

MEETING MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
WESTMORLAND FOR February 3, 2021

The City Council of the City of Westmorland met in special meeting in City Hall on Wednesday, February 03, 2021 at 6:00 PM. Mayor Ana Beltran called the meeting in order at 6:00 PM and Ms. Darlene Berber led the invocation.

Present at time of roll call: Council members Mayor Ana Beltran, Judith Rivera, Ray Gutierrez, present via phone Mayor Pro Tem Xavier Mendez. Absent were Justina Cruz

Also, Present City Clerk Darlene Berber, Police Chief Perry Monita, Mr. Ramiro Barajas

Public Comments:

City Clerk Darlene Berber apologies to the Mayor and council for not adding the Staff reports due to having already posted agenda and reviewing the special meeting minutes after and realizing it had been missed, but it will be on the next agenda.

Discussion/Action:

Discussion/Action: Imperial County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan which is now pending adoption from the seven cities and special districts located in Imperial County– Presenting Mayor Ana Beltran & Esperanza M. Colio
Mayor explains the book is available to review and is due to be renewed, and if not passed we will not be eligible for the grant. Treasurer Mrs. Teri Nava asked Madam Mayor to restate the question she had stepped out briefly. Madam Mayor stated it's the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan and then asked Mitch Driskill what do we think about? Mitch replied Well as it was explained to us the city will not be eligible for federal disaster relief unless it joins in and participating in this Hazard Mitigation Plan. It's over due and the county is requesting prompt action be taken. Council member J. Rivera asked Are you guys okay with moving forward with out reviewing or do we going to adopt it Ana? Madam Mayor A. Beltran replied Mitch already reviewed it briefly and it's been adopted before it just needs to be it just needs to be renewed. Council member J. River replied Okay just an update. Motion to approve or adopt Imperial County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan **Motion by J. River Second by R. Gutierrez AIF Motion Passed**

Council, Staff & Consultants – Discussion and Action:

Discussion/Action—Resolution No. 21-02 on accepting funds from the 2019-2020 COPS fund grant (AB 1584) for the following item: Payment to Airwave Communications for equipment upgrade to Patrol Unit #821 in the amount of \$19,266.89.-Presenting Perry Monita As you know we had to get a new vehicle and had to get it outfitted. You should

see in packet to get it totally outfitted it comes out to \$19,266.89 that's not including the radio not having to be purchased out. That's due to as I mentioned last meeting the radios have to be encrypted so that means we'll be having to order 6 new handy talkies and 1 new mobile. The other two radios have encryption on them they just have to be keyed. Madam Mayor asked will this be out of COPS Funds. Chief Monita replied Yes that will be coming out of cops funds. He just has to get in contact with them concerning the radios and cops funds and all that. We are just waiting on the Motorola rep. for the cost of all that. They are looking into doing a group package with the radios and getting with the sheriff that will be using the same key it gets expensive for the different key to encrypt the different radios and instead of every agency having to get their own key hopefully we can rely on them just to have the key and another agency might buy the key to but at this point realistically Westmorland we don't need a key, because it more to be able to have the ability to select items. Let's say you had an internal affairs division and you needed to talk to internal affairs then they would encrypt the conversation, but we don't have that. We're 1 or 2 officers working and there's nothing that we're going to say that we don't want Brawley dispatch to know. If it's something we don't need to go over the radio we can just talk to each other. We work in short distances. So that's in the works just want to keep you updated the equipment it (Chief stated he already put in for it and told him to go ahead and order it because its going to take 6-8 weeks he's thinking maybe 6 there's more than 1 different group and by the time it takes everything to get to one place from ordering it takes time. The sooner we get it ordered the sooner we can get it out on patrol. Motion to adopt resolution No. 21-02 excepting funds to make payment to airway communications in the amount of \$19,266.89. **Motion by J. River Second by R. Gutierrez AIF Motion Passed**

Discussion/Update: Park and Recreation Grant – Presented by Teri Nava
Madam Mayor Members of the council. I have giving all of you information for the parks. I have working on this forever it's due March 15th. I want to thank Ramiro and to thank Council member Xavier Mendez for all their help especially Ramiro for his help with the maps of the park and getting this moving again as you know I was out with the Covid I tested negative but please bare with me as I'm still recuperating. So, what I did is I made you a packet I know we selected another meeting so we can have 4 meetings on the books. So, the more meetings the more points we get but for is the max. We have on here with the chamber, one at the school district and one at the park, but I think you should be okay. I did email you another notice I don't know how you are going to get that out to the public whether it will be mailed or posted everywhere. If you didn't get that please let me know because I was having issues with my internet yesterday. Madam Mayor informed Ms. Nava she had not received the notice. Ms. Nava stated as soon as I get home, I will email it again, and will check in the morning to see if it was received. So, we had selected the date of January 13th. Madam Mayor corrected with February? Ms. Nava stated her husband just informed her he had a surprise for her that weekend and he's usually not like that. So, she cannot give it up. Madam mayor stated We understand. Madam Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem Stated to Ms. Nava that they will conduct the meeting and she sent all the forms needed. This is not the wish list of her it's the wish list of the community. Ramiro was very nice to have drawn up a ruff draft of the park. Ramiro Barajas stated he has also been working on the bids for the demo and the concrete

