

MEETING MINUTES

The City Council/Successor Agency of the City of Firebaugh
Vol. No. 19/11-18

Location of Meeting: Andrew Firebaugh Community Center
1655 13th Street, Firebaugh, CA 93622

Date/Time: November 18, 2019/6:00 p.m.

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

ROLL CALL Mayor Pro Tem Elsa Lopez
Council Member Freddy Valdez
Council Member Brady Jenkins

ABSENT: Mayor Marcia Sablan, Council Member Felipe Perez

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Council Member Jenkins led pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve agenda by Council Member Valdez, second by Council Member Jenkins; motion pass by 3-0 vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Raquel White from Fresno, California, "I come from an organization by the name of Construction Industry also known as "CIFAC" Construction Industry Force Account Council, a non-profit organization dedicated to help ensure State & Local government compliance with the Public Contract Code. " The City of Firebaugh has a threshold limit of \$5,000, so projects above the limit must go to bid and the lowest bidder usually is awarded, which does not give the City much leeway to execute simplified contracts/projects. The City does have an option to increase threshold to speed up the process to contract for projects. By opting into the California Uniform Construction Cost Accounting Act, also known as the "ACT", Administer by the State Controllers' Office, the City will able to expedite bidding on projects under \$60,000 and informal bid projects up to \$200,000. This will greatly reduce time, effort & expenses of associated with bidding projects. There is no cost with becoming a participating agent of the ACT, there are 12,039 public agencies that have opted in to the ACT, that are benefitting from this simplified process. I recommend, the City of Firebaugh submits a Resolution to the State Controller's Office to become a participant of the Act."

Pedro Vasquez of Zozaya Street, inquired about speed bumps in certain areas in Firebaugh and on his street residents are interested & have asked, because people pass or run the stop sign. If the City gets any money if they can install them.

PRESENTATION None

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The City Council Regular Meeting on November 4, 2019.

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

October 2019	General Warrants	#38834 - #38970	\$ 667,678.53
	Payroll Warrants	#71144 - #71160	\$ 235,609.20
TOTAL			\$ 903,287.73

Motion to approve Consent Calendar by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Valdez; motion pass by 3-0 vote.

PUBLIC HEARING

3. **RESOLUTION NO. 19-58 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO TENTATIVE SUBDIVISION MAP 2018-01 (CEN CAL BUILDERS (DEL RIO PLACE)).**

City Planner Schoettler provide a power point presentation to inform, the applicant is seeking approval to amend the original 42 lot, Del Rio Place subdivision. This amendment is to provide space for an existing PG&E power line that crosses the site. The original subdivision design rerouted lines around the site, by the developer, but the applicant states that PG&E was requiring a large easement and it would require two years to review and approve. With this impasse, the applicant is redesigning the subdivision to allow the line to remain in place and reduces the map from 42 residential lots to 33 lots, with a small park to allow the power line to pass through, away from homes. In other areas the lots have been expanded to allow for the line to cross overhead, four lots. Three other lots will have an encroachment easement, to a much smaller degree.

Open hearing time at 6:13 pm - No comment given - Closing hearing time at 6:14 pm

Motion to approve Res. No. 19-58 by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Lopez; motion fails by 2-1 vote. Valdez – No, Per City Attorney Sanchez, under Government Code section 36936 a resolution requires at least three votes for adoption.

NEW BUSINESS

4. **RESOLUTION NO. 19-59 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVING SECOND AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT FOR BENJAMIN GALLEGOS.**

Motion to approve Res. No. 19-59, with effective date November 16, 201, by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Valdez; motion pass by 3-0 vote.

