

Minutes

City of Soledad Joint
City Council/Successor Agency
Regular Meeting

July 15, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ledesma called the City Council/Successor Agency Meeting to order at 5:33 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 (5:50 p.m.)
Councilmember/Agencymember	Marisela Lara
Councilmember/Agencymember	Anna Velazquez
Councilmember/Agencymember	Carla Strobridge Stewart (5:39 p.m.)

THE FOLLOWING COUNCILMEMBER WAS ABSENT

- None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

- None

MEETING RECESS FOR CLOSED SESSION

- 5:36 p.m.

MEETING RECONVENED

- 6:02 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

1. The City Council will recess to Closed Session to consider personnel matters pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(B)(1)- Interim City Manager Employment/Appointment.
2. The City Council will recess to Closed Session to confer with legal counsel pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)-significant exposure to litigation- one matter.

CLOSED SESSION REPORTS

1. City Attorney Michael Rodriguez reported with respect to item no. 1, the council considered the noted personnel matter. No other reportable action taken.
2. City Attorney Michael Rodriguez reported with respect to item no. 2, the council conferred with legal counsel and provided direction. No other reportable action taken.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Brent Slama

ADDITIONS/MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

Interim City Manager Brent Slama reported that there will two items that he is requesting to add to the agenda as a result of recent action taken by the California Governor Newsom.

1. Consider action and provide direction on enforcement State and County orders and guidance on the use of face coverings.
2. Consider action and provide direction on alternatives to accommodate temporary outdoor business operations during effective dates of Covid-19 related indoor business operations, prohibitions and or restrictions imposed by the State County.

Attorney Mike Rodriguez added that the Government Code allows items to be added to the agenda upon making a finding that the item arose after the agenda was posted. The two additions are based on actions taken by the State on Monday. There is also need to bring attention to these before the date of the next meeting. Both items need to be approved by a 4/5 vote in order to be placed on the agenda.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Chavez made a motion to approve the two items to be added to the agenda. Motion was seconded by Mayor Ledesma and carried by unanimous vote:

Action:

Ayes: Ledesma, Chavez, Strobridge Stewart, Lara and Velazquez

Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alexis Magdaleno said that the Measure Y Committee recommended a rental assistance program based on the needs of the community, but it seems there has been no action taken towards the recommendation. He would also like to see some law enforcement officer positions removed because he feels that will give the community the opportunity to invest in things like the recreation center and services for youth. These are things that the community is asking for, these things are also public safety and other ways that we can support the community with mental health and crisis intervention. He encourages the council to ask the City Manager to come back with a report on what the needs of Soledad community are in regard to a rental assistance program.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez said that he knows that the City Manager Slama is working with a rental assistance program and on 07/16/20 he and others gave out almost \$70,000 of rental assistance money to people in 46 families here in the City of Soledad.

Desire Rosas said that police take up a big portion of the budget and she would like to open up discussion regarding opening up those funds to other public safety solutions such as crime prevention in the form of recreation centers and culturally relevant youth programs. The City of Greenfield has a cultural arts center and she would really like to see something like that in the City of Soledad.

Mayor Fred Ledesma said that the City of Greenfield's Cultural Arts Center was paid for by the Arts Council and he hopes that the Arts Council will be able to do more things like that in the future. He does hope to find better ways have money for youth services.

Daniel Alfaro would like to see more Measure Y money go to different programs for the youth, different activities and multiple things they would be able to do.

Richard Perez said that the Measure Y initiative was put on the ballot to help fund the police department, not defund it. There was a meeting that took place to discuss raising the sales tax by another ½ % and this would give more revenue for what these folks are talking about. To say the funds should be taken from the police department, that is why the tax was put on the ballot.

Mayor Fred Ledesma said that he does want to add that Measure Y was for Police and youth service and the previous people that made public comment are concerned because the almost 90% percent of the Measure Y funds are going to police.

Councilmember Anna Velazquez wanted to clarify that in terms of approving the budget in August that would also approve the Measure Y funding. She hopes there is an

opportunity to have some virtual workshops with the community before August to make sure that people understand the process.

Acting City Manager Brent Slama is anticipating the budget to be on the August 5, 2020 meeting. The budget itself is a status quote budget but if council desires to have workshops or meetings to go over the status quote budget, they should let staff know that this is something that needs to be done.

