



**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL**  
**CITY OF CERES, CALIFORNIA**  
**City Council Chambers, 2701 Fourth Street**

**Monday, July 11, 2016 – 6:00 p.m.**

Mailing Address: Ceres City Hall, 2720 Second Street, Ceres, CA 95307-3292  
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Members of the public are advised that all cellular telephones and any other communication devices are to be turned off upon entering the City Council Chambers.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Vierra called the July 11, 2016 regular City Council meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL – Present:**

Mayor: Vierra  
Council Members: Durossette, Lane, Ryno

**Absent:** Vice Mayor: Kline

**INVOCATION**

Invocation was given by Michael Brinton.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Vierra.

**PRESENTATIONS**

A. Proclamation declaring July National Parks and Recreation Month.

Mayor Vierra read the proclamation into the record and presented the proclamation to Traci Farris, Recreation Manager.

- B. Presentation to Randy Cerny and John Silveria for their years of service on the Measure H Oversight Committee.

Mayor Vierra read the plaques into the record and presented them to Randy Cerny and John Silveria. Randy Cerny and John Silveria thanked Council for their recognition of Service and shared parting comments.

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS** to the Council on matters not included on the agenda (five minutes).

Jeff Mendez spoke regarding a fundraiser for Bradley Bruton, Ceres High School graduate and former City of Ceres employee. The fundraiser will help send Bradley's family to attend his U.S. Coast Guard "boot camp" graduation.

Leonard Shepherd spoke regarding the recent attacks on police officers. He voiced his support for Ceres Police and Fire and thanked them for risking their lives on a daily basis.

Dave Pratt voiced his concerns regarding the occurrence of another shooting. He also asked if there are inspections performed on City construction projects. City Manager Wells stated that inspections are done on all projects before they are accepted for completion.

John Silveria spoke regarding the changes in his neighborhood and the maintenance and upkeep of properties. He also spoke regarding the replanting of City trees and the possibility of assessing fines on homeowners that do not maintain their yards and City trees.

Don Donaldson commented that he started basketball and baseball programs at the City 34 years ago. He also spoke regarding the lighting at Garrison and voiced his concerns regarding the elimination of the basketball and baseball programs. Mr. Donaldson further spoke regarding a recent citation by the City's Code Enforcement Officer.

**APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS/COMMISSIONS**

- C. Hold candidate Interviews for the Measure H Citizens' Oversight Committee and approve three (3) appointments to the Measure H Citizens' Oversight Committee for a three year term expiring June 30, 2019.

Council interviewed four candidates for the Measure H Citizens' Oversight Committee. The candidates were: Leonard Shepherd, Diego Fernandez, Rafael Valencia and Melvin Yeakley.

**ACTION:** After Council discussion, the Mayor appointed Leonard Shepherd, Diego Fernandez, and Rafael Valencia for a three year term expiring June 30, 2019.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

No conflicts were declared.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

All matters listed on the consent calendar are considered routine in nature and will be enacted by a single motion unless otherwise requested by an individual Council Member or public for special consideration. Otherwise the recommendation of staff will be accepted and acted upon by roll call vote.

1. Clerks Report of Posting. The agenda of the regular July 11, 2016, City Council meeting was posted on July 6, 2016. (Nayares-Perez)
2. Waive Readings. All Readings of Ordinances and resolutions are waived, except by title. (Nayares-Perez)
3. Approval of Minutes (Nayares-Perez)
  - a. Minutes of the June 27, 2016 Regular City Council meeting. (*Ryno and Lane absent.*)

*(Removed from Consent)*

4. Register of Audited Demands for Period covering June 21, 2016 through July 1, 2016. (Dean)
5. General Correspondence – **Information Only**

*(Removed from Consent)*

  - a. Recreation Division Monthly Report for May 2016. (Farris)
 

*(Removed from Consent)*
  - b. Whitmore Mansion Quarterly Report. (Wells)
  - c. Redevelopment & Economic Development Department Monthly Report for June 2016. (Hallam)
6. **Resolution No. 2016-078**, authorizing the continued participation in the Stanislaus Urban County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) Consortium for fiscal years 2017-2020. (Westbrook)
7. **Resolution No. 2016-079**, authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with Univar USA, Inc. for the purchase of Ferric Chloride and Sodium Hypochlorite for City wells. (Damas)

*(Removed from Consent)*

8. **Resolution No. 2016-080**, approving Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement between the City of Turlock and the City of Ceres for contract employment of a Water Distribution Operator Grade 4 from the City of Ceres. (Wells)
9. Accept the 2016 Local Agency Biennial Notice for the City of Ceres as required by the Political Reform Act. (Wells)

*(Continued from the June 27, 2016 Council Meeting)*

10. **Resolution No. 2016-064**, authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with Clark Pest Control for City Pest Control Services. (Damas)

Mayor Vierra asked if any Council Member or citizen would like an item pulled from the Consent Calendar and be heard under separate motion. Items 4, 5a, 5b and 8 were removed from Consent.

