

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MADERA CITY COUNCIL CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA

**April 1, 2015
6:00 p.m.**

**Council Chambers
City Hall**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting for 4/01/15 was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Oliver at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Pro Tem William Oliver
Council Member Charles F. Rigby
Council Member Andrew J. Medellin
Council Member Donald E. Holley
Council Member Derek O. Robinson Sr.

Absent: Mayor Robert L. Poythress
Council Member Sally J. Bompreszi

Others present were City Administrator David Tooley, City Attorney Brent Richardson, City Clerk Sonia Alvarez, Director of Community Development David Merchen, Director of Financial Services Tim Przybyla, City Engineer Keith Helmuth, Public Works Administrative Analyst Jason Rogers, Chief of Police Steve Frazier, Director of Parks and Community Services Mary Anne Seay, Director of Human Resources Wendy Silva, Grant Administrator Daniel Abdella, Information Services Manager Ted Uyesaka, Planning Manager Chris Boyle, Battalion Fire Chief Jim Forga, Parks and Community Services Business Manager Mark Etheridge, and Program Manager Grants Jorge Rojas.

INVOCATION: Pastor Lee Brooks, Eastside Church of God

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council Member Medellin led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The first fifteen minutes of the meeting are reserved for members of the public to address the Council on items which are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Council. Speakers shall be limited to three minutes. Speakers will be asked to identify themselves and state the subject of their comment. If the subject is an item on the Agenda, the Mayor has the option of asking the speaker to hold the comment until that item is called. Comments on items listed as a Public Hearing on the Agenda should be held until the hearing is opened. The Council is prohibited by law from taking any action on matters discussed that are not on the Agenda, and no adverse conclusions should be drawn if the Council does not respond to public comment at this time.

Don Williams, residing in Madera, California, stated he is here to talk about the condition of their public parks, medians, and islands in the City. He commented that in his neighborhood the maintenance has not occurred on their street since November / December last year. He contacted Parks and was told that their budget ran out after about 5 months and the fiscal year is July 1 to June 30th. He restated that the City maintained the area until they ran out of money which was early December. He stated he doesn't know why they have a budget shortfall and they didn't in 12/13 and 13/14. If they have a budget shortfall and they can only do 5 months of maintenance why don't they do July and August, skip the winter, and come back in April, May and June. Or if they spread it out just a little bit and if they are mowing every two

weeks, mow every three weeks. Or if they trim the trees every two years, trim them once every three years and just make do with what they can. He was also reading today in the news that the governor has issued a mandatory water restriction and he has declared a state of emergency and he has issued an edict. He commented that in this the governor is requiring that they replace 50 million square feet of lawn statewide with drought tolerant landscape and as part of a partnership with local governments. He stated that if they want to get rid of some of their high maintenance grass areas, get on the bandwagon with the state and get some of their money and make their City look like it should look; make it look nice. Mr. Williams stated he also read about the ban on watering of ornamental grass on public street medians. He is assuming that every median they have here in the City that has grass on it is going to die. His median has a combination of grass and palm trees. He asked that if they cut off the watering on grass what about the trees. Are they going to die or are they going to do separate drip to keep the trees going? He is just concerned with his neighborhood and everybody else here is concerned about the rest of the City but he is concerned with what he sees out his front door and that is what he has to say.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver thanked Mr. Williams for sharing his concerns. Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked for the opportunity, if Mr. Williams would like, after the meeting to meet with the Parks Director and perhaps even the City Manager to discuss those items further.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if anyone else would like to speak.

Lupe Rodriguez, residing in Madera, California, stated he is also here to speak about the park strips. They have sort of been going around and around back and forth; it's dry, it doesn't get fixed. He noted they have palm trees down his street and why they were planted there he has no idea but they were there when they bought the property and they were going to be maintained. He knows they pay some kind of a fee, he is not sure. He thinks it is a great idea that they get together with some of the City officials that have to deal with all that but he doesn't believe that they should let everything just die and just because there is no money for it. He stated that excuses are excuses. Everybody's got one. He suggested they work together and get something going on it. He is not sure what it was but there was a vote that people were supposed to vote for more money for the assessment districts that they all have. He noted that it is sort of convoluted the way it is. He is not sure who is on the assessment district; why the City employees are just working on certain areas in the district or in town. He stated there are just a lot of questions. He thinks, they, the elected officials are who they voted for to give them some answers. He is not here to put blame or whatever. They need to work together on this thing and get to a solution on this thing. He referred to what Mr. Williams just spoke about; ok we are going to have to let the median's grass go. Mr. Rodriguez commented that there is money out there that can be gotten and he knows the City is good at getting money when it is out there for some kind of a grant or whatever. He reads in the paper red line, everybody is complaining about this, that, how the City is falling apart or this is not working. He noted that is not their City. He has lived here all his life and he is proud of the City. He knows a lot of them that are up there that are in these positions that want the City to grow and make it look presentable to their children and to their schools and the whole thing. He wants to make sure that they work together on this. He has heard that they are going to have a little meeting after well he can't wait until this meeting is over. He was looking at the agenda and they have too much junk on there for him to wait.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated it is totally fine and perhaps Ms. Seay can share her business card with the two folks and they can follow up with subsequent conversations.

