

CITY OF WILLIAMS  
*Council Special Meeting Minutes*

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

CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
WORKSHOP  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2014

CALL TO ORDER:

At 4:31 pm, Mayor Ash called the special meeting of the Council to order.

ROLL CALL:

Council Members Present: Patricia Ash, Kent Boes, Alfred Sellers and John Troughton, Council Member Angela Plachek-Fulcher.

Staff Members Present: Interim City Administrator Jim Saso, Public Works Director Art DaRosa, Finance Officer Rex Greebaum, Building Director Debbie Rich, Office Assistant Mariana Pineda.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Ash invited all in attendance to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

**OLD BUSINESS:** City of Williams Sign Ordinance Discussion Workshop. Management Analyst Frank Kennedy introduced himself and stated he did not want to look back at what has happened before he wants to move forward from this point on. The City would like for owners to have striving businesses, but there will be rules and regulations that will be enforced. He asked the audience if they had a chance to look over the Sign Ordinance and if they had any suggestions as to what they thought needed to be changed.

Business owner Jorge Carmona spoke about Chapter 17.11.040 on our Municipal Code and had a question on this section of the chapter because the code states business owners have to pay for a permit to place a sign advertising their business which allows them sixty days to display the sign after that time period is over they will have their money refunded and will be able to apply for a new permit.

Code Enforcement Officer, Esther Corona said that we needed to review the ordinance and specify what a temporary and a permanent sign really is and how many times a year people can apply to have a temporary sign displayed.

Bertha Franco owner of Bertha's Gift Shop stated she was confused as to what her sign that she has had for twenty-one years is classified under temporary or permanent. She stated she puts her sign out every day and brings it in at the end of the day. Frank gave her some clarification by telling her if she has had that same sign for twenty-one years then that sign should be considered permanent.

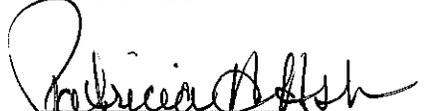
Council Member Troughton said that this problem could be eliminated by just permitting business owners to display their signs as long as they don't block the sidewalk and make it accessible for wheelchairs. Council Member Troughton also mentioned that it should be permitted because they pay for a business license and they should be allowed to advertise.

Cristian Villa Owner of Williams Hardware Store stated that business owners only want the City to make clear if they can have their signs out for advertisement. Villa said that in his case he has not been putting up sign that he normally would on a daily basis and he has seen that this is affecting his business. He stated that not having these signs out people don't know he has certain products for sale.

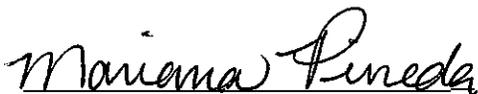
Council agreed that the Sign Ordinance is outdated and will be reviewed. Mayor Ash said this Ordinance needs to be simplified. Attorney Joshua Nelson told Council Members that he would research what other Cities are doing and see how that could be applied to the City of Williams. Mayor Ash asked for consensus from the Council Members to review this Ordinance and all agreed. There will be an extension granted to the business owners for their signs until further notice.

ADJOURNMENT: At 5:46 pm, Mayor Ash adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED:

  
PATRICIA ASH, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
Mariana Pineda, Deputy City Clerk

Adopted by Council: July 16, 2014