

**MEETING MINUTES**

**The City Council/Redevelopment Agency of the City of Firebaugh  
Vol. No. 08/05-05**

**Location of Meeting:** Andrew Firebaugh Community Center  
1655 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Firebaugh, CA 93622  
**Date/Time:** May 5, 2008 @ 7:30 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER** Meeting called to order by Mayor Craig Knight at 7:33 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Craig Knight  
Mayor Pro Tem Javier Marquez  
Council Member Chris J. DeFrancesco  
Council Member Clyde Fannon

**ABSENT:** Council Member Marcia Sablan

**OTHERS:** City Attorney, Dave Bacigalupi; City Manager, Jose Antonio Ramirez; Assistant City Manager, Laura Rios; City Finance Director, Jose Garay; City Treasure, Alice Castaneda; City Clerk, Priscilla Meza; Deputy City Clerk, Rita Lozano; Police Chief, Elsa Lopez; Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer, John Borboa; Community Service Coordinator, Phyllis Baltierra; Jim Lowe; Jack Minitte; Dr. Marcel Hetu; David Flores.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Chris J. DeFrancesco

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**INTRODUCTION**

None

**PRESENTATION**

Ms. Whitehouse of Fresno Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) Strategic Plan provided a presentation.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The City Council meeting on April 21, 2008.**

*Motion to approve Minutes and Warrant Register made by Council Member Fannon, seconded by Council Member DeFrancesco; motion passed by consensus vote.*

**PUBLIC HEARING**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2. FIREBAUGH REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OWNER PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT (SAN JOAQUIN VILLAS PROJECT).**

**Recommended Action:** City Council reviews and authorizes staff to enter into agreement.

**3. RESOLUTION NO. 08-10 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH SUPPORTING THE FRESNO CITY & COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITOR’S BUREAU NEW STRATEGIC PLAN.**

**Recommended Action:** Council receives public comment and approves Res. No. 08-10.

**4. RESOLUTION NO. 08-15 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH ADDING ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER LAURA RIOS TO THE CURRENT AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE CARD TO SIGN CITY WARRANTS AND PAYROLL CHECKS.**

**Recommended Action:** Council receives public comment and approves Res. No. 08-15.

**5. CASH INVESTMENT REPORT QUARTER ENDING MARCH 31, 2008.**

**Recommended Action:** Informational item only.

**6. REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY REPORT ENDING MARCH 31, 2008.**

**Recommended Action:** Informational item only.

7. **FRESNO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AUTOMATIC AID AGREEMENT AND PARTIAL DISBURSEMENT OF RECEIVED REVENUE WITH THE FIREBAUGH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.**

**Recommended Action:** City Council reviews and authorizes staff to enter into agreement.

8. **AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENTS (SECTION 2-8).**

**Recommended Action:** Appoint Chris Von Allman to Advisory Board, and remove Robert Nash.

9. **RESOLUTION NO. 08-16 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF PHASE III EXPANSION PROPOSAL TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.**

**Recommended Action:** Council receives public comment and approves Res. No. 08-16.

**PENDING ITEMS**

- 10. **Emergency Disaster Plan – A Draft Plan is currently being circulated for review and comment.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS**

None

**STAFF REPORTS**

- **Public Works Director, Ben Gallegos** – absent.
- **Police Chief, Elsa Lopez** –
- **Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer, John Borboa** –
- **Finance Director, Jose Garay** – nothing to report
- **City Treasurer, Alice Casteneda** – nothing to report.

- **City Clerk, Priscilla Meza** – nothing to report.
- **Deputy City Clerk, Rita Lozano** – nothing to report.
- **Assistant City Manager, Laura Rios** –
- **City Manager, Jose Antonio Ramirez** –
  - Announced and encouraged interested parties to attend the upcoming Greenlighting Conference on April 24-25, 2008.
  - Staff completed the Special Event Use of Facility Form, as per Council Member Sablan’s request.
  - Staff continues to work with the Office of Emergency Services and other agencies addressing erosion issues along the river levee.
  - Announced availability of grant funding to assist homeowners/property owner to address problems with their homes and/or buildings. A total of \$360,000 is available via grant funds.
  - Staff is working on developing a painting program to assist local senior citizen with painting their homes. Program is a collaborative effort with West Hills College. Costs will be minimal.
  - Reminded council of upcoming Local Government Commission meeting on April 23, 2008. Commission is scheduled to address issues of improving life for families living in the San Joaquin Valley.
  - Staff continues to work on potential street name recommendations (*list of names provided to council members prior to meeting.*)
  - Reported that Assistant City Manager Rios attending meeting in Mendota where water conservation issues were addressed. Ms. Rios shared information of City Manager Ramirez’s testimony before Congress in Washington D.C.
  - Underground utilities planning process is ongoing.
  - Staff continues to work on grant application proposing to address water use efficiency issues. Staff plans to use USDA funding to leverage proposed grant project.
  - Announced approval of grant application submitted to the One Economy Foundation for \$600,000 to enhance the community’s high-tech capabilities. About 1,000 computers and/or laptops will be made available.
  - Staff is working with West Hills College and their efforts to promote Measure Q on the upcoming November election ballots. As per Dr. Hetu, the monies generated from Measure Q, if passed, will benefit the North District Campus and its communities. Mr. Jack Minnite, WHC Board of Trustee member, also expressed importance of Measure Q.
  - Staff met with representatives from the County’s Tax Assessor’s Office to address increase(s) of tax assessment. As a result, staff received confirmation that these increases were committed in error; however, uncertain how the Tax Assessor’s Office is proposing to correct this error. Staff is scheduled to meet with county representatives
  - Staff is pursuing a \$400,000 grant opportunity to address underground tanks that need to be cleaned up and/or serviced.
  - Staff sent letter to local congressman requesting resolution to problems with local Post Office. Problems include landscaping, signage, building maintenance and repairs and need for a new router. Staff received immediate and positive response from the U.S. Postal Services and is working with one of their Relational Liaisons to address these issues.
  - Staff is collaborating with Westside Institute of Technology and TomaTek, Inc. to provide educational activities.
  - Staff met with PG&E to address progress of ongoing projects in Firebaugh. Staff will continue to meet with PG&E representatives on a monthly basis.

## COUNCIL ITEMS

None

*Motion to adjourn into closed session made by Council Member Fannon, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Marquez; motion carried by consensus vote.*

**CLOSED SESSION**

**11. Pending Litigation Government Code Section 54956.9**

*City of Firebaugh v. Giersch & Associates, Inc., et al.  
Fresno County Superior Court Case No. 07 CE CG 02610 MWS*

**12. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATIONS - Pursuant to Government Code Section #54957.6.**

City Designated Representative – City Manager Jose Antonio Ramirez

Employee Organization – Public Works Miscellaneous Employees

Employee Organization – Police Department

**13. CONFERENCE WITH CITY COUNCIL RE: REAL PROPERTY – APN# 008-074-3 – Pursuant to Government Code Section #54956.8.**

Closed session is authorized by Government Code Section # 54956.8 to confer with and grant authority to its real property negotiators regarding APN # 008-074-3 0.13 acres.

**ANNOUNCEMENT AFTER CLOSED SESSION**

No action taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion to adjourn made by Mayor Knight, seconded by Council Member DeFrancesco. Meeting adjourned at 10:34 p.m.*

*Minutes submitted by:  
Priscilla Meza, City Clerk*