

**MEETING MINUTES**

**The City Council/Redevelopment Agency of the City of Firebaugh  
Vol. No. 08/11-17**

**Location of Meeting:** Andrew Firebaugh Community Center  
1655 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Firebaugh, CA 93622  
**Date/Time:** November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008 @ 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 Marquez  
Council Member Chris DeFrancesco  
Council Member Marcia Sablan

**ABSENT:** Council Member Craig Knight

**OTHERS:** City Attorney, Dale Bacigalupi; City Manager, Jose Antonio Ramirez; Assistant City Manager Laura Rios; City Treasurer, Alice Castaneda; Finance Director, Odi Ortiz; Deputy City Clerk, Rita Lozano; Police Chief, Elsa Lopez; Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer, John Borboa; Public Works Director, Ben Gallegos; Community Service Coordinator, Phyllis Baltierra; City Building Inspector Wil Van Ryn; City Engineer, Mario Gouveia; Ron Frye; David Flores; Lilia Flores; Dr. Marcel Hetu; Jim Lowe; Jack Minnite; Susie Martinez; Dr. James Leong; Don Esola; Oscar Sablan; John Baltierra; Pete Cardella; Mr. & Mrs. Matt Flood; Stan Tom of Valley Small Business Development Corp.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Knight

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**INTRODUCTION**

None

**PRESENTATION**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

- 1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The City Council meeting on October 20, 2008.**
- 2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The City Council meeting on November 3, 2008.**
- 3. **WARRANT REGISTER – Period starting October 1, and ending on October 30, 2008.**

October, 2008	General Warrants #20721 – #20932	\$ 1,607,424.00
	Payroll Warrants #55968 – #56082	\$(Included in Total)
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,607,424.00</b>

- 4. **REQUEST FOR USE OF CITY FACILITY (ANDREW FIREBAUGH COMMUNITY CENTER) AND A WAIVER OF FEES BY FIREBAUGH POLICE ACTIVITIES LEAGUE FOR A PAL CHRISTMAS PARTY ON DECEMBER 13, 2008.**

*Motion to approve the consent calendar, made by Council Member Marquez, second by Council Member Sablan; motion carries.*

**PUBLIC HEARING**

- 5. **THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/BLOCK GRANT REGARDING \$300,000 PER YEAR FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMPONENTS.**

Mr. Stan Tom, Valley Small Business, informed council about the opportunity to apply for the CDBG grant application from the State of California. The Grant will provide benefits to rural communities such as Firebaugh to receive funds that will be available for local businesses in order to apply for loans, during these difficult economic times. The funds are provide through HUD funds for the State of California for equal housing activity, and with the partnership of the City of Firebaugh and Valley Small Business, we can help in assisting the community with project development. The type of loan will allow the City to set the interest rates, which gives the city the resource to help the community by providing funds to businesses at a lower interest rate than the banks, along with managing the funds. City Manager Jose Antonio Ramirez added that it will take time but this would provide a tax earned income to the city in the future. The maximum loan amount is \$50,000 and the city will be able to re-apply for funds from the State. Valley Small Business is a non-profit organization and will assist in running the loan fund program with other agencies and will provide fifteen different loaning programs.

*Motion to approve the submittal of the CDBG Grant application, made by Council Member Marquez, second by Council Member Sablan; motion carries.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

## NEW BUSINESS

6. **RESOLUTION NO. 08-47 - A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF GRANT AGREEMENTS AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO WITH CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD.**

Mrs. Lorie Adams of California Engineering Company recommended the city apply for the tire waste grant which will provide a product that looks like mulch. City of Firebaugh has used it at the new playground in the Dunkle Park, it is low maintenance, provides a long life time and product like synthetic grass maybe available through this grant funding.

*Motion to approve Resolution No. 08-47, made by Council Member Sablan, second by Council Member Marquez; motion carries.*

7. **THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH TO ADOPT THE ATTACHED ENVIRONMENTAL PURCHASE POLICY AS PART OF THE APPLICATION FOR INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD.**

*Motion to approve California Integrated Waste Management Board's Environmental Purchase Policy, made by Council Member Sablan, second by Council Member Marquez; motion carries.*

8. **THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH TO APPROVE AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES.**

*Motion to approve the amendment to the agreement for the legal services, made by Council Member Marquez, second by Council Member Sablan; motion carries.*

9. **RESOLUTION NO. 08-48 - A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVAL OF AB939 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SUCCESSOR TO AGREEMENT THERETO WITH INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD AND PARTICIPATING JURISDICTIONS.**

*Motion to approve Resolution No. 08-48, made by Council Member DeFrancesco, second by Council Member Sablan; motion carries.*

