

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 17, 2007**

Mayor Simonian called the meeting to order at 7:00 p. m.

Councilmembers present: Simonian, Shaw, Aguayo, Cardenas and Zadourian

City staff present: City Manager Elias, City Clerk Davis, Finance Director Wong, Police Chief Jamgochian, City Attorney Wolfe, Community Development Director Deaver, Senior/Recreation Director Monis

The Flag Salute and the Pledge of Allegiance were followed by an invocation given by Mayor Pro-Tem Shaw. There were no public presentations.

PUBLIC HEARING: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2082

Finance Director Wong gave a brief background regarding Resolution No. 2082. As discussed at the previous meeting, developer WNC & Associates had asked the City to approve the issuance of tax-exempt bonds for rehabilitating the Ruby Court Apartments, a senior citizens housing facility. The facility has not received any major improvements in 30 years. The bond issuer, California Statewide Communities Development Authority, requires the local agency in which a project is to take place, to formally approve the bond issue. The process also requires a public hearing. Mr. Wong noted that approving the bond issuance would create no financial obligations for the City.

Mayor Simonian opened the duly noticed public hearing on the matter at 7:03 p. m. There were no comments from the public and the hearing was closed. Karen Buckland, of WNC & Associates, explained the project, which will consist mainly of updating the apartment interiors. After the improvements are complete, there will be a rent increase, but rural development funding will offset the cost. City Attorney Wolfe affirmed that the City was not financially responsible in any way for the project.

Councilmember Aguayo made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2082, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler Approving the Issuance of Bonds by the California Statewide Communities Development Authority Relating to the Financing of Ruby Court." The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Shaw, and carried on a 5-0-0 roll-call vote.

The City Council meeting was adjourned to the Redevelopment Agency meeting at 7:13 p.m. The Council meeting reconvened at 7:38 p. m.

COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Elias mentioned the upcoming Central California Mayors Conference in Modesto. He also mentioned the upcoming Planning Commission/City Council Joint Workshop on April 19, 2007. He asked that the May 15, 2007 Council meeting be changed to Monday, May 14, 2007, due to a scheduling conflict with the League of California Cities Legislative Days event.

City Clerk Davis stated that she contacted the Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District to inform them that the Council recently appointed Councilmember Zadourian to serve as an alternate board member. General Manager Steve Mulligan notified her that under the District's governing regulations there was no provision to allow for an alternate board member.

STAFF REPORTS

A) ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2083 - FINAL MAP TRACT NO. 5779

Community Development Director Deaver stated that the final map and subdivision agreement for Tract No. 5779, D. R. Horton's 79 unit condominium project, was before the Council for approval. The project location is at the north end of the Sumner Ranch V subdivision. Tim Howard, of D. R. Horton, gave a short background on the project, expecting completion to take approximately two years.

Councilmember Cardenas made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2083, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler Approving Final Tract Map No. 5779 and Subdivision Agreement" - Estrella Condominium Project. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Aguayo, and carried on a 5-0-0 roll call vote.

B) AFFIRM ACTION OF FRESNO COG TO SUPPORT - IN CONCEPT- THE STATE ROUTE 65 PLANNING STUDY

City Manager Elias stated that Fresno COG had asked the City to affirm COG's support of the concept of CalTrans conducting a study on the need for a transportation corridor along the potential State Route 65 alignment. Councilmember Aguayo mentioned that the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley had also discussed the need, due to expected population growth, for a highway that parallels Highway 99 on the eastern side of the valley.

After a discussion, Councilmember Aguayo made a motion to affirm Fresno COG's support of the concept of a State Route 65 Planning Study, seconded by Councilmember Zadourian. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Elias asked for the Council's direction regarding whether to update the City's park ordinance/reservation policy, as it has not been updated in many years and there has been increased usage of Panzak Park by local organizations and groups. Staff would be researching policies and procedures for reserving the park for events and functions, examining the fee structure, the transfer of risk policy and the possibility of requiring a permit for large gatherings. The consensus of the Council was for staff to move forward in updating the policy.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No report was given.

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

No report was given.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Consider and Approve City of Fowler Purchasing Policy

Finance Director Wong stated that the proposed purchasing policy had been revised and was ready for the Council's consideration and approval. The policy sets forth procedures for the purchase of supplies and equipment, professional services and maintenance. City Manager Elias added that the policy was drafted due to a recommendation made by the City's auditor. City Attorney Wolfe noted some minor corrections to the policy.

With no further discussion, Councilmember Aguayo made a motion to approve the City of Fowler Purchasing Policy with the changes mentioned by City Attorney Wolfe. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cardenas, and carried on a 5-0-0 roll-call vote.

Financial Report

Finance Director Wong presented a financial summary for the beginning of the fiscal year through March 2007. Sales Tax totaled \$703,953, and Utility Users Tax totaled \$254,000 for the period.

POLICE AND FIRE REPORT

No report was given.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney Wolfe gave a brief report on the updated Brown Act workbook that had been distributed to the Council.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar consisted of: A) Ratification of Warrants - April 17, 2007; and B) Approve Minutes of the City Council Meeting - April 3, 2007. Councilmember Aguayo made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Shaw. The motion carried on a 5-0-0 roll-call vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Aguayo attended a Blueprint Regional Advisory Committee (BRAC) meeting where they discussed the vision for Fresno County. He attended an informal meeting regarding the future sports park, a Land Buffer Task Force meeting, and a luncheon where the guest speaker was Dan Dunmoyer, the Governor's Cabinet Secretary. He attended a Fowler Library

Committee meeting and reported that they are close to reaching their fund raising goal, with \$862,000 pledged. He attended the recent charette to discuss the design of downtown Fowler. He attended a meeting in Kingsburg concerning high speed rail.

Councilmember Cardenas attended the SSJVD League general meeting in Dinuba on April 11, 2007. He also attended an S. K. F. meeting where the City of Selma asked about the procedure to leave the district and build their own solid waste facility. S. K. F. is in the process of performing a study to provide more information on how to address bottlenecks and other problems, and has asked the City of Selma to wait just a few months until the study results are distributed.

Councilmember Cardenas also attended a Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District meeting, and circulated a Vector Report. There will be an upcoming LAFCO hearing regarding the expansion of the District to the eastern part of the valley. He mentioned the upcoming Lion's Club Band Review on Saturday, April 21, 2007.

CLOSED SESSION

The meeting was adjourned to a closed session at 8:47 p. m., pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b) - Conference With Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation: Significant Exposure to Litigation: 1 case. The meeting reconvened to open session at 9:31 p. m. with no reportable action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Councilmember Zadourian made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Cardenas. The meeting adjourned at 9:32 p. m.