

## CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

**October 11, 2010**

Mayor Cannella called the October 11, 2010 City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following in attendance:

**ROLL CALL;** Council Members Durossette, Ochoa, Vierra, Mayor Cannella

**EXCUSED:** Vice Mayor Lane

**INVOCATION** by Michael Brinton, Deputy Director Public Works/Assistant City Engineer

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** to the flag led by Mayor Cannella.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

A. Proclamation declaring October 23 – 31, 2010 Red Ribbon Week in the City of Ceres.

Deputy Chief Borges accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Department of Public Safety.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** of the regular meeting of September 13, 2010

**MOTION:** Approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 13, 2010.

**MOVED:** Moved by Durossette/seconded by Ochoa

**VOTE:** **Motion passed with Vice Mayor Lane Excused (4/0)**

### **CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS**

- Len Shepherd, resident, spoke regarding the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial he recently visited. Mr. Shepherd felt that Ceres should feel fortunate that we have not lost any firefighters in the line of duty.

### **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 Durossette

**VOTE:** **Motion passed with Vice Mayor Lane Excused (4/0)**

**APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS/COMMISSIONS** – None.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION** – None.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. General Correspondence – **Information Only**
  - a. Recreation Division Monthly Report for July and August, 2010.
  - b. Major Project List Update as of October 5, 2010.
2. Register of Audited Demands for period covering September 20-30, 2010.

3. **Resolution No. 2010-126** approving the creation of new Fire Fighter and Fire Engineer job descriptions, modifying the Fire Captain job description, and amending the salary schedule. **PULLED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION.**
4. **Resolution No. 2010-127** approving a Service and Maintenance agreement with Industrial Automation for SCADA and electrical services and maintenance at all water pumping facilities, and authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract.
5. **Resolution No. 2010-128** approving a Budget Amendment to Appropriate Funds for Stormwater Pollution Prevention Outreach and Education.

MOTION: Approve the Consent Calendar Items 1a, 1b, 2 and 4 as recommended by staff.

MOVED: Moved by Durossette/seconded by Vierra

**VOTE: Motion passed with Vice Mayor Lane Excused (4/0)**

#### **CONSIDERATION OF ITEM(S) REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR**

3. **Resolution No. 2010-126** approving the creation of new Fire Fighter and Fire Engineer job descriptions, modifying the Fire Captain job description, and amending the salary schedule.

Council asked for clarification on the job descriptions and salaries.

Deputy Chief Borges responded that during the course of our labor negotiations with the Ceres Professional Firefighters Local 3636, it was discussed and agreed upon that all current “Firefighters” would have their title changed to “Fire Engineer”. This change in title was not to cause any change to their current salary or job description. It was a title change only and was not considered a promotion. This created the need for new Fire Fighter and Fire Engineer job descriptions. The pay scale reflects an approximate 10% salary difference between the Fire Fighter and Fire Engineer positions.

MOTION: **Approve Resolution No. 2010-126** as recommended by staff.

MOVED: Moved by Ochoa/seconded by Vierra

**VOTE: Motion passed with Vice Mayor Lane Excused (4/0)**

5. **Resolution No. 2010-128** approving a Budget Amendment to Appropriate Funds for Stormwater Pollution Prevention Outreach and Education

Len Shepherd, resident asked what the outreach program entails.

Staff responded that it is a regional water quality control program.

MOTION: **Approve Resolution No. 2010-126** as recommended by staff.

MOVED: Moved by Ochoa/seconded by Vierra

**VOTE: Motion passed with Vice Mayor Lane Excused (4/0)**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – None.

**PUBLIC HEARING** – None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

4. **Resolution No. 2010-129** declaring the City Council's intention to change water fees; directing staff to schedule hearings to consider adjustments to fees for water service and to provide Notice of the Hearings; and establishing rules for counting protests against the proposed fee changes.

Glenn Gebhardt, Public works director introduced the item to Council stating that the State has enacted the requirement for each city to adopt metered rates and bill using the meter rates rather than billing on the basis of a flat fee for the purpose of water conservation.

As discussed at various meetings in the past, the City is currently installing meters for every service in the City that is not already on a meter. Although the metered rate will be created, it will not be charged to the water users until September 2011. The average user in the City should see no change in their water bills. Those individuals who use large amounts of water during the month will see an increase in their water bills. Likewise, those that use less than the average amount, will see a reduced bill.

7:15 p.m. Mayor Cannella Opened the Public Hearing

- Albert Avila, resident, expressed concern that the City was setting too high an expectation that the average users water bill would stay exactly the same or decrease and he felt that would not be the case. Mr. Avila cautioned staff and Council to set realistic expectations. Any increase no matter how slight will be upsetting to some. Mr. Avila also expressed concerns that, based on the article in the Courier, staff is estimating the average usage too low at 6,100 gallons per month. Mr. Avila is employed by a neighboring City and based on his experience there, that estimate is too low.

Staff responded that the estimate that they are assuming for the average user is 15,000 gallons per month. They would check on the information that was published in the Courier.

Council added that it was their expectation that the average user's water bill would remain the same and requested that staff meet with Mr. Avila and compare numbers.

Staff concurred that it was also their expectation that the average user's bill would not change.

- Joy Black, resident, addressed Council and stated that she uses 40,000 gallons of water a month to water her trees and landscaping each month.

Staff responded that 40,000 was excessive and recommended that she work with personnel from the Water Department for recommendations on water savings measures she can take to help minimize her water usage.

**MOTION:** **Approve Resolution No. 2010-129** *with the understanding that Mr. Gebhardt work with Mr. Avila to understand the difference in the usage amounts. It is Council's full expectation that for the average user, the rate will not increase.*

**MOVED:** Moved by Durossette/seconded by Ochoa

**VOTE:** **Motion passed with Vice Mayor Lane Excused (4/0)**

**7:25 P.M. ADJOURN AS CITY COUNCIL TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING**

**7:51 P.M. RECONVENE AS CITY COUNCIL**

**COUNCILMEMBER REFERRALS** – None.

**REPORTS** – City Manager, Brad Kilger, reported on the Blue Star Memorial Dedication.

There being no further business, Mayor Cannella adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

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Anthony Cannella, Mayor

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Cindy Heidorn, CMC, City Clerk