10. **THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH AND WEST HILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT REGARDING THE MALDONADO PARK SOCCER FIELD.**

City Manger Jose A. Ramirez stated that the City is working with the West Hills College in regards to the completion of the soccer field at the Maldonado Park. West Hills College is interested in contributing funds from the recently adopted Measure Q, to the City for the completion of the synthetics soccer fields with the agreement of West Hills College availability of use to the Maldonado Park for PE Classes and future college soccer games, specific days and times will be scheduled, so it will not interfere with public access. Dr. Marcel Hetu Director of the West Hills College North District added that an estimate of \$250,000 in funds from the Measure Q will be matched by the State for the contribution of funding to assist the City with the completion of the soccer fields.

*Motion to approve the MOU agreement between the City and West Hills College, made by Council Member Sablan, second by Council Member DeFrancesco; motion carries.*

11. **RESOLUTION NO. 08-49 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH AND THE FIREBAUGH POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION.**

*Motion to approve Resolution No. 08-49, made by Council Member Marquez, second by Council Member Sablan; motion carries.*

**PENDING ITEMS**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS**

None

**STAFF REPORTS**

- **Community Service Director, Phyllis Baltierra** –
  - Received about thirty entries for the Electric Christmas Parade.
  - Continue to work on monthly food distribution.
- **Building Inspector Wil Van Ryn** –
  - Information provided to council for staff report, along with a quarterly report of all Final permits.
  - Wil added that he just received Commercial Building Certification and will test next week for an additional certification.
  - Installing sheet rock at the New City Hall, and construction should be completed by the end of the year.
- **Public Works Director, Ben Gallegos** –
  - Announced completion of P Street improvement project, and with remaining funds from projects paint will be used to purchase paint for streets.
  - Stated a test was completed regarding water meter readings which will be available to public via online website, and will allow public works department staff to be available for other projects.
- **Police Chief, Elsa Lopez** –
  - Update on Bank Robbery, FBI will be serving a search warrant and should be making an arrest soon.
- **City Treasurer, Alice Casteneda** – nothing to report.
- **City Finance Director, Odi Ortiz** –
  - Announced audit should be complete by the end of November.
  - Hired RSG Consultant to assist with the RDA filling report to comply with the AB1389, three projects to report on 1) RD Project Area 2) Rubi Gardens 3) Storey Road.
- **Deputy City Clerk, Rita Lozano** – Ethics training on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. at community Center.
- **Assistant City Manager, Laura Rios** – working on CalPers issues and HR issues.
- **City Manager, Jose Antonio Ramirez** –
  - Updated council regarding the property tax/bond issue. Madera and Fresno Counties have agreed to make necessary adjustments resolving the matter.
  - Provided update on compliance of FDS, and will create a plan to address the issues or city may get fined.

- Provided an update regarding the Safe Route to School project.
- Attended an outstanding training for Non-Profit Organizations on November 13, 2008 in San Francisco.
- Stated that Toma Tek has hired Kennedy Jenkins to assist them with the Notice of Violation regarding water supply and to discuss their responsibility for covering costs associated with required reports/studies.
- New Business is coming to Firebaugh that will create about 30 jobs.
- Working with legal counsel regarding a request from the county that is asking cities to pass an ordinance regarding Regional Transportation Mitigation Fees as part of their program.
- Received call from Kendra Rogers of First 5 inquiring if the city is interested in a fluoridation program, however I personal don't have enough reached provide council with a recommendation.

### COUNCIL ITEMS

- Knight – Looking for additional funding for the High School for the library, and asked if the city could contribute funding.
- Marquez –
  - Requested that warrants be received every month.
- DeFrancesco –
  - Requested staff to select a committee for the issues regarding the façade program.
- Sablan –
  - Firebaugh Rotary inquired about the development landscape project and parking issues along the road.

*Motion to enter into close session by Council Member Sablan, seconded by Council Member Marquez entered at 9:10 p.m.*

### CLOSED SESSION

12. **EXISTING LITIGATION – ONE CASE PERB CASE #**  
Operating Engineers Local Union #3 v. City of Firebaugh

13. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATIONS – Pursuant to Government Code Section #54957.6**

City Designated Representative – City Manager Jose Antonio Ramirez  
Employee Organization – Police Department

### ANNOUNCEMENT AFTER CLOSED SESSION

*Motion to enter into open session by Council Member Sablan, seconded by Council Member Marquez entered at 9:25 p.m. and address agenda item #11.*

### ADJOURNMENT

*Motion to adjourn made by Council Member Marquez, seconded by Council Member Sablan, meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.*