STAFF REPORTS

- **Police Chief Sal Raygoza** – it's been busy, meth is a growing trend, and several arrest have been made. It was a crazy weekend, with a Robbery and a car accident, but staff is doing a good job.
- **Finance Director, Pio Martin** – Working with the Auditors.
- **Fire Chief, John Borboa** – been busy with Vehicle accidents, there has been more accidents then the years before with most of them on Ave 7 & 7 ½. CHP Officer made comment about the high traffic on same roads, & stated fog is a concern for the winter. Paramount is higher more employees, so that will add to more traffic.
- **City Engineer, Mario Gouveia** – Pavement Rehab is almost done at 99% done. Attended a meeting with DWR Representatives & stakeholders, last week, \$400,000 available for Feasibility study for flood issues. Had a kickoff meeting with several agencies, about 14 months before to seek funding to correct Flooding issues. One of the areas is, the Rodeo to treatment plant, proposed to build up the levee, working with DWR, it usually cost about \$4 million for a project like that.
- **Deputy City Clerk, Rita Lozano** – Next week will be Thanksgiving, so City Hall be closed Thursday & Friday. I will be taking a couple of days off, so any agenda items you wish to place on the first meeting of December, please submit them this week. The first meeting of December will be a council meeting, the second Monday is the Joint Meeting with the School District at their site & the third Monday will be the second Council meeting of December. I will not be attending the Joint Meeting on December 9th, because I have to attend the Planning Meeting due to two Public Hearing items that will be held, the VFW Project & the Valley Health Team, so it's going to busy the next few days, as stated, any agenda items for the first council meeting try to submit this week, because I will be in on Wednesday, November 27, 2019 to get the agenda out before we break for the holidays.

- **City Attorney, James Sanchez** – League of Cities had a gathering for the first time for rural cities, less than 50,000 population & proposed to some seminars, webinars and maybe even podcast for small city & rural city issues. We submitted four proposals, one on Housing, Brow Act & Social Media, which is really good because we've been discussing 7 having questions ourselves about the issue. Then on (SGMA), Sustainability Groundwater Management, because you'll the SGMA plans coming in 2020 & the steps that will have to be followed.
- **City Manager, Ben Gallegos** – Thanked the High Schools for attending the Council Meeting, I know that they mentioned getting a McDonald's, Council Member Jenkins, Valdez & myself have been working to get new businesses to the City but one of their requirements is to be over 10,000 population. Hopefully with the new homes & West Hills College expanding, it will help, but want you to know that we are trying. I've been working with potential new businesses that are interested in coming into town. Police Chief Raygoza & I meeting with a Pasticcio Company, they have done a lot for the City of Mendota and helped fund the new clinic in Mendota, the Chief & I informed them of all the things we have in our City, like the Christmas parade, Round-up, the PAL Program, The Fire Program, our Senior Center & Veterans, and stated we need new furniture for them, we'll see if they will donated furniture for them. The VFW project is about two weeks behind due to soil samples, so hope it will go out to bid the second week of December. This Saturday, hopefully you guys can make it out, we will have about a 100 volunteers from Wonderful, I'm happy to say that they will donate time to paint one of our local resident's home, that deserve it, the Rebecchi's, another project they'll be painting is the Splash Park & Skate Park because it has graffiti & Street lights downtown & they are donating all of the materials for the projects. Hopefully, we can get somebody to prep the house for painting, if not, I was wondering if Council approves using City staff to go in to do the prep work. Council Member Lopez, stated, "I think, we can get volunteers." I've been working with the San Joaquin Valley Railroad, to see how to get the crossing over, and then, our Senior Center was selected out of 53 locations to be a voting pole station, so the City will be entering into an agreement with them. City is lucky to be selected, or citizens' would have to drive somewhere else, the Senior Center will be closed on the four days in March.
- **Council Member Jenkins** – Once again, it's been a while Chief but I've received a lot of good compliments on the Officers' in town, I didn't get to tell Chief Borboa, I appreciate the help of the volunteer Fire Department. I've told Ben, he's doing a great job, he deserves what he's getting. I'd also like to thank Pio, I know your very busy, James, Karl, Mario, Rita, I appreciate all of the help you gives us & everything you do there. Keep the good work & thank the students for coming out, be on time tomorrow, don't be late.
- **Council Member Valdez** – Governor's Budget team came out, we gave them a tour & told them about rural city issues, the great things we are doing but also where the City is following short. We hoping the Governor will allocate money, so we can have more projects in our community, streets, parks and things of that nature, things that are hard to fund. It was a great meeting, I believe we did a great job of presenting our needs & attending a round table to further discuss the issues. We were commended by the governor's staff about our professionalism, so I would like to thank the city staff & Council Members that attended the meeting. I would recommend students, residents and the public to write letters to companies to let them know that are community would like to have them develop in our City, to show them there is interest in their business.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEM ONLY

CLOSED SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENT

ADJOURNMENT

Motion adjourn by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Valdez; motion pass by 3-0 vote at 6:46 p.m.