

City of Williams

Council Minutes

810 E Street/P.O. Box 310, Williams, CA 95987

SPECIAL CLOSED SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 23, 2011

5:30 P.M.

CLOSED SESSION

At 5:30 p.m., Council met in Closed Session to hold a conference with Real Property Negotiators, pursuant to Section 54956.8 for property to support the Water Treatment Facility. The Agency Negotiator was City Administrator Bergson, the negotiating parties were the City of Williams and an agent of the property owner. Under negotiation were price and terms of payment. Present at this session were Mayor Plachek-Fulcher, Mayor Pro Tem Troughton, Jr., Council Members Ash, Barker and Sellers, Jr., and City Administrator Bergson. Council provided direction to Staff.

ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING

6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Ash, Don Barker, Angela Plachek-Fulcher, Alfred Sellers, Jr., John Troughton, Jr.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Bergson, City Administrator
Rex Greenbaum, Finance Officer
Sally Barker, City Treasurer
Wes Gorforth, Public Works Director
Jim Saso, Police Chief
Gary Price, Interim Planning Manager
Sue Vannucci, Deputy City Clerk

Mayor Plachek-Fulcher called the adjourned regular meeting of the City Council to order at 6:05 p.m., and led those in attendance the Pledge of Allegiance.



PUBLIC COMMENT

Lorraine McHugh from Williams said she had spoken with Engineer Speers regarding the park. The property owners are concerned about the fence that is five feet away from the private fence and who is going to keep the weeds down. Mayor Plachek-Fulcher said Public Works will be maintaining the property. Ms. McHugh asked why the fence was put in at a cost of \$10,000 and feels there is no need for the additional fence. Ms. Speers had said this is all that they will be doing to upgrade the park and she wants to know why they are not doing more. Public Works Director Goforth said the park is almost complete. Mayor Plachek-Fulcher said the upgrades were done with grant money and asked what else the citizens want to be done. Director Goforth said there was to be a playground area and trees. Council Member Barker said a gazebo and a second apparatus was also to go in. This needs to be done in stages because of funding. Mayor Plachek-Fulcher said the other parks are being done in stages as funding becomes available. Council Member Barker said the fence is to keep the kids from running out into the street. Ms. McHugh said if that is the extent of what is to be done, the backhoe that has been sitting there for several weeks needs to be removed now. Director Goforth said it had been stored at the Public Works Yard and he will check on this.

Lloyd Green of the Williams Pioneer Review had sent a letter about the "Back Then" article and new prohibition by the Museum of borrowing of the research documents needed for these articles. He would like input from the Council on the decision by the Museum staff. The paper feels these articles are important and well-liked by the citizens and he wants to continue publication. He distributed a letter from the previous owner of the paper, Andrea Moore. They want to continue the article and will be working on efforts to keep it going. He asked that the Council liaison discuss this issue with the Museum Board.

Fire Chief Gilbert gave a briefing on the tornado that came through the City today. It started at Davis Road, hit a trailer, and went through the County Yard. Three houses in the City were damaged. As Office of Emergency Services Coordinator, he and Chef Saso will be keeping us updated on events. Chief Saso will be OES Coordinator this weekend while Chief Gilbert is out of town.

CONSENT

On a motion by Council Member Ash, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Troughton, Jr., and carried unanimously, Council adopted the following Consent items as presented:

MINUTES

Council adopted the minutes of the regular meeting of the Council held on February 16, 2011.



TREASURER'S INVESTMENT REPORT

Council received the Treasurer's Report for January 2011.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Council received the Financial Report for January 2011.

OLD BUSINESS

PROJECT 11-12 - PARKS IMPROVEMENT – CONTRACT AMENDMENT

City Administrator Bergson briefed Council on the background of the Parks Improvement Project to be funded with Proposition 40 funds. Cost has been determined with the Contractor and any project change that exceeds 25% must return to Council for approval. Costs have been compared and verified. Mayor Plachek-Fulcher said if we need to go back out we will lose our funding.

On a motion by Council Member Ash, seconded by Council Member Barker and carried unanimously, Council approved changes to the Parks Improvement Contract as indicated on Reports List A; authorized a Change Order in the amount of approximately \$97,149 to Project 11-12; directed accomplishment of such changes.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 11-09 – CalTrans TRANSPORTATION PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION, FISCAL YEAR 2011-12

City Administrator Bergson said this is an application for a planning grant to enhance the main thoroughfares of the City. The grant will be submitted by the end of this month. Interim Planner Price said the funds will not be provided immediately. The City will be developing a vision Plan for the improvements. By attending to these issues at this time, The City will be in a good place to be considered for other grants. Businesses will be identified that have to potential to do well in our community. The Plan creates a streetscape plan, multi model facilities, vehicles, bicycles, transit facilities, buses, a component for private improvements on private property such as renovation of businesses and vacant properties. The grant provides up to \$300,000 and the City is considering approximately \$133,000 with a 10% cash match, some of which can be in the form of staff work, and other percentages from other funds. We have found an agency that will put the grant together at no charge.



