

## Minutes

City of Soledad Joint  
City Council/Successor Agency  
Regular Meeting

**September 6, 2017**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ledesma called the City Council/Successor Agency Meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

The Following Councilmembers/Agencymembers were present when the meeting was called to order:

Mayor/Chair	Fred Ledesma
Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chair	Alejandro Chavez
Councilmember/Agencymember	Christopher Bourke
Councilmember/Agencymember	Carla Stewart
Councilmember/Agencymember	Anna Velazquez

### **ADDITIONS/MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA**

City Manager Michael McHatten requested the following modification be made to the Agenda:

- A Closed Session item of Government Code Section 54956.9(a)(d)(1) to confer with its attorney regarding pending litigation which has been initiated formally and to which the City is a party: Claim of Amarillas. There is need to take immediate action on this item. The matter arose after the agenda was posted and the details of this claim did not come into focus until 9/5/2017.

**Council Action:** To add the requested modification to the Agenda

**Motion:** Motion made by Councilmember Bourke, seconded by Councilmember Velazquez and carried by unanimous vote

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

- Ms. Maria Amarillas came to comment on her own behalf. Ms. Amarillas said that many of her personal belongings were destroyed in her apartment from the City's sewer line breaking and flooding her home. She is also disabled from her knees and a sciatic nerve in her back. She does receive money from disability but had to use that money towards food because the motel that the City placed her in does not have accommodations to store or cook her own food. She is not asking for pity but does hope that the City will help her get back on her feet. She thanked Mayor and Council for taking the time to listen to her.

**MEETING RECESS**

Mayor Ledesma recessed to Closed Session at 5:36 p.m.

**MEETING RECONVENED**

Mayor Ledesma reconvened from Closed Session at approximately 6:02 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION REPORTS**

1. The City Council of the City of Soledad will recess to closed session to meet with its designated representatives regarding labor relations matters pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6. The employee organization is the Soledad Police Officers' Association (SPOA).
2. The City Council will recess to closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a)(d)(1) to confer with its attorney regarding pending litigation which has been initiated formally and to which the City is a party: Claim of Amarillas

The City Attorney reported that with respect to item #1, the Council met with its Labor Negotiator and provided direction. No other reportable action was taken.

With respect to item #2, The Council gave direction to the City Manager. No other reportable action taken.

**PEACEBUILDERS' PLEDGE** was led by Mr. Chris Bourke

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by Barry Groves

**ADDITIONS/MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA**

City Manager Michael McHatten reported that there is an amended report and resolution for item C-5. The Council has been provided the amendment.

**MAYOR/COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS**

- A Proclamation was presented to Monica Alcantar, Freddy Alcaraz-Reyes and Jessica Ramirez, representatives of the S.T.E.P. (Safe Teens Empowerment Project) Program by Mayor Ledesma and the City Council Honoring and Declaring September as National Addiction and Recovery Month

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Ms. Sandra Martinez and Ms. Isabel Mora are representatives from the Immigration Task Force South County. Ms. Martinez came to tell City Council more about the “Know your Rights” forum that will be taking place here in Soledad and throughout South County. The forum will be held to help empower the community and teach the families how to prepare for emergencies in case a family member does not return home.
- Chief John Owens introduced the new CalFIRE Battalion Chief for the City of Soledad, Mr. Tom Swanson. Battalion Chief Swanson added that it is a pleasure for him to be working here in Soledad to serve the City.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

- None

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Ledesma reported that he attended the ACCAPS Conference in August. He was able to meet with Assemblymember Anna Caballero regarding funding that may be available to help with Cities with prisons that can assist with gang awareness and other needed law enforcement.

