

MINUTES OF THE WILLOWS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD
September 24, 2013

1. Mayor Cobb called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Former City Mayor Vince Holvik led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **ROLL CALL:**

 Present: Domenighini, Taylor-Vodden, Mello, & Mayor Cobb
 Absent: None (One Council Vacancy)
4. **Agenda Review:** It was **moved** by Council Member Domenighini and **seconded** by Council Member Taylor-Vodden to accept the September 24, 2013 agenda as presented. The motion unanimously passed.
5. **Presentations & Proclamations:**
 - a) Kevin Nelson, President of the Willows Car & Bike Show Association, presented Public Works Director Skyler Lipski with a plaque of appreciation for the efforts put forth by the City's Public Works Department to prepare for the annual Car & Bike show.
 - b) Representatives from California Water Service Company gave the City Council information on Chromium-6 and the proposed California Department of Public Health (DPH) Maximum Contaminant Level Regulation. Tarrah Henrie, Acting Director of Water Quality, Rosanna Marino, Local Cal-Water Manager and Paul Townsley, Vice President of Regulatory and Corporate Relations, gave a background on Chromium 6 and its regulatory history, required treatment, rate impacts and what the City and residents can do about the new Draft Regulations proposed by the DPH. They strongly recommended that the Citizens and the City Council request - in writing or by signing a petition - the DPH revise the Maximum Contaminant Levels based on economic impact it will have on the Willows Community, request that they allow a grace period for compliance, request that they make grant funding and low- or no-interest loans available for all water utilities and that they work with California Water to secure grant funding and loans. The DPH will be conducting a Public Hearing on October 11 and they asked that any letters be turned in to Cal-Water prior to that date so that they can present the letters and petitions when they attend the Public Hearing on October 11.

A letter from the City of Willows addressed to the DPH had been prepared and was presented to the Council for their review and comments. If approved, staff will have the Mayor sign the letter opposing the proposed new regulations and asking for a grace period for compliance. The Council reviewed the letter and held a brief discussion about the contents and it was the consensus of the Council that some minor edits be made to the letter to make it more specific to the financial impacts on Willows Residents. Once the letter is revised it will be signed by the entire City Council, rather than only the Mayor.

6. Public Comment/Written Communications:

The following person(s) spoke during public comments:

Brian Ramos, President of the “Willows Friends of the Library”, announced that the annual fall book sale and bake sale would be taking place on October 2 through October 5 at the Civic Center.

Willows Police Officer and K-9 handler, Kelly Kuwada, announced that there will be a “Tip-a-Cop/Tip a VIP” fundraiser on October 24 at Casa Ramos with the proceeds of the fundraiser going to the K-9 program. She invited everybody to attend this event.

Susan Parisio, of the audience, encouraged everybody to write letters to the Department of Public Health regarding the Chromium 6 proposed legislation because it has been her experience that a stack of letters being submitted at a public hearing usually send a strong message.

7. Consent Agenda:

It was **moved** by Council Member Domenighini and **seconded** by Council Member Mello to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion unanimously passed and the following items were approved/adopted:

- a) Approval of General, Payroll and Direct Deposit Check Registers (26510-26555; 32766-32782; Z04591-Z00428).
- b) Approval of the August 27, 2013 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes.
- c) Approval of the September 10, 2013 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes.
- d) Adoption of a Resolution approving a façade improvement mini-grant not to exceed \$900 for Jian Zhao to paint the exterior of an existing commercial building located at 151 S. Tehama Street.

8. Public Hearings: None

9. Ordinances: None

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

The City Manager made an announcement that the City was recently notified that they were successful in their pursuit of a CDBG PTA grant for two projects and the City was awarded \$70,000. As soon as there is a contract in place with CDBG, staff will begin working on those two projects.

Council Member Domenighini stated that at a future meeting he would like to have a discussion about developing a policy for the City’s General Fund and to determine a number that the

Council thinks an appropriate reserve would be. Staff was directed to make this a discussion item on the agenda for the mid-year budget review meeting.

11. **New Business:** None

12. **Council Member Reports:**

Council Member Taylor-Vodden reported that she and the City Manager attended the Economic Development steering committee meeting this past Thursday.

13. **Referred Matters Pending:**

- a. Mayor Cobb and Council Member Mello will make the sub-committee recommendation of the most qualified candidate to serve on the City Council throughout the term that expires in November 2016, due to the resignation of William Spears from the Council. Council shall make the appointment and the City Clerk shall administer the Oath of Office to the appointed candidate.

Mayor Cobb began by thanking the two candidates, Gary Hansen and Jeff Williams, that submitted applications to complete the remaining term of the vacant Council Seat. He stated that their interest shows that they are very conscious of City Matters and their service to the community is appreciated. He stated that unfortunately there can only be one candidate selected. Both he and Council Member Mello reviewed the applications and resumes and they conducted interviews with the two interested candidates. He stated that before he makes his recommendation, he asked if Council Member Mello had anything to add. Council Member Mello stated that he and the Mayor did come to a mutual agreement on their recommendation. Mayor Cobb concurred, and he asked if there were any members of the audience that wished to comment on this topic prior to the subcommittee making their recommendation. Hearing no comments, Mayor Cobb announced that, based on the totality of the application process, the resumes and the interviews, it is the recommendation of the subcommittee that Gary Hansen be appointed to serve the remainder of the term of the vacant Council seat. He then announced that the applications, the resumes and the interviews are public records.

Council discussion ensued and Council Member Taylor-Vodden stated that she did receive strong support letters and emails for both candidates, but the stronger support was for Gary Hansen so she feels Mr. Hansen is the appropriate candidate to fill the Council seat.

Council Member Domenighini stated that he would also support Mr. Hansen, although he is appreciative of Mr. Williams' application and his involvement with the City and he hopes Mr. Williams is not discouraged. He believes Mr. Hansen has the experience and he agrees with the subcommittee's recommendation.

It was **moved** by Council Member Mello and **seconded** by Mayor Cobb to appoint Gary Hansen to serve the remainder of the term (November 2016) of the vacant City Council seat created as a result of a Council Member resignation. The motion unanimously passed. The City Clerk administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Hansen and he then took his seat at the dais.

14. **Executive Session:** Pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54950 et seq., the City Council held a Closed Session. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3, the public had an opportunity to directly address the legislative body on the below items prior to the Council convening into Closed Session. No members of the audience spoke on this topic and Mayor Cobb convened into Closed Session at 7:58 p.m.

a) PERFORMANCE EVALUATION – Pursuant to Government Code § 54957 (b) (1).
TITLE: City Manager

14. **Report Out from Executive Session:** No reportable action was taken by the Council.

15. **Adjournment:** Mayor Cobb adjourned the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

Dated: September 24, 2013

NATALIE BUTLER

City Clerk

The City of Willows is an Equal Opportunity Provider