

MINUTES OF THE WILLOWS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD

January 22, 2013

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Mayor Cobb.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Council Member Spears led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Domenighini, Taylor-Vodden, Mello, Spears & Mayor Cobb
Absent: None

4. **Agenda Review:** The City Manager pointed out to the Council that there has been a revision to "Exhibit A" on the Resolution being presented under item 11(b). A copy of the revised Exhibit was distributed to the Council Members and to the members of the press prior to the meeting. It was then **moved** by Council Member Taylor-Vodden and **seconded** by Council Member Domenighini to approve the January 22, 2013 agenda as presented, but with a minor modification to Exhibit A on item 11(b). The motion unanimously passed.

5. **Presentations & Proclamations:**

- a) The Willows Lions Club, Willows Rotary and Willows Kiwanis each presented a check in the amount of \$550.00 to the Public Works Director, Skyler Lipski, to use to create decomposed granite pathways in Jensen Park.
- b) The Willows Elks Lodge presented a \$1000 check to Recreation Director Carol Lemenager to be used for the City Pool.
- c) Tracey Quarne, Glenn County Office of Education (GCOE) Superintendent, and Roberto Herniman, Director of Technology for GCOE, gave a presentation on GCOE's new internet project. The expansion of internet accessibility and increased internet speed would allow secure distant learning from all school sites within Glenn County.

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

Mayor Cobb opened the public comment period. The following individuals addressed the Council:

Jeff Williams spoke on the topic of the upcoming Special Mid-Year Budget Review Meeting scheduled for February 20.

Mayor Cobb closed the public comment period. No Written Communications were received.

7. **Consent Agenda:**

Council Member Spears asked that items 7(c) & (d) be pulled from the Consent Agenda and voted on separately. **Motion** by Council Member Domenighini, **second** by Council Member Spears to approve Consent Agenda item 7(a). The motion unanimously passed 5/0. **Motion** by Council Member Taylor-Vodden, **second** by Council Member Domenighini to approve Consent Agenda item 7(b). The motion unanimously passed 5/0. **Motion** by Council Member Domenighini, **second** by Council Member Mello to approve Consent Agenda items 7(c) & 7(d). The motion carried with 4 ayes and Council Member Spears abstaining. The following items were approved/adopted:

- a) Approval of General Check Register (25521-25592).
- b) Approval of Payroll & Direct Deposit Check Registers (Z004025-Z04055 & 32334-32360).
- c) Approval of the Minutes of the Willows City Council Regular Meeting held November 27, 2012.
- d) Approval of the Minutes of the Willows City Council Special Meeting held December 5, 2012.

8. **Public Hearings:** None

9. **Ordinances:** None

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

- a) Discussion about holding a Joint Meeting of the City Council and the Planning Commission:

The City Manager stated that it has been quite some time since there has been a joint meeting of the City Council and the Planning Commission and there has recently been some stated interest by members of both bodies to schedule a joint meeting in the future to discuss common goals, visions and priorities of the two bodies. He asked the Council to consider choosing a date and time in order to hold a joint meeting. It was decided that a joint meeting would take place on April 9 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., just prior to the regular meeting of the City Council at 7:00 p.m. The City Manager asked that members of the Council and the Commission give him feedback in the future on what topics they would like to be placed on the agenda for discussion and/or action.

11. **New Business:**

- a) Consider adoption of a Resolution authorizing the Public Works Department, in conjunction with the Community Wish Foundation, to create an “Avenue of Flags” consisting of approximately 140 American Flags Along Sycamore Street extending five City blocks from Murdock Street to Tehama Street:

The Community Wish Foundation has approached the City of Willows regarding the logistics involved in creating an “Avenue of Flags” in the downtown area along Sycamore Street. The City met with the Willows Community Wish Foundation President on January 9, 2013. During the meeting, the proper spacing and amount of flags were agreed upon, taking into consideration trees, alleys, traffic safety, and sidewalk clearance.

The final design is approximately 28 flags on each block (14 per side) space roughly 20 feet apart and set approximately 12 inches off the curb face in the sidewalk or park-strip area. The Community Wish Foundation will purchase the flags and facilitate the placement, removal, and storage via Willows Veterans during certain Patriotic Holidays or “flag holidays” (about 5 – 9 days out of the year). The Community Wish President, Rae Ann Titus, was present at the meeting to answer any questions.

Council discussion ensued and all Council Members were in agreement that the Avenue of Flags is an excellent idea and it shows Patriotism. Council Member Taylor-Vodden stated that a member of the public inquired with her why the City wouldn’t utilize the existing utility poles on Sycamore Street rather than drilling holes into City sidewalks. She explained that the City does not have authorization to utilize the utility poles, as they are owned by PG&E, whereas, the City owns the sidewalks. Monty Carter, of the audience, suggested that if this item passes, the flags should be made in the U.S.A. Mrs. Titus indicated that would be the case.

