

# MEETING MINUTES

The City Council/Successor Agency of the City of Firebaugh  
Vol. No. 19/04-15

**Location of Meeting:** Andrew Firebaugh Community Center  
1655 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Firebaugh, CA 93622  
**Date/Time:** April 15, 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  
Council Member Felipe Perez

**ABSENT:**

**OTHERS:** City Attorney J. Sanchez; City Manager/Acting Public Works Director, Ben Gallegos; Deputy City Clerk, Rita Lozano; Finance Director, Pio Martin; Police Chief, Sal Raygoza; Fire Chief, John Borboa; City Engineer Mario Gouveia, Wanda Breshears, Fernando Campa, Alfredo Arambula, David & Mary Van Pelt & others.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Council Member Valdez led pledge of Allegiance.

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

## PRESENTATION

## PUBLIC COMMENT

**Note:** A committee to oversee and made the following recommendation on Jan. 25, 2019 regarding Jaripeo events at the Rodeo Grounds four Sunday events and one Saturday event for Jaripeo to be held from April to October.

- Mr. Alfredo Arambula, request Council's approval to have a jaripeo on Cinco de Mayo on a "Sunday". Mr. Arambula called City Hall to see if the date was available, he was told it was, but by the time he came in to complete the rental agreement, all three Sundays were rented and deposit was paid, so Mr. Arambula would like to request council's approval to change the remaining available Saturday to hold the jaripeo on Sunday. City Manager Gallegos will work with Mr. Arambula to resolve this matter. Mrs. Wanda Breshears asked for explanation of Mr. Arambula's request, since he spoke in Spanish & it wasn't translated.
- Mr. Van Pelt asked for City to request media coverage for the re-opening of the remodeled Senior Center.

## CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The City Council Regular Meeting on April 1, 2019.
2. WARRANT REGISTER – Period starting March 1, and ending on March 31, 2019.

March 2019	General Warrants	#37958 - #38064	\$ 444,736.54
	Payroll Warrants	#70676 - #70772	\$ 221,957.11
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ 666,693.65</b>

*Motion to accept Consent Calendar by Council Member Valdez, second by Council Member Jenkins; motion pass by unanimous 5-0 vote.*

**PUBLIC HEARING****3. RESOLUTION NO. 19-17 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVING ENERGY SERVICES CONTRACT.**

**Public Hearing Opened at 6:11 pm – Comments:** On November 5, 2018, the City Council passed Resolution No. 18-55 approving a Program Development Agreement with ENGIE Services U.S. to develop a citywide solar and energy efficiency project. The project price is \$4,198,302. ENGIE will guarantee 95% of the solar savings for 20 years. The project expected to result in an estimated \$10.4 million in savings includes the following improvements:

- Solar PV at five (5) sites (961 kW total): Water Site 1 Ground Mount, Water Site 2 Ground Mount, Rodeo Canopy Shade Structure, Maldonado Park Canopy Shade Structure, Sewer Plant Ground Mount, Landfill Ground Mount
- HVAC Upgrades & Wireless Thermostats at five (5) sites (54 tons total): Community Center, City Hall, Sewer Plant, PAL Building, Fire Department
- Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs) for five (5) well pump motors (375 hp total: Wells #11, #12, #13, #15, & #16
- Community Partnership: ENGIE will fund 3 years of the PAL program for the Firebaugh Community through a local non-profit. **Public Hearing Closed at 6:34 pm**

**Motion to approve Res. No. 19-17 subject to negotiations terms mentioned by City Attorney to finalize six conditions between the City & ENGIE, by Council Member Valdez, second by Council Member Jenkins; motion pass by unanimous 5-0 vote.**

**4. RESOLUTION NO. 19-18 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVING THREE AGREEMENTS FOR FINANCING SERVICES RELATED TO THE 2019 ENERGY/ SOLAR PROJECT.**