## **COUNCILMEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**

- Councilmember Stewart reported that on August 9<sup>th</sup> she attended the AMBAG Board meeting. On August 18<sup>th</sup> she attended the Oath of Office swearing in for a new Police Officer. On August 28<sup>th</sup> she attended the Hero's of Monterey County Board meeting. She was unable to attend the September AMBAG Board meeting due to lack of quorum due to the League of California Cities Conference that is scheduled at the same time.
- Mayor Pro Tem Chavez reported that he attended the TAMC Rail Policy meeting in August. He also attended the TAMC Executive meeting on September 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Councilmember Velazquez reported that she was unable to attend the August MST Board of Directors meeting due to it being cancelled. She was also unable to attend the Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce Board meeting. She was also unable to attend the Rotary Luncheon on August 10<sup>th</sup> featuring the guest speaker and MST General Manager, Carl Sedoryk. On August 13<sup>th</sup> she attended the Parish Fiesta. She thanked Tri-Cities Recycles for providing support to the students and the participants. On August 16<sup>th</sup> she attended the Monterey Bay Power Policy Board Meeting as an Alternate for the Gonzales Mayor, Maria Orozco. On August 18<sup>th</sup> she attended the swearing in Ceremony for the newly hired Police Officer and the Promotion of one of our Sergeants'. On August 19<sup>th</sup> she attended the Girls Inc. fundraiser in San Lucas. On August 23<sup>rd</sup> she attended the Monterey Bay Economic Partnership Regional Policy Forum.

- Councilmember Bourke attended the National Night out in August 2<sup>nd</sup>. On August 17<sup>th</sup> he attended the Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority meeting. On August 18<sup>th</sup> he attended swearing in service for the new Police Officer in Soledad.

### **COUNCILMEMBER PRAISES**

- Councilmember Velazquez praised the City of Soledad, the Police Department, the YMCA and the Soledad Unified School District for opening the Cooling Center over this past weekend.
- Councilmember Bourke gave thanks to the Soledad Unified School District and the City Manager Michael McHatten for the Cooling Station here in Soledad. He also thanked Officer Tyler for putting together the National Night Out event in August. He also praised Councilmember Velazquez for helping organize the Immigration workshop that will be taking place.
- Mayor Ledesma praised Monica Alcantar, Freddy Alcaraz-Reyes and Jessica Ramirez, representatives of the S.T.E.P. Program Sun Street Center, and Ms. Sandra Martinez and Ms. Isabel Mora, representatives from the Immigration Task Force-South County for stepping up to help change their environment and make a difference in their community.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

#### **Council Action:**

Councilmember Velazquez asked that item C-5 be pulled from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion; also Mayor Ledesma asked that item C-6 be pulled from the Consent Calendar for separate consideration.

#### **Motion:**

Councilmember Bourke made a motion to adopt items C-1 through C-7 on the consent Calendar, with the exception of C-5 and C-6. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Chavez and carried by unanimous vote.

Ayes: Bourke, Ledesma, Chavez, Stewart and Velazquez  
Noes: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

#### **C-1 Approval of Minutes**

- a. Joint City Council/Successor Agency Regular Meeting Minutes of August 2, 2017

**C-2 Approval of Warrants**

# 033646 - #033876

**C-3 Soledad Housing Authority Approval of Warrants**

# 1052 - # 1053

**C-4 Resolution No. 5333, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Authorizing the Destruction of Certain City Records as provided by Section 34090 of the Government Code of the State of California**

**C-7 Receive and Accept City of Soledad Monthly Department Activity Reports**

**Item C-5:** Resolution No. 5334, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Approving an Agreement between the City of Soledad and Monterey County Water Resource Agency to Participate in the Salinas River Maintenance Program and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Said Agreement on Behalf of the City of Soledad

Don Wilcox presented the Staff Report. Shaunna Murray from the Monterey County Water Resource Department was also available for questions.

- Councilmember Velazquez pulled this item for separate discussion. She asked if the contract to this item could be amended. City Attorney Mike Rodriguez said he would send a memo to ask if there was a possibility to establish an amendment to the contract. Councilmember Velazquez added that if the item cannot be amended then it would be fine with her to move forward with item anyways.

**Motion:** Councilmember Bourke made a motion to adopt item C-5, Resolution No. 5334 with the understanding that the City Attorney Mike Rodriguez will ask for an amendment to the contract, but if the amendment is not possible then the contract will go forward as is. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Velazquez and carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Bourke, Velazquez, Chavez and Ledesma  
Noes: Stewart  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

**Item C-6:** Resolution No. 5335, A Resolution of the City Council of the City Council of the City of Soledad Approving the Immigration Task Force-South County request for use of the Soledad Community Center to conduct a Community Know your Rights Forum on October 1, 2017 in order to provide our residents with the legal and practical aspects of understanding and implementing individual rights under the Constitution and in the current environment; introductory information on items to consider in order to initiate a Family Safety Plan in the event a loved one is detained; to introduce the Monterey College of Law's South County office for low-and no-cost immigration planning; and authorizing use of the four (4) City Sponsored hours.

