

MEETING MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF WESTMORLAND FOR April 15, 2020

The City Council of the City of Westmorland met in regular meeting in City Hall on Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at 6:00 PM. Mayor Ana Beltran called the meeting in order at 6:00 PM and Councilmen Henry Graham led the invocation.

Present at time of roll call: Council members Mayor Ana Beltran, Larry Ritchie, Justina Cruz, Xavier Mendez and Henry Graham, also present were City Attorney Mitch Driskill, City Clerk Judith Rivera, Chief of Police Perry Monita, Westmorland Fire Department Michael Ginnis and Mr. Joel Hamby, due to the stay home notice council meeting is not open to the public present via telephone Public Works Director Ramiro Barajas

Oral Communication:

1) Westmorland Fire Department Michael Ginnis gave a brief update, everything is moving smoothly, waiting on authorization for the FEMA portal is taking some time due to not having a .gov email. Regarding the COVID 19 there is 117 cases, 3 deaths in the Imperial County. Equipment discussed at the last meeting have been purchased. Mr. Ginnis and wife are working on some masks for the IID personnel at no cost. Once a week/as needed they are disinfecting the PD units. There is one reported case in Westmorland. Councilmen Henry Graham asked Mr. Ginnis what is the protocol on the distance six or ten feet and wearing the mask, Mr. Ginnis stated that as far as he knows its six feet distance.

New Business:

Discussion FEMA is providing trailers for people in need during the COVID-19 crisis – Ana Beltran: Mayor Ana Beltran stated that FEMA is providing trailers to City at no charge to be utilize during the current COVID crisis providing a place to stay to homeless and people who have tested positive keeping them off the street and insolated. Westmorland Fire Department, Michael Ginnis stated that other local cities are requesting trailers, the City of Westmorland has put in a request for two trailers. He stated these trailers can later be useful to help relocate families in need. Trailers would be installed at 1st and Cook Street, there is already water and sewer connections nearby. Councilmen Henry Graham stated he is not in favor of the trailers, he feels it will only become an added responsibility to the City that is not necessary, there is not immediate need and it will only become a nuisance to the City. Councilmen Xavier Mendez feels it would be a good idea to have something available incase a house burns down gives the family a place to stay. Trailers become property of the City once the COVID crisis is over. City attorney Mitch Driskill stated that if the City agrees to get the trailers, they will have to adopt some type of policy about how they will be used and how's authorized to use them under what circumstances and what purpose. M – Xavier Mendez to request two trailers from FEMA S – Larry Ritchie M/C (3) motion approved Mendez, Ritchie, Beltran (2) Nays Graham, Cruz

Informational item Update on the Water Plant Grant – Ana Beltran: Mr. Hamby who was present stated that the two financial statements that were approved at the last meeting, which will leave one more needed along with the audit. As far as he understands the City of Westmorland is still in line for the grant funding once we submitted everything that is required. Councilmen Larry Ritchie stated Rachel has been working with Gabe from Hutchinson and Bloodgood gathering the information needed.

Old Business:

Public Hearing: Love's DA Amendment Hearing – Joel Hamby: Mr. Hamby stated this public hearing is the first step needed, along with the adoption of Ordinance approving the agreement amendment with Love's. In 2009, the Gateway Travel Project applicant completed the environmental process and a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) was adopted/approved by the City Council. However, the applicant did not complete the annexation process with Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). The property was purchased by another company (Sater Oil). As part of the process to complete the annexation and documentation process, Amended Resolution 09- 01 (MND/FONSI), 09-02 (County Tax sharing), 09-03 (Gen. Plan Amend and R-Zone), and 09-04 (Tentative Map) were adopted by City Council in January and March 2009 and the Annexation process was completed through LAFCO in October of 2012. In 2015, Sater Oil introduced representatives from Love's Country Stores as potential developers of the project. Since September of 2015, Love's submitted offsite Improvement Plans, a Final Map, traffic signal warrant study, a drainage study, a Developer Agreement, and an Addendum to the MND for the project. They have also complied with Imperial Irrigation District's requirements regarding pipelining of the drainage canal, and with Caltrans requirements regarding traffic signal and highway improvements. A Developer Agreement was formulated, heard, and approved by Council and recorded. The construction of the travel center and the offsite improvement (with the exception of the traffic signal) has been completed and the business has been in operation since June 19, 2019. The Developer Agreement provides for reimbursement to be made to Love's for certain cost. With the completion of construction, the original Exhibit D (itemized listing of components and costs) needs to be updated. This requires an amendment (Amendment #1). State statute requires that an Ordinance be adopted at a Noticed Public Hearing to accept and approve the Developer Agreement Amendment. City Staff will provide reports and make presentations. The Public Hearing will provide opportunity for the public and interested parties to comment on the project and the amendment, both pro and con. Mr. Hamby also provided Council with a copy of the Public Hearing Notice, the Amendment agreement, and a draft of Ordinance 20-01M – Henry Graham to Open up the Public Hearing for comments at 6:37 PM S – Justina Cruz M/C. In the notice the public was informed they could submit any comments, questions, or concerns, they are also able to call in. No comments or concerns. M – Henry Graham to close the Public Hearing at 6:41 PM S – Justina Cruz M/C.

