

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

Monday, March 9, 2015

7:01 P.M. Mayor Vierra called the March 9, 2015 City Council Meeting to order with the following in attendance:

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

INVOCATION by Pastor Jim Stochl, Harvest Presbyterian Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE to the flag led by Mayor Vierra.

PRESENTATIONS

- A. Mayor Vierra read the Proclamation declaring March 2015 as American Red Cross month in the City of Ceres.
- B. Mayor Vierra announced that the Proclamation honoring Guillermo Ochoa is postponed per the family's request.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

ACTION: It was moved by Lane/Seconded by Durossette to approve the Minutes from the regular meeting of January 26, 2015. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Durossette, Kline, Lane, Ryno, Mayor Vierra
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

ACTION: It was moved by Durossette/Seconded by Lane to approve the Minutes from the regular meeting of February 9, 2015. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Durossette, Lane, Ryno, Mayor Vierra
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: Council Member Kline

CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

- Leonard Shepherd, 2841 Fowler Road, Ceres, CA

Mr. Shepherd stated that he is very pleased with the decision to separate the Police and Fire Departments. He commended everyone for this monumental decision.

- Renee Ledbetter, Chamber of Commerce President

Mrs. Ledbetter thanked all for their support and attendance at the recent Black Tie Charity Ball. It was a very successful event. Ceres is continuing to move in a positive direction.

Mrs. Ledbetter invited everyone to attend the Chamber Mixer this Thursday evening, March 12th at 5:30 p.m. It will be held at Senator Cannella's new office in Ceres, located at the corner of 3rd and Magnolia Streets.

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

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

AYES: Council Members Durossette, Kline, Lane, Ryno, Mayor Vierra

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS/COMMISSIONS - None

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION – None

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. General Correspondence – **Information Only**
 - a. Redevelopment and Economic Development Division Monthly Report, February 2015.
2. Register of Audited Demands for period covering February 19 – February 26, 2015.
3. Resolution No. 2015-25, authorization to appropriate funds for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant.
4. Accept the City of Ceres audited Financial Reports for the period ending June 30, 2014.
5. Resolution No. 2015-26, accepting the Construction Contract for the 2012 Water Well Standby Power Project as complete and releasing the retention to the contractor.
6. Waive second reading and adopt Ordinance No. 2015-1026 and Ordinance No. 2015-1027, for two Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments (14-14 ZOTA and 14-15 ZOTA) to amend the City Zoning Ordinance to implement programs as part of the City of Ceres 2009-2014 Housing Element relating to an Emergency Shelters Ordinance and a Reasonable Accommodations Policy and Procedure Ordinance.
7. Resolution No. 2015-27, authorizing Overtime and Portal to Portal Pay for Employees.
8. Resolution No. 2015-28, authorizing Terms and Conditions of Fire Department Response Away from Official Duty Station and Assignment to an Emergency Incident.
9. Resolution No. 2015-29 ratification of appointment of Bryan Nicholes to the position of Fire Chief.

ACTION: It was moved by Durossette/Seconded by Ryno to approve Consent Calendar Items 1a, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 as recommended by staff. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Durossette, Kline, Lane, Ryno, Mayor Vierra
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

PUBLIC HEARING - None

NEW BUSINESS

10. Resolution No. 2015-30, adopting the line drawing criteria for adjusting Council District Boundaries.

City Attorney, Tom Hallinan presented the staff report, providing a brief background. He stated that Doug Johnson from NDC Research is in the audience this evening; both he and Mr. Johnson are available to answer any questions.

7:17 P.M. Mayor Vierra opened the public hearing.

7:17 P.M. There being no public comments, the public hearing was closed.

A short discussion occurred with Mr. Johnson and Mr. Hallinan answering various questions asked by Council Members.

ACTION: It was moved by Kline/Seconded by Lane to approve Resolution No. 2015-30, adopting the drawing criteria for adjusting Council District Boundaries. Motion passed by the following vote:

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

COUNCILMEMBER REFERRALS - None

REPORTS

Mayor Vierra thanked Mrs. Ledbetter, the Chamber and City Staff for putting on a very nice event on Saturday evening.

Vice-Mayor Durossette apologized for not attending the event on Saturday evening; he was coaching at a softball tournament and unable to attend. He did, however, see the pictures that Becki Nicholes posted and everyone looked great.

Council Member Lane congratulated Mrs. Ledbetter and the Chamber on a wonderful event; thanked her and everyone that was involved.

Council Member Lane prefaced his next remarks with stating that he normally doesn't address something like this from the dais. He responded to Mr. Benziger's comment in the Ceres Courier about Council having dinner at the taxpayers' expense. He explained that the Council doesn't always partake of the meal that is provided; however, staff is here, staying late, away from their families and they should eat. Staff and Council are cognizant of spending money and have taken the budget seriously. He proceeded to ask Mr. Benziger to, in the future, please contact the City Manager before moving forward with an article that involves the Council.

Council Member Kline congratulated Chief Bryan Nicholes and Captain Rick Collins on their recent promotions.

City Manager, Toby Wells announced:

- We are tentatively looking at March 16th for a Swearing-In Ceremony for a number of promotions in the Police Department, and will send out that announcement.
- We will also be planning an event for Chief Nicholes, and will get that on the Council's calendars.
- Mr. Wells commended Finance Director, Suzanne Dean and her team for the Audited Financials that were approved this evening. They continue to do an amazing job; the audited financials continue to get the highest marks possible, and for that he is very grateful.
- We did apply for the SAFER Grant for the 6 firefighters per Council Resolution earlier this year. The time frame for the award announcement will be as early as June, but as late as September.
- Recently, Supervisor DeMartini mentioned that LAFCO is considering a policy change to Ag Mitigation. The LAFCO meeting will be on the 25th of March.

Director of Community Development, Tom Westbrook stated that the Housing Element Workshop will be held tomorrow evening at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

7:44 P.M. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Chris Vierra, Mayor

Ann Montgomery, Acting City Clerk