

**CITY OF BRAWLEY**  
**November 21, 2017**

The City Council of the City of Brawley, California met in a regular session at 6:00 PM, City Council Chambers, 383 Main, Brawley, California, the date, time and place duly established for the holding of said meeting. The City Clerk attests to the posting of the agenda pursuant to G.C. §54954.2.

The meeting was called to order by **Mayor Couchman** @6:00 PM

**PRESENT:** Couchman, Kastner-Jauregui, Nava, Noriega, Wharton  
**ABSENT:** None

Invocation was offered by **Pastor Mike Neciuk, El Redentor Church**

Pledge of Allegiance was led by **CM Noriega**

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was **approved** as submitted. m/s/c Nava/Noriega 5-0

**2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES/COMMENTS**

- a. **Pastor Neciuk**, Pastor of El Redentor Church, invited everyone to their annual Thanksgiving Dinner today starting at 7pm at the church.
- b. **Ryan Kelley**, Imperial County Supervisor for District 4, informed the City Council that the County had the first reading of their Marijuana Ordinance for medicinal recreational and industrial hemp and mentioned that there would be another discussions on associated planning fees; he also informed the City Council that they extended some of their community benefit loans that include Silverdale Cheese; Public Hearings were held for a fire station and sheriff substation, a cool center in Niland and Infrastructure Improvements in Seeley and waiving permit fees for the Desert Shores Key Project
- c. **Kay Pricola**, Brawley resident commended the Interim Police Chief for his help with abandoned vehicle abatement. She commented that people often don't like to report their neighbors and that there should be an automated system for reporting. She recommended the County's pothole reporting system. She mentioned that old Highway 111 needs repairs and that the public should be notified quickly of how the City plans on spending the relinquishment funds.
- d. **Roy Livingston**, Brawley resident, urged the City Council to move forward with the Main Street striping project.
- e. **Mayor Couchman** announced that he was wearing a Central Union High School Spartan T-shirt as part of a personal bet he had with **Mayor Alex Cardenas** of El Centro for losing the Bell Game.
- f. **Brawley Police Officer Juan Morales** was introduced by Interim Police Chief Kelly Brown.
- g. **Accounting Assistant Giovanna Lira** was introduced by Finance Director Ruby Walla.
- h. **Michael Walla**, Parks & Recreation Commissioner, informed the City Council of a discussion he had with a Parks & Recreation employee regarding the state of public restrooms in City parks. The employee shared that the open hours of the restrooms are from 7am to 10pm. During those times, City staff respond to a variety of issues including stolen toilet paper, graffiti and holes in restroom walls. The recommendation from the Parks & Recreation Commission is to reduce the hours from 3pm to 10pm.

**Mayor Couchman** mentioned that the damage at the Meserve Park restroom was also brought to the attention of the City Council and City Manager. This appeared to occur outside of school hours.

**CM Nava** suggested that signage of hours of operation could be beneficial.

**CM Noriega** reminded the City Council that the restroom operation hours are a touchy subject as the hours were extended after complaints of public urination near residential areas. Therefore, if the decision is to reduce the hours of operation, there should be communication to the public as to why the hours are being reduced.

**Mayor Couchman** expressed his concerns and mentioned that perhaps there should be some evaluation of the hours of operations to best accommodate facilities and varying usage. He stated that maintaining the restrooms should be prioritized. He encouraged the public to inform City Staff and the Police Department when the restrooms are being vandalized.

- i. **Katie Luna**, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, spoke and presented the City Council with a Certificate of Appreciation for the City's support during Cattle Call.

**3. CONSENT AGENDA** Items are approved by one motion. Council Members or members of the public may request consent items be considered separately at a time determined by the Mayor.