Councilmember Velazquez the last time the council met and looked at the Measure Y money, there was discussion regarding the Covid-19 funds that went into that allocation that included potential rental assistance and business assistance as well. Will there be an opportunity to discuss how those funds will be allocated before the August 5th meeting or at the August 5th meeting?

Acting City Manager Slama said that at this point there can be discussion regarding this money distributed. There is a desire to get some of those funds out into the community before that. As Mayor Pro Tem Chavez has stated, this is something that the City is actively working on. This also ties into agenda items that will be covered at this current meeting. The Council will be discussing Measure Y and business assistance in the context of the CDBG grant. There can be a Special meeting and have further conversation that can be done, but the plan is to get the funds out sooner than later.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Ledesma continued to give condolences to Mayor Joe Gunter and his family and the City of Salinas. The City Manager of Salinas also announced his retirement. Mayor Ledesma said that he continues to attend the weekly Mayor's and Manager's meetings. He encouraged the public to continue to be safe and social distance.

COUNCILMEMBER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez reported that he attended the Parks and Rec meeting on 07/14 and also attended the Community Center meeting on 07/14. No TAMC meeting for the month of July.

Councilmember Carla Stobridge Stewart thanked the public works department for accommodating the SnipBus, a total of 94 animals were altered. She would also like to know the number of citations issued for the July 4th holiday.

Councilmember Lara reported that she attended the protest for Vanessa Guillen held in the City of Greenfield. The protest was a success. She also thanked the City of Greenfield for allowing the protest.

Councilmember Velazquez reported that she attended the MST meeting. She was appointed the MST Board Vice Chairperson for fiscal years 2021 and 2022. She also attended the MST groundbreaking ceremony. She participated in the census kiosk in the City of Soledad for people

to be able to complete the census. She attended the Community Center meeting regarding what are the needs of the community. There is also a survey on the City of Soledad website, and she encouraged the community to give feedback on the survey. The Rancho San Vicente committee reached out to her regarding their deed restriction. The City should provide something in writing to the committee letting them know of updates in working with CHISPA and working with our City Attorney in order to move that forward.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Acting City Manager Brent Slama presented an oral and written report.

- The last batch of emergency assistance business loans for the current group of businesses in the City.
- The City has been working on a potential temporary solution for the Toledo bason to work on some rec trails and walking paths while the City looks for funding for a permanent facility there now that the pond is offline.
- There has been a change with the City's Building Official. Mark McClain will now be our Building official. He is also with CSG.
- The Staff has been putting together Budget binders so that the information can be given to the council ahead of time and can look through it.
- The League of California Cities Annual Conference in October will be virtual. If anyone from the Council is interested in being the voting Delegate for the City and attending the annual conference, please notify Executive Assistant to the City Manager Darlene Noriega so she can register you for the conference. The item of someone from the council being the voting delegate will need to be put on a future agenda to delegate someone.
- The Community Center Committee meeting was very encouraging.

YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT

- None

PRESENTATION

Acting City Manager Brent Slama gave a presentation and shared a screen presentation regarding the Orchard Lane Park Project since being awarded funding. There has been a significant amount of outreach to the public already, but more will be done regarding specific items. The screen showed the specific area of where the park will be. The amenities of the park will be include an inclusive playground, a splash pad playground and skatepark. There is a special section of the website on the City of Soledad's website for people to be able to view all the information and give public input. The first step will be to review concept plans and that will go before the Parks

and Recreation committee in August. The goal is to present the design element to the council in November. The bid package will go out for bid in May of 2021 and the park will open in spring of 2022. This is an ambitious schedule, but it is within the timeline of the grant. The park and Hartnell college will share an access road.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Councilmember Velazquez requested to pull item C-8 for separate discussion.

Councilmember Strobridge Stewart added that she sent a minor change to C-1a to the Deputy City Clerk and she also contacted Acting City Manager Slama regarding C-9 regarding including safety netting to playground.

- Acting City Manager Slama addressed item No. C-9 and said that this particular bid only includes the playground itself. The netting is not apart of the scope, but the netting can be added as a change order. The change order will be presented on the agenda when the time comes.

Councilmember Velazquez made a motion to approve items C-1a through C-11 and removing C-8. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Lara and carried by unanimous vote:

Action:

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

C-1. Approval of Minutes

- a. Joint City Council/Successor Agency Special Meeting Minutes of June 29, 2020.
- b. Joint City Council/Successor Agency Regular Meeting Minutes of July 01, 2020.

