

MINUTES OF THE WILLOWS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD
February 24, 2015

1. Mayor Domenighini called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Domenighini led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Williams, Yoder, Mello, Hansen & Mayor Domenighini.
Absent: None

4. **Agenda Review:**

- a) Council Member Mello requested that item 11(c) entitled “Consider approval of recommendations of the subcommittee report on Chamber of Commerce funding request methodology” be removed from the agenda and placed on a future agenda. **M/S - Yoder/Hansen** to approve the February 24, 2015, City Council Agenda as amended. The motion unanimously passed.

5. **Presentations & Proclamations:**

Tarrah Henrie, Manager of Water Quality for California Water Service Company, provided an update to the Council on the Chromium 6 treatment initiative and available grant funding to help mitigate some of the financial impacts of the treatment processes in the Cal Water District Service areas.

6. **Public Comment/Written Communications:**

- Rose Marie Thrailkill reported to the Council that the new 2015 Business Directory put together by the Chamber of Commerce has been completed and mailed out to 4128 residences/businesses and 489 have been placed in hotel & motel rooms in Willows. She also distributed the directories to the Council and the City Clerk to give out at City Hall.
- Jamie Millen, Chamber of Commerce President, presented a Chamber of Commerce 2015 Honorary Membership Plaque to the Council.

7. **Consent Agenda:**

M/S – Hansen/Mello to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion unanimously passed and the following items were approved:

- a) Approval of General, Payroll & Direct Deposit Check Registers (28459-28543; Z06001-Z06067; 33628-33665).
- b) Approval of City Council Minutes of the December 9, 2014 regular meeting.

- c) Authorize City Staff to seek bids in conjunction with City Tow Services Contract; currently set to expire March 28, 2015.

8. **Public Hearings:** None

9. **Ordinances:** None.

10. **Items introduced by City Council or Administrative Staff for discussion purposes only:**

- The City Manager reminded the Council that he would be out of state from March 3 to March 25 and Finance Director Tim Sailsbery would be the City Manager Pro Tempore during his absence.

11. **New Business:**

- a) Consideration of Façade Improvement Funding approval in an amount not-to-exceed \$6661.00 for a project located at 311 N. Butte Street owned by Ben & RaeAnn Titus:

On October 28, 2014 the City Council heard a request for reimbursement of Downtown Façade Improvement funding from Ben and RaeAnn Titus to complete plaster/stucco, painting, signage and landscaping at their property located at 311 North Butte Street in the Central Commercial zoning district. The Council adopted a resolution for funding this eligible work, with stipulations that any reimbursement shall be contingent upon full approval from the Greater Willows Improvement League (GWIL) regarding paint color options, and that all programmatic rules, regulations and procedures of Administrative Staff have been satisfied regarding signage. The Council recommended if the applicants could not satisfy the stipulation on paint color options that they should resubmit a modified application for the other project work.

Subsequently the applicants have since modified their application for funding under this program and have resubmitted an application requesting 50% reimbursement for plaster/stucco and landscaping work for a total project cost of \$13,322. The GWIL Board of Directors have completed their full review of the modified application and recommend approval of the application. Under the current program criteria, a qualifying project could seek funding of 50% of the expended project costs. The type of work under this project qualifies for funding.

The adoption of the resolution before the Council will commit the City to \$6,661 in Downtown Façade Improvement matching funds. The source of funding is available through partial allocation of the Wal-Mart Economic Impacts contribution.

Staff is recommending adoption of the resolution approving the use of Façade Improvement Funds to reimburse/assist Ben & RaeAnn Titus with these improvements to their businesses not to exceed a total of \$6,661.

M/S – Yoder/Hansen to adopt a Resolution approving the use of downtown Façade Improvement funds for Ben & RaeAnn Titus, owners of an existing commercial building located at 311 North Butte Street. The motion unanimously passed.

- b) Consider adoption of a Resolution authorizing City Staff to submit a Grant Application to the Federal Development Administration in an amount not to exceed \$3,500,000 for Infrastructure Development in conjunction with the North Valley Commercial Center (i.e. South Willows Business Park):

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a Resolution, authorization Staff to submit a 2015 Economic Development Assistance Programs funding application in support of the proposed Infrastructure Development Requirements at the North Valley Commercial Center/Basin Street Properties Project in South Willows.

3CORE on behalf of the City of Willows, in partnership with Basin Street Properties have been investigating funding opportunities in support of the necessary infrastructure improvements; including Highway 99 traffic accommodations, bridge work necessary to access the business park, main street/entry-way highway, frontage improvements, as well as water, sewer and associated improvements to commence development of the North Valley Commercial Center Project.