Mayor Plachek-Fulcher said the grant, if received, will assist in the creation of a plan for further needs of the City. Much of the processes will not have outward signs of change, but will be internal development and planning. Planner Price said it can take up to two years to get funding. CalTrans will be able to see that we are interested in doing this.

Mayor Pro Tem Troughton, Jr. asked if we apply for the money to do the work, will there be certain requirements to qualify for the grant according to what Plan submitted. Planner Price said the Plan will answer those questions, where the bike lanes will be, the light standards, etc. There was some interest expressed in creating a community square. Mayor Pro Tem Troughton, Jr. asked what money will be available in the transportation grants to fund the actual projects. Planner Price said there has been quite a bit of money available in the past. There will be a 7.5% match of \$10,000. If we request more we fall out of the competition in general. We are trying to have something that is acceptable to the Council.

On a motion by Council Member Barker, seconded by Council Member Ash and carried unanimously, Council adopted Resolution 11-09, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Williams Authorizing the Application, Acceptance and Execution of a Transportation Planning Grant from the State of California, Department of Transportation", in the amount of \$133,000 to revitalize old Highway 99 West and E Street through the downtown.

USE OF FACILITIES – EDDIE JOHNSON HEART DISEASE FUND – SKATE PARK

City Administrator Bergson introduced the item and said this request is for use of the Old Gym for an informational meeting on a proposed skate park. The cost for staff will be nominal for setting up and taking down chairs.

On a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Troughton, Jr., seconded by Council Member Ash and carried unanimously, Council authorized the Eddie Johnson Heart Disease Fund to use the Old Gym Facility on March 26, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon for a public forum for a proposed skate park complex on Virginia Way and waived any fees for such use.

COUNTY OF COLUSA – PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

City Administrator Bergson presented the item and indicated the rationale regarding continuance of the Public Transportation System through the Joint Powers Agreement. He said Barbara Salazar from the County of Colusa, is here



to answer any questions. In order to use the funds the City needs to have a system in place. The County initiates, and funds not used are divided between the County and Cities. Our City recently received \$180,000 from the County to pay for the Husted Road rehabilitation and sidewalk repairs scheduled for this year. Staff is requesting renewal of the JPA for a period of 5 years.

Mayor Pro Tem Troughton, Jr., asked Ms. Salazar for a total budget, and she said the amount is \$940,000 per year. There are five 19 passenger buses and two wheelchair units and the average ridership is 150 to 250 per day among the 5 buses. They have a shop mechanic on staff as well. All fares are collected as revenue at about \$70,000 which goes into the transit fund and is part of the \$940,000 received. It costs about \$20 per rider and Mayor Pro Tem Troughton, Jr. said that seems somewhat excessive. He asked if they have a mandate to qualify for the funds and Ms. Salazar indicated to the affirmative. They have considered smaller vans as the price of gas is going up and they did have a van that was not wheelchair accessible. There is a perception that the bus goes by empty of passengers a great deal of the time. With smaller busses, should they not have adequate room to pick up riders, they would need to change buses to accommodate people that were not anticipated. It is all very coordinated. The Board made the decision to purchase all vehicles that were the same so they would not be swapping out. They also transport packages, flowers, prescriptions, etc. that also generate fares. They have capacity and data numbers, each bus tracks everything and it is tallied every day. The Williams Express is one of the busses. The Arbuckle bus is the second and goes four times per day. They have just taken on the Maxwell route and it does not have a lot of passengers yet. They pick up people that may need to go to school in another school area. They do not automatically go to Princeton for example unless called. At the end of November the migrants leave and do not come back until February. There was no work in some years so many do not come back at all. The longest trip is Yuba City or Stoneyford and we pay \$20 to haul every one of the passengers. Mayor Pro Tem Troughton, Jr. would like to see more street work rather than \$20 per head to bus people from Williams to Colusa. If you have five busses and 200 people how many trips is that. How much of the maximum do we actually haul on those buses each day. If we made four trips with 19 that would be 76 and he does not believe we are hauling that many per day.

Mayor Pro Tem Troughton, Jr. said we exceed the mandated requirements. He asked if we need to go beyond that mandate. A person who lives five or six miles out of town, the bus goes out to pick up a person and bring them back to town which increases the cost dramatically. He feels the cost is excessive. The Transportation Commission should look into other alternatives, such as a private concern that would save money. Ms. Salazar said there are times the bus has been full and we have had to turn them away for the next bus.



There has been a very big increase in the ridership since the new College has opened. She will provide figures on the increase. The 10:25 increased by 8 riders, but some have dropped due to schedule changes. Service is not provided in the evening so some normal riders have started taking their car. Since Mercona took over Countryside, they are sending their people twice per month and they fill the busses, as there are 10 in a bus with wheelchairs. We are moving people and if we continue with Mercona, the bus would be full and other passengers would have to take the next bus. The scheduling changes every day. She went over the statistics on the handout given to the Council. If there are no passengers, the drivers are told to pull over and not waste gas. They must have a certain number to purchase the bus. She will provide additional the figures as Council has indicated. They do need more riders. Those riding to Yuba City are funded elsewhere. Parents pay for student riders. Hauling packages helps them to meet their fare loss equation. The money is given to provide transportation.

