

MEETING MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND PLANNING COMMISSION  
BOARDS OF THE CITY OF WESTMORLAND FOR November 17, 2021

The City Council of the City of Westmorland met in regular meeting in City Hall on Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at 6:00PM. Mayor Ana Beltran called the meeting in order at 6:00PM and Joel Hamby led the invocation during regular meeting.

Present at time of roll call: Council members Mayor Ana Beltran, Mayor Pro Tem Xavier Mendez, Judith Rivera, Ray Gutierrez, and Justina Cruz Also Present City Attorney Mitch Driskill and City Clerk Darlene Berber

*Oral Communication – Public & Staff*

*Alicia Cruz- questioning the moving of Veterans day what was the original thought behind that and why did it get voted for? Mayor Beltran stated it was brought be for her by the city employees to have Friday instead of Thursday. So, we set a special meeting and brought before council and was approved. Ms. Cruz questions why wasn't it posted. Mayor states it was posted prior to 24hrs. Ms. Cruz asked why was the date change in the newsletter before council met. Mayor states she was not aware of that and it will be looked into. Ms. Cruz Veteran Day was ratified on the 11<sup>th</sup> day and 11<sup>th</sup> hour on the 11<sup>th</sup> month to ratify the end of World War 1 and continued to state dates that should be observed. Council member Rivera states she was not aware and was not her and apologizes on behalf of the city. Mayor thanks Ms. Cruz for her service.*

*Raymond Gonzalez state he's going around to other council meeting because he heard there was complaints in Brawley and he is glad he came today because he is a veteran and wanted to see how things are ran at the other cities. His generation of veterans we don't care about a day we get to honor those that came before us those are the ones that deserve the honor. We didn't serve for you to honor us we served to serve out nation and over the years he's learned that this town and the whole imperial valley is very patriotic. He know we have at least 10,000 veterans in imperial county and if you want to do anything to honor veterans do it by how you live your life. Mayor Pro Tem and Mayor thanked him for his service.*

*Council, Staff & Consultants – Discussion/Action*

Discussion/Update: Love's tax reimbursement made before November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021. – Joel Hamby annual payment made and is a 15 year agreement that was made.

Discussion/Approval: For the amended 2021/2022 budget. – Mayor Ana Beltran/Terri Nava- **Tabled**

Discussion/Action: Approval to repair lift station pump motor not to exceed \$2,500- Ramiro Barajas - **Tabled**

Discussion/Action: Resolution 21-17 accepting funds through the 2020/2021 COPS funds grant (AB 1584) to pay Motorola Solutions for the CAD services in the amount of \$7,397.03. – PD Chief Perry Monita moving over to pro phoenix and requesting check from city and refund **Motion to Approve by J.Rivera 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Cruz AIF Motion Passed**

Discussion/Action: Approval of Resolution 21-15 authorizing staff to submit a Small Communities Drought Assistance grant application. – Joel Hamby mentioned in the packets the resolution and cost estimate **Motion to Approve resolution 21-15 authorizing staff to submit a Small Communities Drought Assistance grant application by X. Mendez 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Rivera AIF Motion Passed**

Discussion/Action: Regarding an update on SRF water treatment plant application and City audits. - Joel Hamby the consider is the auditor and the state have not made an agreement. It doesn't require an action this is just a discussion update so no action to be taken at this point. Update is it's a long process.

Discussion/Action: City staff paid insurance benefits plan change - Mayor Ana Beltran/David West/ Jose Landeros discussions the 6% increase based on employees getting older and the dreaded word covid and discussion on other plans. Mayor suggest city state with plan and if the employees wish to upgrade the employee will pay the difference. Motion to approve to stay with the original plan by J. Cruz and 2<sup>nd</sup> by X. Mendez

Staff Reports Non-Action Items:

City Treasurer – Not Present

Fire Department - Sergio Cruz 100 west main in the alley there's stuff from the from a house the is demolition that the dumpsters aren't getting here fast enough but it will be cleaned up with in a 2-week period. Also, he would like to thank the city for checking up on the firemen.

Public Works- Ramiro Barajas wants to see if the city can generate a letter to be sent to IID and how the power outages affect the community and our elderly and those on medical equipment, and also the IID dumpsite issues to be addressed with Matt Grey and Mitch.

Front Office Supervisor- Not Present

City Clerk – along the lines of outages it is affecting our city devices and gave examples of the emails addresses being deleted and asks all staff or council to send in issues and if help is needed to get the info please don't' hesitate to ask

Consent Agenda:

Approval/Action: *Approval of City Warrants, Regular November 3rd, 2021 (Tabled Special November 9th, 2021) Regular October 6th, 2021 and (Tabled Revised Regular September 15th, 2021 Minutes). Motion to Approve Regular November 3<sup>rd</sup> and October 6<sup>th</sup> along with City Warrants by X. Mendez 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Cruz AIF Motion Passed*

Closed Session:

Public Employee Appointment, Employment, or Evaluation (Fire Department) (Gov.t Code §54957(b)(1).)

**City Council adjourned into Closed Session at 6:39pm adjourned back into regular meeting at 7:50 from closed session.**

After Closed Session:

Discussion/Action: Request for IVROP – WEX to join a Cooperative Agreement with the City of Westmorland. – FD Chief Sergio Cruz – **Tabled** pending amendment to the presented contract

**City Council adjourned at 7:52pm**

**Motion to adjourn this meeting at 7:52pm by Motion by J. Rivera Second by X. Mendez AIF - Next regular meeting in December and will be held on Wednesday 1,2021.**

/s/ Darlene Berber

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Darlene Berber, City Clerk

Submitted for Approval 12/1/21 – Tabled

Approved 12/15/21

/s/ Ana Beltran

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Ana Beltran, Mayor