

MEETING MINUTES

The City Council/Successor Agency of the City of Firebaugh
Vol. No. 20/03-16

**PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 11 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER N-25-20,
EXECUTED BY THE GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA ON MARCH 12, 2020**

Location of Meeting: Andrew Firebaugh Community Center
1655 13th Street, Firebaugh, CA 93622
Date/Time: March 16, 2020/6:00 p.m.
CALL TO ORDER Meeting called to order by Mayor Lopez at 6:00 p.m.
ROLL CALL Mayor Elsa Lopez
Mayor Pro Tem Freddy Valdez
Council Member Marcia Sablan
Council Member Brady Jenkins
ABSENT: Council Member Felipe Pérez

City Attorney Sanchez explained the legal basis and benefits from the proposed local emergency proclamation, Council Member Sablan participated via teleconference call.

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; Erick & Veronica Navarro, Virginia Escobar, Alfredo Arambula, & others.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Council Member Perez led pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT None

PRESENTATION None

CONSENT CALENDAR

- APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The City Council regular meeting on March 2, 2020.**
- WARRANT REGISTER – Period starting February 1, and ending on February 29, 2020.**

February 2020	General Warrants	#39344 - #39469	\$ 630,175.81
	Payroll Warrants	#71223 - #71241	\$ 226,044.87
TOTAL			\$ 856,220.68

Motion to approve warrants by Council Member Valdez, second by Council Member Perez; motion passed by 5-0 vote.

PUBLIC HEARING

- RESOLUTION 20-09 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH ADOPTING A NOTICE OF EXEMPTION FOR GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT/ZONE CHANGE 2019-04.**

Motion to approve Res. No. 20-09 by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Valdez; motion passed by 5-0 vote.

4. **RESOLUTION 20-10 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVING GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT 2019-04 (CAMPA).**

Motion to approve Res. No. 20-10 by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Valdez; motion passed by 5-0 vote.

5. **ORDINANCE NO. 20-01 - 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 waive the first reading of Res. No. 20-01 by Council Member Valdez, second by Council Member Jenkins; motion passed by 5-0 vote.

6. **ORDINANCE NO. 20-02 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH AMENDING SECTION 15-1.6 OF CHAPTER 15 OF THE FIREBAUGH MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH WATER DISCONTINUATION POLICY- FIRST READING.**

Motion to waive the first reading of Res. No. 20-02 by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Perez; motion passed by 5-0 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

7. **RESOLUTION NO. 20-11 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVING THE RESIDENTIAL WATER DISCONTINUATION POLICY.**

Motion to approve Res. No. 20-11 by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Perez; motion passed by 5-0 vote.

8. **RESOLUTION NO. 20-12 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVING THE FINAL MAP AND A SUBDIVISION IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT WITH GATEWAY HOMES, INC. FOR DEVELOPMENT OF TRACT 6257 PHASE 2.**

Motion to approve Res. No. 20-12 by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Perez; motion passed by 5-0 vote.

9. **RESOLUTION NO. 20-13 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF AIRPORT FENCE AND GATE REPLACEMENT PROJECT NO. AIP 03-06-0346-007-2019, AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO RECORD A NOTICE OF COMPLETION WITH FRESNO COUNTY AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO MAKE FINAL PAYMENT OF RETENTION MONIES TO GOLDEN BAY FENCE PLUS IRON WORKS, INC.**

Motion to approve Res. No. 20-13 by Council Member Valdez, second by Council Member Jenkins; motion passed by 5-0 vote.

10. **THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH TO DISCUSS & REVIEW CITY OF FIREBAUGH SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY.**

Presentation, Information item only.

11. **THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH TO DISCUSS & CONSIDER AUTHORIZE CONTRACT WITH KCS FOR COLLECTION SERVICES.**

Item Tabled.

12. THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH TO DISCUSS & CONSIDER REACQUIRING PROPERTIES OF APN's 008-074-01, 008-074-02 & 008-074-03 FROM N.F. DAVIS DRIER.

Firebaugh residents asked Council, if the City purchases the properties, what would the City do with them, will they just be vacant or empty lots?

