

**MEETING MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND PLANNING COMMISSION  
BOARDS OF THE CITY OF WESTMORLAND FOR January 6, 2021**

The City Council of the City of Westmorland met in regular meeting in City Hall on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 6:00 PM. Mayor Ana Beltran called the meeting in order at 6:08 PM and Joel Hamby led the invocation.

Present at time of roll call: Mayor Ana Beltran, City Council Members Xavier Mendez, Judith Rivera, and Justina Cruz

Due to the stay home notice council meeting the chamber room is not open to the public but available via zoom in telephone, also present were Chief of Police Perry Monita, Westmorland Fire Department Michael Ginnis, Ramiro Barajas present via zoom or telephone City Attorney Mitch Driskill

**Oral Communication:**

Justina Cruz there is a sign-up sheet for those that are interested in getting the covid vaccine Imperial County Health Officials announcing phases 1,2,and when our tier comes around and when it's open to the public the youth hall will be used to bring the vaccine to the community. Madam Mayor asked if anyone has had the opportunity to get the covid vaccine. Michael Ginnis also said the only side effect he had was some soreness in the arm and another firefighter had some nausea stomach pain but it went away in a few days. You will notice some fevers when the 2<sup>nd</sup> shot there will be some fevers. You will want to take some Tylenol or Ibuprofen the day of before you go get it you will get more side effects the second time around his will be January 20<sup>th</sup> the second dose. Madam Mayor asked if it was explained why there is a fever with the second dose? Mr. Ginnis explains because your body already has it in your system it's a protein spike. This is what this vaccine is it's a protein spike. So your already have it in your system and now their giving you more and so your body is going to react to at that point because your getting the larger amount in your body. So they did a preliminary results not a whole lot of testing. One of the questions he brought up was Will this help with the new string that's going along? So far of what they can see and they don't have a whole lot of data because there is not a whole lot of cases to go by but some of the data will help the symptoms of the new string> now what he wants everyone to know because everyone gets the miss understanding of the vaccine. This vaccine does not stop you from getting covid what it does is it lessen the symptoms and to keep you out of the hospital. Its to reduce the hospitalization. Just like a flu shot it doesn't stop you from getting it it still makes you contagious its still going to require your to were mask. But it helps lessen he symptoms and the side effects thru the covid vaccine. Madam Mayor asked is it mandatory? Ginnis replied No, not at this time its not mandatory nor does he see it. He does see with the numbers the amount of people taking it at this time if its available he's seeing about 35% from the department. Once the vaccine gets to the public hoping for higher numbers in those getting the vaccine. Madam Mayor agrees. Speaks about after you get the vaccine your given a piece of paper that says you received the vaccine and the next date for the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose. Madam mayor asked what's the time stamp? Ginnis replied he had the Pfizer which is a 21 day. If you get the Madera its 28 days from first to second. Madam Mayor asks What's the difference? Answer was different manufactures. Madam Mayor asked Is it the same thing? Ginnis replies he thinks it's a 1% difference between Pfizer and Madera so its nothing noticeable. Madam Mayor asks, just a 7 day difference? Ginnis replied Yes, and its going to see the Madera is going to be

more available than what they're using at the prisons it's not as high as like a 90-degree difference like the Pfizer but that's like for the shelf life they can only have it in a cooler for so long and at room temperature for so long just for it to be effective. Ramiro Barajas asked between staff how many would be willing to take it if available. Madam Mayor said she would (couldn't see a show of hands up recording)

Ginnis reports on the youth hall the county is getting a MOU an agreement together. He thinks the youth hall would be ideal for vaccine when available.

### **New Business:**

Administered by The City Clerk Darlene Berber OATH OF OFFICE For New Councilmen Ray Gutierrez and Teresa L. Nava for City Treasurer Both took oath.

Action to be taken for removal and addition to the bank signature cards. For Removal of Mr. Ritchie, and the addition of T. Nava City Treasurer and X. Mendez Mayor Pro Tem Presented by Mayor Ana Beltran Action to Remove Mr. Ritchie and add Terri Nava in Ana Grahams place and add Xavier Mendez in Mr. Ritchie's place Motion by Justina Cruz Second by Judy Rivera AIF Motion Passed

### **OLD Business:**

Discussion/action regarding the Annual Street Report – Mayor Ana Beltran/ Mitch Driskill Presented by Mr. Hamby explanations and memos attached. Previous Auditor was paid \$750 but for some reason the accounting system was flawed. Asking for the state to auditor to be paid which the council had done back in sept. or oct. The only issue is the money has been cut off there is no problem with the numbers. So until the forms are submitted the highway users tax and other streets SB1 money and other monies are not going to the city. It's not a major hurt at this point. Madam Mayor asked About it being do on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> and is that why the money was cut off? Mr. Hamby replied the monies are usually direct deposited to the city he's not sure if they have already stopped but they have sent the warning that they will stop if we don't do this. Its up to council to direct if staff is to handle it or Benzing. Mayor asked to table till after closed session. Ms. Rivera asked about the imbalance? Mr. Hamby said yes and the problem with the imbalance is it affects every area when you start trying to. It's asked on measure D and different funds and as long as that discrepancy it will keep bring problems to the numbers. Ms. Rivera states we'll bring it back Mr. Hamby