The consent agenda was **approved** as submitted. m/s/c Nava/Kastner-Jauregui 5-0

**AYES:** Couchman, Kastner-Jauregui, Nava, Noriega, Wharton  
**NAYES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None  
**ABSTAIN:** None

- a. **Approved** Accounts Payable: October 13, 2017  
October 20, 2017  
October 27, 2017  
November 2, 2017  
November 9, 2017
- b. **Approved** Resolution No. 2017-44: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Brawley, California Approving the Destruction of Specific Police Department Records, Documents and Papers, Pursuant to Sections §34090 of the Government Code of the State of California.
- c. **Approved** Resolution No. 2017-45: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Brawley, California Declaring Certain Office Furniture and Equipment Previously Utilized by the Community Development Services Department as Surplus Property and Authorize the Donation to the Salvation Army or Similar Entity.
- d. Discussion and Potential Action to **Approve** Resolution No. 2017-46: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Brawley, California Amending the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 City of Brawley Budget for the Fire Department in the Amount of \$6,958.61.
- e. **Rejected** Claim as recommended by Carl Warren & Company Claims Management Adjusters for Raul Ayala.

**4. REGULAR BUSINESS**

- a. Discussion and Potential Action re: Brawley Youth Football Jr. Pee Wee's Request for Support to Travel to the National Championships in Kissimmee, Florida, December 2-10, 2017

**Coach Joe Lopez of Brawley Youth Football Jr. Pee Wee's** urged Council for their support to travel to Florida. Joe Lopez, Jr. read a letter to the City Council asking for their support.

**CM Kastner-Jauregui** stated that she is familiar with the organization which she thinks teaches more than just sports and suggested a donation should be given to the team from the City Council's travel budget.

The City Council **approved** a sponsorship to Brawley Youth Football Jr. Pee Wee's in the amount of \$250.00. The sum of \$50 will be taken from each Council Member's travel budget.

- a. Discussion and Potential Action to Approve a Five Year Contract with DSS Equature for Audio Recording Services in an Amount Not to Exceed \$35,045

**Interim Chief of Police Brown** informed the City Council that in 2010 the Brawley Police Department (BPD) conducted research into alternative recording systems for the Department's growing communications recording needs. In October of 2011 with the approval of the City Council, BPD entered into a five (5) year contract with DSS Equature. The initial contract expired in October of 2016 and the City has continued services without a contract for the past twelve months.

The City Council **approved** the five year contract renewal with DSS Equature for audio recording services in an amount not to exceed \$35,045. m/s/c Nava/Noriega 5-0

- b. Discussion and Potential Action to Approve Resolution No. 2017-47: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Brawley, California Amending the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 City of Brawley Public Works Budget and Authorize the Purchase of an Ultra Violet Analyzer for the City of Brawley Wastewater Treatment Plant

**Public Works Director Guillermo Sillas** informed the City Council that the current UV Disinfection System is operating in a manual mode because the existing analyzer is no longer operable.

The City Council **approved** the proposed budget adjustment and purchase of the Ultra Violet (UV) Analyzer for the Disinfection System at the Wastewater Treatment Plant in the amount of \$57,267.35. m/s/c Kastner-Jauregui/Noriega 5-0

- c. Discussion and Potential Action to Accept Caltrans Relinquishment of the Eastern Segment of State Route 78 between Best Road and Eastern City Limits.

**PWD Sillas** stated to the City Council that when Caltrans previously relinquished State Route 78 (SR 78) the proposed portion to be relinquished was in the County's jurisdiction. With the annexation of the Rancho Porter Subdivision in 2015, a portion of Route 78 remained in Caltrans right of way. Since this is a small area adjacent to the City's right of way and within City Limits, Caltrans has requested and City Staff concur that relinquishment is an appropriate and suitable arrangement.

**City Manager Rosanna Bayon Moore** informed City Council that we currently own the Northern half of the proposed portion to be relinquished.

**CM Noriega** inquired about the condition of the road.

**PWD Sillas** informed the City Council that the portion is not paved and is simply a right-of-way not an additional road.

**CM Bayon Moore** said it is akin to a shoulder which was mistakenly omitted with the Rancho Porter Subdivision.

**CM Noriega** added that she wants to make sure that it is not another road that would be added to a maintenance list as there are already complaints on existing streets that need to be addressed such as Legion Road.

**Planning Director Gordon Gaste** clarified that the additional right-of way would be widened by the Rancho Porter developers per City Standards.

