

SUSANVILLE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 19, 2020– 3:00 p.m.

Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Mayor Schuster.

Roll call of Councilmembers present: Brian Moore, Quincy McCourt, Thomas Herrera, Kevin Stafford and Mayor Mendy Schuster.

Staff present: Kevin Jones, Police Chief/Interim City Administrator; Margaret Long, City Attorney (phone); and Heidi Whitlock, City Clerk.

1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Councilmember Stafford, second by Councilmember Herrera, to approve the agenda with the removal of item 3A and 3C(2). Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Stafford, Moore, Herrera, McCourt and Schuster.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS: None.

3 CLOSED SESSION: At 3:01 p.m. the Council entered into Closed Session to discuss the following:

~~A CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—existing litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1): Case number 61824, 61839 Matthew Wood, Michael Bollinger vs. Susanville City Council, City of Susanville-item removed~~

B PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT—pursuant to Government Code §54957:

- 1 Hire/Appointment City Administrator
- 2 City Administrator Evaluation
- 2 Public Works Director

C CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS - pursuant to Government Code Section §54957.6

- 1 Agency Negotiator: Kevin Jones
 Bargaining Unit: Firefighters
- ~~2 Agency Negotiator: Kevin Jones-item removed
 Bargaining Unit: Miscellaneous~~
- 3 Agency Negotiator: Kevin Jones
 Bargaining Unit: SPOA

At 4:13 p.m. the City Council reconvened in Open Session.

4 RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:

Staff present: Kevin Jones, Police Chief/Interim City Administrator; Margaret Long, City Attorney (phone); James Moore, Fire Chief; Deborah Savage, Finance Manager; Daniel Gibbs, City Engineer/Interim Public Works Director; Kelly Mumper, City Planner and Heidi Whitlock, City Clerk.

Chief Jones, Interim City Administrator, reported that the City Council provided direction to staff including the reinstatement of Dan Newton to the position of Public Works Director.

Mayor Schuster offered the Invocation.

5 BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

6 CONSENT CALENDAR:

Councilmember Stafford requested item 6B be removed from consent to discuss.

A Approve minutes from the City Council's, June 15 and 23, 2020 meetings

Motion by Councilmember Stafford, second by Councilmember Herrera, to approve the Consent Calendar with the removal of item 6B; motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Stafford, Herrera, Moore, McCourt and Schuster.

B Consider Resolution No. 20-5810, ratification of MOU with Susanville Police Officer Association Councilmember Stafford requested a polled vote for the ratification of the MOU.

Polled Vote: Ayes: Herrera, Moore, McCourt and Schuster. No: Stafford. Motion carried 4-1 to ratify the MOU with the Susanville Police Officer Association.

Mr. Jones requested that item 13D be heard as Theresa Phillips was now in the audience to discuss the solar requirements.

13D Update regarding solar requirements Ms. Phillips provided an overview of what Lassen Municipal Utility District (LMUD) has and stated that Wendel solar is not owned by LMUD or a community solar project. She added that LMUD does not currently plan to go to community solar and that there was no way to measure the arrays of solar.

Additional discussion occurred on the item.

Mr. Jones thanked Ms. Phillips for providing information and continued to state that staff has spent a lot of time researching the topic. At this time, no way around the law has been found however, staff is still awaiting a few more returned calls.

7 PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A Consider Resolution No. 20-5797 Setting Rate, Fees and Policies for the Natural Gas Utility

At 4:41 p.m. Mayor Schuster opened the public hearing.

Mr. Gibbs introduced Dan Bergman, IGService, who completed the natural gas study.

Mr. Bergman stated that he has been with the City since 2004 and was here when the system was set up. He continued that a decrease in rates is being proposed as a result of a recent refinance as well as a possible additional decrease after winter.

The Council expressed their appreciation to Mr. Bergman for the study.

Mayor Schuster invited comments or questions from the public.

There being no questions or comments, Mayor Schuster closed the hearing at 4:54 p.m.

Motion by Councilmember Herrera, second by Councilmember McCourt to approve Resolution No. 20-5797; motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Schuster, Moore, Herrera, McCourt and Stafford.

8 COUNCIL DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

9 NEW BUSINESS:

9A Consider approval of vendor warrants numbered 207176 through 207274 for a total of \$850,363.52, including \$303,455.40 in payroll warrants

Motion by Councilmember Stafford, second by Councilmember Herrera, to approve the vendor warrant report as submitted; motion carried. Ayes: Stafford, Herrera, Moore, McCourt, and Schuster.

9B Consider Resolution No. 20-5808, authorizing 1)the Acting Public Works Director the ability to execute a cost proposal with Grizzly Electric, California to purchase generators at various locations in the City and 2) the Finance Manager to release Water Capital 7114 and Natural Gas funds in an amount not exceeding \$164,750 plus 10% for contingencies Mr. Gibbs stated that this item would be for the purchase of replacing several generators including a new generator for City Hall and Cady Springs. He continued that he received quotes with the lowest being from Grizzly Electric out of Portola.