Discussion/Action Initiate preparation of plans and specifications for Street Improvement Plan, Phase III; direction to BJ Engineering – Mitch Driskill: City attorney Mitch Driskill stated that now would be a good time to get the process started on the phase III on the street five-year plan. Mayor Ana Beltran stated that she took a drive around town with

Public Works Director Ramiro Barajas and determined the following streets are in need to be placed on the top of the list. South C Street, South D. Street, and both South and North G Street. Item to come back on the next meeting.

Council, Staff & Consultants – Discussion and Action:

Discussion/Update CDBG – Teri Nava: Mayor Ana Beltran stated that Mrs. Teri Nava was not able to attend meeting she is on a conference call items to be tabled.

Discussion/Update Housing Element – Teri Nava: item tabled.

Discussion/Adoption of Resolution No. 20-06 Annual SB1 allocation – Joel Hamby: Mr. Hamby presented Council with a copy of Resolution No. 20-06 recommends to adopt needs to submit to the State by May 1st. Mr. Hamby informed Council he discussed with Public Works Ramiro Barajas about utilizing some of the Measure D funds to replace or update some needed equipment/City trucks. M – Henry Graham approval to adopt Resolution 20-06 as stated above S – Xavier Mendez M/C.

Discussion/Approval of repairs to WWTP liftstation discharge check valve – Ramiro Barajas: Public Works Ramiro Barajas asked for approval to make repairs in the amount of \$1,800.00 M – Henry Graham approval of repairs to WWTP liftstation discharge check valve up to \$1,800.00 to be paid out of the general fund. S – Larry Ritchie M/C.

Discussion/Adoption of Resolution No. 20-07 accepting funds COPS grant 2018-2019 (AB 1584) for the following \$3,780.00 for Annual Law Enforcement Policy Manual and Daily Training Bulletins and \$144.66 for Range Master badge from V&W Manufacturing Inc. for a grand total of \$3,924.66 – Police Chief Perry Monita: Police Chief Perry Monita provided copies of costs to Council and was present for any questions or concerns. M – Larry Ritchie approval to adopt Resolution No. 20-07 as stated above S – Xavier Mendez M/C.

Discussion/Action Residential/Public Nuisances on corner of West 7th Street and North F. Street – Perry Monita: Police Chief Perry Monita, provided Council with copies of pictures of both properties on West 7th and Ms. Gloria Lima on the corner of East 5th Street. Mitch Driskill stated he has discussed with Mr. Hamby about several violations on the West 7th Street property. M – Xavier Mendez approved to move forward and initiate action against property owners to comply with the City Ordinance S – Larry Ritchie M/C.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of Minutes for September 20, 2017, March 12 (special) and 21st 2018, April 1, 2020 and City Warrants: M – Henry Graham approval of April 1, 2020 meeting minutes and City Warrants S – Justina Cruz M/C.

Closed Session:

Public Employee Evaluation (Gov't Code §54957(b)(1).) – Council:

Council adjourned into Closed Session at 7:09 PM readjourned back to regular meeting at 8:05 PM. With nothing to report.

M – Henry Graham to adjourn this meeting at 8:06 pm S – Larry Ritchie Next regular scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2020.

/s/ Judith C. Rivera

Judith C. Rivera, City Clerk

/s/ Ana Beltran

Ana Beltran, Mayor