C-2. Warrants

041493 - 041637

- a. Resolution No. 5605, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Declaring Surplus Equipment and Authorizing the Sale, Donation or Disposal of such Property.

- C-4. Resolution No. 5606, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Authorizing and Approving Amendment #8 to the Contract for Professional Services with EMC Planning Group, Inc. in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$174,961 to Provide Contract Planning Services for the Miramonte (Former Miravale III) Project.

- C-5. Resolution No. 5607, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad an Application for Funding and Execution of a Grant Agreement and Any Amendments Thereto from the 2019-2020 Funding Year of the State CDBG Program and the Community Development Block Grant Program-CV1
- C-6. Resolution No. 5608, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Approving the Transfer of Funds in the Amount of \$140,000 From the Community Development Block Grant Program Income General Fund to the Community Development Block Grant Program Income Business Assistance Revolving Loan Fund Account.

- C-7. Resolution No. 5609, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Updating and Approving Guidelines for the Soledad Business Assistance Loan Program.

- C-9. Resolution No. 5611, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Approving a Contract for Construction Services with Northern California Recreation, In the Amount Not-to-Exceed \$311,549.88 For the Soledad Parks Improvement Project at Chester Aaroe and Joe Ledesma Park and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute Said Contract on Behalf of the City of Soledad.

- C-10. Resolution No. 5612, A Joint Resolution of the City Council/Board of the Successor Agency to the Soledad Redevelopment Agency/Soledad Housing Authority Appointing Brent Slama as Interim City Manager/Successor Agency Executive Director/Housing Authority Director.

- C-11. Resolution No. 5613, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Certifying Compliance with State Law with Respect to the Levying of General and Special Taxes, Assessments and Property-Related Fees and Charges for Fiscal Year 2020/2021.

- C-8. Resolution No. 5610, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Authorizing the Acting City Manager to Execute A Standard Contractual Service Agreement with Angel Johnstone for Activity Delivery and General Administration Services as Needed in Support of the City's Economic Development Activities and Business Assistance Loan Program.

Economic Development Consultant Angel Johnstone was present in the meeting available to answer questions.

Councilmember Velazquez said that she had some additional recommendations for language for this item; item 9.1 of the Consultant Agreement, Page 10. She would like add language in terms of the progress reports. She would like progress reports to be provided to the council whether it be on a monthly or quarterly basis and she recommends in the beginning as the loans are getting approved, the council should get monthly reports on the progress of the loans. She would like the Acting City Manager to decide on what should be included on the progress reports. She is looking more in terms of the applications processed, applications denied, applications that were referred for assistance to other entities. Also, on the Business Assistance Loan Program, Page 13, item 1 under the General Admin Delivery, under item G, states that they will work with local Chamber of Commerce to coordinate appropriate counseling and training to eligible applicants; she proposes that language is added that includes working with available business resources within the tri-county region. That way this is not limited to local chambers but really looking at availability of working with other business resources within the tri-county area. Also, Item H, Prepare and Submit to City; she would like to add under this item, reports should have specific information about progress reports about the loan processing. Also, on item 2A, under the Marketing Plan, she wants to make sure that there is language that addresses that the marketing plan will be done and prepared both in Spanish and English. In item A states "work with local chamber of commerce", similar language should be added to say, work with business resources available within the tri-county region. Under the Application Processing, Page 13, item 3, number A, it says "Establish and maintain a local presence and to assist applicants", Councilmember Velazquez's understanding is the consultant is not from the area, she is from Fresno, so she would like to add information of when the consultant will be available onsite to assist the business owners, especially given the fact that some of Soledad's small businesses don't have access to email or may not have access to fax. There should be included some hours of operation of availability in the City of Soledad.

Economic Development Consultant Angel Johnstone said she knows all the requested changes can be implemented easily. She asked if there were specific facilities that outreach needed to be reached.

Councilmember Velazquez she would like the Monterey County Business Council reached out to, the other local chambers in the tri-county area and other chambers available, or other resources, that Soledad may not be aware of that may be available to assist the businesses.

