

MINUTES

**JOINT CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD
SPECIAL CLOSED SESSION**

FEBRUARY 2, 2010

5:15 P.M.

CLOSED SESSION

At 5:16 p.m. the Council/Agency Board held a conference with Real Property Negotiators, pursuant to Section 54956.8 for the properties located at 1101 Lincoln Avenue, 313 and 317 Fourth Street and 901 Main Street. The Agency Negotiator is Agency Executive Director/City Manager and the negotiating parties are Mark Deven, Sam Coffey, Benito Crescione and Stacey Hatten. Under negotiation are price and terms of payment. Present at this session were Mayor/Chairperson Davies, Council/Board Members Dote, Marble and Monroe, City Manager/Executive Director Deven and Planner Sokolow. Vice Mayor/Vice Chairperson Pimentel arrived at 5:30 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

At 6:00 p.m. Mayor Davies called the regular meeting of the City Council to order.

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor/Chairperson Davies said the Council and Redevelopment Agency Board had met in Closed Session to discuss real property negotiations and had given direction to the City Manager/Executive Director and the City Attorney.



PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Davies asked all in attendance to join in the Pledge of Allegiance led by Bernadette Murray.

ROLL CALL

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Marlin Davies, Martie Dote, William Marble, Jeff Monroe, Art Pimentel

COUNCIL MEMBER ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Deven, Andrew Morris, Sue Vannucci, Greg Meyer, Tod Reddish, Kimberly McKinney, Doug Baxter, Paul Siegel, Lynn Johnson, Sandra Briggs, Roberta Boegel, Christine Engel, Russ Cole, Carey Sullivan, Roberta Childers, Greg Robinson

COMMUNICATIONS - PUBLIC COMMENT

B.J. Ford said the League of Women Voters is having lunch on February 24, 2010 with Dr. Neimy from the University of California at Davis as speaker. The subject is climate change and the event begins at noon at the Methodist Church.

Michael Contreras said that obesity is a strong concern in this and other communities. He would like Council to address this topic and proposed a Yolo County Obesity Forum formation. He proposed a tax so that Parks and Recreation could provide more activities to reduce or prevent obesity.

Bernadette Murray said there will be an outreach meeting on the new laws affecting the massage community to be held at the Police Department Community Room tomorrow. Fees will be raised by 40% by the new laws. The Library is looking at partnerships with the school libraries. Her library card applies to any Library in the State. In order for citizens to use school libraries, they would need to go through a Department of Justice background check. The Woodland Community College Library is accessible to all. She feels Council should restore total funding to our Library. Mayor Davies said there is a study group looking into the City funding issues.



Bobby Harris said Vice Mayor Pimentel had said the cinema had been in the Plan for 12 years and the Plan actually has the cinema included 5 years earlier than that date.

COMMUNICATIONS–COUNCIL/STAFF STATEMENTS AND REQUESTS

Vice Mayor Pimentel said the dinner held for Dustin Pedroia had been a great event and commended staff for their part in the planning.

Council Member Dote said the Woodland-Davis Clean Water Agency meeting was held and they will be adding some staff members. She attended the Yolo Leadership Group meeting that included elected officials from various entities.

Council Member Dote asked that Council consider an amendment to the City Code to allow renters to place political signs in their windows. Council concurred to add this item to a future Agenda.

Council Member Marble went to a Chamber of Commerce meeting where the discussion was on sales tax. He thanked members of the public for helping to gather signatures for the State measure.

COMMUNICATIONS – WRITTEN

Council received notification of and increase in rates from Pacific Gas and Electric Company. Vice Mayor Pimentel said P. G. & E. will be increasing from between 3.2% to 10.6%. He urged citizens to contact the Public Utilities Commission about these constant increases. There will be a ballot measure on the June 8th placed by P. G. & E. to mandate a 2/3 vote of the people to opt out of using them for energy.

COMMUNICATIONS - COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council received the minutes of the Library Board meeting of December 10, 2009.

Council received the minutes of the Planning Commission meetings of September 17, October 15, November 5, December 3, and the December 17, 2009 draft minutes.

