

PRESENT: Councilmembers Mendoza, Martinez, G. Gonzalez & Ortiz

OTHERS: Lara, Diaz, Marquez, Zacarias and Castillo

ABSENT: Ray

FLAG SALUTE

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR –ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS

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

A. Action: Approval of Minutes of the regular meeting held on October 12, 2015

B. Action: Approval of Warrants

COUNCILMEMBER MARTINEZ ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING CORRECTION: IN HIS REPORT FROM THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING, HE ASKED FOR A STUDY SESSION TO BE A COLLECTION OF IDEAS FROM COUNCIL, STAFF AND RESIDENTS. CITY ADMINISTRATOR LARA STATED STAFF HAS SCHEDULED FOR A STUDY SESSION TO BE AN AGENDA ITEM ON THE DECEMBER 14TH COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA.

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

V. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Continuation of the Proclamation of the Existence of a Local Drought Emergency for the City of Woodlake
City Administrator Lara reported the following: drilling of the new well began on October 20th. Councilmember Martinez asked since the Governor declared the water emergency, how much has the City of Woodlake lost? City Administrator stated the current wells have held strong and the new well is a plus for the City.

ON A MOTION BY MARTINEZ, SECOND BY G. GONZALEZ JR., IT WAS VOTED TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AND CONTINUE WITH THE PROCLAMATION OF THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL DROUGHT EMERGENCY FOR THE CITY OF WOODLAKE. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Reaffirm the Approval of the Emergency Expenditures for the Development and Implementation of the City of Woodlake Well Project

City Administrator Lara reported the following: staff recommends that the City Council approve the emergency expenditures of public money for the construction of a test well and new City well to meet the demands of its customers and to safeguard the health of City residents. At this time staff is requesting that Council approve \$186,000 in expenditures for the drilling of a 400ft deep hole and 16 inch wide steel casing. The City Council will

review the need for continuing emergency expenditures at every scheduled Council meeting until the action is terminated. Mayor Mendoza asked when SCE will come in and do their part. City Administrator Lara stated in about 2 months.

ON A MOTION BY G. GONZALEZ JR., SECOND BY ORTIZ IT WAS VOTED TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AND REAFFIRM THE APPROVAL OF THE EMERGENCY EXPENDITURES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CITY OF WOODLAKE WELL PROJECT. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

- C. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Approval of the Agreement Between the County of Tulare and the City of Woodlake for Public Transportation Services for the Period of July 1, 2015 Through June 30, 2016
- City Administrator Lara reported the following: the City of Woodlake currently provides transit services for a service area that is outside the City limits. The County of Tulare adequately reimburses the City of Woodlake for those services with State Transit Assistance Funds and/or Local Transportation Funds. These funds are transferred from the County's apportionment to the City's. For Fiscal Year 2015/2016 the County has agreed to reimburse the City in the amount of \$30,469 for providing public transportation services in the service area outside of City limits. The service area boundary map is attached as part of the draft agreement. The reimbursable amount was developed by City staff in conjunction with County staff based on the costs incurred to deliver the services.
- ON A MOTION BY ORTIZ, SECOND BY MARTINEZ IT WAS VOTED TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AND APPROVE THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF TULARE AND THE CITY OF WOODLAKE FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2015 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2016. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- D. Action: Adoption of Resolution: Absences Beyond the Notification Date of September 29, 2015 are Inexcusable Unless a Written Request for Permission to be Absent is Approved by the City Council
- City Administrator Lara summarized the item prepared by Mayor Mendoza: at the September 28, 2015 City Council meeting, Council discussed the importance of attendance at City Council meetings and that attendance is especially important while we deal with our current local drought emergency. The lack of adequate attendance at Council meetings has made it impossible for Councilmembers to have four-fifths vote on the above mentioned matters. Council has not been able to take action since the September 14, 2015 meeting. This is unacceptable and puts our ability to provide reliable water service to our residents at risk. Although it is understood that every once in a while a Councilmember will need to miss one meeting, in general, too many regular meetings are repeatedly missed by Councilmembers. Thus far the Council has been very forgiving about repeat absences. However, because of the need to approve drought-related expenditures and related resolutions, Council will recognize absences beyond the notification date of September 29, 2015 as inexcusable unless a written request for permission to be absent is approved by the Council. City Administrator Lara reported Councilmember Chuck Ray submitted his letter of resignation from

Council today and now this will make it even more important that each Councilmember attend every meeting. Councilmember Ortiz asked what the process is to appoint a new Councilmember. City Administrator Lara stated Council has 3 options; 1) appoint no one 2) order a special election to fill the vacancy, which is very costly or 3) appoint someone to fill the vacancy and finish the remainder of the term. City Attorney Diaz stated the 3rd option is the most common for cities. Council will have 60 days to appoint before they lose that option. Mayor Mendoza stated a special election is not an option due to the cost. City Administrator Lara stated staff can prepare an application for those interested in serving on Council to complete. Staff will prepare a notice to fill vacancy to be published in the paper. The viewing of the applicants and any discussion for appointment must be done in open session. The item will be placed on the agenda for appointment of the new Councilmember at the December 9th meeting. Councilmember Martinez asked that all applicants be given a copy of the above mentioned resolution. Mayor Mendoza asked if Council will be allowed to interview the applicants. City Attorney Diaz stated the interview process would need to be conducted at a meeting in open session. Councilmember Ortiz expressed her concern that the letter submitted by Councilmember Ray was not signed by him. City Attorney Diaz stated Council vote tonight to accept letter as is and place on the agenda at the next scheduled meeting for ratification. On a motion by Mayor Mendoza it was voted to accept the resignation letter submitted by Councilmember Ray.

ON A MOTION BY ORTIZ, SECOND BY MARTINEZ IT WAS VOTED TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AND ACCEPT THAT ANY ABSENCES BEYOND THE NOTIFICATION DATE OF SEPTEMBER 29, 2015 ARE INEXCUSABLE UNLESS A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO BE ABSENT IS APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Information: Items from Staff

Chief Marquez – reported the last couple of weeks have been quiet. This is Red Ribbon Week and officers will be handing out various Red Ribbon Week items to the kids at school. Councilmember Ortiz stated she has noticed a lot of different agencies in town. Chief Marquez stated we often receive assistance from other agencies to do probation/parole checks and compliance checks.

City Administrator Lara – reported the Roundabout is taking shape. Rite Aid is moving along and staff will be doing a walk through to verify everything ordered is correct, such as benches and lighting.

Student Representative Castillo – reported Homecoming Week was fun and Career Day was a great success. Football and Volleyball are both doing well and are on their way to winning league. Football has Senior night on October 30th and Volleyball has Senior night on November 5th.

B. Information: Items from Council

Councilmember Martinez – asked if we still have Shred It services and if so, do we offer free shredding services to our residents. City Administrator Lara stated we have cancelled our contract with Shred It and purchased our own shredder. Councilmember Martinez asked if maybe we can offer shredding services during Western Week and also bring back the registration of bicycles and giving out free helmets to the kids. He will

also be attending the San Joaquin Valley Special City Selection meeting on Thursday, October 29th.

Mayor Mendoza – reported Brian Thoburn is no longer with SCE and our new representative is Rudy Gonzalez. Mayor Mendoza will also be attending the next EDC meeting. City Administrator Lara stated Paul Saldana with EDC will be giving a presentation to Council at the November 23rd Council meeting.

C. Request from Council Members for Future Agenda Items

VII. CLOSED SESSION

VIII. ADJOURN

The next scheduled City Council meeting will be held on Monday, November 9, 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 7:05 p.m.

Submitted by,

Irene Zacarias

City Clerk