



Visalia City Council

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Meeting Minutes - Final

Visalia City Council
707 W. Acequia
Visalia, CA 93291

Mayor Brian Poochigian
Vice Mayor Brett Taylor
Council Member Steve Nelsen
Council Member Emmanuel Hernandez Soto
Council Member Liz Wynn

Monday, November 4, 2024

7:00 PM

City Council Chambers

ROLL CALL

Rollcall

Present: Mayor Brian Poochigian, Vice Mayor Brett Taylor, Council Member Steve Nelsen, Council Member Emmanuel Hernandez Soto, and Council Member Liz Wynn

CALL TO ORDER REGULAR SESSION - 7:00 PM

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

SPECIAL PRESENTATION / RECOGNITION

1. Resolution of Commendation for 165th Anniversary of Four Creeks Lodge #94 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Grand Lodge

[24-0467](#)

Council Member Nelsen presented the Resolution of Commendation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

This is the time for people to comment on matters within the jurisdiction of the Visalia City Council. The Council asks that you keep your comments brief and positive. Creative criticism, presented with appropriate courtesy, is welcome.

This is the opportunity to address the Council on any matter of interest, whether on the agenda or not, other than the Consent Calendar.

People may comment one time during the evening for up to three minutes unless additional time is authorized by the Council. Each speaker will be allowed three minutes, and a timer will notify you when your time is expired. Please begin your comments by stating and spelling your name and providing your city of residence.

Civil Engineer Diego Corvera shared positive news regarding the Active Transportation Program Cycle 7 grant. The City submitted 4 applications and staff was recently notified that they were awarded 3 out of the 4 applications totaling \$19.5 million in project funding.

Fida Taha spoke regarding Palestine and the U.S. funding Israel and that those funds should be used here instead.

Efrain Becerra encouraged residents to participate in local government by attending meetings and vote in tomorrow's election.

Taylor Heine read a self-written poem about Palestine.

Mary Jo Estes thanked the Council for their hard work and dedication to the City.

Joel Moore stated that he was a proud resident of Visalia and that the Council has done a great job.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Council Members commented on the events and activities that they recently attended.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Consent Calendar items are considered routine and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these matters unless a request is made by a City Council Member and then the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar to be discussed and voted upon by a separate motion

A motion was made by Council Member Steve Nelsen, seconded by Vice Mayor Brett Taylor, to Approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Brian Poochigian, Brett Taylor, Steve Nelsen, Emmanuel Hernandez Soto, Liz Wynn

1. Authorization to read ordinances by title only.

[24-0381](#)

2. Authorization to Amend a Service Agreement - Authorize the City Manager to amend a Professional Services Agreement with Carahsoft Technology Corporation for technology assistance through Cellebrite Premium Services in the amount of \$130,562 through August 31, 2028. [24-0346](#)
3. Award a contract for Sulfatreat 410CHP media - Authorize the City Manager to award a 5-year sole source contract to Schlumberger Purification Solutions for the supply of Sulfatreat 410CHP media for the Water Reclamation Facility, not to exceed \$80,000 per year, totaling \$400,000 over the life of the contract. [24-0436](#)
4. Award Contract for Airfield Sweeper - Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract for the replacement of the airfield sweeper to GCS Environmental Services, Inc. for a total cost of \$430,688, of which \$385,999 will be paid through a previously awarded Federal Aviation Administration grant. [24-0451](#)
5. Authorize the City Manager to extend contract for Building Safety Plan Check and Related Services on an emergency basis to Interwest Consulting Group Inc, not to exceed \$600,000 for one year ending October 7, 2025 and appropriate an additional \$450,000 from the Building Safety Enterprise Fund. [24-0453](#)
6. Record Final Map and Reimbursement Agreement - Request authorization to record the final map for Victory Oaks Phase 2 Subdivision, located on the north side of Ferguson Avenue approximately 800 feet west of Demaree Street; and authorize the City Manager to execute the reimbursement agreement for Lot C dedicated with Victory Oaks Phase 1 for Park and Recreation Facilities. [24-0455](#)
7. Authorize Application and Acceptance of Grant Funds - Authorize staff to apply, accept, and appropriate grant funds from the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District in the amount of \$6,236 in to the airport fund. [24-0459](#)
8. Authorization of an Amendment and Extension to Professional Services Agreement - Authorize the City Manager to enter into an amendment with Brandley Engineering for engineering services associated with the acquisition of a replacement airfield sweeper in the amount of \$36,200, and extend the Professional Services Agreement with the City of Visalia to include the completion of the in-progress replacement airfield sweeper acquisition, pavement maintenance management plan, and new terminal design project. [24-0460](#)

9. Kaweah Health Transportation Alternatives Study Update - [24-0461](#)
Authorization to approve both the budget and scope revision to TJKM for the Kaweah Health Alternative Parking Study project, and appropriate an additional \$22,000 to the project as allocated by the Tulare County Association of Governments.

