CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

September 14, 2020

6:00 P.M.

Council Chamber

Meeting called to order by Mayor Bessinger Flag Salute led by Councilmember Flores

Roll Call:

Present:

Councilmembers Ashbeck, Flores, Mouanoutoua, Whalen

Mayor Bessinger

Absent:

None

ITEM 1 - 6:04 P.M. – PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 6TH AS "JASWANT SINGH KHALRA DAY".

Councilmember Mouanoutoua presented a Proclamation to Harman Singh declaring September 6th as "Jaswant Singh Khalra Day".

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

6:09 - CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Councilmember Ashbeck, seconded by Councilmember Flores, that the items on the Consent Calendar be approved. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 2. Finance Received and Filed Investment Report for the Month of May 2020.
- 3. Finance Received and Filed Treasurer's Report for the Month of May 2020.
- 4. Finance Approved **Res. 20-120**, Amending the 2020-2021 Budget to Reappropriate Carryover Funding from the 2019-2020 Budget.
- 5. Police Approved Authorize the Purchase of the Intrado Viper 9-1-1 Phone System for the Police Department Alternate (backup) Dispatch Site.
- 6. Public Utilities Approved Waive formal bidding requirements and authorize the purchase of a Grapple Truck off the Sourcewell Purchasing Contract from Nixon-Egli Equipment Company

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

ITEM 7 – 6:10 - APPROVED – FOR THE CITY COUNCIL TO PROVIDE POLICY DIRECTION REGARDING A REQUEST BY WILSON PREMIER HOMES FOR COUNCIL TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO BEGIN THE PROCESS TO AMEND THE CITY OF CLOVIS SPHERE OF INFLUENCE TO ALLOW FUTURE URBANIZATION OF APPROXIMATELY 825 ACRES NORTH OF SHEPHERD AVENUE GENERALLY BETWEEN SUNNYSIDE AVENUE AND NORTH CARSON AVENUE (BIG DRY CREEK DAM).

Senior Planner Ricky Caperton presented a report on a request for the City Council to provide policy direction regarding a request by Wilson Premier Homes for Council to authorize staff to begin the process to amend the City of Clovis Sphere of Influence to allow

future urbanization of approximately 825 acres north of Shepherd Avenue generally between Sunnyside Avenue and North Carson Avenue (Big Dry Creek Dam). On March 2, 2020, Council provided authorization to move forward with preparation of environmental studies for the expansion and urbanization of approximately 75 acres at the northeast corner of Shepherd and Sunnyside Avenues. Since then, the applicant put the project on hiatus through the Spring as a result of COVID-19. The applicant has recently decided to move forward again and requested to further expand the SOI boundary from what was previously considered to include an additional 750 acres, for a total of approximately 825 acres.

Ricky Caperton provided an update to the March 2, 2020 hearing, and requests Council's authorization to move forward with a revised SOI amendment to now include approximately 825 total acres rather than the approximately 75 acres previously requested. With the Council's concurrence, staff will schedule a public meeting to gather input from the owners in the revised SOI boundary, plus the Dry Creek Preserve area, before returning to the Council to consider a formal resolution initiating the SOI expansion application. Further details were provided in the letter of justification provided by the applicant's representative, Dirk Poeschel of Land Development Services, Inc.

Charles Kellis, area resident spoke in opposition to the proposal due to concerns with light, noise, traffic, and not wanting to be in the city. Dirk Poeschel, representing the applicant, spoke in support. Norman Morrison, area resident, spoke in opposition to the sphere expansion. Arakel Arisian, representing the Ricchiuti family, commented on the proposal. Jared Callister, area resident, spoke in opposition. Jan Kull, area resident, spoke in opposition. Discussion by the Council.

Motion by Councilmember Mouanoutoua, seconded by Councilmember Flores, for the Council to authorize staff to begin the process to amend the City of Clovis Sphere of Influence to allow future urbanization of property generally bounded by Shepherd Avenue to the south, Sunnyside Avenue to the west, Behymer Avenue to the north, and North Carson Avenue (Big Dry Creek Dam) to the east with further direction to provide noticing to the area being considered, the Dry Creek Preserve, and 800 feet south of Shepherd Avenue when items related to this project are being considered. Motion carried 4-1 with Councilmember Whalen voting no.

