



## CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday April 13, 2021**

Present: Council Members Arturo De La Fuente, Vera Zavala, Mark Gourneau, Sophia Sotelo, Diana Castaneda, Mayor Laura Vazquez, City Attorney James Carmody, City Clerk Sylvia Sanchez, City Treasurer Jamison Horner, Police Chief David Marks

Absent: Fire Chief Luke Cussins

1. Call to Order Time: 7:00pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence and Roll Call
3. Vote on the Meeting Agenda

There was a motion by Mark and a second by Arturo to approve the Meeting Agenda. Approved 5-0

4. **Consent Agenda** (The following will be enacted by one motion. There will be no discussion separate of these items unless a Council Member requests separate discussion. The item will be removed from the Consent agenda and added to New Business.)
  - A. Approve Study Session Minutes for Tuesday March 23, 2021
  - B. Approve City Council Meeting Minutes for Tuesday March 23, 2021
  - C. Approve Payroll Warrant Register April 13, 2021 Number #12006 & EFT in the amount of \$29,515.14
  - D. Approve Claim Voucher/Payment April 13, 2021 Number #12007 to #12042 & EFT in the amount of \$50,492.55

There was a motion by Mark and a second by Diana to approve the Consent Agenda. Approved 5-0

## 5. New Business

### A. Approval of Resolution 2021-06 Authorizing the Mayor to Sign an Updated Ballot Drop Box Property Use Agreement

There was a motion by Mark and a second by Diana to approve Resolution 2021-06. Approved 5-0

## 6. Staff Reports

City Treasurer Jamison wanted to update council on the COVID Emergency in regard to utility accounts. She explained that Governor Inslee has extended the prohibition on shutoffs and late fees until July 31<sup>st</sup> or if the State of Emergency lifting. As of now we have 58 accounts that would be shut off if not for the state of emergency. This total is in the amount of \$71,643.57. Most of the accounts are less than six months behind. There are 20 more than 6 months which is only 3.5% of active accounts. There are only 3 accounts that have made no payments that should have been shut off in March of 2020. Those three accounts total \$8,484.16 of our past due total. There are 11 accounts that have not made any payments since the summer. Diana asked what would happen once we were able to do shut off again. Jamison explained that we hope that these people would come in and enter into an approved payment plan; as long as they stick to the payment plan in place they should be fine. If they do not then they will be shut off and could potentially end up having their property condemned as a result. Arturo asked how many of these past balances were renters. Jamison explained that she did not know the exact statistic but that she would try and figure that out. She did know that about \$5,000 of the past due balances was from one landlord who was trying their best but unable to pay because tenants had stop paying them. Many of these landlords take the money from the tenants paying rent to pay the water bill with.

City Attorney James Carmody added a couple things; he stated that he was working on a proposal for the purchase of the bank property to come through and take a look at the numbers. He also stated that he did have a meeting with a pretty big developer with the city and that will have some responses later on.

## 7. Mayor's Report

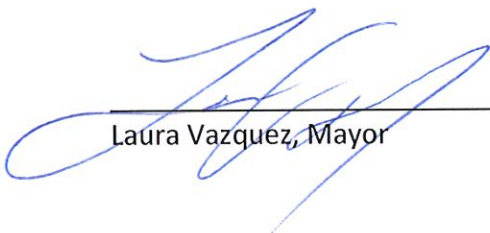
The mayor talked about a meeting with a major developer that would come in on South St. and Fern St. they were talking at length about lighting and street improvements etc. Sophia mentioned that we need to talk with the post office and see if there is anything that they will require that we need to make sure the contractor pays for that improvement as well.

The mayor did pose a question, a question asked of her, for the attorney. She asked that when they go into Executive Session and someone is connecting virtually how do we ensure that there is no one in the vicinity with them. The attorney explained that this is a question that we

should be asking before the before we go into session, but it is everyone's responsibility to keep things secure. If this becomes an issue it is something that will need handled with that council member at some point.

8. Adjournment:

Time: 7:20pm



---

Laura Vazquez, Mayor



---

Joshua Roberson, Deputy City Clerk