Mayor Vierra asked, if anyone from the Public had any comments. There being no comments, Mayor Vierra brought the item back to Council for direction.

**MOTION:** Motion by Council Member Durossette, seconded by Council Member Ryno, approving **Items 1-3, 5c, 6, 7, 9, and 10.** Motion passes 3/0/1 by the following roll call vote:

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

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

##### **Item 4 – Council Member Ryno**

Council Member Ryno inquired about the payment of two citations and voiced her dissent. City Manager Wells elaborated on the citations and payments.

Mayor Vierra asked, if anyone from the Public had any comments. There being no comments, Mayor Vierra brought the item back to Council for direction.

**MOTION:** Motion by Council Member Durossette, seconded by Council Member Lane, approving **Item 4, Register of Audited Demands.** Motion passes 3/1/1 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Council Members: Durossette, Lane, Mayor Vierra  
 NOES: Council Members: Ryno  
 ABSENT: Council Members: Vice-Mayor Kline

##### **Item 5a – Don Donaldson, Ceres Resident**

Don Donaldson inquired about a former City of Ceres employee and his salary. Mayor Vierra stated that the information is not readily available. However, Mr. Donaldson could submit a public records request for the information.

Mayor Vierra asked, if anyone from the Public had any comments. There being no comments, Mayor Vierra brought the item back to Council for direction.

**MOTION:** Motion by Council Member Durossette, seconded by Council Member Lane, approving **Item 5a, Recreation Division Monthly Report.** Motion passes 4/0/1 by the following roll call vote:

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

##### **Item 5b – Council Member Ryno**

Council Member Ryno requested that in addition to the revenue received, future reports also include how many bookings there were for the period being reported.

Mayor Vierra asked, if anyone from the Public had any comments. There being no comments, Mayor Vierra brought the item back to Council for direction.

**MOTION:** Motion by Council Member Ryno, seconded by Council Member Lane, approving **Item 5b, Whitmore Mansion Quarterly Report**. **Motion passes 4/0/1** by the following roll call vote:

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

#### **Item 8 – David Pratt, Ceres Resident**

Dave Pratt inquired about the Water Distribution Operator and what that position will be used for. City Manager Wells explained that the item is for approval of an agreement between the Cities of Ceres and Turlock. Ceres will temporarily loan that position to the City of Turlock.

Mayor Vierra asked, if anyone from the Public had any comments. There being no comments, Mayor Vierra brought the item back to Council for direction.

**MOTION:** Motion by Council Member Lane, seconded by Council Member Durossette, approving **Item 8, Resolution No. 2016-080**. **Motion passes 4/0/1** by the following roll call vote:

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

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No items scheduled.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

11. Public Hearing to consider **Resolution No. 2016-081**, amending/approving the Annual Engineers Report, confirming the assessments and ordering the levy for the 1987 Landscape and Lighting District for Fiscal Year 2016/2017. (Damas)

Public Works Director Jeremy Damas, gave the report and asked that Council approve the Engineers Annual Report, confirm the assessment and order the levy for the 1987 Landscape and Lighting District for Fiscal Year 2016/17.

Mayor Vierra opened the Public Hearing. The following persons spoke:

- John Silveria, Ceres resident asked for clarification of the landscape and lighting district. City Manager Wells explained what landscaping and lighting assessments are and the process to set the assessment.

Mayor Vierra closed the Public Hearing. The item was brought back to Council for consideration.

**MOTION:** Motion by Council Member Lane, seconded by Council Member Durossette, approving **Resolution No. 2016-081**. Motion passes 4/0/1 by the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: Council Members: None

ABSENT: Council Members: Vice-Mayor Kline

12. Public Hearing to consider **Resolution No. 2016-082**, adopting the Annual Budget for the City of Ceres for the 2016/17 Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017; and **Resolution No. 2016-083**, adopting the Appropriations Limitations for Fiscal Year 2016/17. (Wells)

City Manager Wells gave the report. City Manager Wells reviewed the changes from the draft FY 2016-2017 budget presented on June 13. The changes were primarily due to updated projections for FY 2015-2016, which consisted of \$250,000 in revenue and \$80,000 in expenditures. He expects the budget to be at an 18% reserve. He also reviewed minor corrections and the updated General Fund Future Projections chart. City Manager Wells detailed the projection notes and highlights for Fiscal Year 2016-2017. The total actual budget for the City is \$71 million dollars (which includes all other funding sources); and a total of 191 full-time employees. City Manager Wells also thanked Finance Director Suzanne Dean and her staff for all of their work on the budget. City Manager Wells discussed the next steps, which are: 1) Finalize the FY 2015-2016 budget numbers; 2) Return to Council in October with updated numbers; and 3) Create a plan to address the structural deficit.

