

MEETING MINUTES

**The City Council/Redevelopment Agency of the City of Firebaugh
Vol. No. 07/09-17**

Location of Meeting: Andrew Firebaugh Community Center
1655 13th Street, Firebaugh, CA 93622
Date/Time: September 17th, 2007 @ 7:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER Meeting called to order by Mayor Craig Knight at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Craig Knight
Mayor Pro Tem Javier Márquez
Council Member Clyde Fannon
ABSENT: Council Member Chris J. DeFrancesco
Council Member Marcia Sablan

OTHERS: City Manager, Jose Antonio Ramirez; City Attorney, Dale Bacigalupi;
Asst. City Manager Laura Rios; City Finance Director, Jose Garay;
Deputy City Clerk, Rita Lozano; Public Works Director, Ben Gallegos;
Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer, John Borboa; Community Service
Coordinator, David Flores; Esther Ramirez; Pete Ramirez; Jacob
Gonzalez; Marissa Gomez; Tomas Galindo; Selene Galindo; Lorie
Adams; Stevan .

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Marquez

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jacob Gonzalez, Q Street, stated on behalf of the 200 people a petition was presented to the City Council in protest to excessive loud music from the community building. He stated that he is not against having activities in the area, just request that the city help limit the music to a restricted time frame. It is difficult to sleep for children, elderly and the working individuals with the excessive music. Mr. Gonzalez recommended maybe placing a sound barrier wall near the facilities were music be allowed, or restrict music after a certain hour, some kind of restrictions to assist the individuals with living in his area. Council Member Fannon stated he also has received comments from individuals living in his area (River Lane). Mayor Knight and City Manager Jose A. Ramirez informed Jacob Gonzalez that the city does have a noise ordinance and will ask for the Police Departments' assistance in enforce it.

Mr. Pete Ramirez, 1754 Ramirez Drive, stated that he has a problem with his property Plantation Park. Mr. Pete Ramirez explained, about five years ago the city provided him ownership of a piece of parcel on Q Street, but on 8th street there is property where Mr. Ramirez's fence is on City property. Pete said, "I'm sure no one here made a mistake, it looks like a mistake, but if it is our mistake, maybe there is something the council can do, because I don't see where the City can that piece of property at all, so If we could work something out. I sure appreciate it." City Manager Jose A. Ramirez stated that Pete Ramirez has brought to his attention when I first became City Manager, which at the time requested the City Engineer Fred Rabe to survey the property. Mr. Pete Ramirez didn't feel that the survey was correct, so the property was surveyed a seconded time with same results. Mr. Pete Ramirez' fence is on city property and the city is not trespassing on his property. City Manager stated his understanding is that Mr. Pete Ramirez's is requesting that if the City doesn't have any use for the property would they be willing to sell it or deed it over to him. City Manager Jose A. Ramirez recommendation to council is to research further, the city will have future projects in that area and may need the parcel to accommodate the projects. Therefore, this item can not be placed on the agenda until staff recommendations are received, then council can decide if they would like to donate or sell the property to the Ramirez's'.

INTRODUCTION

None

PRESENTATION

Postponed was the Presentation of a GIS Map to the City of Firebaugh.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The City Council meeting on September 10th, 2007.**

Motion to approve Consent Calendar by Council Member Marquez, seconded by Mayor Knight, motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

2. **CONTINUANCE PUBLIC HEARING - Street Name Change 2007-01 (Green Acres Street). The portion of public road between Cardella Street and Saipan is listed on official maps as "Green Acres Street"; however street signs show it as Landucci Avenue. In accordance with procedures set forth in Section 2-14 of the Firebaugh Municipal Code, the Firebaugh City Council will conduct a public hearing to consider changing the name of Green Acres Street to Landucci Avenue.**

No public comment was stated.

RESOLUTION 07-37 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH INITIATING THE PROCEDURE FOR THE CHANGING OF A STREET NAME (GREEN ACRES STREET).

Motion to accept Resolution No. 07-37 by Council Member Fannon, seconded Council Member Marquez, motion carried.

3. A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER EXPENDITURES OF \$100,000 BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE CITIZEN'S OPTION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY (COPS) STATE FUNDS FOR FRONT-LINE MUNICIPAL POLICE SERVICES.

Assistant City Manager Laura Rios spoke on behalf of Police Chief Lopez, and stated her recommendation of authorizing the funds of \$100,000 from the cops program for security cameras. The purchase of the security cameras does exceed the \$100,000 allocation; however, an additional \$10,000 will be allocated from last years awarded funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 07-36 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF COPS FUNDING AND THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDING FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECTS.

Motion to accept Resolution No. 07-36 by Council Member Fannon, seconded Council Member Marquez, motion carried.