Council received the minutes of the Historical Preservation Commission meetings of June 10, July 8, August 12, and September 9, 2009.



CONSENT CALENDAR

On a motion by Council Member Monroe, seconded by Vice Mayor Pimentel and carried unanimously, Council adopted the following Consent Calendar items as presented:

MONTHLY STATUS REPORT - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Council received the Monthly Status Report from Community Development.

CAPITAL BUDGET EXECUTION REPORT

Council received the Capital Budget Execution Report from Community Development.

MONTHLY STATUS REPORT – FIRE DEPARTMENT

Council received the Monthly Status Report from the Fire Department.

QUARTERLY TECHNOLOGY REPORT

Council received the Quarterly Technology Report from Technology Services.

REPORTS OF THE CITY MANAGER

AGREEMENT WITH YMCA - OPERATION OF THE A WELLNESS CENTER

Chief Sullivan gave a background on the Agreement and the lack of interest of other outside agencies to rent the Fitness Center. As we are interested in making this state-of-the-art equipment available to the community, the YMCA is a good opportunity to allow that usage to proceed and will generate some revenue for the City.

Council Member Dote asked about the software program to operate this portion of the Community and Senior Center. Chief Sullivan said it is part of the reservation program for the entire facility.



Vice Mayor Pimentel asked about the access at prime hours. Chief Sullivan said they will have access during the prime hours for the "C" court. Vice Mayor Pimentel asked if there is an idea on the fees for low income individuals. Jay Loudon with the YMCA of Superior California said they have a variety of fees for various levels and needs. The current fees are \$35 for adults, \$15 for teens and \$10 for youth. They believe everyone should participate and have a financial assistance program to help those that includes from 75% off to 25% off depending upon the income. Vice Mayor Pimentel if the monthly membership is included. Mr. Loudon said there is a membership fee and if they are members that do not need to pay the annual fees in the future.

Council Member Marble asked about the equipment cost and Chief Sullivan said it was \$210,000. Council Member Marble asked if the YMCA would be responsible for equipment maintenance and repair and Mr. Loudon indicated to the affirmative.

Mayor Davies said in reference to the evening hours and the boxing club, could they be moved to the aerobics room. Chief Sullivan said they are still exploring that option but the rack set for the bags is still an issue.

Vice Mayor Pimentel wants the fees to be kept low because citizens are already paying for the facility. He would like the fees to be kept as low as possible.

Council Member Dote asked if these are month to month fees and Mr. Loudon indicated they were.

On a motion by Council Member Monroe, seconded by Vice Mayor Pimentel and carried unanimously, Council approved an Agreement between the City of Woodland and the YMCA of Superior California to lease space and operate a Wellness Center at the Community and Senior Center; authorized the City Manager to execute the Agreement.

FISCAL YEAR 2009-10 MID-YEAR OPERATING BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

City Manager Deven said the primary issues driving our budget deficit are the economy that our sales tax estimates are down by \$990,000; overtime for the Fire Department has gone to over \$400,000, thus bringing our initial shortfall from \$296,000 to \$2,040,785. Some of these actions will help for next year. The one time use of Storm Water Development Impact fees at \$750,000 to the General Fund from the Dubach Park transfer, which Council had previously



approved but we have not yet utilized. A proposed property sale at \$232,000 that was considered toward for our OPEB obligation but felt the down payment could better be used elsewhere. That totals \$932,000.

There are some personnel reductions such as allocation of the Deputy Public Works Director salary to the Surface Water Project which is his primary responsibility. With salary and benefits, the savings to the General Fund would be \$219,436. Reassignment of staff out of the General Fund and into the Enterprise Fund and Special Service Fund adds \$163,171 to the General Fund. The Woodland City Employees' Association has been working with staff to facilitate this transfer of salaries. There are some vacant positions that will not be filled, two Police Officers and three Firefighters, with a savings of \$352,974. At this point they would not be eliminated, just not filled now. The revised retirement cost equals \$26,081 and the Police overtime is down by \$150,000.

Other personnel cost savings include the reassignment or layoff of one Battalion Chief, thus filling one of the Firefighter openings, but the BC would be Y-rated, so the savings would not be as great. The savings there would be at \$53,000. The other BCs would need to pick up the slack in the training area.