**Public Hearing Opened at 6:34 pm – Comment:** Staff with Albert Peché of A. M. Peché & Associates LLC (“Peché & Associates”), Todd Smith and Andy Kuo of Hilltop Securities and Albert Reyes of Kutak Rock LLP, (together the “Financing Team”) believes that the Energy Project could be financed as a Direct Placement Municipal Equipment Lease and recommends approaching level debt with equal annual payments throughout the term of the contract, as equipment lease contract to not affect the debt ratio & therefore meet bond requirements. The annually appropriate lease payments from the General Fund; internally the City would then charge the General Fund, Water and Wastewater Funds for their prorated portion of the annual lease payments. Financing Team will go to potential banks who bid on these types of Direct Placements, the results of the bids would be presented at May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting for approval by the Council. **Public Hearing Closed at 6:44 pm**

**Motion to approve Res. No. 19-18 subject to negotiations terms mentioned by City Attorney to finalize six conditions between the City & ENGIE, by Council Member Valdez, second by Council Member Perez; motion pass by unanimous 5-0 vote.**

**NEW BUSINESS****5. RESOLUTION NO. 19-19 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVING THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH FY 2019/2020 LIST OF ELIGIBLE PROJECTS FOR FUNDING FROM THE ROAD MAINTENANCE AND REHABILITATION ACCOUNT (RMRA) CREATED BY SENATE BILL 1: ROAD REPAIR AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2017, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO FILE WITH THE CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION THE PROJECT LIST AND ANNUAL EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR FY 2019/2020 RMRA FUNDING.**

**Motion to accept Res. No. 19-19, by Council Member Valdez, second by Council Member Perez; motion pass by unanimous 5-0 vote.**

**6. RESOLUTION NO. 19-20 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH AMENDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH AND MADERA COUNTY FOR 2019 AUTOMATIC/MUTUAL AID.**

**Motion to accept Res. No. 19-20, by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Lopez; motion pass by unanimous 5-0 vote.**

**7. RESOLUTION NO. 19-21 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH AMENDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH AND MADERA COUNTY FOR 2018 AUTOMATIC/MUTUAL AID.**

*Motion to accept Res. No. 19-21, by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Valdez; motion pass by unanimous 5-0 vote.*

**8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT – FY 2017/18 GENERAL FUND BUDGET – Preliminary Presentation.**

Finance Director Pio Martin presented the Preliminary General Fund Budget.

**9. 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.**

*Consensus of the Council to continue items, directed staff to research deadlines, cost & requirements to meet the November 2019 election to place measure on ballot.*

**STAFF REPORTS**

- **Police Chief Sal Raygoza** – Nothing
- **Fire Chief, John Borboa** –Nothing
- **Finance Director, Pio Martin** - Enterprise funds budget & resolution on next meeting, agenda changes on internet.
- **City Engineer, Mario Gouveia** – Nothing
- **Deputy City Clerk, Rita Lozano** – Nothing
- **City Attorney James Sanchez** – Will give a presentation to Rotary Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at the Restaurant.
- **City Manager Ben Gallegos** – Attended Public Works Conference, learned that PG&E is selling their street lights, which would be a huge cost saving. Wanted to meet the main Representative of the Railroad Co, he will provide contact information, city will be required to help to pay funding for repairs to tracks in town. Looked at a software system that allows public access to call and get a work order, system will keep track of repairs throughout the city. Will attend Economy Meeting in Fresno tomorrow, taking vacation next week. Whitehurst property update. A business is interested in relocating to that site with city covering certain conditions. Mr. Davis inquired about the property of the business willing to relocate and leaving vacant. And stated the other projects he's been working on are moving forward, just at a slow pace.
- **Council Member Valdez** – Council Members Jenkins & Valdez will attend Legislative Day hosted by League of Cities.
- **Council Member Sablan** – Asked about street sweeper, received complaints about neighbors parking in front of neighbors houses and the owners aren't getting their curb swept.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEM ONLY**

**CLOSED SESSION**

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion adjourn by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Perez; motion pass by unanimous 5-0 vote at 8:12 p.m.*