Economic Development Consultant Angel Johnstone said she has been working with the SBDC as well as Cal Coastal and they process a variety of loans and has lending programs that maybe aren't available at the city level, so it's more of a county program that she used. She has sent

other Cities there when there is no funding available in that city. Also, she is able to have days and times available at the City but would like to know how that would currently be done due to Covid-19. She has been asked by other cities not to have a presence and do everything virtual because of Covid-19, but if the Council has a different idea of how to have presence, she is happy to work with the City, but she does need clarification.

Councilmember Velazquez said that because it is a five year contract that is getting approved then right now everyone should work under the restrictions that are best, but as restrictions ease there should be availability for the business owners that would like to meet.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez said that he is happy to give Economic Development Consultant Angel Johnstone contacts for some of the organizations around the area such as Mission Services out of San Luis Obispo that does work in Monterey County, El Pajadro CDC that works into Monterey County and a few others that are springing up as well. He asked Councilmember Velazquez if the progress reports that she is referring to are the progress reports on how the loans are going? Or how the businesses are doing are doing on the loans?

Councilmember Velazquez said she is hoping the progress reports give information on what the loans are being allocated for. There is various task that the consultant is going to provide and one of the tasks is the loans. She would like to see more concrete information regarding the loans. She realizes the consultant will be maintaining all the documents and records, but the council should be able to see how successful this is and also how will it assist the businesses. The council should strategize to find what is the information the council needs to be able to assess the program. Not just in terms of loans, but also in terms of what can be provided to those businesses, like training, marketing and other types of resources and what data would the council want to know.

Economic Development Consultant Angel Johnstone asked that the council put that information together so that there is clarification on what the City is requiring. In the actual package the Progress Report is referring to the one set up by the State and they are items that they are requesting at the time to be submitted to make sure that the funds are being utilized properly. She is willing to provide a unique report specifically with the items the council is requesting to see monthly or bimonthly.

Motion: Councilmember Velazquez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 5610, with the noted changes. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Mayor Pro Tem Chavez and carried by unanimous vote:

Action:

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

PUBLIC HEARING

Receive the Staff report
Open the Public Hearing 6:57 p.m.
Close the Public Hearing 6:58 p.m.
Council Action

Resolution No's. 5614, 5615, 5616, 5617, & 5618, Resolutions of the City Council of the City of Soledad Ordering the Levy and Collection of Assessments within the Diamond Ridge Benefit Assessment District No. 1 (Miravale I), The Diamond Ridge Parks and Open Space Maintenance Assessment District No. 1 (Miravale I), The Parks and Open Space Maintenance Assessment District No 1, Orchard Villas/Miravale II, The Benefit Assessments District No. 2, Orchard Villas/Miravale II, and the Rancho San Vicente Parks and Open Spaces Maintenance Assessment District.

Managing Director of Taussig & Associates Nathan Perez presented the staff report.

- a. Resolution No. 5614, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Ordering the Levy and Collection of Assessments Within the Diamond Ridge Benefit Assessment District No. 1 (Miravale I) for Fiscal Year 2020/2021

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez excused himself from this portion of the meeting.

Motion: Councilmember Velazquez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 5614. Motion was seconded by Mayor Ledesma and carried by the following vote:

Action:

Ayes: Velazquez, Ledesma, Lara
Noes: None
Abstain: Chavez
Absent: Strobridge Stewart

- b. Resolution No. 5615, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Ordering the Levy and Collection of Assessments Within the Diamond Ridge Parks and Open Space Maintenance Assessment District No. 1 (Miravale I) for Fiscal Year 2020/2021

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez excused himself from this portion of the meeting.

Motion: Councilmember Velazquez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 5615. Motion was seconded by Mayor Ledesma and carried by the following vote:

Action:

Ayes: Velazquez, Ledesma, Lara
Noes: None
Abstain: Chavez
Absent: Strobridge Stewart

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez returned to the meeting.

Councilmember Lara excused herself from this portion of the meeting.

