

MINUTES
REGULAR SUCCESSOR AGENCY FOR THE FORMER
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY/CITY COUNCIL

May 28, 2013

City of Watsonville
Council Chambers
275 Main Street, 4th Floor

6:36 P.M. SESSION

1.0 ROLL CALL

Mayor Hurst, Mayor Pro Tempore Cervantez, and Council Members Bilicich, Coffman-Gomez, Dodge, Hernandez, and Montesino were present.

7.0 OLD BUSINESS

JOINT CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY
FOR THE FORMER REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

7.1 OLD BUSINESS

7.2 BUDGET STUDY SESSION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2015

(a) Staff Report

--General Fund

--Enterprise Funds

The report was given by Administrative Services Director Vega.

(b) City Council Questions

Administrative Services Director Vega, in answering Member Bilicich, stated that the Successor Agency was included in the report because the Council was also acting as the Successor Agency to approved funds remaining from the Redevelopment Agency.

Redevelopment and Housing Director Davison answered questions from Members Dodge and Bilicich regarding the funds remaining from the dissolution of the Redevelopment Agency. She explained that the Successor Agency and Successor Housing Agency funds were used to pay for exiting obligations. She answered questions regarding the responsibilities of the Oversight Board, the Successor Housing, and Successor Agency.

Fire Chief Bisbee answered questions from Member Bilicich regarding the operation of the ladder trucks with one less person.

Administrative Services Director Vega answered questions by Member Coffman-Gomez regarding Impact Fees.

Member Coffman-Gomez asked staff to find alternatives to keep the PAL program.

(c) Public Input

Bill Neighbors stated that the Fire and the Police Departments had done a lot for the community and should be preserved and police cars needed to be replaced. He stated the City should consider a tax increase and should have been done instead of Measure T.

Olivia Martinez, SEIU Representative, stated the City had continued to see a bad economy, and the City was misspending money. She stated Management should get cut to fund more staff.

Marged McNeally stated police and firefighters were more important than others employees.

Ilda Estrada, Finance, said she had received a lay off notice. She said there was a need for more accounting clerks not less.

Brett Taylor spoke against cutting police officers and firefighters.

Bob Cornell spoke about the Airport Enterprise Funds. He stated that there was activity at the airport that would compromise FAA funding.

Raeid Farhat asked Council to preserve police officers and firefighters and cut at the top.

Cory Schaeffer, Fire Captain and Union President, said the Request for Proposal was affecting the negotiations process. He stated reducing three-man crews to two would handicap rescues. He said the Fire Department needed to budget accordingly to avoid in a deficit.

Henry Robles spoke about the importance of preserving the Police and Fire Departments.

(d) City Council Discussion

Member Bilicich said she would not support the proposed budget, staff needed to find alternatives to fund the PAL Program, and Public Safety needed to be the first priority. She said that the bridge gap between SEIU and Management as mentioned by Olivia Martinez needed to be addressed.

City Manager Palacios stated that if all labor groups agreed to maintain concessions there would be no layoffs.

Member Bilicich suggested hiring more Fire Department staff to reduce overtime.

Mayor Pro Tempore Cervantez stated that a sales tax measure would be a good idea.

Member Coffman-Gomez said that the City must look for grants and other revenue sources.

Mayor Pro Tempore Cervantez said that it was important to plan for immediate, as well as long term action to adequately staff City without any more cuts. She said that the City should explore a tax revenue measure.

(e) **Appropriate Motion(s)--None**

10.1 INFORMATION ITEMS—Written Report(s) Only

11.0 ADJOURNMENT
10:33 p.m.



Lowell Hurst, Mayor/Chair

ATTEST:



Beatriz Vazquez Flores, City Clerk

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