

MEETING MINUTES

The City Council/Successor Agency of the City of Firebaugh
Vol. No. 19/06-17

Location of Meeting: Andrew Firebaugh Community Center
Date/Time: June 17, 2019/6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER Meeting called to order by Mayor Sablan at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL PRESENT: Mayor Marcia Sablan
Mayor Pro Tem Elsa Lopez
Council Member Freddy Valdez
Council Member Brady Jenkins 6:02 pm
Council Member Felipe Perez

ABSENT:

OTHERS: City Attorney Jim Sanchez; City Manager/Acting Public Works Director, Ben Gallegos; Deputy City Clerk, Rita Lozano; Police Chief, Sal Raygoza; Fire Chief, John Borboa; City Engineer, Mario Gouveia, Wanda Breshears & others.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council Member Lopez led pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve agenda by Council Member Valdez, second by Council Member Perez; motion pass by 4-0 vote.

PRESENTATION

Albert Peche, of A. E. Peche & Associates LLC, provide the Final Report on 2019 Equipment Lease - Solar Project & How do General Obligation Bonds Work. May 23, 2019 final interest rate was set at 3.55%. Energy equipment lease close May 30th, funds of \$4,198,302 were wired to Bank of New York, the appropriate funds to make debt service payments are: Water = \$188,977, Wastewater = \$117,497, General Fund = \$24,669, for a total amount of \$331,143. An amount of \$170,399.75 was wired to West America Bank for City as Capitalized interest to make the 2/1/2020 & 8/1/2020 payments. General Obligation (GO) Bonds are being used by cities after the dissolution of Redevelopment funds. Cities are polling for & passing GO Bond elections. It is the best way to finance street & park improvements, or other CIP projects, over an extended period of time. They can be used for matching funds for grants & preserves the City's General Fund for other purposes. There is annual administration as debt service is given to, & collected by the County, then paid to the paying agent, who pays the investor. It requires a 2/3rds vote of the voter, Cities can issue up to 3.75% of the property owners assessed value, not market value, in GO Bonds. Bond authorization is based on total amount reflected in the ballot initiative & project description. Tax rate is calculated each year around July & based on annual debt service divided by total assessed value for the fiscal year in the City limits. Bonds can be sold in Series thereby minimizing the impact to tax payers.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jose Angel, asked why the City doesn't put information in Spanish, because many residents doesn't understand English. City Manager replied, usually two residents that attend the Council Meetings, speak English, so it's not cost effective to pay for a translator to attend all meetings. Council Member Valdez & Perez, informed if more Spanish speaking residents attended meetings regular, the City will accommodate them & have a translator.

Michael of N Street Apartment project asked Council to consider assisting him by reducing impact fees. City Manager Gallegos, stated he has meet with Michael, but he's requesting more of a reduction then the City Manager is allowed to negotiated or authorize. Council Member Valdez asked if Council offers a reduction in impact fees, will it help lower the cost for renters. Council would not wish to reduce impact fees to increase the profit of the developer, but would like to assist in making housing more affordable to the residents.

Flores, said in 2002, Del Rio went from Fresno County to City, and residents were informed the City was going to help make living affordable. In 2017, City has been issuing violations and feels, not that developers are interested in building in Del Rio more violations are being issued. The individuals can't & don't know if they can pay them, because most are low income. Police Chief Raygoza, stated the City started Code Enforcement about 3years ago, Police Department has issued violations, only on new construction & only after the individuals have been advised of the code enforcement violation. Officers make contact with violators, through verbal conversations, notices both mailed and at site & often after they have meet with the City Manager. A time frame to address the problem is given, Extension have been given by the City Manager, but some continue work or fail to comply, so violation citations are issued. City Manager added, there are many rumors & misunderstanding about what residents in Del Rio are told verse the facts, so they should feel free to contact him about their concerns.

A contractor will need to install a new sewer line at his development, so he wanted to advise the residents that, the contractor will place them in a hotel temporarily & pay for them to stay there, because when the new sewer line is being installed the residents will not have sewer service.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The City Council Special Meeting on June 3, 2019.

2. WARRANT REGISTER – Period starting April 1, and ending on May 31, 2019.

May 2019	General Warrants	#38180 - #38310	\$ 597,171.29
	Payroll Warrants	#70871 - #70968	\$ 221,526.70
TOTAL			\$ 818,697.99

Council Member Lopez, inquired about Attorney Fees, City Manager Gallegos will set a date fora six month evaluation.

