**WOODLAKE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES March 23, 2015**

**PRESENT:** Councilmembers Mendoza, Ortiz, G. Gonzalez Jr. & Ray

**OTHERS:** Lara, Waters, Marquez, Zacarias & Student Representative Keller

**ABSENT:** Martinez

**FLAG SALUTE**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Laura Armstrong, 437 Cypress, Woodlake – Ms. Armstrong, a representative for Kiwanis of Woodlake asked for a donation from Council for the July 3rd Blast. This event is free to the community and donations help keep it that way. Also, Ms. Armstrong helps to coordinate the Western Week festivities and currently nothing is scheduled for May 4th or 5th. If anyone would like to add an event for either of these days, please contact Ms. Armstrong.

Angel Sandoval, 23240 Avenue 198, Strathmore – Mr. Sandoval reported the following: he is a representative for the History Society and their committee is inquiring what is needed to place a monument of Bravo Lake at the Botanical Gardens. He has gathered some historical information regarding Bravo Lake. Council asked Mr. Sandoval to keep them posted regarding this project.

Brian Thoburn, 2425 S. Blackstone, Tulare – Mr. Thoburn, a representative for Southern California Edison reported the following: new contact guide books are available and have been left for City staff. This is a good tool of information if you need to contact SCE. The last report of the Franchise Tax fees has been given to City Administrator Lara. Also, due to the drought, 80 megawatts of power have been added. One megawatt is enough to power over 1,000 homes. Mayor Mendoza asked if someone is needing to dig a well, when should SCE be contacted. Mr. Thoburn stated SCE should be contacted first so that they may be given a time frame as to when energy may be provided for the well.

Rudy Garcia, 154 S. Pepper, Woodlake – Mr. Garcia, a representative for the Woodlake Chamber of Commerce asked Council for assistance with the annual Car Show in the park. There will be no Cruise Night this year.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR –ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS

Request Approval of the Consent Calendar Action Items (IV. A-D)

A. Action: Approval of Minutes of the regular meeting held on March 9, 2015

B. Action: Approval of Warrants

C. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Approval of the Designation and Authorization of the City Administrator or Designee(s) to Act on Behalf of the City to Execute Applications and Agreement for the Governor’s California Office of Emergency Services Financial Assistance

D. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Approve the Agreement Between the County of Tulare and the City of Woodlake for Sheriff’s Work Alternate Program

**ON A MOTION BY GONZALEZ JR., SECOND BY ORTIZ IT WAS VOTED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

V. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Receive Public Comments, Waive 1st Reading, and Set 2nd Reading Date of an Ordinance Amending Section 13.12.030 of the Woodlake Municipal Code

**PUBLIC COMMENTS NONE**

City employee Waters reported the following: the purpose of this public hearing is to give citizens an opportunity to make their comments known regarding the proposed amendments to the Water Conservation Stages Ordinance in the Woodlake Municipal Code and introduce the ordinance to the public and City Council. City Staff will present the amendments to City Council and the public at the meeting. City Staff will also recommend waiving the first reading of the ordinance and setting the date of April 13, 2015 as the second reading. Mayor Mendoza opened up the meeting to anyone to ask questions or voice their concerns.

Denise Chavez, 389 Antelope, Woodlake – Ms. Chavez stated she has no problem conserving water but is bothered to have to pay more for using less.

Krystal Sandoval, 22415 Avenue 340, Woodlake – Ms. Sandoval stated not everyone has heard about the need to conserve water. She asked Council to make this information more available.

Rudy Garcia, 154 S. Pepper, Woodlake – Mr. Garcia stated he has been doing his part to conserve water but gets upset to see others not doing their part.

**ON A MOTION BY ORTIZ, SECOND BY RAY IT WAS VOTED TO RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS, WAIVE 1ST READING AND SET DATE FOR 2ND READING TO AMEND ORDINANCE. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Award the Construction of the City of Woodlake Roundabout Project to the Lowest Responsive Bidder, Emmett’s Excavation, Inc.

City Administrator Lara reported the following: the groundbreaking for the Roundabout will be April 3rd at 10 am. Bids were collected for the construction of the Roundabout. Following is a list of contractors and the estimated cost for completion of the Roundabout:

Emmett’s Excavation, Inc. $2,828,731.75

Agee Construction, Inc. $2,973,039.00

Don Berry Construction, Inc. $3,033,181.25

Lee’s Paving $3,241,793.80

Avison Construction, Inc. $3,290,388.00

American Paving Co. $3,369,839.00

City Administrator Lara asked Council to award the construction of the Roundabout to Emmett’s Excavation. Councilmember Ortiz asked what other projects have this company done. Ron Bunting who is the General Manager for Emmett’s stated they have done bridges at Plaza Drive and Mineral King in Visalia.

Isabel Cardenas, 480 S. Palm, Woodlake – Ms. Cardenas asked for Council to consider to not make streets a two way or one way, as it may confuse the residents. City Administrator Lara stated the City will be working with Caltrans for street closures and detours.