Under this newly announced Federal Funding Opportunity, US Economic Development Assistance programs solicit applications from agencies in rural and urban areas to provide investments that support construction, non-construction, technical assistance, and revolving loan fund projects under EDA’s Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance programs. Grants and cooperative agreements made under these programs are designed to leverage existing regional assets and support the implementation of economic development strategies that advance new ideas and creative approaches to advance economic prosperity in distressed communities.

In preliminary communications with the EDA Representatives in our Region, the Basin Street Project, in conjunction with partnership efforts involving the City of Willows, California Water Service Company, and Glenn County Economic Development Steering Committee, would meet several of the funding criteria established for this grant funding opportunity. Several of the Investment Priorities identified with this project include:

Collaborative Regional Innovation

1. Initiatives that support the development and growth of innovation clusters based on existing regional competitive strengths. Initiatives must engage stakeholders; facilitate collaboration among urban, suburban, and rural (including tribal) areas; provide stability for economic development through

long-term intergovernmental and public/private collaboration; and support the growth of existing and emerging industries

2. Public/Private Partnerships

Investments that use both public and private sector resources and leverage complementary investments by other government/public entities and/or nonprofits.

3. National Strategic Priorities

Initiatives that encourage job growth and business expansion related to advanced manufacturing; information technology (e.g., broadband, smart grid) infrastructure; communities severely impacted by automotive industry restructuring; urban waters; natural disaster mitigation and resiliency; access to capital for small, medium-sized, and ethnically diverse enterprises; and innovations in science and health care.

4. Environmentally-Sustainable Development

Investments that promote job creation and economic prosperity through projects that enhance environmental quality and develop and implement green products, processes, places, and buildings as part of the green economy. This includes support for energy-efficient green technologies.

5. Economically Distressed and Underserved Communities

Investments that strengthen diverse communities that have suffered disproportionate economic job losses and/or are rebuilding to become more competitive in the global economy.

Eligible applicants for EDA financial assistance under the Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance programs include a(n): (i) District Organization of a designated Economic Development District; (ii) Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes; (iii) State, county, city, or other political subdivision of a State, including a special purpose unit of a State or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions; (iv) institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; or (v) public or private non-profit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State.

The next available funding cycle deadline is **March 12, 2015** for funding cycle 2 of FY 2015; to be considered during a particular funding cycle, completed applications must be validated and time-stamped by Grants.gov by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the applicable funding cycle deadline. Eligibility requirements include a Resolution of the Local Agency Legislative Board acknowledging the application submittal and the matching funds requirements if the application process is successful. Staff is recommending approval of the required Resolution and authorizing submittal of necessary application materials and authorizing the City Manager or his designee(s) to execute, in the name of the applicant, all the required documents.

None at this time, future funding is contingent upon successful application for Federal Funding Opportunity, US Economic Development Assistance programs. When successful, the City of Willows would become responsible for the “Matching Funds” portion of project funding; contingent upon the level of grant authorized under the program. The City of Willows has sufficient available funding to accommodate these requirements as necessary.

Staff recommends that the City Council approve by Resolution, authorization for Staff to submit a 2015 Economic Development Assistance Programs funding application in support of the proposed Infrastructure Development Requirements at the North Valley Commercial Center/Basin Street Properties Project in South Willows.

M/S – Yoder/Hansen to adopt a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Willows authorizing submittal of an application to the US Economic Development Administration for funding under the Economic Development Assistance Program; and if selected, the execution of any standard agreement, any amendments thereto, and of any related documents necessary to participate in the EDA funding program opportunity ending March 12, 2015,. The motion unanimously passed.

- c) Removed from the agenda under item #4 (Agenda Review) at the request of Council Member Mello who asked that it be placed on a future agenda for discussion and/or possible action by the Council.

12. Council Member Reports:

- Council Members Hansen and Yoder gave an update on the most recent Public Safety Subcommittee Meeting about ambulance services in the City of Willows. Council Member Yoder also stated that there was some discussion about resurrecting looking into centralized dispatch which is a topic that has been discussed for over 20 years without any success or satisfactory conclusions.
- Council Member Hansen gave an update on the latest Glenn County Transit & Transportation Meetings.
- Mayor Domenighini announced that the library would be hosting an open house on April 7 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and encouraged people to attend. He also gave a report on the latest LAFCO meeting.

13. Closed Session: None

14. Adjournment: Mayor Domenighini adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Dated: February 27, 2015

NATALIE BUTLER

City Clerk

The City of Willows is an Equal Opportunity Provider