The Records Specialists at the Police Department would be reduced from ten down to eight. Two individuals would need to be laid off. There is no place right now for these two to be placed in lieu of layoff. The cost savings would be \$22,525. Next year the savings would be \$123,484 and this would be a structural change but would create a hardship for the public to access records. Total cost savings in reductions and realignments of personnel equal \$987,187.

In supplies and services the total savings is at \$213,559 for a grand total of \$2,182,746 which exceeds the shortfall by \$141,961. Last week we met with our Sales Tax Consultant and the sales tax is still going downward. We are now looking at a 23% loss. She said next year the sales tax will be down further. We need to enact these cuts now to get through this year. The implementation time in personnel adjustments needs about a sixty day process when the layoff is involved. If other options come before us, we could look at them. A letter went out to all of the employee associations to ask if they would meet and confer but meetings would have been more of information sharing only. Some of the Memoranda of Understanding allow us to layoff.

Council Member Dote asked about the General Fund Reserve level. City Manager Deven said we are at 11%-12%. Council Member Dote asked if for next year's needs we could go into the reserves and City Manager Deven said he does not plan to use reserves at this time. Vice Mayor Pimentel asked about the



overtime and would it go up by reducing Records staff with others then needing to work additional time. City Manager Deven said that we would look at any ways of not increasing overtime and still maintain the service. This information could be provided at a future time. We need to look at the way we do business and make some changes.

Ted Ruiz, Police Officer and President of the Woodland Professional Police Association, said they agreed to a 4.6% furlough equation that would save over \$300,000 in the Department. They have cut \$150,000 from their overtime budget. The booking fees of \$100,000 the State will not be taking from the Department. Losing the positions in the Department will affect the Officers' ability to do their work. Loss of these positions will compromise the safety of our Officers. The additional \$141,000 in excess savings would cover the two \$22,000 positions proposed for layoff. The \$141,000 should not go into savings. The Chief should find another way to fund the \$22,000.

Greg Robinson, Battalion Chief and President of the Woodland Fire Mid-Management Employees' Association, said the Fire Department is being shown as contributing to the problem but they must have minimum staffing at all times. There are no relief Firefighters. They are already below the national level for staffing. Additional staffing keeps the levels at the minimum. They have given up \$1.4 million already. Firefighters care about finances of the City and filling the vacancies will help with the overtime.

Eric Zane, Fire Captain and President of the Woodland Professional Firefighters' Association, said the Association is opposed to the elimination of the Battalion Chief/Training Officer. This person is also the Safety Officer. They need to be safe at all scenes. We can request to Meet and Confer on the affects and we need to discuss this with the City Manager. They would like to discuss the proposed savings. Mayor Davies said the City needs to have a partnership with the Association.

Cathy England, Senior Records Specialist, said there are eleven Records Specialists in Property and Evidence at the Department. There are only six that actually do this. She came to the Department in 2005 and it was short-staffed. We need to work together to find another answer. They have already done more than their share. The Department suffered from short staff and they will suffer again with these reductions. Other areas should be looked at before laying off more people. Accuracy needs to be kept at the top level. It will take more overtime to get things done if we layoff these two people. Deadlines will not be met. They need to answer to the Public Records Act.



City Manager Deven said the Firefighters' Association and the Chief should have discussions. We need to take this action to meet the levels of reduction in the report. If he can come up with other ways of reduction rather than layoffs he will do so.

Council Member Monroe said training in the field is absolutely essential and he is not willing to give up training. The Police Officers cannot function without the Records Specialists. Increasing reserves by the \$141,000 is not reasonable and those funds should go to save these positions.

Council Member Marble said we have put off tough decisions too long. He does not want layoffs of staff. Firefighters are willing to sit down and we need to do that right away. There is some reduction needed in public safety. He supports the amounts indicated.

Vice Mayor Pimentel does not want to layoff the Records Specialists. We have been able to move them around and we need to do that now. He wants to use our reserves. We need to hire additional Firefighters to bring down the overtime.

