

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES**

**September 8, 2014**

**7:00 P.M.** Mayor Vierra called the September 8, 2014 City Council meeting to order with the following in attendance:

**ROLL CALL** Council Members Durossette, Kline, Lane, Ryno, Mayor Vierra

**INVOCATION** by Mike Brinton

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** to the flag led by Mayor Vierra

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** of the Regular Council Meeting of August 11, 2014.

**ACTION:** It was moved by Durossette /Seconded Kline to approve the minutes of the meeting of August 11, 2014. Motion passed by the following vote:

**AYES:** Councilmembers Durossette, Kline, Lane, Ryno, Mayor Vierra

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS**

- Ed Persike, resident, spoke about some rumors he had heard about potential personnel issues and feels that the City is about to be faced with two lawsuits. He recommended that the City remove the personnel involved.
- Monica Ventura, resident, representing the NAACP, also stated that she heard rumors that some female employees privacy was being violated and stated that she feels the Council is not taking any action to alleviate it.
- The following, not willing to give their last names concurred with the comments of Monica Ventura: Ashley, Carecia, Tracy and Juanita.
- Frank Johnson commented on the same rumors the others spoke about commenting that according to the rumors, these personnel issues have been going on for a long time. He also asked why so many officers are leaving for positions in the Bay Area.
- Rene Ledbetter, President of the Chamber of Commerce, announced the upcoming activities that will be taking place in the City of Ceres.

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

**ACTION:** It was moved by Lane/Seconded Durossette to approve the Agenda as posted (or amended) and certification of posting. Motion passed by the following vote:

**AYES:** Councilmembers Durossette, Kline, Land, Ryno, Mayor Vierra

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS/COMMISSIONS**

- A. **Resolution No. 2014-109** Council concurrence of Mayor Vierra’s appointment of Steve Hallam to the Successor Agency to the Ceres Redevelopment Agency pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34179.

**ACTION:** It was moved by Lane /Seconded by Kline to approve **Resolution No. 2014-109** Council concurrence of Mayor Vierra’s appointment of Steve Hallam to the Successor Agency to the Ceres Redevelopment Agency pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34179. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Durossette, Kline, Land, Ryno, Mayor Vierra  
 NOES: None  
 ABSENT: None

- B. **Resolution No. 2014-110** Council concurrence of Mayor Vierra’s appointment of Steve Hallam to the Successor Agency to the Stanislaus Ceres Redevelopment Commission pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34179.

**ACTION:** It was moved by Kline /Seconded Durossette to approve **Resolution No. 2014-110** Council concurrence of Mayor Vierra’s appointment of Steve Hallam to the Successor Agency to the Stanislaus Ceres Redevelopment Commission pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34179. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Durossette, Kline, Land, Ryno, Mayor Vierra  
 NOES: None  
 ABSENT: None

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION - None**

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. General Correspondence – **Information Only**
  - a. Recreation Division Monthly Report for July, 2014.
  - b. Major Project Update, September 1, 2014.
  - c. Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Update, September 1, 2014.
2. Register of Audited Demands for period covering August 20 – 29, 2014.
3. **Resolution No. 2014-111** approving a loan to the Successor Agency for the Former Ceres Redevelopment Agency in an amount not to exceed \$154,702 for Enforceable Obligations.
4. **Resolution No. 2014-112** approving a loan to the Successor Agency for the Former Stanislaus-Ceres Redevelopment Commission in an amount not to exceed \$125,000 for Enforceable Obligations.
5. **Resolution No. 2014-113** awarding the Contract for the 2014 Slurry Seal Project to Telfer Highway Technologies, authorize a 10% Contingency, and authorize the City Manager to execute the Contract.
6. **Resolution No. 2014-114** approving Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Carryover Appropriations and Amending the 2014-2015 Budget.

- 7. **Resolution No. 2014-115** accepting Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance 2013 and 2014 Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant and approving a Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget Amendment.

**ACTION:** It was moved by Durossette/Seconded Lane to approve **Resolution No. 2014-115** accepting Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance 2013 and 2014 Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant and approving a Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget Amendment. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Durossette, Kline, Land, Ryno, Mayor Vierra  
 NOES: None  
 ABSENT: None

**CONSIDERATION OF ITEM(S) REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR – None.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.**

**PUBLIC HEARING – None.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 8. **Resolution No. 2014-116** recommending the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors approve the FY 2013/14 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

**ACTION:** It was moved by Kline/Seconded Durossette to approve **Resolution No. 2014-116** recommending the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors approve the FY 2013/14 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Durossette, Kline, Land, Ryno, Mayor Vierra  
 NOES: None  
 ABSENT: None

- 9. **Resolution No. 2014-117** authorizing overstaffing in the Fire Division by one full-time equivalent Firefighter.

City Manager Toby Wells, presented the SAFER Grant History which allowed the City to utilize six additional Fire Fighters paid through the SAFER Grant funds. Now that the funding has run out, Council has some decisions to make as to whether we let the six Fire Fighters go or try to retain them until we find out if we will get addition Grant Funding.

After outlining the history of the Grant, Mr. Wells offered the following suggested alternatives:

- 1. No retention – return to two person staffing at three stations. Three person staffing remains at Fire Station 1.
- 2. No retention – Revise staffing plan with Station closure to have three person staffing.
- 3. Retain all six; No changes.

4. Retain all six: Alternate staffing plan; relief staffing with Station 3 brown out.

There was extensive discussion of the various alternatives.

8:09 P.M. Mayor Vierra opened the item for public comment.

- Frank Johnson, President NAACP, stated that he thought the City should keep the six Fire Fighters
- Len Shepherd, resident, stated he was OK with Option 4 however the City cannot spend more money than we have.
- Jon Goulding, Ceres Fire Department, with Option 4, overtime would be greatly reduced by browning out Station 3 and fill positions with personnel already working.
- Ed Persike, resident, commented that the staffing levels should be what OSHA says is safe.
- Don Cool, resident, commended Council for their hard work trying to find a solution for the issue.
- Rene Ledbetter, President, Chamber of Commerce commended both the Council and the Fire Department for working together on a solution.
- Nancy Roberts, Tracy, stated that current response times are 15-17 minutes. Keeping the six SAFER Grant funded Fire Fighters will help keep response times low.

8:24 P.M. Mayor Vierra closed the Public Comment period.

After further Council discussion, the following motion was made:

**ACTION:** It was moved by Durossette/Seconded Kline to take no action on **Resolution No. 2014-117** authorizing overstaffing in the Fire Division by one full-time equivalent Firefighter; and directed Staff to meet with Fire, the Union and the Measure H Committee to seek approval, and schedule for final consideration on September 22, 2014. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Durossette, Kline, Land, Ryno, Mayor Vierra  
 NOES: None  
 ABSENT: None

**COUNCILMEMBER REFERRALS** – Council requested an update on the Volunteers in Code Enforcement (V.I.C.E.) in the next few weeks.

**REPORTS**

Council reported on the recently held League of California Cities Annual Conference.

8:43 P.M. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Chris Vierra, Mayor

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Cindy Heidorn, City Clerk