ITEM 8 – 7:40 - RECEIVED AND FILED – UPDATE ON THE CITY OF CLOVIS INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO STRATEGY

Deputy Finance Director Jeff Blanks presented an update on the City of Clovis Investment Portfolio Strategy. In accordance with the City's investment policy, as well as California Government Code sections 53601 and 53601.6, the City may invest its excess cash in a variety of investment instruments. The City currently invests in U.S. agency securities, certificates of deposit, and deposits with the California Local Agency Investment Fund, as well as an overnight sweep account with Union Bank. Due to the current interest rate environment, and in the interest of seeking greater yield (without sacrificing significant safety or liquidity), the City is seeking to invest in municipal bonds, which are allowable per the investment policy and the California Government Code. This change in strategy requires reporting to the City Council. There being no public comment, Mayor Bessinger

closed the public portion. Discussion by the Council. It was the consensus of City Council to receive and file the report.

COUNCIL ITEMS

ITEM 9 – 7:53 - RECEIVED AND FILED - CHANGE TO COUNCIL CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

City Attorney David Wolfe updated city council on recent changes to state law that requires council members to state they have a conflict of interest in an item should they arrive late or leave early from a council meeting. There being no public comment, Mayor Bessinger closed the public portion. Discussion by the Council. It was the consensus of City Council to receive and file the report.

ITEM 10 – 7:56 - APPROVED – DESIGNATION OF VOTING DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE FOR THE LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES' ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND BUSINESS MEETING ON OCTOBER 7-9, 2020.

Luke Serpa presented a report on a request to have council identify voting delegates for the for the League of California Cities' annual conference and business meeting on October 7-9, 2020. There being no public comment, Mayor Bessinger closed the public portion. Discussion by the Council. Motion by Councilmember Ashbeck, seconded by Councilmember Mouanoutoua, for the council to appoint Mayor Bessinger as the voting delegate and Councilmember Flores as the alternate. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ITEM 11 – 7:59 - APPROVED - THE LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES' ANNUAL RESOLUTION SET FOR APPROVAL AT THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON OCTOBER 7-9, 2020

City Manager Luke Serpa presented a report for the council to consider the League of California Cities' Annual Resolution set for consideration at the Virtual Annual Conference and Business Meeting held on October 7 – 9, 2020, and provide policy direction for voting delegate. Each year at the Annual Business Meeting of the League of California Cities, each city has a voting delegate to vote on various resolutions that will guide policy actions of the League Board of Directors. The City Council should review the annual resolution and provide policy direction to the City's voting delegate. The proposed resolution states that the League of California Cities should urge Congress to amend Section 230 of the Federal Communications Decency Act of 1996 (CDA) to limit the immunity provided to online platforms where their forums enable criminal activity to be promoted. Ultimately, the policy objectives proposed under this resolution, if enacted, would incentivize social media companies to establish and implement a reasonable program to identify and remove content that solicits criminal activity. Section 230 of the CDA immunizes websites from legal liability for the comments of their users. When Congress enacted Section 230 in 1996, it wisely recognized that holding websites legally responsible for user-generated content would cripple the rapidly developing online world. Section 230 defines Internet culture as we know it: It's the reason why websites can offer platforms for critical and controversial speech without constantly worrying about getting sued.

There being no public comment, Mayor Bessinger closed the public portion. Discussion by the Council. Motion by Councilmember Whalen, seconded by Councilmember Flores, for the council to direct the voting delegates to have discretion based on what they hear at the League of California Cities' annual conference on how they should vote on this item. That, as a city, we are expressing our support with the idea that we do our best to make online platforms hypersensitive to responses from law enforcement in identification and apprehension of persons that are using the services of the platforms to solicit and engage in criminal activity. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

WORKSHOP - 8:12

City Manager Luke Serpa provided Council an update on COVID-19 numbers in Clovis and Fresno County.

Mayor Bessinger adjourned the meeting of the Council to September 21, 2020

Meeting adjourned: 8:38 p.m.

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