- c. Resolution No. 5616, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Ordering the Levy and Collection of Assessments Within the Parks and Open Space Maintenance Assessment District No. 1 Annexation No.1, Orchard Villas/Miravale II for Fiscal Year 2020/2021

Motion: Councilmember Velazquez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 5616. Motion was seconded by Mayor Ledesma and carried by the following vote:

Action:

Ayes: Velazquez, Ledesma, Chavez
Noes: None
Abstain: Lara
Absent: Strobridge Stewart

- d. Resolution No. 5617, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Ordering the Levy and Collection of Assessments Within the Benefit Assessment District No. 2, Orchard Villas/Miravale II for Fiscal Year 2020/2021

Motion: Councilmember Velazquez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 5617. Motion was seconded by Mayor Ledesma and carried by the following vote:

Action:

Ayes: Velazquez, Ledesma, Chavez
Noes: None
Abstain: Lara
Absent: Strobridge Stewart

- e. Resolution No. 5618, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Ordering the Levy and Collection of Assessments Within the Rancho San Vicente Parks and Open Spaces Maintenance Assessment District for Fiscal Year 2020/2021

Motion: Councilmember Velazquez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 5618. Motion was seconded by Mayor Ledesma and carried by the following vote:

Action:

Ayes: Velazquez, Ledesma, Chavez
Noes: None
Abstain: Lara
Absent: Strobridge Stewart

BUSINESS

Councilmember Lara returned to the meeting.

The following item was added to the 07/15/2020 agenda during the Auditions and Modifications portion of the current meeting.

1. Consider action and provide direction on enforcement State and County orders and guidance on the use of face coverings.

Acting City Manager Slama presented the item. He reported there are a number of local entities that have adopted face covering ordinances. There is a mandate from the State of California and a mandate from the County of Monterey. Some of the purpose of these mandates is to be able to adopt fines. This is something that has been of concern of the council.

Attorney Mike Rodriguez said there is a variety of Measures that have been adopted by other entities throughout the County and the State. One is to make it a violation of not having a face covering be an infraction and misdemeanor. In this case the citation process would be handled by the police department and that would be by adopting an ordinance or urgency ordinance that could be out in place sooner rather than later. The other option would be to adopt an administrative process for the issuance of administrative citations with fines attached. That could be accomplished by way of order of the City Manager sitting in the position of Emergency Coordinator. Several entities have taken that route. Both options pose some challenges with respect to enforcement.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez asked what the City of Salinas has been doing for their process. It seems like they are doing a lot of education and warnings. They also have a small business task force and they have been creating videos in collaboration with one of the small non-profits as well as the County and the City to put videos out in regard to the things going on. One of the videos that will be coming out soon will be on the use of masks, both in English and Spanish.

Councilmember Velazquez asked that Soledad also look further into what Ordinance the City of King has in place. She believes they have something in place with a fine of \$200. Soledad should also have further education and making the public aware of the importance of the face masks.

City Attorney Mike Rodriguez said the City of Salinas is different from the City of Soledad because they are a Charter City and have a greater degree of latitude, but he can take a further look into what they are doing.

Councilmember Strobridge Stewart rejoined the meeting at this time.

Motion:

No Action taken for this item

Direction was provided to staff and asked to proceed with an administrative procedure by way of an order from the City Manager.

2. Consider action and provide direction on alternatives to accommodate temporary outdoor business operations during effective dates of Covid-19 related indoor business operations, prohibitions and or restrictions imposed by the State County.

This item is specifically related to the order that was issued on Monday by the Governor of California. The City has issued temporary use permits for outdoor dining. There have been issues with merchants that are not on private property being able to conduct business and having the same privileges such as the businesses on Front Street. The City is asking the Council for direction regarding the businesses that are not on private property.

Mayor Ledesma asked for Chief Damon Wasson comment on what his thoughts are on the subject.

Police Chief Wasson said he thinks the safest plan would be to shut down Front Street at West Street and reroute traffic up to Monterey Street down to East Street to go around and that would encompass a majority of the businesses on Front Street. Sidewalks cannot be shut down because there needs to be access. If a snow fence is ran down Front Street and vehicles are still allowed to drive down Front Street and someone loses control that endangers people that are on Front Street, so the safest thing to do is completely shut down Front Street as the City has done for the Christmas parade.

Councilmember Lara asked if Front Street is shut down, how long will it be shut down?

Acting City Manager Slama said the City will need to be flexible, the date will depend on when the county lifts the order.

Councilmember Velazquez agrees and feels it is important to support the businesses and suggests this may be able to be done in phases by looking at the specific businesses that are being directly affected by the Governors orders.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez said that the City of Salinas did not do it in phases, they used a temporary land use permit process and a process of if the business is on private property and doing it in a walkway area there was no permit needed, they would just make sure that there was safety barriers around the area that was going to be enclosed around the area that was going to have the outdoor dining. If there were structures that were going to go up such as a canopy, tent or umbrella then there would need to be a permit process. There is no cost for the permit process. If the business is in a shopping center and there was more than four feet distance for wheelchair and pedestrian access, no permit is needed. If the business is would be conducted on a private parking lot then they would just be making sure that it is safe, no permit is needed. If business is conducted on a public parking area, then a permit would need to be pulled and have a site plan for everything.