The City Council **accepted** the Eastern Segment of State Route 78 from Caltrans. m/s/c Nava/Noriega 5-0

b. Discussion and Staff Direction re: Main Street Striping Project

Power Point Presentation presented by **Public Works Director Guillermo Sillas**

The top six projects were described as prioritized because they are time sensitive in terms of publication and/or deadlines for the expenditure of grant funds. He also mentioned that should the City Council direct to move in the direction of the Main Street Striping Project, the design process would begin after January 31, 2018 at the earliest and would likely conclude in June 2018.

**CM Wharton** emphasized the importance of not derailing the timeline of project with outside deadlines or specifications.

**Mayor Couchman** inquired about the cost of the project.

**PWD Sillas** stated that the approximate cost of the project would be about \$45,000 for basic striping.

**Mayor Couchman** also asked how many accidents have occurred at the location due to striping issues.

**Interim Chief of Police Brown** responded that there have not been any traffic collisions at that location.

The City Council **directed** staff to prioritize current projects and report back on status of current projects. Striping may be included in future projects. The City Council wishes to be notified if the striping becomes a safety issue.

c. Discussion and Staff Direction re: City Council Re-Organization Meeting Date

The City Council Re-Organization Meeting will be held on December 5, 2017 at 6pm.

## **5. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

a. Marjo Mello, Library Director re: Angel "T" Party on December 7, 2017

b. Guillermo Sillas, City Engineer and Public Works Director, re: Completion of Sidewalk Project

## **6. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

a. Record of Building Permits for September 2017, Prepared by Oscar Escalante, Interim Building Official

## **7. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS**

**Noriega:** Attended majority of Cattle Call Events, Meeting in Imperial Beach regarding Water Quality and Rehabilitation for the Tijuana River, Memorial Dedication at Clinicas Salud del Pueblo for Miguel Miranda, 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Environmental Health Leadership Summit, 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Mariposa Award Gala. Congratulated Mayor Couchman and Council Member Elect Luke Hamby on their elections. Hoop Shoot Basketball Program to be held at the Boys & Girls Club sponsored by the Elks Lodge in December. For more information, contact the Elks Lodge.

**Kastner-Jauregui:** Attended the Pioneer’s Memorial Healthcare District Dinner, MANA Las Primeras Event, Molina Health Care Dinner, League of California Cities Dinner in Calexico, Meeting in Imperial Beach regarding Water Quality and Rehabilitation for the Tijuana River with Senator Ben Hueso, Cattle Call Events and Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation awards dinner.

**Wharton:** Attended Pioneer’s Memorial Healthcare District Gala, California League of Cities Dinner, Kick-Off at Paddy’s on the Rock and Cattle Call Events.

**Nava:** Attended Cattle Call Events, would like to commend the Brawley Police Department for all their help. Congratulations to Pat Dorsey on her retirement. Attended IVEDC Dinner and toured various City departments including the Wastewater Treatment Facility, Fire Station No. 2 and the Police Station to assist in acclimating Council Member Elect Luke Hamby.

**Couchman:** Attended Cattle Call Events, Imperial Chamber Mixer, Bell Game, Chamber Meeting, California League of Cities Dinner, 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Environmental Health Leadership Summit, IVROP Career Meeting, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District Gala, dedication of Miguel Miranda at Clinicas Salud del Pueblo, MANA Las Primeras Awards, Elks Rib Cook-Off, El Centro Rotary Meeting, IVEDC Annual Dinner. Toured Brawley Welding Class for IVROP and joined Community Valley Bank Cattle Call breakfast. Commended all City Staff for their hard work during Cattle Call Week.

**8. CITY TREASURER’S REPORT**

a. City of Brawley Investment Activity Report as of September 30, 2017.

**9. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

a. There are vacancies on a number of City Boards and Commissions. The City Clerk will be reaching out to the City Council regarding advertising and solicitation efforts to fill the positions.

**10. CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT**

a. Tenants of the Brawley Mobile Home Park have received payments as part of the relocation assistance plan.

**11. CITY CLERK’S REPORT** None to report.

**12. CLOSED SESSION**

a. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956:  
One (1) potential case.

**ADJOURNMENT** @ 7:56pm

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**Alma Benavides**, City Clerk