-8006, G-8495, AND G-8586 OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF KERN, STATE OF CALIFORNIA AMENDING CHAPTER 8.60 TO TITLE 8 OF THE KERN COUNTY ORDINANCE CODE RELATING TO TOBACCO RETAILER'S PERMIT.** (*Ordinance No. 819-21*)

- 11. APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES WITH TAFT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO)**

Recommendation – Motion to approve an Agreement for Law Enforcement Services and authorize the Police Chief and Mayor sign the Agreement.

- 13. PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL ELECTRONIC CONTROL WEAPONS (ECW'S) FROM TASER INTERNATIONAL FOR THE TAFT POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Recommendation – Motion to approve the purchase of eight (8) Tasers, holsters, and batteries from ProForce Law Enforcement in the amount of \$10,382.32.

- 14. DONATION OF A 5.56 CALIBER RIFLE TO THE TAFT POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR POLICE USE**

Recommendation – Motion to approve the receipt of the FNH-USA 5.56 Rifle as a donation to the City of Taft Police Department.

- 12. AWARD CONTRACT TO SYNAGRO, A GENERAL CONTRACTOR, TO COMPLETE PROJECT WORK AS DEFINED AS THE CITY OF TAFT WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT SLUDGE REMOVAL PROJECT**

Krier stated that Synagro is a great company that does a lot of good work in the community and he believed this to be a fair bid.

Motion: Moved by Noerr, seconded by Krier to authorize a Contract with Synagro in the amount of **\$108,000** from the Taft Municipal Waste Water joint reserve fund. In addition, authorize the expenditure if needed of up to **\$10,800** in contingency funds for the project also from reserves.

AYES: Noerr, Krier, Bryant, Miller
PASSED: 4-0

At [7:21:55 PM](#) the regular meeting was recessed to closed session.

CLOSED SESSION

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

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
Government Code Section 54956.9 (a) – Case Numbers FR110207, FR120571

- The City Council discussed in closed session those items that were agendaized for closed session discussion and direction was given to staff

ADJOURNMENT - With no further business to conduct the meeting was adjourned at 8:20.

Yvette Mayfield
City Clerk

Randy Miller
Mayor