Motion to approve Consent Calendar by Council Member Valdez, second by Council Member Perez; motion pass by unanimous 5-0 vote.

PUBLIC HEARING

None

NEW BUSINESS

3. RESOLUTION NO. 19-31 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH ADOPTING HOMELESSNESS PRIORITIES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2019.

Motion to approve Res. No. 19-31 by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Valdez; motion pass by unanimous 5-0 vote.

4. RESOLUTION NO. 19-32 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVING STREETS NAMES FOR (CEN CAL BUILDERS (DEL RIO PLACE)) PURSUANT TO FIREBAUGH MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2 PROCEDURES FOR NAMING AND RENAMING CITY FACILITIES.

Motion to approve Res. No. 19-32 by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Perez; motion pass by unanimous 5-0 vote.

5. RESOLUTION NO. 19-33 - A RESOLUTION OF INTENTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH TO ORDER ASSESSMENTS DISTRICT NO. 1 (Pursuant to the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972).

Motion to approve Res. No. 19-31 by Council Member Valdez, second by Council Member Jenkins; motion pass by unanimous 5-0 vote.

6. THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH TO DISCUSS AND CONSIDER REDUCING THE COMMERCIAL UTILITY USERS TAX RATE AND/OR PLACING THE RESIDENTIAL RATE ON A FUTURE BALLOT TO CONTINUE AT THE SAME 10% RATE.

City Attorney Sanchez, has been working on putting this matter on the 2019 November ballot, but due to Prop 218 and because the City has a balanced budget, there is legally no need for the City to a Special Election. A city must meet certain requirements to hold Special Elections, which Firebaugh doesn't at this time; therefore, with no finding, the City must wait until the General Election, when Council Members seats are up to election in 2020 November Election.

Information item only.

7. THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH TO DISCUSS AND APPROVE THE JOINT USE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH AND THE FIREBAUGH-LAS DELTAS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT.

Motion to approve Joint Use Agreement by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Valdez; motion pass by unanimous 5-0 vote.

STAFF REPORTS

- **Police Chief Sal Raygoza** – It's been quite in the community, will be in San Francisco, Friday to launch Podcast.
- **Deputy City Clerk, Rita Lozano** – Working on Public request act (PRA), and with the Attorney on Training, scheduled for July 15, 2019, two sessions, morning & afternoon for 4 hours (two – 2 hour training for Ethics & Harassment).
- **City Attorney Jim Sanchez** – Another Attorney from Lozano Smith will do the training, she's not available on Tuesdays.
- **City Manager, Ben Gallegos** – This year the voting polls will be a 2-3 day event, instead of just one day. It will be held at the Senior Center, so only concern is the parking lot, I reached out to the contractor to see when they'll be willing to begin construction, still waiting for a response. Held a meeting with the Veterans, presented three designs for the VFW Rehab project, one was selected & presented to Council for review. The design selected does not be a certified kitchen, there still be additional changes and charges. Fresno County PIC Street projects, payment conditions is both good & bad. Streets are compared to Fresno, City scored very high, so five streets may be get repaired with funds the City receives. Future Agenda item, Council will select voting delegates for the League of Cities Annual Conference. River has gone down, usually have the same problem every year. River Camp begins next week, so monitoring of the River will continue. Staff is receiving a lot of complaints from the Northside of town about insects, bugs, rodents, City can't spray but staff is recommending residents hire a pest control to address the problem.
- **Council Member Valdez** – Asked City Manager if he is interested in attending the annual K-9 event. City Manager stated, he would like to attend. Police Chief Raygoza, stated, 'The department has a K-9 vehicle, but it is a lot of liability. I prefer a narcotics dog. I spoke with an officer about being interested in participating and staying committed for 3 years.'
- **Council Member Perez** – Attended a meeting last week about the 2020 census, Mendota, Firebaugh & Huron have a short fall in volunteers and participation, every citizen not accounted for the City potentially loose an estimated \$2,000 a year. City Manager Gallegos, suggested Council Member Perez, speak with School Board Member Gamino, who is trying to hold an outreach meeting to educate about participation in the 2020 Census, and the importance of it. City has offered the Community Center to hold the outreach meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion adjourn by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Perez; motion pass by unanimous 5-0 vote at 7:56 p.m.