Council Member Ryno inquired about the negative cash balance for the Community Center and stated that the General Fund projections do not include the negative cash balance from the Community Center. She inquired where the money to run the Community Center comes from. City Manager Wells stated it's an enterprise fund that is a sub-fund of the General Fund. Council Member Ryno stated that the negative cash balance is not reflected in the projections. City Manager Wells stated that the amount is on the balance sheet as a negative number. Council Member Ryno stated that it's a separate fund, but that the money comes from the General Fund. City Manager Wells answered that it's a separate fund that is running in a negative balance. Council Member Ryno acknowledged the changes to the budget and that the reserves were increased to 18%. However, she does not want it to go below 18%. She also stated that two years ago, Council wanted a balanced budget, and that has not happened. She further commented that there is a set amount of money coming into the City and the City needs to start living within its budget. Mayor Vierra stated that Mr. Wells understands that there's a deficiency and a plan has been set out to address it. Mayor Vierra commented that it's a deficiency, but it is being worked out and that the City Manager has met the criteria that Council directed of an 18% reserve.

Mayor Vierra opened the Public Hearing. The following persons spoke:

- John Silveria commented that after six years on the Measure H Committee, nothing has changed. Mr. Silveria suggested that the Measure H tax be eliminated and a new tax be proposed to home owners and let them decide. Mr. Silveria stated he does not agree with cutting Police and Fire.
- Leonard Shepherd stated that there is no chance that the citizens will pass another tax. He further stated that citizens are paying enough taxes between sales and property taxes. Mr. Shepherd commented that he supported the Measure H tax, because it was specific to Police and Fire and the money remained in Ceres.
- Dave Pratt stated that another tax on residents would not pass. There are too many people on fixed incomes.
- Don Donaldson commented that you have to pay for the services you get. He also stated that he does not pay more than what he makes, and that the City cannot spend more than what comes in.

Mayor Vierra closed the Public Hearing. The item was brought back to Council for consideration.

**MOTION:** Motion by Council Member Durossette, seconded by Council Member Lane, approving **Resolution No. 2016-082**. **Motion passes 3/1/1** by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Council Members: Durossette, Lane, Mayor Vierra  
 NOES: Council Members: Ryno  
 ABSENT: Council Members: Vice-Mayor Kline

**MOTION:** Motion by Council Member Lane, seconded by Council Member Durossette, approving **Resolution No. 2016-083**. **Motion passes 3/1/1** by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Council Members: Durossette, Lane, Mayor Vierra  
 NOES: Council Members: Ryno  
 ABSENT: Council Members: Vice-Mayor Kline

## NEW BUSINESS

No items scheduled.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

No items scheduled.

### COUNCILMEMBER REFERRALS

Any Council Members that would like to have an agenda item placed on a future agenda shall make a request under this section of the agenda.

Council Member Ryno requested that a discussion regarding Fireworks be brought to Council in September. City Manager Wells stated that an item will be brought to the September 12, 2016 Council meeting.

### REPORTS

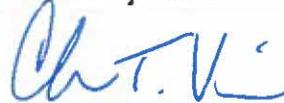
At this time, any Council Members or City Staff will make an announcement, or report briefly on his or her activities.

- Mayor – None
- City Council
  - Council Durossette acknowledged that the Mayor's birthday is on July 12, 2016.
- City Manager
  - City Manager Wells reported that the City received the River Parkways grant of almost \$500,000 that will be used towards the completion of the lower Riverbluff. The Ross grand opening will be held on Saturday, July 16, which will help with sales tax revenue. City Manager Wells also reminded the public about the Concert in the Park on Tuesday, July 12 and the Chamber Mixer on Thursday, July 14. He further reminded Council and the public that the Downtown Streetscape plan will be presented to the Planning Commission on July 18.
- City Attorney – None
- Departments
  - Tom Westbrook, Director of Community Development stated that Togos is having a ribbon cutting/grand opening on July 12, 2016 at noon.
- County Supervisor – Not in attendance.

### ADJOURNMENT

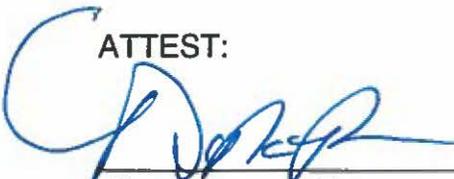
The next regularly scheduled City Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Monday, July 25, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located in the Community Center at 2701 Fourth Street, Ceres, CA

There being no further business, Mayor Vierra adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:03 p.m.



Chris Vierra, Mayor

ATTEST:



Diane Nayares-Perez  
City Clerk