4. PUBLIC HEARING FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PLANNING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GENERAL ALLOCATION APPLICATION FOR THE ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES LISTED; GENERAL – NON-PROJECT SPECIFIC: WATER MASTER PLAN, GENERAL - PROJECT SPECIFIC: PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY, LOCATION FEASIBILITY STUDY, ECONOMIC – NON PROJECT SPECIFIC: COMMUNITY WORKFORCE STUDY.

Assistant City Manager Laura Rios informed council that a Public Hearing was held on August 23rd, to discuss what projects the city would like to apply for. Therefore, Resolution No. 07-38 states the projects listed as the result of the Public Hearing. Council Member Marquez inquired on a time limit for spending of the funds. Finance Director responded that there is no time limit requirement, and explained the disbursements of the funds. Mr. Pete Ramirez asked what the overtime funds would be used for. Mayor Knight explained that if Officers had special events, or required to work longer hours and a case, the funds would cover these types of expenditures.

RESOLUTION NO. 07-38 - A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING AND THE EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO FROM THE PLANNING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ALLOCATION OF THE STATE CDBG PROGRAM.

Motion to accept Resolution No. 07-38 by Council Member Fannon, seconded Council Member Marquez, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

5. **ORDINANCE NO. 07-06 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 359, OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH, RELATING TO THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE ZONE OF PARTICULAR PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY. – SECOND READING.**

No public comment stated.

Motion to accept Ordinance No. 07-06 by Council Member Fannon, seconded Council Member Marquez, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

6. **APPROVAL OF PLANS SPECIFICATION & ENGINEERING FOR PROP 13 WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM REHABILITATION PROJECT AND MOTION TO SUBMIT FOR BID UPON CITY ENGINEER'S APPROVAL.**

Motion to approve plans, on contingent of City Engineer's approval by Council Member Marquez, seconded by Council Member Fannon, motion carried.

7. **FRESNO LATINO ROTARY CLUB REQUESTS THE USE OF RODEO GROUNDS FOR SEPTEMBER 23RD OF 2007, WITH A WAIVER OF FEES FOR A MEXICAN RODEO.**

Motion to approve rental agreement and waiver of fees, with the exception that should a profit be made a portion of the fees be paid back to the City of Firebaugh, by Council Member Fannon, seconded Council Member Marquez, motion carried.

PENDING ITEMS

8. Emergency Disasters Plan – A Draft Plan is currently being circulated for review and comment.
- Police Chief Lopez stated that the emergency disaster plans have been provided to staff and council for review, and she is waiting for comments.

STAFF REPORTS

- Interim Public Works Director, Ben Gallegos: PW is repairing the streets and sidewalks.

- Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer, John Borboa: Received a call from Sneal regarding the Fire Truck, at the end of October I will be going to Nebraska for a specification inspection and I should be able take over ownership by the end of January.
- City Finance Director, Jose Garay: Nothing to report.
- Deputy City Clerk, Rita Lozano: Nothing to report.
- Asst. City Manager, Laura Rios: Nothing to report.
- City Manager, Jose Antonio Ramirez: Received a phone call regarding the water issues, the governor along with the senate have created a committee to pass legislation to address several different water issues; above water storage, ground water banking, water conservation, ect. This will address some of Firebaugh’s long term needs, which is water supply for the farmers in the area, #2 flood issues that we have, and #3 additional floras along the birches that contributes to the restoration. While I was in Sacramento I spoke with Les Harder’s Staff to see if the City could apply for any additional funding to our levees. I received a phone call from a local farmer, who’s worried about the water allocation for next year, so I’ll be working with him on that. As far as the Maldonado bids, a meeting was held with a contractor to try on lower the cost of the project, it has been very difficult. After speaking with Lorie of CEC we going to try and see if we can separate the Maldonado Project from the Skate Park, because the skate park is federal fund which requires prevailing wage. Lorie Adams explained that if the project was issued as separate contracts, it may be more cost efficient, since the federal funding law doesn’t recognize a helper as a work classification, so a helper would receive same wages as a journeyman and the lowest paid employee for the project is \$31.00. Therefore, if the contract be issued separately it would impact the budget in a positive way.

COUNCIL ITEMS

- Council Member Marquez:

CLOSED SESSION

9. Conference with Labor Negotiation under Government Code Section 54957.6

Agency Designated Representative: Jose Antonio Ramirez, City Manager

Employee Organization: Police Officers Union

ANNOUNCEMENT AFTER CLOSED SESSION

ADJOURNMENT - *Motion to adjourn by Council Member Marquez, seconded by Council Member Knight Meeting, adjourned meeting 8:52 PM.*

