

# **CITY OF BUELLTON**

## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting of October 26, 2017**

**City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246  
Buellton, California**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Holly Sierra called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Council Members Dave King, Art Mercado, Foster Reif, Vice Mayor Ed Andrisek, and Mayor Holly Sierra

**Staff:** City Manager Marc Bierzinski, Finance Director Shannel Zamora, Public Works Director Rose Hess, City Attorney Steve McEwen, Contract Planner Irma Tucker, Lt. Shawn O'Grady, and City Clerk Linda Reid

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Mayor Sierra requested and the Council agreed by consensus to pull Item 2 for discussion. Council Member Reif thanked Finance Director for providing all the financial reports for Council and the public.

- 1. Minutes of October 12, 2017 Regular City Council Meeting**
- 3. Revenue and Expenditure Reports through September 30, 2017**
- 4. Monthly Treasurer's Report – September 30, 2017**
- 5. Monthly Activity Report – Enterprise Funds through September 30, 2017**
- 6. Filing of an Amended 2017-18 Claim with the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) for State Transit Assistance (STA) Fund 2016-17 Apportionments**

**MOTION:**

Motion by Vice Mayor Andrisek, seconded by Council Member King approving Consent Calendar Items 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6 as listed.

**VOTE:**

Motion passed by a roll call vote of 5-0.

Council Member King – Yes

Council Member Mercado – Yes

Council Member Reif – Yes

Vice Mayor Andrisek - Yes

Mayor Sierra – Yes

**2. List of Claims to be Approved and Ratified for Payment to Date for Fiscal Year 2017-18**

Mayor Sierra questioned a payment to GovInvest Software. City Manager Bierdzinski agreed that this invoice should not have been included in the list of Claims. Finance Director Zamora explained the circumstances behind the invoice and further explained what the software would provide for the City. She stated that the software issue would be brought back for discussion at a future meeting for direction from the City Council on whether to move forward with the purchase of the software.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Mayor Sierra, seconded by Council Member King approving Consent Calendar Item 2, minus the invoice for the GovInvest Software.

**VOTE:**

Motion passed by a roll call vote of 5-0.

Council Member King – Yes

Council Member Mercado – Yes

Council Member Reif – Yes

Vice Mayor Andrisek - Yes

Mayor Sierra – Yes

**PRESENTATIONS**

None

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

**COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS/ITEMS**

Council Member King discussed the Tiger Dam flood protection system and that staff should look into budgeting for this item in the future.

Mayor Sierra proudly announced that Buellton Bocce Brawlers won the Valley-wide Bocce season.

Council Member Reif announced that Buellton schools have experienced a dramatic drop in enrollment and the school budget has a deficit.

Vice Mayor Andrisek announced that the driving lanes on west Highway 246 are not configured properly and Caltrans should revisit this issue and provide an appropriate fix.

## **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

None

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mayor Sierra announced that she attended board meetings for Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) and Air Pollution Control District (APCD) and provided oral reports regarding the meetings.

Vice Mayor Andrisek announced that he attended the Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA) Board Meeting and provided an oral report regarding the meeting.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **7. Discussion Regarding the Increases to Monthly Water Meter Service Fees and Monthly Wastewater Service Fees in the City of Buellton**

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the City Council reaffirm the scheduled rate increases, starting November 1, 2017 and July 1, 2018.

#### **STAFF REPORT:**

Public Works Director Rose Hess and Council Member Reif presented the staff report.

#### **DOCUMENTS:**

Staff report with attachment as listed in the staff report.

#### **SPEAKERS/DISCUSSION:**

John Dorwin, Buellton requested an impact analysis by category for water and wastewater usage for residential and commercial users.

John Petersen, Santa Ynez spoke about the water and wastewater increases and expressed his concern about past and current wastewater charges. Mr. Petersen suggested issuing bonds to help equalize the funds.

Judith Dale, Buellton discussed how staff and engineering costs have contributed to water and wastewater deficits and she provided a handout for the record. Ms. Dale suggested the rates be increased by usage and not by meter size.

Dan Nielsen, General Manager of Pea Soup Andersen's Inn spoke about the Inn's increased water and wastewater bills and how the increases are impacting business owners.

Steve Lykken, Buellton discussed the water and wastewater rate increases, the Proposition 218 process, and City subsidy for meter replacement.

The City Council discussed the following issues:

- Implementing a subsidy fund to help business owners defray costs of installing smaller water meters
- Spreading out the increased cost over a longer time period
- Use of bonds going forward for projects and not Operation and Maintenance

**MOTION:**

Motion by Council Member Reif, seconded by Council Member Mercado approving the scheduled rate increases, starting November 1, 2017 and July 1, 2018, with staff agendaizing future discussion for establishing a subsidy fund to assist business owners with the cost of installing smaller water meters.

