

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL
FOWLER REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND
FOWLER PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING
JULY 22, 2004**

Mayor/Chairman Simonian called the meeting to order in the Council Chambers at 4:55 p.m.

Councilmembers/Directors present: Simonian, Shaw, Cardenas & Zadourian

Councilmembers/Directors absent: Fernandez

City staff present: City Manager Elias, City Clerk Davis, Finance Director Wong, Police Chief Jamgochian, and Senior/Recreation Director Monis

The Flag Salute and the Pledge of Allegiance were followed by an invocation given by Mayor Protem/Vice-Chairman Shaw.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION: APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2004/2005
BUDGETS:**

Finance Director Wong began the budget presentation with a review of the new GASB 34 accounting requirements for the City's assets, explaining that he developed a Fixed Asset Acquisition and Accounting Policy and Procedures and Inventory Control Policy and Procedures. The policy raised the limit of capital expenditures from \$500 to \$5,000 to remove the necessity of reporting small items.

Mr. Wong commented on some revisions to the draft budget, noting that additional appropriations needed to be made in the Police and Fire Departments, to ensure that part-time and over-time wage expenses and a new full-time position in the Fire Department would be adequately funded. As a result, the total General Fund salaries and benefits were adjusted from \$1,016,963 to \$1,050,963.00. The total recommended General Fund appropriations were \$1,894,933, and the proposed revenues, including transfers, totaled \$2,099,843.00. The estimated fund balance at the end of Fiscal Year 2004/05 was \$322,902.00.

City Manager Elias added that these changes resulted after the Budget Committee recently met. Another change was that the separate fund for the Senior Program would now be changed to become part of the General Fund. The Recreation Department budget line item for special department expense was increased to \$10,000 to be used to enhance recreation activities for the community. The Water Fund showed revenues of \$2,827,499 which included proceeds from the anticipated USDA water well loan. The appropriations totaled \$2,665,007, which included water well construction expenses.

A discussion ensued regarding the stability of anticipated revenues in light of the State's budget crisis. Finance Director Wong explained how the revenues were calculated for 2004-05. He used prior year

totals and factored in specific revenue line items such as “sales tax in lieu,” that incorporated revenue shifts proposed by the State.

Mr. Wong stated that there was not much change to the Redevelopment Agency budget from the prior year. He mentioned that RDA projects must be re-evaluated every five years, and a new Implementation Plan must be completed in 2005.

With no further discussion on the budget, Vice-Chairman Shaw made a motion to adopt Resolution No. PFA 2004-03, “A Resolution of the Fowler Public Financing Authority, County of Fresno, State of California, Adopting the Financing Authority Annual Budget and Appropriating Revenue of the Agency for the 2004-2005 Fiscal Year.” The motion was seconded by Director Zadourian, and carried on a 4-0-1 roll call vote, with Director Fernandez absent.

Director Cardenas made a motion to adopt RDA Resolution No. 2004-01, “A Resolution of the Fowler Redevelopment Agency, County of Fresno, State of California, Adopting the Redevelopment Agency Annual Budget and Appropriating Revenue of the Agency for the 2004-2005 Fiscal Year.” The motion was seconded by Director Zadourian, and carried on a 4-0-1 roll call vote.

Mayor Pro-tem Shaw made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 1974, “A Resolution of the City of Fowler, County of Fresno, State of California, Adopting the City Annual Budget and Appropriating Revenue of the City for the 2004-2005 Fiscal Year,” and Approval of a Fixed Asset Acquisition and Accounting Policy and Procedures and Inventory Control Policy and Procedures. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cardenas, and carried on a 4-0-1 roll call vote.

Councilmember Zadourian made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 1975, “A Resolution of the City of Fowler, County of Fresno, State of California, Establishing the Appropriation Limit for Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Pursuant to Article XIIB of the California Constitution.” The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cardenas, and carried on a 4-0-1 roll call vote.

APPOINT CRAIG MELLON TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

City Manger Elias explained that the City had posted public notice for several weeks that there was a vacancy, extending through December 31, 2004, on the Planning Commission. Craig Mellon was the only application received to date. Mr. Mellon attends Council meetings on a regular basis and also serves on the Recreation Commission.

Councilmember Cardenas made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Shaw, to appoint Craig Mellon to the vacancy on the Planning Commission. The motion carried on a 4-0-1 roll call vote.

City Manager Elias asked for clarification regarding a recent discussion on developing criteria and/or restrictions for serving on the Recreation and Planning Commissions. The Council’s consensus was to have staff research policies from other local cities.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Councilmember Cardenas made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilmember Zadourian. The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m.