Mayor Fred Ledesma said the sidewalk of Front street seem very wide, enough for the restaurant's to be able to put bistro tables outside. We should just make an effort to see if this will be helpful for the businesses and keep people employed and in business. The reality is that we cannot move forward until 3 weeks after the City numbers are in compliance, so this may be the City's reality for 6 to 8 weeks.

Interim City Manager Slama said that the City wants to make sure that the Council is in support of shutting down streets.

Andria Brinson from the Soledad Chamber of Commerce said that she would like to see that the Chamber is able to lend a hand with a any type of plan that the City has in planning outdoor business.

Mayor Pro Tem said that Soledad should try to make the process as simple as possible and hopefully follow what Salinas has in place.

Motion:

No Action taken for this item

Direction was provided to staff

- B-1. Consideration and Review of Visitors Center Management Agreement with the Salinas Valley Tourism and Visitors Bureau for the Operations of the Soledad Visitors Center

Acting City Manager Slama presented the staff report.

Councilmember Strobridge Stewart asked if the funds used for the Soledad Visitor's Center came from Measure Y.

Acting City Manager Slama said that at first it was funded by Measure Y and then the council at the time made the determination that they were not going to fund that anymore, so for the last four years the money for the Visitors Center has come out of the General Fund.

Councilmember Velazquez said that looking at the different needs of the community is great. Being able to free up the space to house the Economic Development and she feels ok with terminating the contract.

Mayor Ledesma does feel that the contract should be scaled back.

Acting City Manager Slama said that item is specific to operating the Visitors Center. The City of Soledad does still have an agreement regarding the tourism plan that also includes the other three south county cities, each city contributes \$25,000. That contract will also be scaled back just because of everyone's situation. There are a number of centennial items that Mr. Craig Kaufman is working on for Soledad which was shared. This item is specifically to having them staff the building and having them welcoming in tourist.

Councilmember Strobridge Stewart said that she is also in support of terminating the contract.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez is also in favor of terminating the contract. He would like to know what will happen to the materials that are inside of the building?

Acting City Manager Slama said the contract does identify specific items that do belong to the Salinas Valley Tourism and Visitors Bureau. The building would not be stripped bare. The books, art and woodwork are included in the contract.

Councilmember Lara said that even though the artwork may not be kept in the building, that gives opportunity for local artist to be able to go in and create something specific to Soledad.

Motion:

No Action taken for this item

Direction was provided to staff to notify the Salinas Valley Tourism and Visitors Bureau to cancel the contract.

Motion: Councilmember Strobridge Stewart made a motion to approve staff to notify the Salinas Valley Tourism and Visitors Bureau to cancel the contract. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Lara and carried by unanimous vote:

Action:

Ayes: Strobridge Stewart, Lara, Velazquez, Chavez and Ledesma

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

- B-2. Resolution No. 5619, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Establishing the Job Classification of Director of Information Technology, Adopting a Job Description, Approving One (1) Full-Time Position, and Establishing a Salary Range

Motion: Councilmember Strobridge Stewart made a motion to approve Resolution No. 5619. Motion was seconded by Mayor Ledesma and carried by unanimous vote:

Action:

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

WORKSHOP

- B-3. Continuation of Strategic Planning Workshop on a Potential Revenue Measure for the November 3, 2020 General Election Ballot.

Acting City Manager Slama presented the item. He shared a scene of the presentation for the council and public to see with information regarding the item.

Councilmember Lara is in favor of moving forward with the tax measure.

Councilmember Velazquez is in favor of moving forward with the tax measure. She would like to make sure that the City can provide free or minimal cost for service to the residents.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez is in favor of moving forward with the tax measure.

Councilmember Strobridge Stewart is in favor of moving forward with the tax measure.


Mayor Ledesma is in favor of moving forward with the tax measure.

There were no public comments regarding this item.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Ledesma adjourned the Regular meeting at 9:07 p.m.

Minutes Approved: August 5, 2020



FRED J. LEDESMA, Mayor/Chairman



BRENT SLAMA, Acting City Clerk/Agency Secretary

