

**CITY OF BRAWLEY**  
**April 3, 2018**

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 Nava** @6:00 PM

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

Invocation was offered by **Mike Necuik, El Redentor Church**

Pledge of Allegiance was led by **CM Kastner-Jauregui**

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES/COMMENTS**

a. **Ryan Kelley**, Imperial County Supervisor District #4, informed the City Council about Salton Sea Restoration efforts that are taking place and the upcoming Marijuana Lottery for which there are 26 applicants.

**3. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS**

a. Proclamation Celebrating National Library Week in the City of Brawley on April 8- 14, 2018

**Mayor Nava** read and proclaimed the week of April 8-14, 2018 as National Library Week in the City of Brawley.

The Brawley Library Board of Trustees were in attendance to accept the Proclamation.

b. Certificate of Appreciation Presented to Maria Mercado, Library Aide, for 20+ Years of Service to the Brawley Public Library.

**Judy Grant**, Library Board of Trustee's Secretary, presented Maria Mercado with flowers and a gift card. Mayor **Nava** presented Maria Mercado with a Certificate of Appreciation.

c. Certificate of Recognition Presented to Juan Carlos Alvarez and Michelle Aguilar for Reading 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten to their Children, Emma and Luna Alvarez.

**Javierrey Katzenstein** presented Juan Carlos Alvarez and Michelle Aguilar with a gift basket and Mayor Nava presented Juan Carlos Alvarez and Michelle Aguilar with a Certificate of Recognition.

**4. 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 Couchman/Wharton 5-0

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

- a. **Approved** Accounts Payable: March 19, 2018  
March 22, 2018
- b. **Adopted** Resolution No. 2018-13: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Brawley, California Amending Fiscal Year 2017/2018 City of Brawley Budget for the Fire Department in the Amount of \$20,362.04.
- c. **Adopted** Resolution No. 2018-14: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Brawley, California Allowing a Six-Month Demonstration Period that Allows Outdoor Signage and Sidewalk Sales in City Right of Way Described as 5th Street in the Downtown Specific Plan Area.
- d. **Approved** Final Parcel Map (PM17-01) - 1500 Block of River Drive.

#### **5. REGULAR BUSINESS**

- a. Discussion and Potential Action to Award Contract to George Mitchell Builders Inc., for Project No.201802 Senior Center Improvements Project in the Amount of \$203,116.17, authorize a 10% contingency for a total amount of \$223,427 .79 and authorize the City Manager to execute all documentation in relation to this project.

The City Council **approved** the contract with George Mitchell Builders Inc. for the Senior Center Improvements Project in the Amount of \$203,116.17. m/s/c Kastner-Jauregui/Couchman 5-0

- b. Discussion and Potential Action to:
  - i. Adopt Resolution No. 2018-: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Brawley, California Declaring an Emergency, Ratifying Action Taken by the City Manager and Approving Emergency Repair of a Collapsed Manhole on the South Side of Shank Rd. between Railroad Tracks and Slider Rd.

The City Council **approved** Resolution No. 2018-15: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Brawley, California Declaring an Emergency, Ratifying Action Taken by the City Manager and Approving Emergency Repair of a Collapsed Manhole on the South Side of Shank Rd. between Railroad Tracks and Slider Rd. m/s/c Couchman/Kastner-Jauregui 5-0

- ii. Adopt Resolution No. 2018-: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Brawley, California Amending Fiscal Year 2017/2018 City of Brawley Budget for the Public Works Department - Wastewater Enterprise, Wastewater Collection in the amount of \$30,575.54.

The City Council **approved** Resolution No. 2018-16: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Brawley, California Amending Fiscal Year 2017/2018 City of Brawley Budget for the Public Works Department Wastewater Enterprise, and Wastewater Collection in the amount of \$30,575.54. m/s/c Couchman/Kastner-Jauregui 5-0

- c. Discussion and Potential Action to Approve a Work Authorization of The Holt Group, Inc. for Pilot I Flying J Travel Center Expedited Plan Check Review Services for Offsite Improvements in an Amount Not to Exceed \$25,000 with 100% Cost Recovery from the Developer.

**Guillermo Sillas, Public Works Director** provided background information on the project and explained that the developer's request for expedited review necessitates the City securing outside plan check services. The cost of plan check fees will be fully recovered from the Developer.

The City Council **approved** the Work Authorization from The Holt Group, Inc. for Pilot/Flying J Travel Center Expedited Plan Check Review Services for Offsite Improvements in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 with 100% Cost Recovery from the Developer. m/s/c Kastner-Jauregui/Couchman 5-0

- d. Discussion and Potential Action to Authorize the Temporary Positions of Code Enforcement Officer and Communications Associate on a 6 Month Basis, Adopt Resolution No. 2018- : Resolution of the City Council of the City of Brawley, California Amending Fiscal Year 2017/2018 City of Brawley Budget for Building Inspections in the Amount of \$23,dcxs791 and Adopt Resolution No. 2018- : Resolution of the City Council of the City of Brawley, California Amending Fiscal Year 2017/2018 City of Brawley Budget for City Manager in the Amount of \$23.791.

