

## MEETING MINUTES

### The City Council/Redevelopment Agency of the City of Firebaugh Vol. No. 09/08-31

**Location of Meeting:** Andrew Firebaugh Community Center  
1655 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Firebaugh, CA 93622  
**Date/Time:** August 31, 2009 @ 7:30 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER** Meeting called to order by Mayor Sablan at 7:37 p.m.

#### ROLL CALL

**PRESENT:** Mayor Marcia Sablan  
Mayor Pro Tem Javier Marquez  
Council Member Rod Lake  
Council Member Chris J. DeFrancesco  
Council Member Jim Lowe

#### ABSENT:

**OTHERS:** City Attorney, Meggin Boranian; City Manager, Jose Antonio Ramirez; 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; Lorie Adams; Paul Ashby; David Flores; John Baltierra; Joseph Kalpakoff; Isaac Kulikoff; Pete and Ester Ramirez; Ray and Loretta Guerra; and other community members.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Lowe

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

John Baltierra, 1538 8<sup>th</sup> Street, stated at the previous meeting a majority of the public comments were in support of the keeping the Assistant City Manager position, and elimination of the position may not be what is best for the community.

#### INTRODUCTION

None

#### PRESENTATION

None

#### CORRESPONDENCE

None

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

- 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The City Council meeting on August 3, 2009.
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The City Council meeting on August 17, 2009.

*Motion to approve Consent Calendar items #1 by Council Member Lowe, second by Council Member Lake, motions carries by consensus vote.*

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Public Hearing open at 7:43 p.m.

- 3. RESOLUTION NO. 09-27 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH INCREASING RATES FOR COMMERCIAL RECYCLING SERVICES

Council received public comments/concern and asked representatives of Mid-Valley Disposal to address the public. The Council Members and Public requested definition of the various classification, and a summary of the rates be presented for further discussion and a better understanding of the rate charges for disposal services.

Public Hearing closed at 8:37 p.m.

*Motion to approve Resolution No. 09-27 by Council Member Lowe, second by Council Member DeFrancesco, motions carries by consensus vote.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

- City Manager Jose Antonio Ramirez requested for an Urgent item to be added to the agenda regarding the purchase of a lawnmower for the Public Works Department.

*Motion to approve added item by Council Member Lake, second by Council Member DeFrancesco, motions carries by consensus vote.*

- Mayor Sablan recommended Council to address Agenda Item 10 after Agenda Item 5.

- 4. ORDINANCE NO. 09-06 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH ADDING SECTION 4-5 TO CHAPTER 4 OF THE FIREBAUGH MUNICIPAL CODE REQUIRING THE LICENSURE OF TOBACCO RETAILERS – SECOND READING.

*Motion to approve Ordinance No. 09-06 by Mayor Pro Tem Marquez, second by Council Member Lowe, motions carries by 3-2 vote. Council Member Lake and DeFrancesco vote no.*

- 5. RESOLUTION NO. 09-23 - A RESOLUTION OF INTENTION TO CREATE UNDERGROUND UTILITY DISTRICT NUMBER 4.

*Motion to approve Resolution No. 09-23 by Council Member Lowe, second by Mayor Pro Tem Marquez, motions carries by 3-0-2 vote. Council Member Lake and Sablan abstain.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

6. **RESOLUTION NO. 09-25 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVING UPDATING THE DESIGNATION OF PERSONS ON SIGNATURE CARDS OF THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS USED BY THE CITY WHICH AUTHORIZE SIGNATURE OF CITY WARRANTS AND PAYROLL CHECKS.**

*Motion to approve Resolution No. 09-25 by Council Member DeFrancesco, second by Council Member Lake, motions carries by consensus vote.*

7. **RESOLUTION NO. 09-26 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH CONCERNING MEASURE C EXTENSION LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PURPOSE PASS-THROUGH AND PROGRAM FUNDS ANNUAL ALLOCATION FOR FY 2009/2010.**

*Motion to approve Resolution No. 09-26 by Council Member Lowe, second by Mayor Pro Tem Marquez, motions carries by consensus vote.*

8. **RESOLUTION NO. 09-28 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING CERTAIN CITY PROPERTY AS SURPLUS EQUIPMENT.**