Council Member Dote said the Battalion Chief cannot take up the slack. They will need to pick up the overtime. She asked that we look at the 2010-11 budget earlier.

Mayor Davies feels this number is critical for this year, but more will be needed next year. We need to get to a structure that must be met to help solve the ongoing problem. The revenues are going down and the State will likely take more. He would like to stay with the numbers and charge the Associations to look at the numbers and come back.

A motion was made by Council Member Monroe and seconded by Council Member Dote to approve the mid-year adjustments with the Battalion Chief and Records Specialists not to be laid off. Staff to meet with the Associations and they will come up with other methods to meet the needed \$2,182,746 in savings to include use of the reserves.

Mayor Davies does not want to use reserves. Council Members Monroe and Dote amended their motion to indicate reserves would not be used.

Council Member Marble said he does not want to invade the reserves either. Our reserves are not adequate at this time.



With the revisions as mentioned above the motion was carried.

At 7:45 p.m. Vice Mayor Pimentel left the Chambers.

RESOLUTION - GENERAL SALES TAX MEASURE

City Manager Deven said Council had asked about placing a measure for a quarter cent or half cent sales tax on the June 8, 2010 ballot. We need to factor into the discussion that it is likely we will not meet our sales tax estimate next year as well. This could be a "four year only" measure. If we go with a one half cent we would likely meet the needed amount of shortfall. We show not add anything back into the budget at that time. The recession seems to indicate we have not hit bottom and will not bounce back as quickly as in the past. The advisory measures are focused on those areas hit hardest, the Library, Safety and Parks and Recreation. The public does not realize that loss will not show up until Spring and Summer. He is sure that complaints will be heard from the public at that time. Safety was hit last year and the focus could be to keep that level of sworn Firefighters and Police Officers.

At 7:55 p.m. Council Member Monroe left the Chambers and Vice Mayor Pimentel returned.

There is information already being put out to the public to receive input.

At 7:56 p.m. Council Member Monroe returned to the Chambers.

We have been using our reserves and cannot continue to do that.

Mayor Davies said Davis, Sacramento and Williams have already increased their sales tax to a total of 8.75%. Other areas are quite a bit lower. He feels we should go to the public to use part of the Measure E funds and for some of these things and ask to extend it further. We cannot resolve this by raising taxes. The Chamber of Commerce had concerns about raising the rate but not as much as extending or shifting the funds from Measure E.



Vice Mayor Pimentel would like to look at other options and what else we can do. It is not feasible for a half cent increase, but maybe for a quarter cent. He does not know what other options might be available. The transit occupancy tax would only be a temporary fix. He wants more options and "Your City, Your Vote" should give us some insight as to what the citizens would support.

Council Member Monroe said higher sales tax will not make it. We should ask the public for this but only for a short time.

Council Member Marble does not feel that the Measure E Funds are that committed. Even if they go to the ballot we need to plan as if we will not have the revenues to use. We need a backup plan.

At 8:10 p.m., Vice Mayor Pimentel left the dais and exited the Chambers.

Council Member Dote favors Measure E diversion and extension.

Mayor Davies wants to see if there are other options.

City Manager Deven said if we are going to go for a ballot measure, we may not have adequate time to do this. Our Capital Budget is having problems as well. Measure E is paying the debt service. We need to see if this will hurt the CIP program also.

Council Member Monroe would like to know how much of Measure E funds are committed.

Council took no action and requested that this item be placed on the next Agenda.

BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENT PROCESS

Mayor Davies suggested that this item be moved to another meeting and Council concurred to move this item to the February 16, 2010 meeting.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Mayor Davies indicated that appointments for the Community Service Award Nominating Committee should be forwarded to the City Manager's



Secretary or the Director of Administrative Services as soon as possible.
Nominations thus far are:

Council Member Marble	-	Donna Neu
Mayor Davies	-	Gary Traynham

ADJOURN

At 8:40 p.m., Mayor Davies adjourned the regular meeting of the Council in memory of Doug Young.

Respectfully submitted,

SS: Sue Vannucci, Director of
Administrative Services

Adopted by Council: October 19, 2010