Lucy Cardenas, 309 S. Magnolia, Woodlake – Ms. Cardenas stated the owner of General Food Store had talked to her regarding a few questions and concerns he had about the new construction coming soon. She stated he did not want to talk to the City directly because he didn’t want us to think he was complaining. She asked City staff to continue to be open with the local businesses and continue to let them know what is happening and when it is happening. City Administrator Lara stated City staff welcomes questions and concerns from everyone. Mayor Mendoza stated we must continue to educate business owners and residents regarding upcoming construction projects.

**ON A MOTION BY RAY, SECOND BY ORTIZ IT WAS VOTED TO AWARD THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CITY OF WOODLAKE ROUNDABOUT PROJECT TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE BIDDER, EMMETT’S EXCAVATION, INC. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

C. Information: Adoption of Resolution: Award the Construction Management & Resident Engineer Services for the City of Woodlake Roundabout Project to the Best Qualified Firm VSCE, Inc.

City Administrator Lara reported the following: the City Council authorized staff to procure construction management (CM) & resident engineer (RE) services for the City of Woodlake Roundabout Project. The City of Woodlake convened a panel to interview two firms that applied to provide CM & RE services. The following firms submitted a proposal:

VSCE, Inc.

4Creeks, Inc.

Central Valley Engineering and Surveying

The interview panel determined that VSCE, Inc. was the most qualified firm. Staff recommends that Council award the CM & RE services for the City of Woodlake Roundabout Project to VSCE, Inc. Mayor Mendoza asked if they have done other projects for us in the past. City Administrator Lara stated yes, and the City has been very happy with their work.

**ON A MOTION BY GONZALEZ JR., SECOND BY RAY IT WAS VOTED TO AWARD THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT & RESIDENTAL ENGINEER SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF WOODLAKE ROUNDABOUT PROJECT TO THE BEST QUALIFIED FIRM VSCE, INC. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

D. Information: Water Updates

Staff employee Waters reported the following: last month the City released an RFQ for Water Meter Engineering and Design Services. Responses to the RFQ were due by March 20th. City Council will have an opportunity to select and approve a consultant for these services at the April 13th City Council meeting pending the approval of the Proposition 218 process.

E. Information: Draft City of Woodlake Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Budget Presentation

City Administrator Lara presented the attached PowerPoint of proposed budget.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Information: Items from Staff

City Employee Waters – reported he had attended a Council of Cities meeting and the topic was water management. Mayor Mendoza stated we all need to pay close attention to the formation of the ground water management as it will affect us all.

City Administrator Lara – reminded everyone about the Prop. 218 hearing scheduled for April 13th at 6:30 pm.

Chief Marquez – reported April is Distracted Driver Awareness Month. There was a shooting on March 13, the victim is in critical condition and investigation is ongoing. There was a 12 yr. old boy hit by a vehicle on the corner of Whitney and Valencia. The driver was arrested for DUI. On March 25th the DOJ will perform their biannual audit and inspect various cases. Councilmember Ortiz asked how the dog catching is going. Chief Marquez stated they have caught 20 more dogs and are now checking to make sure residences do not have more than they are allowed by City ordinance.

Student Representative Keller – reported there will be no more late start Wednesday’s so if kids are roaming on Wednesday morning please call the school. Friday is a minimum day and Spring Break will be March 27th thru April 7th.

City Clerk Zacarias – reported the Homegrown Project had a City clean up on Saturday, March 21st. Volunteers from the community and some high school students helped with the clean up around town. The Homegrown Project also cleaned various alleys. The City’s Free Spring Clean Up is scheduled for April 16th, 17th and 18th.

Councilmember Ortiz – reported she had family visiting from out of town and they were very impressed with the City and how good it looks.

Councilmember Mendoza – reminded everyone he will not be here the week of April 13th. Also he will attend the League of Cities meeting in May and asked if anyone else was interested to please contact City Clerk Zacarias.

C. Request from Council Members for Future Agenda Items

VII. CLOSED SESSION

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

As provided in the Ralph M. Brown Act, Government Code sections 54950 et seq., the Governing Board may meet in closed session with members of its staff and its attorneys. These sessions are not open to the public and may not be attended by members of the public. The matters the Council will meet on in closed session are identified below or are those matters appropriately identified in open session as requiring immediate attention and arising after the posting of the agenda. Any public reports of action taken in the closed session will be made in accordance with Government Code sections 54957.1

VIII. ADJOURN

The next scheduled City Council meeting will be held on Monday, April 13, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at City Council Chambers located at 350 North Valencia Boulevard, Woodlake, CA 93286.

City Council:

Rudy Mendoza - Mayor

Frances Ortiz - Vice Mayor

Chuck Ray - Councilmember

Greg Gonzalez Jr. - Councilmember  
Jose L. Martinez - Councilmember

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by,

Irene Zacarias

City Clerk