

MEETING MINUTES
The City Council/Successor Agency of the City of Firebaugh
Vol. No. 19/12-16

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

Date/Time: December 16, 2019/6:00 p.m.

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

ROLL CALL Mayor Marcia Sablan
Mayor Pro Tem Elsa Lopez
Council Member Freddy Valdez
Council Member Brady Jenkins
Council Member Felipe Perez

ABSENT:

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, City Planner, Karl Schoettler, Wanda Breshears, & 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 Perez; motion pass by 5-0 vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT None

REORGANIZATION

1. REORGANIZATION OF CITY COUNCIL.

- A. Mayor *New Mayor Elsa Lopez*
- B. Mayor Pro Tem *Mayor Pro Tem Freddy Valdez*

CONSENT CALENDAR

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The City Council regular meeting on December 2, 2019.

3. WARRANT REGISTER – Period starting November 1, and ending on November 30, 2019.

November 2019	General Warrants	#38971 - #39104	\$ 816,062.45
	Payroll Warrants	#71161 - #71178	\$ 234,128.28
TOTAL			\$ 1,050,190.73

4. CITY OF FIREBAUGH 2020 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE.

5. CITY OF FIREBAUGH 2020 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE.

6. CITY OF FIREBAUGH 2020 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT.

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

PUBLIC HEARING

7. **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)).**

Open hearing time at 6:06 pm – Engineer of Cen Cal Project in Del Rio, stated originally PG&E said they would move the line but would need a 40 ft. easement but then changed their mind, the chance of the transmission line going underground is not likely. Developer states it would kill the project because it is too costly and would take about too much time (PG&E would take about 2 years to give approval to move the line) - Closing hearing time at 6:22 pm

Motion to approve Res. No. 19-58 by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Perez; motion passes by 4-1 vote. Valdez – No.

➤ *Council Member Sablan – abstained and left the room.*

8. **RESOLUTION NO. 19-68 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH ADOPTING A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE VALLEY HEALTH TEAM PROJECT (GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT/ZONE CHANGE 2019-03 AND AMENDMENT TO CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 2016-01).**

Open hearing time at 6:31 pm – Chris Gutierrez asked, “If the parking is for employees only, is there going to be a gate or security guard on patrol to keep others from parking there.” Jeff stated Staff will get to the facility early and will take most, if not all of the parking spaces prior to business hours. Hoping to be in operation in about 2 years, the building will have a complete new façade. - Closing hearing time at 6:33 pm.

Motion to approve Res. No. 19-68 by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Perez; motion passes by 4-0 vote. Sablan – Abstained.

9. **RESOLUTION 19-69 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVING GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT 2019-03 (VALLEY HEALTH TEAM).**

Motion to approve Res. No. 19-69 by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Perez; motion passes by 4-0 vote. Sablan – Abstained.

10. **ORDINANCE NO. 19-07 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH, COUNTY OF FRESNO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 359, OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH, RELATING TO THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE ZONE OF PARTICULAR PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY – FIRST READING.**

Motion to approve Ord. No. 19-07 by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Perez; motion passes by 4-0 vote. Sablan – Abstained.

➤ *Council Member Sablan – reentered the room.*

NEW BUSINESS

11. **RESOLUTION NO. 19-64 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVING PAYMENT OF INVOICE FOR MUNICIPAL CODE SERVICES TO GENERAL CODE.**

Motion to approve Res. No. 19-64 by Council Member Sablan, second by Council Member Perez; motion passes by 5-0 vote.

12. **RESOLUTION NO. 19-65 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT DEFERRING BUILDING PERMIT FEES.**

Motion to approve Res. No. 19-65 by Council Member Sablan, second by Council Member Jenkins; motion passes by 5-0 vote.

13. **RESOLUTION NO. 19-66 - AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THAT APPLICATION BE MADE TO OBTAIN A GRANT UNDER THE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM'S PLANNING GRANT – ROUND 3 AND TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES TO RECEIVE A GRANT FOR THE DELTA-MENDOTA SUBBASIN SUPPLEMENTAL GSP DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL.**

Motion to approve Res. No. 19-66 by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Sablan; motion passes by 5-0 vote.

14. **RESOLUTION NO. 19-67 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVING A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH ELEMENT 7 FIREBAUGH LLC FOR A COMMERCIAL CANNABIS BUSINESS.**

Motion to approve Res. No. 19-67 by Council Member Valdez, second by Council Member Sablan; motion passes by 3-2 vote. Jenkins & Lopez – no.