Motion by Councilmember Stafford, second by Councilmember Herrera, to approve Resolution No. 20-5808; motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Stafford, Herrera, McCourt, Moore and Schuster.

10 SUSANVILLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY: No business.

11 SUSANVILLE MUNICIPAL ENERGY CORPORATION: No business.

12 CONTINUING BUSINESS:

A Discussion regarding City's Asset List Mr. Jones stated that the Council requested a condensed fixed asset list, as presented in the packet. He added that an appraisal has also been scheduled for the 600 and 606 Nevada properties. He continued that the sale of those properties, if requested, could be completed through a sealed bid process with a reserve instead of utilizing a realtor.

Motion by Councilmember Stafford, second by Councilmember Herrera, to continue with the appraisal of the house and lot; motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Stafford, Herrera, McCourt, Moore and Schuster.

B Continue Discussion regarding a Grant Write for the City of Susanville Mr. Jones stated that he reached out to a grant writer. He continued that he reached out to Suzi Kochems, Silk Consulting Group, and she has provided an estimate of approximately \$2,000-\$3,000 to prepare the upcoming Parks and Recreation Grant since it would only be updating the previously submitted grant application. He continued that the Council could approve him to sign the agreement and bring it back for ratification or he could simply bring back the agreement at the next meeting.

Councilmember McCourt inquired as to whether this was grant specific or all the time to which Mr. Jones responded grant specific.

Motion by Councilmember McCourt, second by Councilmember Herrera, to move forward with an agreement up to \$3,000 and bring back at next meeting for ratification. Motion carried unanimously. Aye: McCourt, Herrera, Stafford, Moore and Schuster.

13 CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS:

13A Update on Air Methods at Susanville Municipal Airport Mr. Jones provided an update regarding Air Methods upcoming move into hangar number 9 and stated that a lease agreement should be coming to an upcoming meeting.

No further discussion occurred.

13B Update regarding City Hall reroof project Mr. Jones stated that City Hall's roof is almost complete, and staff is now working on getting an appraisal for the work needing to be completed on the inside of the building.

No further discussion occurred.

13C Discussion regarding Homelessness and camping site Mr. Jones provided an update on homeless issue and stated that Mr. Mumper, City Planner, met with Seth Anderson (public) and determined that the Spring Ridge location was not a viable option.

Councilmember McCourt inquired as to how many people were still on the river and if the community was satisfied with the results.

Mr. Jones responded that the camps still on the river are on the County side. As of right now, there have not been any complaints from the public. He added that the camping issue is significantly less than it was last year.

Councilmember McCourt inquired as to whether or not a burn will still be completed along the river.

Mr. Jones responded that yes, it will be done late this summer.

John Lightfoot (public) inquired as to whether or not a second location was being looked at if Spring Ridge does not work out. He added that most people along the river are there due to behavioral issues.

Mr. Jones responded, not at this time.

13D Update regarding solar requirements heard after 6B

13E Department Reports Mr. Jones stated that the department reports will be for departments who wish to provide a report to the council whether quarterly, semi annually or when needed if something comes up with the department.

Chief Moore stated that the Sheep Fire is a Plumas National Forest incident however, they have committed 3 engines and 13 individuals to the fire since State resources are thin. He continued that the fire is currently at 4,500 acres and it is slowly moving over the hill and that aircraft would be needed as well as more favorable weather, such as no wind or heat.

Gentry Standiford (public) inquired as to whether or not the solar item would be heard again since it was heard out of order.

Ms. Long responded that the item could not be heard again as the item has been heard and passed.

14 FUTURE COUNCIL ITEMS:

14A AB1234 travel reports: None.

Mayor Schuster inquired as to whether or not the solar requirement topic should be brought back at the next meeting.

Councilmembers Herrera and McCourt requested it be brought back at the next meeting.

Councilmember Herrera inquired as to how to help women and children not having a voice by teaching them to go to the Police for help.

Mr. Jones requested the Councilmember Herrera meet with the Police Department to see the statistics and the groups in place to assist as there should be a strategy to do so.

Mr. Jones inquired about the upcoming September 2, 2020 meeting as both himself and the City Clerk would not be available. He proposed meeting on the 1st or 9th. It was the consensus of the Council to cancel the meeting on the 2nd and to have a special meeting on the 9th at 4:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

At 5:30 p.m. the Council went back into Closed Session.

At 6:14 p.m. the City Council reconvened in Open Session. Chief Jones, Interim City Administrator, reported that the City Council provided direction to staff.

15 ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mayor pro tem Moore, second by Councilmember Herrera, to adjourn; motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Moore, Herrera, McCourt, Stafford and Schuster.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Mendy Schuster, Mayor

Respectfully submitted by

Heidi Whitlock, City Clerk

Approved on: