

**CITY OF FOWLER
SPECIAL PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
APRIL 23, 2009**

MINUTES

Chairman Mukai called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Gary Mukai, Sandie Monis and Mark Rodriquez

Commissioners Absent: Craig Mellon and Henry Fernandez

City Staff Present: City Attorney Scott Cross, Planning Consultant
Bruce O'Neal, Community Development Director
Randy Deaver and Planning Secretary Corina
Burrola

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Monis to approve the minutes of December 4, 2008 and March 5, 2009 and second by Commissioner Rodriquez and passed by 3-0-0-2.

Public Presentation:

There were no public presentations (Public Presentation closed at 6:34 p.m.)

Agenda Item No. 6:

Public Hearing to Consider Ordinance No. 2009-03, an Ordinance of the City of Fowler Amending Chapter 8 of Title 8 of the Fowler Municipal Code Pertaining to Floodplain Management. Planning Consultant, Bruce O'Neal prepared a brief report and explained to the Commission that the City of Fowler's Attorney's office is primarily responsible for amending the municipal code that is being presented. Bruce wanted to bring this ordinance to the Commission for review and recommendation in order to forward this to the City Council set for May 12, 2009. This Ordinance revises the City's existing Flood Zone Regulations Ordinance and makes technical changes with respect to development permit requirements, responsibilities of the Floodplain Administrator, and standards for subdivisions proposed in the flood zone as required to bring the ordinance into compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program. The primary issue for this ordinance is located at the northwest part of the community of Fowler just north of Adams Avenue parallel to the railroad tracks. According to the Flood zone this location will either require flood insurance and or a raise in elevation of construction. A resolution has been prepared as well as all of the proposed amendments to the ordinance recommending that the Commission forward this to the City Council for recommendation of approval.

Scott Cross, City Attorney, mentioned FEMA updates their regulations periodically for the National Flood Insurance Program. The Department of Water Resources sent notices to the cities notifying them that the ordinance needs to be updated in accordance with the new FEMA regulations.

Chairman Mukai made a motion to recommend approval of Ordinance No. 2009-03, and Ordinance of the City of Fowler Amending Chapter 8 of Title 8 of the Fowler Municipal Code pertaining to Floodplain management; this was second by Commissioner Monis and passed on a 3-0-0-2 vote.

Agenda Item No. 7:

Public Hearing to Consider General Plan Amendment No. 09-01 – Air Quality Goals and Policies Planning Consultant, Bruce O’Neal presented that the staff report explains the State of California in 2003 passed legislation requiring that every city in the Counties general plan include air quality goals and policies. The deadline for adoption of those goals and policies is June 30, 2009; to be quite honest it was a surprise to all the jurisdictions in Central California. The air district has been sending out weekly emails, making sure that all the cities are aware of these requirements. Many cities feel they’ve already complied through their general plan with air quality elements and many other cities are requesting an extension from the state beyond June 30th so they can adopt these goals and policies. Bruce believes that the City of Fowler is on schedule and that we can have these adopted prior to the deadline. The schedule that we’re following to achieve adoption was provided to the Air Quality Control District on April 13, 2009. According to the law we have to give the air district a proposal 45-days before adoption. The District has 30-days to respond. Bruce asked the commission to consider another special planning commission hearing for May 14th in order to consider the adoption of the goals and policies to the Council. The Council will then hold a public hearing on June 2, 2009 thereby meeting the requirements for adoption by June 30, 2009.

Mr. O’Neal further explained the other air quality amendments that pertain to the air quality goals and policies.

Public Hearing closed at 7:05 p.m.

Communications:

Commissioner Monis mentioned Battle of the Badges would be held On May 12th 2009.

Community Development Director, Randy Deaver, mentioned a Chamber Mix hosted by R.J. Hill. The mixer starts at 5:00 pm and goes until 6:30 p.m.; all commissioners are welcome to attend.

Attorney, Scott Cross brought to the attention of the Commissioners that The Brown Act packet has been provided by their office, and is updated every year.

No other business was discussed and the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Corina Burrola
Planning Secretary