

MEETING MINUTES

The City Council/Successor Agency of the City of Firebaugh
Vol. No. 21/04-05

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

City Council Meeting held via teleconferencing

***Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953 (b) (2), all action taken during this teleconferenced meeting shall be by roll call vote.**

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

Date/Time: April 5, 2021/6:00 p.m.

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

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

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; City Engineer, Mario Gouveia, & others.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE *Council Member Sablan led pledge of Allegiance.*

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve agenda by consensus of the Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PRESENTATION

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

- APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The City Council regular meeting on March 1, 2021.**
- WARRANT REGISTER – Period starting February 1, and ending on February 31, 2021.**

February 2021	General Warrants	#40762 - #40860	\$ 817,354.54
	Payroll Warrants	#71456 - #71472	\$ 127,643.45
	TOTAL		\$ 944,997.99

Motion to approve consent calendar by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Sablan, motion passed by 5-0 vote.

PUBLIC HEARING

3. **PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT 2021-01, REZONING 2021-01, ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT 2021-01, AND SPHERE OF INFLUENCE AMENDMENT/REORGANIZATION 2021-01 (PEOPLE'S PROPERTIES, LLC). NEGATIVE DECLARATION PREPARED.**

Open Hearing at 6:04 pm – No public comment, Information was provide on a few recommended changes – Hearing closed at 6:07 pm

Motion to Continue this item to the next council meeting by Council Member Lopez, second by Council Member Jenkins, motion passed by 5-0 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

4. **THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH TO DISCUSS & CONSIDER AIRPORT PROJECT – FUEL STATION.**

City Manager was approached from a private owner requesting to install a fueling station at the airport, consensus of the Council supported the idea with the Attorney drafting a liability contract between the owner & the City.

5. **RESOLUTION NO. 21-11 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH DIRECTING THE FILING OF THE ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS FOR LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING MAINTENANCE DISTRICT NO. 1 IN THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH.**

Motion to accept Res. No. 21-11 by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Sablan, motion passed by 5-0 vote.

6. **RESOLUTION NO. 21-12 – A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH ACCEPTING BID AND AWARING CONTRACT TO BUSH ENGINEERING, INC. FOR STBG – 8TH ST PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES REHAB AND CONSTRUCTION, FEDERAL-AID PROJECT NO. STPL-5224(024) AND STBG – 8TH ST REHABILITATION, FEDERAL-AID PROJECT NO. STPL-5224(025) PROJECTS AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENTS.**

Motion to accept Res. No. 21-12 by Council Member Perez, second by Council Member Jenkins, motion passed by 4-0 vote. Sablan – Abstained.

7. **RESOLUTION NO. 21-13 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2020 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM- CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ROUND 1 (CDBG-CV1) STANDARD AGREEMENT TO ADD ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM THE 2020 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM-CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ROUND 2 & 3 NOFA DATED DECEMBER 18, 2020.**

Motion to accept Res. No. 21-13 by Council Member Lopez, second by Council Member Sablan, motion passed by 5-0 vote.

8. **THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH TO DISCUSS & CONSIDER UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEM – DRONE PROGRAM.**

Police Chief Raygoza stated Stamoules Produced agreed to fund the aerial system – drone program, after about two years City will assume responsibility to fund if program is continued.

Information Item only

STAFF REPORTS

- **Police Chief, Sal Raygoza** – 2020 Annual reports & annual training report are included in your agenda packets. Last week PD was notified a grant to fund officers was recommended, so we're hoping to hear we are awarded. It will fund an additional officer, with 50% of the time doing outreach to kids with PAL & fund some Code Enforcement). Will update the Smoking Ordinance, since there has been some changes & I want to ban the sale of flavored tobacco.
- **City Engineer, Mario Gouveia** – Project update, sewer line project is on schedule, & almost complete.
- **Deputy City Clerk, Rita Lozano** – Form 700 deadline was April 1, 2021, I want to provide a final reminder to submit.
- **Finance Director, Pio Martin** – Working on the budget, hope to start presenting in May. Will be out of the office, Monday through Thursday for about three or four weeks, to attend a case hearing starting April 12. Server Equipment was replaced, so the water usage charges from Jan 24 to April 28, will be billed on this next billing. Customers will be billed only on the one tier, not the full three tiers.
- **City Manager, Ben Gallegos** – Received grant of \$135,000 for airport. Sewer project is doing well, residents have been great & very understanding about the corrections that needed to be made. VFW monument is half completed, we'll need to discuss a ribbon cutting ceremony, but still be aware of Covid requirements. Fire Station construction has started, West Hills College beams are up, subdivisions are going up pretty fast & Whitehurst wants to rent some office space from the building the sold us. There is some City documents stored there, so some restrictions or conditions will be implemented. I will be gone this Thursday & Friday. Fire Chief Borboa, will provide Quarterly reports at a future agenda. Olam is using community center for a job fair.
- **City Attorney James Sanchez** – Hiller lawsuit case looks like it will be going to court. Sustainable groundwater case consist of so many counties', cities & different water districts, it's been a long process, updates will provide as we know more.
- **Mr. Mark Benjamin of Board of Supervisor Brian Pacheco's Office** – Fresno County Health has a rental assistance program about \$30 million, information is available on Board of Supervisor Brian Pacheco's website.
- **Council Member Lopez** – request the possibility of start holding in person Council Meetings, I don't believe zoom meetings are as productive, not sure if it should be on the agenda for discussion.
- **Council Member Sablan** – working with Michael to get additional funding since more is needed. In favor of banning flavored tobacco. The Police Chief was asked is the City ever allows a smoke shop, would the ban on sales of flavored tobacco have any effect to the smoke shops? Chief responded, "No, there are different regulations for the two."
- **Council Member Perez** – As a non-profit, that is canvassing the Westside, we're learning a lot of people aren't aware of where they can get the COVID vaccine, so they have been informed by our non-profit group. "I love being able to inform the people & providing them the right information."
- **Council Member Jenkins** – nothing to report.
- **Council Member Valdez** – In support & want to know, what other council members are interested in doing about going to in person meeting, recommend a survey be done & what guidelines should be followed to able to hold the meetings.

CLOSED SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENT AFTER CLOSED SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Council Member Jenkins, second by Council Member Perez; motion passed by 5-0 vote at 7:04 p.m.