

**TAFT CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY  
MINUTES  
MARCH 3, 2020**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**6:00 P.M.**

The March 3, 2020, 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 Dave Noerr at [6:00:13 PM](#). The Pledge of Allegiance was led by City Manager, Craig Jones, followed by an invocation given by Pastor Rodney Wikoff.

PRESENT: Mayor Dave Noerr, Mayor Pro Tem Orchel Krier  
Council Members Josh Bryant, Jeff Eveland and Ed Whiting  
City Manager Craig Jones and City Attorney Jason Epperson  
City Clerk Yvette Mayfield

**1. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING - APPEAL OF PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVAL OF SITE PLAN REVIEW NO. 2019-21**

The public hearing was re-opened at [6:03:17 PM](#).

Greg Aguirre, President of Capital Rivers, gave a short presentation on the proposed project including 3D imaging, shared the positive aspects of the project on the area and the City and voiced his doubts about the appealing group.

Suzi Baker, stated she is a concerned citizen, concerned about the need of affordable grocery establishments for those on fixed incomes, and supports the approval of the project.

Eric Cooper, owner of Coopers True Value Hardware, stated he supports the project and believes it is ridiculous and shameful for a "group" that is unwilling to disclose themselves to hide and try to kill projects that would be positive for the community.

Paul Linder, former Mayor, stated he is in favor of the project, spoke about his time on the Council and the purchase of this land for just such development. He stated that shyster lawyers have come through Taft before wreaking havoc and he hated to see this happening again.

Shaune Arnold, of Finney Arnold LLP, stated their group is not trying to kill the project, but wants it built according to CEQA regulations.

The public hearing was closed at [6:21:54 PM](#).

Motion: Moved by Bryant, seconded by Krier to adopt resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT GRANTING THE APPEAL OF KEEP TAFT GREAT AND DISAPPROVING THE PLANNING COMMISSION DECISION OF ADOPTING RESOLUTION NO. 2020-01 APPROVING SITE PLAN REVIEW NO. 2019-21, A PROPOSAL BY BRR ARCHITECTURE, FOR AN APPROXIMATE 18,000 SQUARE FOOT GROCERY OUTLET STORE AND A FUTURE 4,214 SQUARE FOOT RETAIL BUILDING ON A 3.13 ACRE PARCEL LOCATED IN THE MIXED USE (MU) ZONE DISTRICT ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF SUPPLY ROW APPROXIMATELY 200 FEET EAST OF 10<sup>TH</sup> STREET (Resolution No. 4005-20)**

AYES: Krier, Bryant, Eveland Whiting, Noerr  
PASSED: 5-0

**2. CITIZEN REQUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dr. Kathy Orrin, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, talked about the Chamber Installation Dinner and Awards Ceremony held at the Oildorado room and shared about upcoming events.

**3. COUNCIL STATEMENTS (NON ACTION)**

Council Member Bryant mentioned that the City is well aware of the economic effects of the \$18 million leakage of consumers driving in to Bakersfield for groceries and other needs. He questioned what effect all that automobile travel has on the environment.

Mayor Pro Tem Krier mentioned that he unfortunately had to miss the Chamber event and talked about opportunities still available in Taft and his beliefs that things will still happen.

**4. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Chief of Police, Damon McMinn reported on the Police Department statistics and Code Enforcement activities for the month of February.

**5. CITY MANAGER STATEMENTS**

City Manager Jones reported that the City was successful in receiving funds through the roadway safety plan. He also shared that they will be applying to Kern COG for TDA Article 3 Program funds to purchase bicycle helmets with hope of sponsoring a bicycle rodeo in the near future.

**6. CITY ATTORNEY STATEMENTS**

There were none.

**7. FUTURE AGENDA REQUESTS**

There were none.

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**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS 8-14**

➤ Bryant abstained from Item 8

**Motion:** Moved by Krier, seconded by Whiting to approve consent calendar items 8-14.

**AYES:** Krier, Bryant, Eveland Whiting, Noerr

**PASSED:** 5-0

**8. MINUTES**

February 18, 2020 regular

**Recommendation** – Approve as submitted.

**9. PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Warrant# 02/21/20                      Check No. 92059-92159                      \$ 338,139.23

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

**10. SB-1 CITY OF TAFT PROJECT FOR FISCAL 2020/2021**

**Recommendation** – Motion to adopt a resolution entitled **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAFT ADOPTING A LIST OF PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE SB 1: THE ROAD REPAIR AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT** (*Resolution No. 4007-20*)

**11. 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. 4008-20*)

**12. ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS FOR PORTABLE MEDICAL POWER EQUIPMENT**

**Recommendation** –

1. Authorize the request for Grant funding for the purchase of ten (10) portable power units.
2. Approve the Indemnity Agreement for the FY17 SHSGP award for the equipment that has been approved for City of Taft.

**13. PURCHASE OF GEM UTILITY VEHICLES FOR WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS**

**Recommendation** – Authorize the transfer of Reserves from Federal Waste Water Treatment Plant (Fund 58) and Municipal Waste Water Treatment Plant (Fund 70).

**14. ACCEPT THE COMPLETED WORK BY JOHNSON CONTROLS FOR THE SIMPLEX FIRE PANEL REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

**Recommendation** – Motion to accept the completed work by Johnsons Controls for the replacement of the Simplex fire panel located at Taft Modified Community Correctional Facility and authorize the City Clerk to file the Notice of Completion with the Kern County Recorder.

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At [6:44:47 PM](#) the regular meeting recessed to closed session.

**CLOSED SESSION**

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION  
Government Code Section 54956.9(b) – three (3) potential cases

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

- The City Council discussed in closed session the items agendized for closed session discussion and direction was given to staff and negotiators.

**ADJOURNMENT** - With no further business to conduct the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 PM.

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Yvette Mayfield, CMC  
City Clerk

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Dave Noerr  
Mayor