10. Record Carleton Acres Phase 1A Final Map - Request [24-0465](#)
authorization to record the final map for Carleton Acres Phase 1A subdivision, located one-quarter mile north of Riggins Ave between Shirk Street and Denton Street (73 lots).

REGULAR ITEMS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

Comments related to regular Items and Public Hearing Items are limited to three minutes per speaker, for a maximum of 30 minutes per item. The Mayor may reasonably limit or extend the public comment period to preserve the Council's interest in conducting efficient, orderly meetings.

1. Ordinance Adoption - A Public Hearing and First Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-11, a request by the City of Visalia to amend Visalia Municipal Code Section 12.48 "Special Events" by adding a definition for Street Frontage. [24-0448](#)

Tracy Robertshaw of Neighborhood Preservation provided a presentation regarding proposed changes to the municipal code regarding the definition of "street frontage" for Special Events.

Mayor Poochigian opened the Public Hearing at 7:28p.m

April Lancaster spoke in opposition to the proposed definition and the impact it would have on her Farmer's Market in the downtown and by limiting the location.

Michelle Kenner is part of the Farmer's Market and criticized the City regarding the lack of support for the Downtown Farmer's Market.

Remi spoke in support of the Farmer's Market and enjoys attending the event regularly.

Lisa Alvarado also attends the Farmer's Market and wants to see more support from the Council on the policies that impact it.

Ms. Rodriguez is a small business owner, and the Farmer's Market supports her livelihood and these events are very helpful to her and her family.

Maria Guillen provided her support of the farmers market.

Efrain Becerra requested that the City work with the Farmer's Market to reach an understanding and to support local businesses.

Duane Rodriguez stated that the Farmer's Market is poorly attended, and he encourages the City to limit the number of events.

Jacob Finley has participated at various Farmer's Markets and stated that this ordinance would limit this Farmer's Market and limit the business from operating there.

With no further comments, Mayor Poochigian closed the Public Hearing at 7:50 p.m.

Council Member Hernandez Soto inquired about the impact the proposed change would have on the Farmer's Market and if any other businesses would be affected.

Ms. Robertshaw stated also the Fox Theater and an Arts & Crafts vendor would

be impacted. The Farmer's Market would see a reduction in space because an alley in the area cannot be blocked.

Council Member Hernandez Soto expressed his opposition to the proposed change and feels like it is picking on the Farmer's Market specifically.

Council Member Wynn does not see this as limiting their space because they have enough room for the vendors. She would like to postpone a decision and have an opportunity to find a compromise for the Farmer's Market.

Council Member Nelsen spoke on the history of the Farmer's Market in Visalia. He stated that they were offered to have it at Recreation Park or at Garden Plaza but they said no. The Downtown Visalians also offered to help but they refused. Finding a compromise does not seem feasible since the Farmer's Market has not been willing to engage in finding a solution. He is in favor of the ordinance and believes that it is fair to the downtown business owners.

Vice Mayor Taylor is not opposed to staff's definition of street frontage.

Mayor Poochigian clarified that they are not losing the number of days of events, but just where the events can be located.

A motion was made by Council Member Steve Nelsen, seconded by Vice Mayor Brett Taylor, to approve as recommended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Brian Poochigian, Brett Taylor, Steve Nelsen, Liz Wynn

No: Emmanuel Hernandez Soto

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

1. Upcoming City Council Meetings

[24-0424](#)

Monday, November 18, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m. at 707 W. Acequia

Tuesday, December 3, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m. at 707 W. Acequia

Note: Meeting dates and times are subject to change, check posted agenda for correct details. In compliance with the American Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in meetings contact 713-4512.

Written materials relating to an item on this agenda submitted to the Council after distribution of the agenda are available for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk, 220 N. Santa Fe Street, Visalia CA 93292, during normal business hours.