

**SUSANVILLE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.**

Meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Councilmember Wilson.

Roll call of Councilmembers present: Brian Wilson, Kevin Stafford, Mendy Schuster. Absent: Mayor Garnier and Mayor pro tem Franco.

Staff present: Dan Newton, Interim City Administrator and Jessica Ryan, City Attorney.

1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Councilmember Stafford, second by Councilmember Wilson to approve the agenda as with the removal of Items 12A and 12B; motion carried. Ayes: Stafford, Wilson, and Schuster. Absent: Garnier and Franco.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS: No business.

3 CLOSED SESSION: At 6:01 p.m. the Council entered into Closed Session to discuss the following:

- A PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT – Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957
 - 1 City Administrator
 - 2 Police Chief Recruitment
 - 3 City Attorney
- B CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR – pursuant to Government code Section 54956.8
 - 1 Property: APN # 103-340-01-11
 - Agency Negotiator: Dan Newton, Interim City Administrator
 - Negotiating Parties: City of Susanville/Blackdot (on behalf of Omnipoint dba T-Mobile)
- C CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION – Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b)
- D CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION – Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b) - one case.

6:12 p.m. Mayor pro tem Franco arrives.

4 RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:

At 7:01 p.m. the Council reconvened in Open Session.

Staff present: Dan Newton, Interim City Administrator; Jessica Ryan, City Attorney; Daniel Gibbs, Acting Public Works Director, Kelley Merritt, Acting Police Chief; James Moore, Fire Chief; Deborah Savage, Finance Manager and Ruth Ellis, Administrative Staff Assistant.

Mr. Newton reported that prior to Closed Session, the Council approved the agenda with the removal of removed Items 12A Consider Ordinance No. 18-1013 imposing a transaction and use tax to be administered by the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration: Waive second

reading and adopt and 12B Consider Resolution No. 18-5485 placing a measure on the June 5, 2018 ballot for the purpose of imposing a one-half cent percent sales tax for general community services.

He continued that the Council met in closed session and the Council provided direction for Items 3A, 3B and 3C, but there was no reportable action taken, and at the conclusion of Open Session Council would be reconvening in Closed Session.

Mayor pro tem Franco offered the Thought of the Day.

Mayor pro tem Franco read a proclamation honoring Vietnam Veterans and recognizing March 31 as Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day.

5 BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Dava Montgomery addressed a letter she received from City Attorney Jessica Ryan regarding an investigation that she had requested related to her property in the County and questioned the process taken to investigate the complaint.

Ms. Ryan explained she conducted the investigation, outlined how it was conducted and how she came to the conclusion that no City resources or time were used during the survey in question.

Mayor pro tem Franco suggested that the matter be addressed at a later date and that Ms. Montgomery come in and speak directly with Ms. Ryan because it wasn't appropriate to have a back and forth discussion in this forum.

Councilmember Wilson stated that people can only address matters related to the City and nothing about the County or property lines in the County. He added that the issue is a civil matter at this point.

6 CONSENT CALENDAR:

- A** Approve minutes from the City Council's January 3, 17, 19, 22, 2018 meetings
- B** Approve vendor warrants numbered 200475 through 200563 for a total of \$579,158.19 in payroll warrants
- C** Receive and file Monthly Finance Reports: January 2018

Councilmember Schuster stated she was not present at the January 17 meeting and would need to abstain from voting on those minutes.

Item 6A was pulled from the agenda and considered as a separate item.

Motion by Councilmember Stafford, second by Councilmember Wilson, to approve the January 3, 19, and 22 meeting minutes; motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Stafford, Schuster, Wilson, and Franco. Absent: Garnier.

Motion by Councilmember Stafford, second by Wilson, to approve the January 17 meeting minutes; Motion carried. Ayes Stafford, Wilson and Franco. Abstain: Schuster. Absent: Garnier.

Motion by Councilmember Wilson, second by Councilmember Stafford, to approve Items 6B and 6C; Motion carried. Ayes: Wilson, Stafford, Schuster and Franco. Absent: Garnier.

9 NEW BUSINESS

9A Receive and file Natural Gas report Ms. Savage said that the Council requested staff bring back the natural gas report for an update. She explained that the provided information is a history of where the City has been, where it is now, cash improvements since 2008, customers added, heating degree days for the natural gas fund, gas therms sold and revenues.

Ms. Savage added that the City's annual natural gas Fitch Rating was recently upgraded from a Triple B to an A-and they also affirmed the water ratings.

Councilmember Wilson asked if the City has re-negotiated any of its natural gas contracts.

Mr. Newton responded it has not been done yet.

9B 2018 Weed Abatement Program Chief Moore stated that this year's weed/fire hazard abatement deadline is set for Monday, June 25 and after that date, the department will actively abate all properties with fire hazards.

He continued that there was pretty good compliance last year as approximately 120 citations were mailed, but only six to seven abatement public hearings came before the Council. He stated that at the Council's request, the department was aggressive in its enforcement and they will continue to be very active this year, as well.

He noted an attached flyer in the Council's agenda and explained it will be included in the May billing cycles.

Councilmember Wilson said he was making his yearly reminder that the City should be taking care of its properties, too.

Chief Moore said there are some areas in the City that may not be enforced as others, or be required to look like a manicured fire break. Those areas will be considered open or natural areas of habitat.

Councilmember Schuster complimented Chief Moore on the work his department did last year.

13 City Administrator's Report

13A Meeting Schedule discussion – March 2018 Mr. Newton explained that there are three Special City Council meetings set for March 19, 20, and 21. Due to the anticipated duration of the March 21 special meeting, staff wants to discuss options or alternatives for the regularly scheduled March 21 meeting.

Mr. Newton added that the department heads didn't have any items that couldn't wait until the next regularly scheduled meeting on April 4.

Councilmember Stafford responded the Council could hold a meeting if an emergency came up, but if not, they could wait until April 4.

The Council was in agreement.

At 7:33 p.m. Mayor pro tem Franco called for a 5 minute recess prior to reconvening in Closed Session.

The Council reconvened in Closed Session at 7:38 p.m.

Closed Session ended at 7:50 p.m.

No reportable action was taken.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Kathie Garnier, Mayor

Ruth Ellis, Administrative Staff Assistant

Approved: April 18, 2018