*Motion to approve Resolution No. 09-28 by Mayor Pro Tem Marquez, second by Council Member Lake, motions carries by consensus vote.*

9. **MEETING TIME CHANGE ON CITY COUNCIL MEETING.**

*No Action Taken.*

10. **2009/2010 CDBG PLANNING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATION.**

*Motion to approve submittal of grant application carries by consensus vote.*

11. **PURCHASE OF A LAWNMOWER FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.**

*Motion to approve the purchase of a lawnmower by Council Member Lowe, second by Council Member DeFrancesco, motions carries by consensus vote.*

**PENDING ITEMS**

- Joint Meeting with School Board and City Council requested for Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Certificate of recognition of City employees for dedication and services to the City.
- Review Fees for City Facility Use Rentals/Agreements. **Agenda Item at next meeting.**
- The consideration on the removal of the City Clerk's and City Treasurer's position for the next Election.
- Review and discuss the process/procedure regarding maintenance of vacant lots. **Fire Chief John Borboa will schedule a meeting with Council Member Marquez to discuss the issues of vacant lots.**

**STAFF REPORTS**

- **Community Service Director, Phyllis Baltierra** – Nothing to report.

- **Public Works Director, Ben Gallegos** – Received the last shipment of Trees and requested Council to suggest location for the placement of the trees. Reported the Splash Park at Maldonado is temporarily closed to vandalism, once repairs are completed the park will be re-opened.
- **Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer, John Borboa** – Nothing to report.
- **Police Chief, Elsa Lopez** – Attended the Grand Opening of the Mendota Police Department.
- **Deputy City Clerk, Rita Lozano** – The Big Fresno Fair is October 7<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup>, and to thank the City of Firebaugh for their continued support they coordinated the 2009 City Horse Race date for the City of Firebaugh on Thursday, October 15, 2009, they will provide tickets of admission, parking and horse racing seating to those interested.
- **City Manager, Jose Antonio Ramirez** – Informed a draft proposal for ARRA funding is being prepared to make the City a 22<sup>nd</sup> Century Community, which is Zero Carbon Footprint, Grid Neutral and Water Self-Reliant model city. City was awarded a \$100,000 Federal Grant for Neighborhood Stabilization to address vacant properties. Working with Firebaugh School District to apply for a grant which would provide Wireless Internet Services to our community for low or no cost, in exchange for permission from the City and School to have access to our towers. Letters went out to the residents from the Water Department regarding future testing of lead and copper required by the State, and explaining the purpose. Public Works Director Gallegos added that the State selects the location of testing. Provided an update on the purchase of property for West Hills College located in Firebaugh and the proposed project and SolarGen Invenergy project.

#### COUNCIL ITEMS

- Council Member DeFrancesco – Requested to review the Blue Prints of the Solar Invenergy before construction begins, and stated his concern that the City should put a bond in place should the project not be completed for some reason that the City will not be responsible for the cleanup of the unfinished project.
- Mayor Pro Tem Marquez – Inquired about the issue with Andrea Ramirez regarding the Downtown Market and the sales of the Cricket phone services. Public Works Director informed Council that the vendor has not been at the Downtown Market the last few weeks; therefore there are no issues at this time.
- Lowe – Reported closing the entrance of the driveway at Fr. Craig and Borboa Street which provides access to the Maldonado Park, where the soccer fields are proposed. Requested an update on the donation from Mr. Park to establish a community Park. City Manager Ramirez replied that there is three location of interest 1) 11<sup>th</sup> & Q St. 2) Khov Subdivision 3) Maldonado Park, which family is not interested, because the feel Mr. Park receive a park in his honor separately from existing parks. Inquired about sending the Building Inspector to Code Enforcement classes, and suggested that Council should have been informed prior to hiring for the position, since the City eliminated their Code Enforcement Position to save funding.
- Council Member Lake – Requested that the Council be advised by introduction prior to an agreement with a consultant, as an information issue only.

#### CLOSED SESSION

None

#### ANNOUNCEMENT AFTER CLOSED SESSION

#### ADJOURNMENT

*Motion to adjourn made my Council Member Lowe, seconded by Council Member DeFrancesco; motion carried by consensus vote. Meeting adjourned at 10:18 p.m.*