Motion by Council Member Domenighini, **second** by Council Member Spears to adopt a Resolution to create an "Avenue of Flags" along Sycamore Street from Murdock Street to Tehama Street. The motion unanimously passed.

- b) Consider adoption of a Resolution authorizing the Public Works Department, in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce, to install "Welcome" signs on the sign posts previously utilized for limited parking in the downtown area:

The Chamber of Commerce has approached the City of Willows regarding the logistics involved in installing "Welcome" signs on sign posts previously used for limited parking. The City Council approved removing the limited parking signs for a one-year trial period at the December 11, 2012 meeting, but agreed to leave the posts intact. The Chamber of Commerce has agreed to purchase the "Welcome" signs and the Public Works Department would be responsible for installing them on the existing sign posts.

The City Manager pointed out that the "Exhibit A" attached to tonight's Resolution that was part of the original agenda has since been revised to include nine additional sign locations for the "Welcome" signs to be placed. A revised copy of the Exhibit was given to the Council Members and the press. There was some discussion about the fact that if this Resolution is being amended to add additional signs, that the Resolution that was adopted on December 11 would also have to be amended. The City Manager explained that the Council could adopt the Resolution that was before them tonight with the amended exhibit and at the next meeting, staff would introduce a new Resolution that would rescind the Resolution adopted on December 11 and reflect the correct placement of each of the signs that had the limited parking signs removed and will have the "Welcome" signs put up in their place. **Motion** by Council Member Taylor-Vodden, **second** by Council Member Mello to adopt a Resolution authorizing the Public Works Department, in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce, to install "Welcome" signs on sign posts previously utilized for limited parking in the downtown area. The motion unanimously passed.

- c) Appointment of an individual to serve on the Planning Commission for the remainder of the unexpired term of former Planning Commissioner Larry Domenighini:

Former Planning Commissioner Larry Domenighini resigned from his seat on the Planning Commission on November 13, 2012, as a result of being elected to the Willows City Council at the November 6, 2012 election. This vacancy on the Commission was advertised and applications were accepted until January 2, 2013. The City received three applications from City Residents Shirley Benningfield, Gary Hansen and Peggy White.

At the January 8, 2013, City Council Meeting, Council Members Taylor-Vodden and Domenighini (both former Planning Commissioners) volunteered to conduct interviews of the three candidates and report back to the full Council with their recommendation to select one of the three individuals to serve the remainder of the term of the vacant seat. The candidates were interviewed on January 14 & 15 and Council Members Taylor Vodden and Domenighini both stated that all three candidates were qualified to take the position and that they enjoyed speaking to all of the candidates. Their decision was not an easy one, but ultimately their recommendation came down to the candidate who they felt had the most experience, and that candidate is Peggy White. All of the Council Members agreed that all three applicants could have easily filled the vacant seat and they commended Council Members Taylor-Vodden and Domenighini for conducting the interviews and for making such a difficult decision. All Council Members agreed with the recommendation, and it was the unanimous consensus of the Council to appoint

Peggy White to complete the remainder of the term of the vacant seat on the Planning Commission until the term expires on December 31, 2013.

12. Council Member Reports:

Council Member Domenighini reported that he attended the most recent Library Board of Trustees Meeting. He also stated that he recently spoke to Pastor Phil Zabell who is on the Glenn Communities Working Together Committee for Senior Housing. He stated that the committee will be having a meeting tomorrow at 10:30 at the HRA and then at noon the Citizens for Senior Housing group will meet at the Senior Nutrition Center to re-cap the meeting. Council Member Domenighini stated that he would be unable to attend the meeting and he asked any Council Member(s) that might be available to attend the meeting to please do so in his absence. Council Member Spears stated that he would attend the meeting.

Council Member Taylor-Vodden reported that she attended the Economic Forecast Conference on January 17 in Oroville. She also stated that she attended the recent Fire Department Installation dinner and it was a very nice and well-attended event. She congratulated former Council Member Vince Holvik for his receiving the Community Service Member of the Year award from the Volunteer Fire Fighters at the event. She stated it was a well-deserved award.

Council Member Mello stated that he also attended the Fire Department's Installation dinner.

Mayor Cobb apologized that he missed the Installation dinner, as he had a prior family commitment, and he also congratulated former Council Member Holvik for receiving the Community Service Member of the Year award, stating that it was truly a well-deserved award.

Council Member Spears reported that the Transportation Commission meeting was cancelled this month and the next meeting is scheduled for February 21. He also reported that the local Cub Scouts group would be having their pinewood derby this weekend at the Elks Lodge.

13. Adjournment: Mayor Cobb adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Dated: January 22, 2013

NATALIE BUTLER

City Clerk

The City of Willows is an Equal Opportunity Provider