

MEETING MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND PLANNING  
COMMISSION BOARDS OF THE CITY OF WESTMORLAND FOR JUNE 17, 2020

The City Council of the City of Westmorland met in regular meeting in City Hall on Wednesday, June 17, 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 Larry Ritchie, Justina Cruz, Henry Graham, and Xavier Mendez Due to the stay home notice council meeting is not open to the public but available via zoom in telephone, also present were City Attorney Mitch Driskill, City Clerk Judith Rivera, Chief of Police Perry Monita, Westmorland Fire Department Michael Ginnis

Oral Communication:

1) Michael Ginnis Westmorland Fire Department informed Council the department was able to borrow two (2) respirators from County Fire. Mr. Ginnis also read a letter the department received from a resident Mr. and Mrs. Jones who wanted to Thank them for their efforts and dedication during the riverbank fire on the outside of Brawley. Councilmen Henry Graham suggested a copy of letter be put in the personnel files of all those who responded to that fire call. Mr. Ginnis also stated one of their largest concerns right now is people who tested positive to COVID 19 are not staying home and ignoring the isolation quarantine orders to avoid the spread. Total amount of cases for the City of Westmorland is 49 and there are numerous patients currently on respirators fighting for their lives.

New Business:

Westmorland School District Appreciation letter – Henry Graham/Richard Cordero: Henry Graham read a letter on behalf of the Westmorland School District who wanted to Thank the Police Chief Perry Monita and Fire Department Michael Ginnis for helping out with their 8<sup>th</sup> grade promotion and parade and for their continuous support. M – Henry Graham to put a copy of the letter of appreciation in both Mr. Monita and Mr. Ginnis personnel files S – Larry Ritchie M/C.

Discussion/Action re: resignation of Councilmen Henry Graham and appointment of successor – Council: Councilmen Henry Graham presented the City Council with his letter of resignation effective June 30, 2020 5:00 pm.

Mayor Ana Beltran presented Mr. Henry Graham with a plaque of appreciation for his dedication for 24 years to the City of Westmorland, Mr. Graham has been and extraordinary leader and is appreciated for all his efforts and hard work.

Discussion/Action appointment of RDA Representative – Council:

Old Business: Councilmen Henry Graham stated that he is currently the only representative for the RDA he signs on checks and gives updates. Mr. Graham suggests Council should appoint a new member to take over upon his resignation. Council member Larry Ritchie stated that the new person appointed will take over.

Old Business:

Discussion/Action Revised Street Improvement Plan, Initiate preparation of plans and specifications for Street Improvement Plan, Phase III; direction to BJ Engineering – Mitch

Driskill/Ana Beltran: Mayor Ana Beltran went over the list of the street that will be included in this project. 1. C Street from Hwy 86 to East 1<sup>st</sup> Street, 2. D Street from Hwy 86 to East 1<sup>st</sup> Street, 3. G Street from Hwy 86 to 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, and No. 4. G Street from 2<sup>nd</sup> to East 1<sup>st</sup> Street, some curb and gutters will also have repairs. Mr. Hamby recommends for list presented to be approved M – Larry Ritchie direction to BJ Engineering to start on the plans for the street repairs list presented S – Henry Graham M/C.

Discussion/Action Implement Water and Wastewater Capital Improvement Fund to be collected from Water and Wastewater Enterprise Funds – Joel Hamby: Mr. Hamby presented Council with a sheet showing the calculations suggested to make. A fund line item in the general fund will be set up to collect and keep track of what is being collected for the water Capital Improvement Fund. M – Henry Graham to set aside the necessary amounts based on the projections and percentages the water and wastewater as provided by the City attorney and Mr. Joel Hamby to account for a payback into the special fund as a onetime pay back from the water and wastewater fees collected in the amount of \$86,010.00 which is combined cost of both funds water and wastewater. S – Larry Ritchie M/C.

Council, Staff & Consultants – Discussion and Action:

Appointment of Mayor and Commissioners – Council: Item will be brought back to the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in July.

Discussion/Action SART MOU between Pioneers Memorial Hospital and the City of Westmorland – Police Chief Perry Monita: Police Chief Monita stated this agreement is up to renew no current changes. M – Larry Ritchie approval to renew SART MOU between Pioneers Memorial Hospital and the City of Westmorland. S – Henry Graham M/C.

Discussion/Action of the Updated Closed/Delinquent service list – Council: City Clerk presented Council with a list of accounts having still having a balance owed, total \$21,378.85 some accounts did have a deposit on the books, others belonged to residents who have deassed or move out of town or location. Councilmember Larry Ritchie would like to get together and go over list with City Clerk.

Discussion/Approval to purchase two 1 1/2 “ backflow devices for WTP – Ramiro Barajas: Public Works Director Ramiro Barajas submitted three (3) quotes to replace 1 ½” backflow devices. M – Larry Ritchie to purchase two backflow in the amount of \$1,245.00 from All Valley Backflow to be paid out of the general fund. S – Henry Graham M/C.

Discussion/Approval to purchase a desktop computer for WTP – Ezquiel Perez:  
Approval of 2019/2020 Budget and other budgetary items – Council: Public Works Ramiro Barajas stated that for a while they have been getting their computers hand down from other departments, would like to recommend purchasing a desktop with more memory. M – Henry Graham approval to purchase new desktop from Best Buy in the amount of \$,079.97 plus tax to be paid out of the general fund. S – Xavier Mendez M/C.

Approval of 2019/2020 Budget and other budgetary items – Council: Item will be brought back to the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in July.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of Minutes for September 20, 2017, March 12 (special) and 21<sup>st</sup> 2018, June 3, 2020 and City Warrants: M – Henry Graham approval of June 3, 2020 meeting minutes and City Warrants S – Larry Ritchie M/C.

No Close Session:

Discussion of Public Employee’s Resignation, hiring process and evaluation (Gov’t Code §54957(b)(1).) – Council:

M – Henry Graham to adjourn this meeting at 6:58 S – Xavier Mendez Next regular scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 1, 2020.

/s/ Judith C. Rivera

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Judith C. Rivera, City Clerk

/s/ Ana Beltran

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Ana Beltran, Mayor