Mayor Ledesma pulled this item for separate further discussion

Councilmember Velazquez presented the Staff Report.

**Motion:** Councilmember Bourke made a motion to adopt item C-6, Resolution No. 5335. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Stewart and carried by the unanimous vote:

Ayes: Bourke, Velazquez, Chavez, Stewart and Ledesma  
Noes: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

- None

#### **BUSINESS**

**B-1** Resolution No. 5336, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Authorizing the City Manager to use the City's No Bids Received Procedure and Execute a Contract with Truck Site for the Purchase of a 2004 Ford F550 XL SD Terex Hi-Ranger TL 36P Bucket Truck at a Cost of \$55,008.94 and Allocating Funding Therefore

Public Works Director Don Wilcox presented the Staff report

**Council Action:** To adopt Resolution No. 5336

**Motion:** Motion made by Councilmember Bourke, seconded by Mayor Ledesma and carried by unanimous vote:

Ayes: Bourke, Ledesma, Chavez, Stewart and Velazquez  
Noes: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

**B-2** Resolution No. 5337, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Accepting Certain Subdivision Improvements for the Miravale II-Unit III (Summerfield Phase 2) Subdivision

Public Works Director Don Wilcox presented the Staff report.

Talli Robinson from Century Communities also formerly known as UCP (Union Community Partners) was available for questions.

**Council Action:** To adopt Resolution No. 5337

**Motion:** Motion made by Councilmember Bourke, seconded Councilmember Velazquez and carried by unanimous vote:

Ayes: Bourke, Velazquez, Chavez, Stewart and Ledesma  
Noes: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

**B-3** Resolution No. 5338, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Approving a Contract Change Order with SurveillanceGRID Integrations, Inc. for Phase IV of the License Plate Recognition and Surveillance System Project in an Amount not-to-exceed \$105,249.67

Public Works Director Don Wilcox presented the Staff Report.

Maria Sumnicht from SurveillanceGrid Integrations, Inc. was available for questions and also demonstrated to Council a live camera feed in real-time of an active camera in Soledad.

**Council Action:** To adopt Resolution No. 5338

**Motion:** Motion made by Councilmember Bourke, seconded Councilmember Stewart and carried by unanimous vote:

Ayes: Bourke, Stewart, Chavez, Velazquez and Ledesma  
Noes: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

**B-4** Presentation and Consideration for Direction from the City Council and the Successor Agency of the Soledad Redevelopment Agency for the Development of a Civic Plaza and the Long Term use of the Current Museum Building

City Manager Michael McHatten presented the Staff Report.

Mr. Craig Stephens from the Historical Society was also present to inquire about the possibility of establishing a longer lease of the building for the Historical Society. Mr. Stephens also said the Historical Society is prepared to install a single-sex restroom and also pay for needed treatment of the building for termites.

**Council Action:**

Information was received by the City Council.

No formal action was taken. Council requested the City Manager do further research on all the possible options and also expanding the building lease on the building used by the Historical Society.

**B-5** Ordinance No. 713, An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Soledad Amending Section 3.24.040- Bidding Required-Exception of Chapter 3.24- Purchasing System of Title 3-Revenue and Finance of the Soledad Municipal Code.

City Attorney Mike Rodriguez presented the Staff Report

**Council Action:**

Introduction by Title only of Ordinance No. 713

**Motion:** Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Chavez, seconded Councilmember Bourke and carried by unanimous vote:

Ayes: Chavez, Bourke, Velazquez, Stewart and Ledesma  
Noes: None.  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

**COUNCILMEMBER'S COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Mayor Pro Tem reported there was a Parks Committee meeting at Vosti Park. He was unable to attend. City Manager Michael McHatten and Public Works Director Don Wilcox attended that meeting and received direction.