and basketball polls and light polls that are not functional. Also need to get the public's input on removing some of the mosque trees that need to come down. Madam Mayor asked what mosque trees? Reply by Ms. Nava the ones that are really old and very dangerous because so of them look like they are about to heel over, and a couple here at the little citizen's park. Madam Mayor asked is that going to be drawn up that way the community can see? Madam Mayor also states she does not want to do anything without their knowledge. Ms. Nava Also stated well you also have to think of their safety it's not a matter of what they want and don't want. Madam Mayor replied No, but if we let them know we're removing these trees for this fact that it's old and a liability. Ms. Nava Stated we didn't identify them. Mr. R. Barajas stated there are some that we don't need to ask the public because there are some that are right under the phone electrical and phone lines wires. Council woman J. River states it's a Hazard! Madam Mayor States we need to inform the public. They will ask. Hey What happened to the trees? Council woman J. River states at the next meeting we can inform the community that one of the plans is to remove some of these trees and replace them with a better-quality tree that doesn't make as much mess and doesn't get all crazy when it's growing. Darlene Berber states as a community member the concern would be the for the shade during the summer. Mrs. Nava states but the city has an obligation to keep our citizen safe. Ms. Berber replied Right. Mrs. Nava continued and shade or no shade if a tree is going to fall on your head. Madam Mayor stated yeah, you'd prefer to have no shade. Ms, Berber states like the Mayor said if you have the backup stating that to the community, I think they'd understand but if you just go cutting down trees not explanation. Madam Mayor integrates that's why I'd also like a print out so we can show them at the meeting were having. That they will be removed due to the safe issues and we will be outing in new trees. Ramiro added Xavier is the one that wanted this put on there. Mayor Pro Tem Stated he is on the call and is hearing everything that is being said and when its windy there is branches and limbs falling and those trees need to be removed and out something that will be stronger better looking and more shaded trees. Madam Mayor Speaking of safety how about that sidewalk here that is bowing up. R. Barajas states that is something they are looking into. Everyone agrees GOOD! Mrs. Nava, also states another thing they are looking into is closing off the side entrance on 1st street. On the east side of the basketball courts that's a hazard to your residence it's dangerous. Madam Mayor stated Ramiro was discussing that with her the other day. Mr. Barajas states Yeah, you get the smaller kids that run across with their older siblings and if there also car going thru there. Mrs. Nava states we don't just want to build a park we want to build a safe park. All state Agreed, Agreed. Madam Mayor stated an example of if a kid I running across and someone puts out. Mrs. Nava Stated yes, you never know. Questions from the audience Where will the exits be. Reply by the Mayor this side and this side (1st street and Center will remain) Mrs. Nava States So that the update on the park!

Discussion/Update: IID Pool Grant – presented by Teri Nava We did submit all the documents. Madam Mayor Thank you for signing them. We got them in on time they did receive them. They are being reviewed. I haven't received anything; I don't know if you have? I just wanted to touch base with you (council) to see if you had received the contract yet? So, I can follow up. Madam Mayor replied they were going to send me the finalized contract. Mrs. Nava stated she hasn't received one. Madam Mayor they were

going to send a completion. Mrs. Nava stated she will send an email to follow up with them. Madam Mayor stated when receives it. It will be forwarded to Mrs. Nava. Mrs. Nava replied Great, perfect. Thank you.

Discussion/Update: LEAP Grant –Presented by Teri Nava The LEAP grant Just to let you know I received an email today from the state of California from Mr. Ayala and he was just asking me if we had any thing for the planning grant with the funds that we have been awarded for the LEAP grant to get update our housing element, and I had told them no there was nothing being added from planning. So, you should be receiving that hopefully by next week. For the final signature for review so we can get that back to the State, and get for funding for the housing element.

Discussion/Action: Approval to Pay DJ Miller Invoice for Little Citizens Park Project. - presented by Teri Nava council has in there packet the info from DJ miller we did do a walk thru with Mr. Mendez and Ramiro and myself. The park looks amazing they did donate some sand to make it even. We do want to remove a couple of trees that are very dangerous in there but for the most part the park looks amazing. Mrs. Nava continues to say she is very happy with the turn out. Madam Mayor States It is very spacious and before it was very tiny and you felt claustrophobic and now it frees up. Mrs. Nava and the swing sets are amazing let me tell you. I want to play on the swings. It's unfortunate we can't open the parks up yet, but I'm sure it will be soon. There is lighting in there as well and the shade coverings are amazing as well. It took us a good year get everything done by COVID happened. So, I'm asking for authorization to make the payment on this we do have the funding in the CDBG program income which is where the funds were allocated from. **Motion to approve made by R. Gutierrez Second by J. Rivera AIF Motion Passed**

Consent Agenda:

Approval of Minutes for January 6, 2021 & Special Meeting January 27,2021, and City Warrants. **Motion by J. Rivera and Second by R. Gutierrez AIF Motion Passed**

City Council adjourned into Closed Session at 6:20pm adjourned back into regular meeting at 7:54pm Nothing to report from closed

Motion to adjourn this meeting at 7:54pm by Motion by J. Rivera Second by R. Gutierrez AIF - Next regular meeting in February and will be held on Wednesday 17th, 2021.

/s/ Darlene Berber

Darlene Berber, City Clerk

/s/ Ana Beltran

Ana Beltran, Mayor

Submitted for Approval 2/17/2021

Approved 2/17/2021