City Council Directed the City Manager to approach Mr. Davis or a Representative of N F Davis to ask if they are interested in selling the properties back to the City and get a price estimate for the purchase of three lots, the property the City is acquiring are the lot the City sold to N F Davis, plus an additional joining lot.

13. THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH TO DISCUSS & CONSIDER CITY FUNDING FOR THE REMAINING BALANCE FOR THE NEW POLICE DEPARTMENT.

The Police Department needs about \$350,000.00 to relocate to the Court House, but the amount could increase. Police Chief is seeking additional funding from the State, but if that is not possible, his recommendation is to place a tax on the ballot to local residents. The Chief will also approach USDA to inquire about a possible loan with low interest rate. Council Member Valdez suggested using the saving the City will receive from the solar project. Staff replied, the City won't see saving for several years from the solar project & the saving is to be used to make payments for the loan the City received to pay for the project.

Information Item only.

14. THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH TO DISCUSS & CONSIDER HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PROPOSAL REGARDING THE SAN JOAQUIN VILLAS PROJECT.

Staff reported, of the four different funding the City provided to the developer of the San Joaquin Villas Project, only one of the provided funding agreements was a loan, in the amount of \$150,000. Representative from Habitat for Humanity stated, because they are an organization that works with the community, asks for donations & grant funding, repayment of the loan from the previous owner may be an issue, so they would have to do additional research. City Attorney Sanchez replied, the City may consider charging about \$20,000 to \$30,000 to cover their cost in research and transition of the property but not the repayment of the \$150,000 loan. Habitat for Human would hate to use donated funds to bail out the previous/current owners' debt, so not sure it is a possibility. Council Member Valdez recommended, the current owners pay for the fees as part of the sale of the property, to avoid having Habitat for Humanity from acquiring the cost.

Information Item only.

STAFF REPORTS

- **City Manager, Ben Gallegos** – Following the Coronavirus, could have a special meeting to declare a State of Emergency, city is waiving all online fees until May to lower over the counter traffic, will limit how many people can enter the city hall at one time to keep them 6ft apart, all events at city facilities have been cancelled, and 24 hour notices will mailed out, but no services will turned off. Spoke with Sean Howard about removing a flag and flag pole, per FAA regulations. FAA completed an inspection at the airport and stated the pole & flag must be removed, as a requirement of the results. Air Pollution Control is offering a commercial hybrid truck, and a webinar for a charging station, so staff will be looking in to it.
- **Police Chief Sal Raygoza** – Graffiti has been all over town, the minors were arrested & booked. They reside at the Housing Authority, as one of two of the families that relocated here. The other family has been evicted and no longer lives in Firebaugh. There has been property damage to the Maldonado Park, various things spray painted and brinks from the landscape have been removed.
- **Finance Director, Pio Martin** – The audit is done & will be presented April 6, we discussed the rate stabilization with Albert Peche and Clayton Tuckfield, Clayton informed staff, he estimated the difference this year, as part of the study, but assured us, we shouldn't have the same issue problem next year. Peche and Tuckfield, felt comfortable with the shortage, because Tuckfield expected to use \$150,000 from the rate stabilization fund. Staff will start working on the new budget and the first funds are expected to be presented in May.

- **City Attorney, James Sanchez** – Will provide a short presentation on the Social Media Policy at the next meeting. Working with city staff & Tara of RSG on the San Joaquin Villas project to address the concerns.
- **Council Member Valdez** – Had a conference call, Kingsburg has about 1000 jobs available, and I want to seek transportation for local residents to have the opportunity to go to Kingsburg for work. Following the coronavirus updates.
- **Council Member Perez** – I’m asking Fresno County to provide a laptop for our community, so the residents can use to complete their 2020 Census, information provide will be in English and Spanish.
- **Mayor Lopez** – Attended COG meeting, under the Senior Scrip Program, eligible seniors receive a 75% discount on ride fares by purchasing senior scrip, in electric credit to use with Lyft/Uber rides through GoGoGrandparent. GoGoGrandparent will access Lyft/Uber on their behalf to get drivers for them, but Firebaugh doesn’t have local drivers at this time, if anyone is interested.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEM ONLY

CLOSED SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENT

ADJOURNMENT *Motion adjourn by Consensus of the Council; motion passed by 5-0 vote at 8:16 p.m.*