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Michael McHatten reported:
  1. He will meet with Assemblymember Anna Caballero's staff member Mr. Jonathon Hernandez to discuss a Satellite Office for Assemblymember Anna Caballero here in Soledad.
  2. He also noted in his report that he would be meeting with Brigid Massie and Tim Vanoli from the School District regarding a joint meeting in October. The date has been changed to November 2, 2017.
  3. He reported that he is almost done with finalizing the Contract terms in regards to the website design and marketing project.
  4. He and the Community Development Director met with LAFCO Staff and County to discuss the current annexation. There is still more work to do with regards to getting the annexation approved. There has been discussion related to Bryant Canyon Road and the City accepting part or all of that road as part of the annexation.
  5. Between the City, CalFIRE, Public Works Department, the Police Department, the YMCA and the School District the Cooling center that Soledad had was a success.

## **COUNCILMEMBER'S ITEMS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

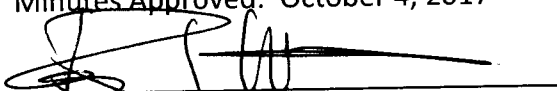
- Chris Bourke had four items:
  1. Possibility of an upgrade and reinforce the fire station and add an Emergency Operations Center now if we are able to get CDBG Grant.
  2. There are Eagle Scouts in Soledad that are in need to fulfilling 100 hours of Community Service hours.
  3. Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority is looking for a Soledad representative on its Community Advisory Group.
  4. Can the City please look into the firework abatement process that the City of Hollister is doing. For the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks they were able to do a lot more citations compared to Soledad.
    - Chief Sills replied to Councilmember Bourke's last request regarding the citing process that the City of Hollister is doing for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Chief Sills spoke to the Chief of Police in Hollister and the City did use an Application that people could use on their phones and the police also were able to use unmarked cars. The application that was used was only a "test app" and is not available for use for other cities. The Soledad Police Department also does not have unmarked cars. He said Hollister only had 18 citations which is the same number of citations that Soledad had.
- Councilmember Velazquez had one item:
  1. She would like the City to have shirts with the Soledad logo for elected officials and also maybe supplies with the City logo on pencils and pens for children.

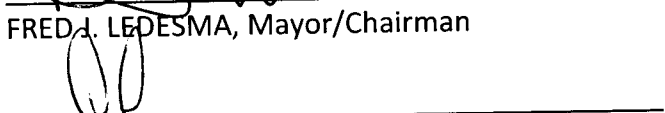
- Councilmember Stewart had eight items:
  1. A privacy fence for the Police and Fire station.
  2. A Community Garden- The District and the County office of Alternative Education Program received grant from ALBA for a community garden, but they are looking for a partner in Soledad that can provide land use.
  3. A Resolution or Certificate recognizing Mr. Jorge Guzman who is retiring from Soledad Unified School District after 26 years of serving the students in our community.
  4. The timing of the signal lights at Oak and Front Street is very bad and she would like someone from Public Works to take a look at improving the timing.
  5. The train is parked in front of the City again and she would like it moved.
  6. She would like to attend the League of California Cities New Mayors and Councilmembers Academy in January 2018.
  7. She realizes there have been no leads on the Hit and Run of Rafael Monarres Cardenas and she is wondering if the City can put up a reward for information leading to the arrest of someone.
  8. She would like Chief Sills to include in his Department Activity Report for October where he is in the recruitment and how many vacancies we have.
  
- Mayor Ledesma had four items:
  1. He would like better coverage to the public in the newspaper and on the City website of the good things and the improvements of the City. He would like to hire someone locally to post what the City is doing.
  2. He believes a Community Garden would be a good thing here in Soledad and he will support Councilmember Stewart in her efforts.
  3. He would like wild flowers to be planted in the space in between the freeway and the railroad. He already has the seeds donated.
  4. He would like to schedule one on one time with each Councilmember so that he can better understand what the Councilmember's ideas are for the future of the City.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

Minutes Approved: October 4, 2017

  
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FRED J. LEDESMA, Mayor/Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MICHAEL MCHATTEN, City Clerk/Agency Secretary