

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 20, 2007**

Mayor Simonian called the meeting to order at 7:02 p. m.

Councilmembers present: Simonian, Aguayo, Cardenas, & Zadourian  
Councilmembers absent: Shaw

City staff present: City Manager Elias, City Clerk Davis, Finance Director Wong,  
Police Chief Jamgochian, City Attorney Cross, Community  
Development Director Deaver, Public Works Supervisor Weisser

The Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance were followed by an invocation given by Mayor Simonian.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

Mark Stockwell, a local youth sports representative, thanked the City Manager and the Mayor for meeting with him recently to discuss the future sports park facility.

**PRESENTATION - VALLEY BLUEPRINT UPDATE**

Councilmember Aguayo, who is a Valley Blueprint Committee representative, and Barbara Steck of COG, presented an update on the progress of the Valley Blueprint Plan. He gave an overview of the regional planning process, encompassing the eight counties in the San Joaquin Valley. They are working to develop a vision, goals, and policies for transportation, land use, and resources, that will extend to the year 2050, when the population is anticipated to more than double. The plan will help guide development on both a local and regional level to accommodate this growth, particularly in the areas of housing, air quality, water and roads. The Blueprint process includes opportunities for input from the public, applicable agencies, and city staff from the various cities. Once each individual county develops their own vision, it will be incorporated into a valley-wide regional vision with all eight counties represented. Ms. Steck showed information and maps for proposed land use growth options based on: the status quo, a high density urban core, corridor development, new cities, and environmental resource/agricultural land protection scenarios. She welcomed the Council to attend their upcoming planning meetings.

**PRESENTATION - METRO RURAL LOOP CORRIDOR PRESERVATION FEASIBILITY STUDY UPDATE**

Keith Bergthold, of the City of Fresno, gave a presentation on the Metro Rural Loop Corridor (MRLC) Study. He spoke of the large population projection for the coming years and how it will affect the region as it pertains to land use, agriculture, housing, air quality, and transportation infrastructure. As part of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, the MRLC Feasibility Committee is collaborating with cities and counties and business, environmental, and civic organizations, with the goal of creating solutions to accommodate transportation needs. The MRLC

feasibility study envisions a system of high capacity multi-modal transportation corridors that interconnect the metro areas with rural areas and the state. He showed several maps of potential transportation corridor alternatives for Madera, Fresno, Kings and Tulare Counties, with routes for proposed high speed rail, and conceptual Metro Rural Loop alternatives. Mr. Bergthold noted that there will be future meetings held with opportunities for further input.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

City Clerk Davis stated that the first Council meeting in January will be held on Wednesday, January 2, 2008 due to the New Years Day holiday. Police Chief Jamgochian reminded the Council about an upcoming press conference with local law enforcement for the MAGEC gang suppression program.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **A) ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2113**

Finance Director Wong explained that Southern California Gas Company (SCG) had contacted him regarding the City's adoption of an ordinance, in late 2006, approving their franchise in the City of Fowler. The ordinance was adopted after the City annexed property located in SCG's service territory for the R. J. Hill subdivision. They informed Mr. Wong that other steps necessary to validate the franchise ordinance must be completed, including conducting a public hearing. As a result, a resolution of intention setting a public hearing on the matter, was now before the Council for adoption.

Councilmember Aguayo made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Cardenas, to adopt Resolution No. 2113, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler, County of Fresno, State of California Declaring its Intent to Consider the Granting of a Non-Exclusive Franchise to Southern California Gas Company to Transmit and Distribute Gas Within Fowler City Limits." The motion carried on a 4-0-1 roll call vote with Mayor Pro-Tem Shaw absent.

### **B) CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager Elias stated that a 90-day extension agreement with Consolidated Irrigation District would be brought to the Council for approval at the next meeting.

### **C) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Community Development Director Deaver reported on a recent Planning Commission meeting where the new owner of Johnny Quik had applied for a C.U.P. for an alcoholic beverage license. The C.U.P. process has given staff the opportunity to address some code enforcement matters with the business. Also, West Star Construction submitted a site plan for a commercial development near Highway 99 and Merced Street.

### **D) PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

Public Works Supervisor Weisser reported that temporary lighting was being placed where a recent street lighting failure occurred on East Merced Street. He also mentioned that CalTrans would soon be working on landscaping near Highway 99 and Merced Street.

#### **E) FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

##### **Approve amended CDBG Loan Agreement - H & H Tire**

Finance Director Wong explained that H & H Tire had requested an extension of their CDBG loan that was approved in May 2000, which calls for a seven year balloon payment that was due and payable. They have asked to extend the balloon payment out for the remaining three years of the loan, and staff recommended approval.

Councilmember Aguayo made a motion to approve the amended CDBG Loan agreement with H & H Tire to allow for payment extension. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cardenas, and carried on a 4-0-1 roll call vote.

Finance Director Wong also gave a monthly financial summary for July - October 2007.

#### **F) POLICE AND FIRE REPORT**

No report was given.

#### **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

No report was given.

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

The Consent Calendar consisted of: A) Ratification of Warrants - November 20, 2007; B) Approve Minutes of the City Council Meeting - November 6, 2007; C) Accept and authorize recording of the Notice of Completion for the 10th Street Sidewalk and Landscape, Fowler HS Area Pedestrian Facilities; D) Adoption of Resolution No. 2114, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler, County of Fresno, State of California in the Matter of Communities That Care Gang Task Force Joint Grant Application"; and E) Adoption of Resolution No. 2115, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Fowler, County of Fresno, State of California, in Support of Issuing a Postal Stamp in Honor of Mayor Tom Bradley." Councilmember Zadourian made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Aguayo, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried on a 4-0-1 roll call vote.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilmember Aguayo attended a recent 5 Cities/EDC social event in Selma. He attended a Highway 99 Beautification meeting where they discussed sign problems in various areas along the highway.

Councilmember Cardenas attended the EDC social, and a Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District meeting.

Councilmember Zadourian reported on a Fowler Chamber of Commerce meeting she attended.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, Councilmember Cardenas made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Aguayo. The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:55 p. m.