Discussion/action/direction regarding the ICTC/LTA call for projects- presented by Joel Hamby provided documentation every 3yrs there is a call for project with ICTC you have to get the info in. The City of Westmorland only has one street that is eligible under the RSTP Program that's the Regional Surface Transportation Program which is Center St. from Bagman to 8<sup>th</sup> St. is eligible but most of the work has been done on that street the only available pot of money is the C mac which is the Conjunction Mitigation Air quality it can be used for a bike path or sidewalks the application is due April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 council will have to form a resolution for that. The process has to be submitted to SCAG and then to Cal Trans. There is a lot of paperwork and a complete application submitted to for each project suggestion by Mr. Hamby to use city funds to do so. To avoid the paper work process since the cost involved is low. We did get the engineering design as well the deconstruction for the north H street project and for the north center street project. Mr. Hamby did a lot of packets but there is a trippy area on those packages on any work that is done on those CDBG Grants is done

is not to be paid directly. Suggestion is to submit and wait for the grant to go thru and then invoice the city. Mr., Hamby does not request to do it that way to avert an audit. Madam Mayor says if you do not wish to proceed in that manner, she truly respects that. There's is time to make a discission. Mr. Ginnis asked if the funds would be able to handle the area of land that the city owns by the street Martin by the water treatment plant the dirt road from martin to H St. might or might not be eligible to do at this point. Motion to move ahead by the ICTC for the CMAC for a bike path from center to 7<sup>th</sup> street and from 7<sup>th</sup> to center and H St. **Motion by Justina Cruz and Second by Xavier Mendez AIF Motion Passed**

Discussion/direction regarding grant application for circulation element update-presented by Joel Hamby another grant available to update the circulation element and housing element has to be updated the document itself was last updated in 1999 he thinks. It has been in place for sometime with out any update the number of things has to be updated for the state regarding greenhouse gas and sustainable communities. The submission deadline is Feb 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 will have to bring back to council by the first meeting in Feb. Goal is to get some of the streets reclassified to a higher classification to get the RSTP Funding it's a little bit bigger pot to be able to get it update the circulation element. The funds would be coming as a match for funding from Cal trans. Bobby Valentine would be the contact **Motion to Approve by Judi Rivera to approve the application for the circulation element. Second by Xavier Mendez AIF Motion Carries**

#### **Council. Staff & Consultants -**

Discussion/Action: CR&R proposed clean up schedule for 2021- Presented by Ana Beltran Mr. Francisco Ochoa not present. Dates submitted For March 20<sup>th</sup> and November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 **Motion to Approve by Judi Rivera Second By Justina Cruz AIF Motion Passed**

Discussion/Action: Resolution No. 2021-01 approving the obligation payment schedule for FY21-22 periods A & B for July 2021 through June 2022. Presented by Madam Mayor Ana Beltran **Motion to Approve by Xavier Mendez Second by Justina Cruz AIF Motion Passed**

Discussion/Action: For Approval to purchase equipment using Measure D/LTA/WTP & WWTP CIP Funds for Public Works Dept. Presented by Ramiro Barajas balance for 9,000 from capital improvement. Would like more time to prep paperwork for log sheets but would just like to get approval for the service truck. **Motion to Approve by Judi Rivera to approve 9,149.69 to come out of the water for capital improvement fund. Second by Justina Cruz AIF Motion Passed**

Discussion/Action: For Approval to repair WTP Flash mixer gearbox-presented by Ramiro rebuild not to exceed \$10,000 by New Castle funds will come from Capital improvement plan for Water **Motion to Approve by Justina Cruz not to Exceed 10,045.00 Second By Ray Gutierrez AIF Motion Passed**

Discussion/Action: For Approval to repair WWTP Oxidation Ditch West Rotor gearbox seals-Presented by Ramiro Barajas New Castle gave a quote of \$29,065.50 funds coming out of Waste Water capital improvement fund. **Motion to Approve by Judi Rivera Second by Xavier Mendez AIF Motion Passed**

Discussion/Action: Approval to hire WTP/WWTP Operator-Presented by Ramiro Barajas in need of someone certified. **Tabled for Closed Session**

Discussion/Approval: To hire consultant/relief WTP/WWTP Operator by Ramiro Barajas need an on call. Need to discuss in closed session. T1 or T2 or even a T3 **Discussion for closed session**

**Consent Agenda:**

Approval of Minutes for December 16, 2020 and City Warrants. Motion to approve By Judi Rivera and Second by Xavier Mendez

**Closed Session:**

Discussion/Review First draft of Public Service Employees Job descriptions and salary scales, as well as Appointment, Employment, or evaluation and possible management position (Gov't. Code §54957(b)(1).)- Council

**City Council adjourned into Closed Session at 7:00pm adjourned back into regular meeting at 9:23pm Nothing to report from closed session and return to Regular agenda with items 6 & 7 on Council Staff & Consultants. Approved to Hire. AIF**

Motion to adjourn this meeting at 9:36pm by Motion by X. Mendez, Second by Ms. Rivera AIF - Next regular meeting in January and will be held on Wednesday 20th, 2020.

/s/ Darlene Berber

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Darlene Berber, City Clerk

/s/ Ana Beltran

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Ana Beltran, Mayor

Submitted for Approval 1/20/21

Approved on 1/20/2021