**Shirley Bonillas, Personnel and Risk Management Administrator**, reviewed the proposed positions and associated costs.

**CM Couchman**, asked inquired where these funds are coming from for these positions. He commented that the two positions should be considered on a trial basis. He reserves the right to not be in favor of permanent positions as new positions have been a point of contention in the past.

**CM Bayon Moore**, informed the City Council that these funds would come from the General Fund Reserve.

**CM Wharton**, stated to the City Council that the budget is now under review for the next fiscal year.

**CM Kastner-Jauregui**, said that she would like to review the budget prior to making any decisions on these two positions.

**IBO Escalante**, informed the City Council of what the new Building Inspector would be responsible for and what the Code Enforcement Officer process looks like.

**Mayor Nava**, stated that the level of focus and attention of a Code Enforcement Officer is different than that of a Building Inspector. A Code Enforcement Officer would resolve issues quicker as they have the availability to actively engage with property owners.

**CM Hamby**, said that he would like the Social Media position to be vetted further as there is the potential for damage done to the City by disgruntled individuals.

**P&R M Bonillas** informed the City Council of past issues, referred to potential Brown Act concerns and the need for regular monitoring.

The City Council **approved** Resolution No. 2018-17: Resolution of the City Council of the City of Brawley, California Amending the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 City of Brawley Budget to incorporate a temporary Code Enforcement Officer position on a 6 month trial basis. m/s/c Hamby/Couchman 5-0

The Council **gave** direction to staff to bring back the Communications Associate Position Job Description along with the Social Media Policy.

- e. Discussion and Potential Action to Establish a Downtown Ad Hoc Committee.

This item was **tabled** to a later date.

- f. Request for Dedication of 45% of Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Revenues to Brawley Chamber of Commerce for Three Years, by Katie Luna, Executive Director.

**Power Point Presentation \* - Katie Luna, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director and Dr. Kathleen Lang.**

Discussion was held between Chamber of Commerce Representatives and the City Council as it relates to the amount requested by the Chamber. The City Council suggested that more modest request be provided and suggested that request would be considered as part of scheduled budget workshops.

**CM Bayon Moore** presented data on the contributions of other municipalities in the area towards their local Chamber of Commerce. A list of the last 10 years of contributions to the Chamber was provided.

**Eric Reyes, Brawley resident,** commented that he believes that the Chamber of Commerce is asking for too much money. The argument should be made in the context of the entire budget to examine City services that will be impacted such as Police, Fire and Parks/Recreation. He offered that another way to assist the Chamber is to raise the Transient Occupancy Tax and use additional funds generated towards the City.

**Mayor Nava,** asked City Attorney Bill Smerdon if the tax is raised if funds can be designated for Chamber use.

**CA Smerdon** stated that the only time a City can increase taxes is when City Council seats are up for election. In this case, it will be till 2020. If funds are to be designated to the Chamber, a 2/3rds vote would be necessary.

This item was **tabled** for further discussion to the Budget Workshop of April 23, 2018.

- g. Request for Sponsorship of MAG Coalition's Sneaker Ball on April 14, 2018 at Gobi's Restaurant by Yulil Alonso-Garza, Founder.

The City Council **authorized** to purchase individual tickets versus a table.

## **6. DEPARTMENTAL REPORT**

- a. Monthly Staff Report for April 2018 - Prepared by Shirley Bonillas, Personnel & Risk Management Administrator.
- b. Record of Building Permits for February 2018 - Prepared by Oscar Escalante, Interim Building Official.

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

**Wharton:** Attended League of Cities Dinner, Mega Mixer for REACH and had the SCAG Board as guests, Ag Expo Mixer and saw photographs of the lighting efforts at the Brawley Airport.

**Kastner-Jauregui:** Attended the SCAG Dinner, REACH Mega Mixer Event, City of Brawley Employee's Banquet and Brawley Main Street Rally.

**Couchman:** Attended the Mega Mixer for Reach Event, Energy Summit, Chamber of Commerce Meeting, Easter Egg Hunt at Pat Williams Park. Commended Public Works, Fire, Police, Animal Control and Parks and Recreation Departments for their efforts in this event and complimented Public Works on the Bus Shelter installation project.

**Hamby:** Attended the League Dinner, Brawley Main Street Rally, Mega Mixer at REACH and Ag Expo. Met with community members and business owners regarding dumpsters and weeds around town.

**Nava:** Was at the presentation in behalf of the City for Pioneers Memorial Health Care District and would like to send thoughts and prayers out to the families of those affected by the NAF helicopter crash in Plaster City.

**8. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- a. Work on FBO solicitation.
- b. Future presentation on CalPERS funding status is planned.
- c. A City presentation on development opportunities is scheduled with the Imperial County Association of Realtors.
- d. NoCCCA has interest in a potential event along the 6<sup>th</sup> street corridor for an outdoor, art based event.
- e. The City of El Centro is urging local municipalities to join in their efforts re: the Spectrum blackout.
- f. Communication was received from Assembly Member Garcia to consider a letter of support for AB 2208.

**9. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT** None to report.

**10. CITY CLERK'S REPORT** None to report.

**ADJOURNMENT** @ 8:45 pm

---

***Alma Benavides***, City Clerk