

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

February 8, 2010

Mayor Cannella called the Closed Session to order at 5:30 p.m. with the following in attendance:

ROLL CALL Councilmembers Durossette, Lane, Ochoa, Vierra, Mayor Cannella

5:30 p.m. CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR

City Negotiator: Liebert, Cassidy, Whitmore

Employee Organization: Miscellaneous Bargaining Unit

Employee Organization: First Line Supervisors/Confidential Bargaining Group

Employee Organization: Mid-Management Employees

Employee Organization: Department Heads

Employee Organization: Ceres Department of Public Safety Firefighters Association

Employee Organization: Ceres Police Officers' Association

Pursuant to Gov't. Code Section 54957.6

7:10 p.m. COVENE IN OPEN SESSION with nothing to report.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL Council Members Durossette, Lane, Ochoa, Vierra, Mayor Cannella

INVOCATION by Pastor Herb Henry, Richland Faith Assembly of God

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE to the flag led by Mayor Cannella.

PRESENTATIONS

A. League of California Cities November 2010 City Revenue Protection Ballot Measure, Stephen Qualls, Central Valley Regional Public Affairs Manager.

Mr. Qualls, representing the League of California Cities gave a brief overview of the 2010 City Revenue Protection Ballot Measure and urged the Council to pass a resolution in support of the measure.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the January 11, 2010 City Council Meeting and Study Session.

Council directed the City Clerk to modify Items 4 and 5 of the January 11, 2010 minutes to clarify that the amount of the proposal for each item included all fees necessary to complete the tasks.

MOTION: Approve the minutes of the January 11, 2010 City Council Meeting with modifications as requested.

MOVED: Moved by Lane/seconded by Durossette

VOTE: **Motion passed unanimously (5/0)**

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

- Len Shepherd, resident, spoke regarding a recent event at the community center and commended the Police and Fire Departments for their daily efforts.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS POSTED (OR AMENDED) AND CERTIFICATION OF POSTING

MOTION: Approve the agenda as posted and certification of posting.

MOVED: Moved by Vierra/seconded by Ochoa

VOTE: **Motion passed unanimously (5/0)**

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS/COMMISSIONS - None

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION – None

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Register of Audited Demands for period covering January 15–January 29, 2010.
2. **Resolution No. 2010-10** awarding the River Bluff Regional Park Phase I Landscape Maintenance Contract to Odyssey Landscape Corporation for \$17,820 per year and authorizing the City Manager to execute said agreement. **PULLED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION**
3. **Resolution No. 2010-11** approving a contract with Eco:Logic for Engineering Services for Headworks and Influent Pump Station Project.
4. **Resolution No. 2010-12** approving an amendment to the agreement with Lew Edwards Group for Consultant & Professional Services related to Public Relations for City-wide Water Meter Retrofit Project in the amount of \$10,000 increasing the total contract amount to \$41,000; approve the attached Budget Amendment for a total of \$10,000.00; extend the agreement term through April 15, 2010; and authorize the City Manager to execute said amendment. **PULLED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION**

MOTION: Approve Consent Calendar items 1 and 3 as recommended by staff.

MOVED: Moved by Vierra/seconded by Ochoa

VOTE: **Motion passed unanimously (5/0)**

CONSIDERATION OF ITEM(S) REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

2. **Resolution No. 2010-10** awarding the River Bluff Regional Park Phase I Landscape Maintenance Contract to Odyssey Landscape Corporation for \$17,820 per year and authorizing the City Manager to execute said agreement.

Commended staff for seeking new bids on this on-going maintenance service. The result is a savings of approximately \$30,000 annually.

MOTION: Approve **No. 2010-10** as recommended by staff.

MOVED: Moved by Vierra/seconded by Ochoa

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

4. **Resolution No. 2010-12** approving an amendment to the agreement with Lew Edwards Group for Consultant & Professional Services related to Public Relations for City-wide Water Meter Retrofit Project in the amount of \$10,000 increasing the total contract amount to \$41,000; approve the attached Budget Amendment for a total of \$10,000.00; extend the agreement term through April 15, 2010; and authorize the City Manager to execute said amendment.

Item pulled by Len Shepherd, resident, asking for justification of the request for additional funds.

Staff responded that the request for additional funds is a result of work the City has requested from the Lew Edwards Group for additional services.

MOTION: Approve **Resolution No. 2010-12** as recommended by staff.

