

MINUTES OF THE WILLOWS CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING HELD
August 16, 2011

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Mayor Hansen.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Hansen led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Council Members Yoder, Cobb, Hobbs, Holvik & Mayor Hansen
Absent: None

4. **Public Comment:**

Forrest Sprague spoke unfavorably about the City Manager and urged the City Council to take into consideration the City Manager's actions which led to the Police Department's vote of No Confidence. He also hoped that the City Council would review the City Manager's Employment Contract, specifically the clause regarding the City not having the responsibility to pay severance pay for "Termination for Cause" when an employee engages in intentional or negligent misconduct, hinting that the City Manager somehow engaged in negligent and intentional misconduct and also hinting at his desire for the Council to Terminate the City Manager.

Heather Baker spoke very favorably about the City Manager and his performance in that position. She stated that she was on the City Council when he was interviewed for the position and at that time the Council asked him for a list of goals which he would like to achieve for the City. She believes that he has met most of his goals that he had stated at that time. She believes he has done a very good job serving the Citizens of Willows as the City Manager and he has suggested, created and implemented some very positive programs in the City, including getting the City a website, the creation of the Façade Improvement Program and the creation of the Greater Willows Improvement League, just to name a few examples.

Mayor Hansen read the following letter into the record which was received from Mike Murray:

"Dear Mayor Hansen, I know the Willows City Council is in the process of evaluating the City Manager's job performance. The intent of this letter is to provide additional information as it pertains to Mr. Holsinger's conduct when interacting with me in my capacity as the District 4 Supervisor which encompasses the City of Willows. I have attended numerous meetings where Mr. Holsinger was present and represented the city, whether it was centralized dispatch, animal control contract, booking fees, library funding or just a matter of mutual concern. I can tell you unequivocally that the City Manager's conduct was both professional and polite. He always had the city's best interest in mind and represented the council's viewpoint as aggressively as the situation dictated. During those times when we "agreed to disagree" he maintained his professional demeanor and represented you fairly. If Mr. Holsinger were a county employee, his integrity, performance and continued employment would not be in question. Gary, you may share this letter with whomever you deem appropriate. If it has generated any questions in your colleague's minds please feel free to contact me. Sincerely, Mike Murray, District 4 Supervisor."

Hearing no more Public Comments, the Council entered into Executive Session at 6:41 p.m. for the following:

5. **Executive Session:** Pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54950 et seq., the City Council held a Closed Session. More specific information regarding this closed session is indicated below:
PERFORMANCE EVALUATION – Pursuant to Government Code § 54957 (b) (1), which states:

“Subject to paragraph (2), nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed to prevent the legislative body of a local agency from holding closed sessions during a regular or special meeting to consider the appointment, employment, evaluation of performance, discipline, or dismissal of a public employee or to hear complaints or charges brought against the employee by another person or employee unless the employee requests a public session.”

TITLE: City Manager

6. **Report-Out from Closed Session:** The Council emerged from Executive Session at 10:15 p.m. and Mayor Hansen reported that tonight the Council met as a group to discuss the entire evaluation process. They met with the City Manager and discussed the areas of overriding concern. The Council has identified some legal questions or issues that must be reviewed by the City Attorney and the final evaluation will not be completed until a meeting with the City Attorney can be arranged.
7. **Adjournment:** Mayor Hansen adjourned the meeting at 10:16 p.m.

Dated: August 16, 2011

NATALIE BUTLER

City Clerk

The City of Willows is an Equal Opportunity Provider