MINUTES OF THE WILLOWS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD
September 9, 2014

1. Mayor Cobb called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Council Member Hansen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ROLL CALL:**

   Present: Domenighini, Mello, Hansen & Mayor Cobb.
   Absent: Taylor-Vodden

4. **Agenda Review:** It was **moved** by Council Member Hansen and **seconded** by Council Member Domenighini to accept the September 9, 2014 agenda as presented. The motion unanimously passed.

5. **Presentations & Proclamations:**

   a) Mayor Cobb presented a Proclamation honoring the memory of those whose lives were lost in the September 11, 2001, attack on the United States to Barbara LaDoucer of the American Legion Auxiliary.

   b) Mayor Cobb presented a Proclamation in Recognition of September 19, 2014, being "National POW/MIA Recognition Day" to Barbara LaDoucer of the American Legion Auxiliary.

   c) Mayor Cobb presented a Proclamation of the City of Willows recognizing the 200th Anniversary of the Star Spangled Banner to Barbara LaDoucer of the American Legion Auxiliary.

6. **Public Comment/Written Communications:** None

7. **Consent Agenda:**

It was **moved** by Council Member Hansen 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 & Direct Deposit Check Registers.

   b) Approval of Minutes of the August 12, 2014, Regular City Council Meeting.

   c) Approval of second reading by title only and adoption of Ordinance Number **710-2014** entitled **"An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Willows repealing section(s) 2.05.050 and amending Title II section 2.05.040 of chapter 2.05; City of Willows Municipal Code"**

   d) Approval of renewal of the Fiscal Year 2014/2015 Contract for Services between the City of Willows and 3CORE, Inc.

8. **Public Hearings:** None

9. **Ordinances:** Action taken under item 7(c).

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

- City Manager Steve Holsinger announced that earlier today California City News published an article about the State Controller unveiling a new website that is available to search specific fiscal and wage and benefit information for all California Cities, and there is a decade worth information from 2003 through 2013. He did a comparison between the Cities of Williams, Colusa, Orland, Red Bluff & Willows between the years 2009 and 2013. He stated that is was fascinating to look at where the City of Willows was financially and what the City's expenses were versus the revenues that were being generated when he began his employment with the City of Willows. During that time the City was spending more money than they were bringing in. He stated that in the last couple of years, the City of Willows has done a remarkable job in reducing their expenditures and they have dropped way down with their expenditures compared to the other cities and they have done so without having to sacrifice any single service provided to the Citizens of the City of Willows. Conversely, other cities of similar size have seemed to increase their expenditures over this same timeframe. He believes that the City Council and the Staff in the City of Willows should be congratulated for doing an outstanding job in their efforts to attain more fiscal stability. The current Council, as well as previous Councils, that managed the budget in the past few years did an outstanding job of restoring the General Fund Reserves, and did a phenomenal job of reducing expenses while still maintaining the services and increasing revenues. This was all done throughout the most difficult fiscal period in local municipal history. The City of Willows has done quite well over the past five years, with a greater than 3% increase in revenues, which may not sound like a lot, but it did out-pace the CPI. He believes it is very important for the Citizens of the City to be aware of this information. Additionally, on that same website there is an employee database where you can pull up every employee in the City and see their wage and benefit information. This new website is being touted as the most significant advancement in transparency in Government in the history of the State of California. Again, he stated that the Council and City Staff should be congratulated for an outstanding fiscal run over the last few years. He encouraged everybody to visit the website and take a look at all of the information that it contains.

  Mayor Cobb thanked the City Manager for sharing this information and he offered his congratulations to all Staff, Department Heads and the City Manager and thanked them for their efforts to get the City back on fiscal track.

- Council Member Mello asked if it is really necessary to read all of the items on the Consent Agenda prior to the Council taking an action on it. Mayor Cobb responded, stating that he doesn't know if it necessary, but that he personally likes to be thorough and make sure that everything is recorded properly and that he is demonstrating transparency by reading aloud of all of the items on the Consent Agenda.

11. New Business: None

12. Council Member Reports:

Council Member Hansen:

- Reported that the contract for CGI Communications has been executed. He received a message from a CGI Representative out of New York today requesting to hold a teleconference meeting with the subcommittee consisting of himself and Council Member Mello this Friday to work out some specific details of the project. After the conference call, they would like to nail down some dates to begin the production work.

Council Member Mello:

- Reported that he attended a Cities and County EDC meeting on August 28.
- Announced that the 911 Remembrance and Candle Light Vigil will be held at Memorial Hall this Thursday evening, starting at 7:30 p.m.
- Announced that the second annual 5K "Walk of Hope" for St. Jude's Children Hospital will take place at Memorial Hall on October 12.
- Announced that the Avenue of Flags will be erected on Sycamore Street on September 11th from 6:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Council Member Domenighini:

- Reported that the Chromium 6 subcommittee is attempting to set up a meeting in the near future.
- Reported that the Utilities subcommittee that he and Council Member Taylor-Vodden serve on, will be meeting with Public Works Director Skyler Lipski on Thursday Morning to go over an outline of all of the different items they will be looking at.
- Reported that the Library will be holding an event featuring local authors on September 23 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

13. Executive Session: None

14. Adjournment: Mayor Cobb adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Dated: September 9, 2014

NATALIE BUTLER

City Clerk

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