MOVED: Moved by Vierra/seconded by Ochoa

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously (5/0)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. Consideration of the Planning Commission denial of the proposed ordinance amending certain sections of Title 18, Chapter 18.42 of the Ceres Municipal Code to allow on-site electronic changeable copy signs.
 - o **Resolution No. 2010-13** adopting a Negative Declaration for a Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment to amend the Ceres Municipal Code Chapter 18.42 to allow provisions for on-site electronic changeable copy signs and allowances for service club signs in public right-of-way. Application Number ZOTA 09-04.
 - o **Ordinance No. 2010-995** amending certain sections of Title 18, Chapter 18.42 of the Ceres Municipal Code to allow provisions for on-site electronic changeable copy signs and allowances for service club signs in public right-of-way. **First Reading and Introduction.**

Tom Westbrook, Interim City Planner, presented an overview of an amendment in which staff has identified changes in the proposed text amendment based on direction given at the January 11, 2010 City Council Study Session.

There were a few clarifying questions from the Council.

Dirk Wyatt, Applicant, addressed Council and thanked them for their time and effort in considering this amendment.

Prior to moving forward with motions, Mayor Cannella commented that it was his belief that amending the Municipal Code to allow electronic changeable copy signs was not in the best interest of the City.

MOTION: Approve **Resolution No. 2010-13** adopting a Negative Declaration for a Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment to amend the Ceres Municipal Code Chapter 18.42 to allow provisions for on-site electronic changeable copy signs and allowances for service club signs in public right-of-way. Application Number ZOTA 09-04.

MOVED: Moved by Lane/seconded by Durossette

VOTE: **Motion passed with Mayor Cannella voting No. (4/1)**

MOTION: Waive full reading and have **Ordinance No. 2010-995** read by number and title only.*

MOVED: Moved by Lane/seconded by Durossette

VOTE: **Motion passed unanimously (5/0)**

**Unanimous vote required to avoid reading Ordinance in its entirety.*

Cindy Heidorn, City Clerk, read **Ordinance No. 2010-995** by number and title only.

MOTION: Approve **Ordinance No. 2010-**amending certain sections of Title 18, Chapter 18.42 of the Ceres Municipal Code to allow provisions for on-site electronic changeable copy signs and allowances for service club signs in public right-of-way for First Reading and Introduction.

MOVED: Moved by Lane/seconded by Durossette

VOTE: **Motion passed with Mayor Cannella voting No. (4/1)**

PUBLIC HEARING – None.

NEW BUSINESS

6. Resolution No. 2010-XXX awarding an agreement with Golden State Flow Measurement Company for procurement of smart water meters and implementation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure System for \$2,750,000.00 plus 5% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$2,887,500, and authorize the City Manager to execute said agreement.

On December 14, 2009, Council reviewed the differences in features and costs of the AMR and AMI systems, including an estimated \$700,000 higher cost for the AMI system. Golden State Flow Measurement (GSFM) Company suggested potential savings of \$320,000 to \$420,000 to reduce the cost difference of the AMI system. Based on this information, Council made the decision to go with the more advanced, AMI system.

The largest potential savings was by providing dual port transmitters for meters that were adjacent saving \$100 per location. GSFM suggested that 40% is a typical number of such locations, potentially saving \$200,000 by avoiding 2,000 transmitters. In a subsequent field review, only 500 locations were found in Ceres water system. Also the opportunities for drilling water meter lids to save the cost of a new lid was reduced since many lids are broken and not available for retrofit. The cost savings from Golden State Flow Measurement (GSFM) is only \$257,500 not the \$320,000 to \$420,000 as first indicated from the vendor.

Staff requested a two week continuance of this item if Council felt that Golden State is still the preferred vendor, to allow staff time to refine the numbers. If Council decides to re-look at the other vendors, a four-week continuance was needed.

Council expressed concern that GSFM made certain cost saving promises at the December 14, 2009 meeting which caused them to choose the more expensive AMI system. Now the vendor cannot keep those promises and Council is faced with either spending more money for the AMI system or spending time and money to re-visit the other proposals or reject all bids and go through the bidding process again.

A representative from Golden State Flow Measurement was in attendance at the meeting and told Council he felt he had cut pricing everywhere he could. He would however, speak with his suppliers and see if they could not find some additional cost savings.

After further Council discussion the following motion was made:

MOTION: Continue the item to February 22, 2010 to allow staff time to negotiate with GSFM for additional savings on the AMI system.

MOVED: Moved by Ochoa/seconded by Vierra

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously. (5/0)

COUNCILMEMBER REFERRALS – None.

REPORTS

Council and staff reported on various activities including the recent City Manager's Conference where the discussions were centered around pension reform and budget reduction strategies. This meeting will be Phil Scott's last meeting with the City of Ceres, Council thanked him for his efforts and wished him good-luck with future endeavors.

CLOSED SESSION – None.

8:12 p.m. There being no further business, Mayor Cannella adjourned the meeting

Anthony Cannella, Mayor

Cindy Heidorn, CMC
City Clerk