STAFF REPORTS

- **Police Chief Sal Raygoza** – Department has been busy working on the stolen farm equipment case, following leads on others that may be involved in the case. Saturday, there will be a DUI check point, we've seen a lot of alcohol incidents and car accidents so the officers will heavily enforcing any alcohol matters over the next two weeks. School Patrol update, officers addressed the issues the school has been having and we are already seeing improvements at the High School but the problems are shifting to Bailey & Mills, so officers will alternate patrolling the schools. Mayor Lopez asked where the purchased K-9 equipment is being housed, Police Chief replied in Atwater with the Handler of the K-9.
- **Finance Director, Pio Martin** – Federal funding budget hasn't been approved, one concern, is if the meals that get delivered to the Senior Center will continue or be effected, they are hoping to have the federal budget approved by December 20, 2019. Attended League of Cities Training, staff is looking in to compliance issues, James is also looking into it, and the City may have to make some changes. Tara of RSG, wanted to speak with us about new funding available, but Ben is working with Paul Ashby on the same thing. Haven't heard much from the Auditors.
- **City Engineer, Mario Gouveia** – Most of the grant projects are coming to an end. Working on the design for next year's projects.
- **Deputy City Clerk, Rita Lozano** – CDBG has a new system for grant application, award notification and correspondences, working on setting it up, will share login information with Ben & Pio, so they have access.
- **City Attorney, James Sanchez** – new laws for the New Year, some with housing, regarding tiny houses, will keep everyone updated.
- **City Manager, Ben Gallegos** – Sal, Mario and I attended the West Hills College kick off meeting Police Chief went to go see the Coalinga Police Chief, to get their insight about dispensaries, they have 10 dispensaries, which has provided about 298 jobs, so we went to one of their dispensaries, which in the middle of town, their crime rate went down. Received great comments about the Parade, although there were some issues behind the scenes & a train accident, thank god no one got hurt. A lot of people liked the Christmas lights on the trees along the main street. This Wednesday, I'm going to do a staff appreciation day, here at the center. I will provide tacos for lunch, between 11:30 am to 1:00 pm, I want to thank the staff for doing a great job, and I received a lot of great comments about our community. "I tell everyone, it's not a one man show, it's a team effort." Council is invited to join. We haven't heard anything regarding the Maldonado Park or Swimming pool Grant applications, but did receive a

letter that it's under review. Both of the developments are going on, but they've slowed down due to the weather. We toured the model homes in Mendota to see what the houses will look like, we were told that they have about 80 on the waiting list for the homes in Firebaugh, so they expect to sell them fast. The Fire Chief is not feeling well, so he couldn't attend tonight. John found plans for the new Fire Station, it will look similar to Mendota's. We would like to bring next year changes to increase the limit for bids budget, as the proposed during a presentation at the previous meeting.

- **Council Member Valdez** – I'm going to echo what the City Manager said, it was a well-attended event as always, like anything you put on, there are always issues that go on the background but staff is more than capable of handling that, so again thanks to the staff for make sure it was as good as it was, further and foremost. Update on those grants, the meeting with the school, we discussed working together and going to Sacramento to keep pushing and make sure our community is not forgotten, push for the great things that are happening in our community. It's the end of the year, Merry Christmas to our Community and Staff, thank you for a very successful year, despite a couple of hurdles. I believe our community is moving up and in an upper direction with job creation, housing, project and I look forward to a new year with new things & ideas.
- **Council Member Sablan** – I what to remind everyone of the Christmas dinner on Christmas Day at the Middle School with Toys for tots.
- **Council Member Lopez** – I just want to echo too, the Parade was spectacular. I loved the video someone posted of the Parade, it came out really nice, hope you get to see it. I spoke with Ben about the lighting of the water tank, it looked so nice, so we talked about possibly doing it for other occasions. I think we feed over 200 people for the breakfast with Santa, it was very successful, I really appreciate Ben's help in finding the location and the people that hold the Zumba classes were out there helping us, they were very helpful. Merry Christmas everyone and see you next year.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEM ONLY

CLOSED SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENT

ADJOURNMENT

Motion adjourn by Council Member Valdez, second by Council Member Perez; motion pass by 5-0 vote at 7:08 p.m.