

MEETING MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF WESTMORLAND FOR NOVEMBER 18, 2020

The City Council of the City of Westmorland met in regular meeting in City Hall on Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 6:00 PM. Mayor Ana Beltran called the meeting in order at 6:00 PM and Mr. Joel Hamby led the invocation.

Present at time of roll call: Council members Xavier Mendez, Judith Rivera, Justina Cruz and Mayor Pro-tem Larry Ritchie, also present were Mitch Driskill City Attorney, Perry Monita-Chief of Police, Ramiro Barajas Public Works Director and Joel Hamby, absent was City Clerk Darlene Berber taking minutes on her behalf Judith Rivera.

Oral Communication – Public & Staff Reports: 1) Edith Woodring - Ms. Woodring was present via telephone and wanted to thank the Public Works Staff and appreciated them very much, the City is very fortunate to have them. Appreciates Mrs. Beltran for always returning her calls, had an issue with Ms. Rivera not returning her calls, regarding flushing out the fire hydrants. 2) Virginia Dickerson – was presented stated the Honey Festival sign on the West side entrance of town has been sprayed painted. Ms. Dickerson painted over the giraffe about four months ago. Council asked Ramiro Barajas to have it painted and taken care of. 3) Victor Carrillo with CR&R was present via phone just wanted to inform City Council and those online via zoom that a 2nd City Cleanup has been scheduled for Saturday, December 5th from 7:00 am to 12 noon. Once again safety precautions will be taken, masks will be required and a copy of City water bill by all attending. 4) Jose Landeros – stated they have met with the City Staff to discuss insurance changes. Mr. Landeros asked to be placed on the next Council agenda for approval of new insurance changes for 2021.

Being that tonight was Mr. Larry Ritchie last meeting, Mayor Ana Beltran presented him with a plaque for his 22 years of loyal services to the City and dedication to the community.

New Business Discussion/Action:

Appointment of Mayor and Commissionerships – Council: Councilmen Larry Ritchie Motion for Ana Beltran to continue to be Mayor S – Xavier Mendez M/C Mayor Ana Beltran stated everyone was comfortable with the departments they have will continue the same Judith Rivera/ Police and Fire, Xavier Mendez,/Park and Recs, Tina Cruz/Public Works and new Councilmember taking over Larry Ritchie would take over streets. Mayor Ana Beltran appointed Xavier Mendez as Mayor Pro-tem.

Discussion/Action: Annual CR&R waste collection rate increase – Mitch Driskill: City attorney Mitch Driskill handed Council a letter from CR&R dated November 6' 2020 with a proposed new rate schedule which reflects No increase for residential users, does reflect an increase to commercial rates to reflect the increase cost related to the burden of recycling and other state mandated programs. M – Larry Ritchie approval of commercial rate increase S – Xavier Mendez M/C.

Discussion/Action: Review letters of interest and appoint City Treasurer – Council: Item was tabled

Old Business – Discussion/Action:

Discussion/Update of Nuisance Abatement on corner of West 7th Street – Joel Hamby/Mitch Driskill: Mr. Joel Hamby who was presented stated that following the last Council meeting he made a visit to property. Owner has made significant progress on cleaning up the place, there still some issues. Owner stated he would be out of town; Mr. Hamby has made several trips to the property has not been able to follow up with property owner. Netting on the fence is still in place, zoning code does allow property owner to request from Council approval to put a six feet fence along where the street joints. Mr. Hamby will provide that information to property owner on his next visit. Mayor Ana Beltran stated property owner was told to remove the netting by November 4th and is still there. The City will continue moving forward with the next step.

Mr. Hamby also stated to Council and those present via zoom that he and Mr. Zendejas with the Fire Department made a visit to the Dickerson property on East 5th Street, took a look at the stairway. Mr. Zendejas assessment indicated that stairway was no danger fire hazard.

Council, Staff & Consultant – Discussion and Action:

Discussion/Adoption of Resolution 20-17 REOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WESTMORLAND ACCEPTING FUNDS FROM THE 2019/2020 COPS GRANT (AB 1584) FOR: Payment to Motorola Solution providing Spillman Services for year 2021 in the amount of \$7,112.54 – Perry Monita: Police Chief Perry Monita presented Council with Resolution 20-17 for year 2021 in the amount of \$7,112.54 to be paid to Motorola who is taking over Sprillman. Chief Monita informed Council that everyone in the Valley will eventually move into Pro Phoenix process will take up a few months moving all information over, cost will be almost the same but price will maintain the same for the next ten years. M – Xavier Mendez adoption of Resolution 20-17 as stated above S – Justina Cruz M/C.

Discussion/Action Request for funds from the NTF Asset Forfeiture funds for tow bill for unit #814 in the amount of \$125.00, fuel pump repairs to unit #814 in the amount of \$347.93, and two new tires for unit #813 in the amount of \$335.15 for a total amount of \$808.08 – Perry Monita: Police Chief handed Council copies of cost invoices for maintenance and tow fee. M – Xavier Mendez approval of all three invoices in the amount of \$808.08 S. – Justina Cruz M/C.

Discussion/Action Nuisance Abatement concerns at 299 E. 5th Street and 201 North C. Street, dirt on the corner of 7th and F Street – Perry Monita: Police Chief Monita presented to Council with images of the property from a week ago and today. Ms. Gloria Lima has made some improvement but continues to violate the City ordinance. Chief Monita stated he has spoken both residents and have started to make progress removing home furniture and miscellaneous items from the front yard. Both Ms. Lima and her daughter were notified of the City Clean up happening on Saturday, the 7th. Chief Monita will bring back item on the next Council meeting for an update. Regarding the property on West 7th and F Street, Chief Perry stated the neighbors are complaining about the brush and trash on the property being a fire hazard. Council gave City attorney Mitch Driskill direction to move forward and send letter. Will bring back both items for update.

Consent Agenda Approval of Minutes for March 12 (Special) & 21, 2018, November 4, 2020 and City Warrants. M – Judith Rivera approval of City Warrants list and meeting minutes for November 4, 2020 S – Xavier Mendez M/C.

Council went into Closed Session at 6:46 pm.

Closed Session: Discussion of Public Employee Appointment, Employment, or evaluation and new possible management position. (Gov't. Code §054956.9(b)(1).) – Council:

Adjournment: Council opened meeting back up at 7:55 pm with nothing to report. Adjourned this meeting at 7:51 PM. Next regular scheduled meeting will be held on December 2, 2020. M – Judith Rivera to adjourn meeting S – Justina Cruz M/C.

/s/Judith C. Rivera
Minutes taken by Judith C. Rivera

/s/ Ana Beltran
Ana Beltran, Mayor