**VOTE:**

Motion passed by a roll call vote of 5-0.

Council Member King – Yes

Council Member Mercado - Yes

Council Member Reif - Yes

Vice Mayor Andrisek - Yes

Mayor Sierra – Yes

**8. Year-End Report for Fiscal Year 2016-17 from the Buellton Chamber of Commerce/Visitors Bureau and Tourism Marketing Action Plan**

Kathy Vreeland, Executive Director of the Buellton Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau provided a presentation regarding their Year-End Report and Tourism Marketing Action Plan. The Council thanked Ms. Vreeland and the Chamber Board/staff for their efforts to market and brand Buellton.

**9. Ordinance No. 17-04 – “An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Buellton, California, Adopting the Avenue of Flags Specific Plan (17-SP-01)” (Second Reading)**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the City Council consider adoption of Ordinance No. 17-04.

**STAFF REPORT:**

Contract City Planner Tucker presented the staff report and provided a handout for the record.

**SPEAKERS/DISCUSSION:**

Richard Kusmitch, Buellton questioned what will happen to the established businesses on the Avenue of Flags as a result of the Specific Plan.

John Dorwin, Buellton discussed the prospect of free architectural design plans to allow businesses to change their current architectural façade and discussed traffic flow on the Avenue of Flags.

Debbie Oquist, Buellton questioned whether parking large vehicles with trailers will still be permitted on the Avenue of Flags and provided her suggested changes for the Avenue of Flags.

Peggy Brierton, Buellton expressed her support for the architectural design standards for the Avenue of Flags, with the exception of the storefronts and decorative motifs architecture (page 15 of the City's handout). Ms. Brierton asked for parallel and/or diagonal parking on Median 3.

Judith Dale, Buellton asked that storefronts and decorative motifs architecture (page 15 of the City's handout) not be used and supports limiting the maximum number of residential units on the Avenue of Flags. Ms. Dale requests tasteful development on the Avenue of Flags.

Kathy Vreeland, Executive Director of the Buellton Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau discussed her support for the Art Deco style of architecture. Ms. Vreeland asked the Council to think outside the box with regard to development on the Avenue of Flags.

The City Council discussed the following issues:

- Strategically placing the storefront and decorative motif architecture
- Limiting the maximum number of residential units on the Avenue of Flags
- Adding parallel and/or diagonal parking on Median 3
- Bringing back the Specific Plan in the future for discussion of maximum residential density
- Allowing very limited neon signage
- Pursuing a parking district and large vehicle parking at Pea Soup Andersen's

**DOCUMENTS:**

Staff report with attachments as listed in the staff report.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Council Member Reif, seconded by Council Member Mercado approving the adoption of Ordinance No. 17-04 – “An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Buellton, California, Adopting the Avenue of Flags Specific Plan (17-SP-01)” by title only and waive further reading. Including the following changes: clarifications in the handout provided by staff relating to Art Deco standards and Median setbacks, strategically placing the storefront and decorative motif architecture, adding parallel and/or diagonal parking on Median 3, and allowing very limited neon signage.

**VOTE:**

Motion passed by a roll call vote of 5-0.

Council Member King – Yes

Council Member Mercado - Yes

Council Member Reif - Yes

Vice Mayor Andrisek - Yes

Mayor Sierra – Yes

- 10. Resolution No. 17-20 – “A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Buellton, California, Approving an Increased Annual Maximum Benefit Per Person for Dental Coverage”**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the City Council consider the adoption of Resolution No. 17-20.

**STAFF REPORT:**

H.R. Director Reid presented the staff report.

**DOCUMENTS:**

Staff report with attachments as listed in the staff report.

**MOTION:**

Motion by Vice Mayor Andrisek, seconded by Council Member King approving Resolution No. 17-20 – “A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Buellton, California, Approving an Increased Annual Maximum Benefit Per Person for Dental Coverage”

**VOTE:**

Motion passed by a roll call vote of 5-0.

Council Member King - Yes

Council Member Mercado – Yes

Council Member Reif - Yes

Vice Mayor Andrisek - Yes

Mayor Sierra - Yes

**CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

City Manager Bierdzinski provided an informational report to the City Council.

**CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

**11. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION  
Initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9, subdivision  
(d)(4) (one case)**

The City Council met in Closed Session to discuss anticipated litigation. No reportable action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Sierra adjourned the regular meeting at 8:50 p.m. The next regular meeting of the City Council will be held on Thursday, November 9, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

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Holly Sierra  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Linda Reid  
City Clerk