On a motion by Council Member Barker, seconded by Council Member Ash, and carried unanimously, Council approved renewal of the Joint Powers Agreement with the County of Colusa, the City of Colusa and the City of Williams for a Public Transportation System, effective April 22, 2011 through April 22, 2016.

Mayor Pro Tem Troughton, Jr. would like to explore some other options as he feels the City needs funds for our infrastructure.

REPORTS:

City Attorney	Absent.
Deputy City Clerk	Nothing to report.
City Treasurer	Sally summarized Treasurer's Investment Report.

COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Council Member Sellers	Attended the Colusa County Regional Medical Center meeting. Their main point is that the budget year will be tight but will put into effect rates at 15%. The Williams clinic visits were good but below budget. He attended One-Stop meeting where they discussed an outstanding loan they will try and rectify before instituting legal action. Some small business loans are available.
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Council Member Ash

She attended a Fire Board meeting last night. The Citizens for a Better Williams installed new signs at the railroad track crossing on E Street. There is to be a new banner in the town square. The Masons have approved them to put a mural on their building. Volunteers are needed to help paint the North wall. The pool table belonging to Mr. Williams was in Port Angeles, went to Iowa, and is now in Kentucky. The owner has made contact with Mr. Williams's granddaughter and she does want the table. If it doesn't come back, lithographs will be shipped to the family.

Council Member Barker

He met with the City Administrator.

Council Member Troughton, Jr.

He met with all of the Administrators, the Fire Board and the Finance Committee.

Council Member Plachek-Fulcher

She attended a Finance Committee meeting where Brandis-Tallsman advised them what the City can afford. She met with a CalTrans District Supervisor on the Highway 20 re-configuration.

STAFF GENERAL REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:

City Administrator

He attended a LAFCO meeting; met with Financial Advisor, Marina Sloan who did a profile of taxes received. He opened the bids for the Husted Road project. There were nine bidders and they were under the projected budget. There was a Treatment Plant finance meeting and they are on target on the budget. The Grand Opening for the facility will be done in July. The Housing Element draft was submitted to HCD and good comments were received. The Element is scheduled for adoption in May. The Airport Advisory Committee



discussed maintenance issues. There will be a meeting tomorrow to review house on the Museum site. The Antique Show went very well. He met with the Colusa Transportation Commission and the Finance Committee. He also met with owner of the old Arco site and there is a legal issue restricting the use of the property for 20 years whether he is in operation or not. That restriction indicated they cannot sell food or oil other than Arco and he will contact legal counsel for advice. The second organizational meeting for soccer is being held at the Old Gym this evening and a great deal of interest is expected.

Mayor Pro Tem Troughton, Jr. said Saturday morning it was found that the Museum is leaking badly and repairs are needed immediately. Council Member Ash said the estimate to repair the roof is \$50,000.

Police Chief

There were many people and members of the media out at the site of the funnel cloud. There was moderate damage to roof tops and a vehicle. Children were still in school which was a safety advantage. On April 14, at 6:30 in the Chambers there will be a community meeting with law enforcement from the Cities and County.

City Administrator Bergson reminded Council and staff there will be a meeting regarding the Redevelopment Agency next Wednesday.

Public Works

The storm last Sunday brought the creeks up to the top and another huge storm is expected tomorrow. Sandbags are available at the tower, behind U. S. Bank and at the Old Gym. The banner will not go up under after this storm over. At the Colusa Irrigation District meeting with the County in attendance it was determined that Agencies are ready for this storm. The storm on Sunday brought water up to Highway 20 ramp. There has been a



problem with P. G. & E when they switched a smart meter in that they did not tighten up the apparatus when replaced. The cost to us was \$1800 for the emergency pumps. He met with MCC Controls and they are writing us a letter on what happened so that we can submit it to P. G. & E. for reimbursement. Regarding the telephone pole, Engineer Speers has talked to P. G. & E. who have stated all crews are busy with the storms at this time and do not know when they will be able to handle the pole issue. On the Husted Road rehabilitation project we should have \$34,000 left over after engineering and inspection costs. Fifty thousand dollars goes to the sidewalks but there is more work anticipated above that amount.

Finance Officer

He met with the County regarding the Redevelopment Agency and has worked on property tax detail. He is still working on Smith Motel foreclosure, has spoken with the Attorney and will meet with opposing Counsel tomorrow. The City is trending as anticipated and we are right on track on our budgets.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:28 p.m., Mayor Plachek-Fulcher adjourned the adjourned regular meeting of the Council.

APPROVED:

ss: Angela Plachek-Fulcher,
Mayor

ATTEST:

ss: Susan L. Vannucci, Deputy City Clerk

Adopted by Council: May 18, 2011