Mr. Rodriguez stated he appreciates that and added that the thing is though, he is speaking for his little Tragon Street. He and Don have talked and some other people that have talked but, it looks like it is going to be a bigger fish than they are talking about. He commented that it is the City as a whole. He asked that they just be aware that this is going to be a big thing. They are not just going to go away. He knows he is not just going to go away. He restated that they are ready to work together with the City, whatever they need. If it is money, he always believes come to them with a plan. Then they can look at it. They will discuss it and knock it around but he doesn't just want to have meeting after meeting after meeting because he's got other things to do. He thinks they can come to a good agreement on this. He thanked the Council.

City Administrator David Tooley stated that at Council's last meeting there was a discussion about this subject. They identified the need to get together with people in the neighborhoods. He noted that Council Members made a commitment that they were going to be involved in talking to people in the neighborhoods and finding solutions exactly as he described. Mr. Tooley stated that some of the people in the audience are his neighbors too so he knows who they are.

Mr. Rodriguez commented that it was at the last meeting, they were at this meeting, and they still haven't heard anything. He noted that the wheels turn slow but they don't turn that slow.

Mr. Tooley commented that actually there are a number of moving pieces in the puzzle. What they will do is that they will schedule a time that they can get together with the speakers at their convenience. They will walk through all the issues in the way the speakers described and they will work towards some solutions.

Mr. Rodriguez stated he just wants to make sure that it is not just his little section; it is the whole thing. He commented that the City really needs to take a look at this thing because it matters to a lot of people. He stated his appreciation for their time and thanked them.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver thanked Mr. Rodriguez for his comments and stated his appreciation.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if anyone else would like to address the Council at this time.

Geri St. Lucia, residing in Madera, California, stated she lives in the same vicinity as the other people that spoke. She wanted to address the same thing. She doesn't want to beat a dead horse but she understands that they are in a water shortage in the state and she understands if they have to stop watering the medians and the trees and the bushes but her concern is the areas have not been mowed or blown down or raked in probably 6 months. She added that the sidewalks are covered with debris and decomposing leaves that someone is going to slip and fall on. She commented that the weeds are knee high and it's disgusting. They don't live in a slum. If they are going to be proud of Madera then they need to take care of Madera. Whatever can be done to rectify the situation would be appreciated by the homeowners because their home prices will continue to fall and that is not far. They are taking care of their yards and the City should take care of medians in the public places. She also wants to say that she sent an email to every Council Member sitting here today and those absent and she did not have the courtesy to get one single response and that is very disappointing.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver thanked Ms. St. Lucia for her input.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if anyone else would like to speak. No other requests were made.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver extended the opportunity once again for staff to meet with these folks at another point to discuss those items further.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

PRESENTATIONS Cal OES Grant Award

Jorge Rojas, Program Manager for Grants, stated that the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) awarded the City's Transit Program with two grants totaling \$95,102. He advised that the funds originated from Proposition 1B and are intended to enhance the security of local transportation systems like the Madera Area Express (MAX). He commented that the City's previous awards provided almost \$250,000 for transit enhancements and allowed the City to install such features as fencing and a surveillance system at the Madera Intermodal Facility as well as onboard security cameras on every MAX bus. Mr. Rojas advised that staff intends to apply these new grants to provide security enhancements at the proposed joint use transit facility / public works yard currently in development. Mr. Rojas added that staff appreciates the assistance provided by the Cal OES Program and looks forward to their continued support. Mr. Rojas presented the ceremonial check to Mayor Pro Tem Oliver.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver thanked staff who worked very tirelessly on these applications specifically Daniel Abdella and Jorge Rojas. He knows they put in a great deal of effort and time and efficiency in going after these monies and making these things a reality. He added that obviously this money is going to go a long way as far as providing resources for their new transit facility and public works yard. He also commented that MAX bus is a tremendous service to their community so these funds will continue to help make that a reality. He thanked them for their efforts.

A. WORKSHOP

There are no items for this section.

B. CONSENT CALENDAR

- B-1 Minutes – 3/04/15
- B-2 Information Only – Warrant Disbursement Report
- B-3 Consideration of a Resolution Approving Amendment #2 to the Lease for Millview Community Center Between the City of Madera and the Community Action Partnership of Madera County and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the Amendment to the Agreement on Behalf of the City (Report by Mark Etheridge)
- B-4 Informational Report on Council Conference and Travel Budget (Report by Sonia Alvarez)
- B-5 Consideration of a Resolution Approving a Special Services Agreement between the City of Madera and Demsey, Filliger & Associates, LLC and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the Agreement (Report by Gina Daniels)
- B-6 Consideration of a Resolution Appointing Cynthia Ortegon, Dennis Smith, and Dana DeFranco to the City of Madera ADA Advisory Council (Report by Wendy Silva)
- B-7 Consideration of a Minute Order Rejecting a Claim Filed by Roman Garza (Report by Wendy Silva)
- B-8 Consideration of a Resolution Approving an Addendum to the Agreement with The Permanente Medical Group, Inc. for Pre-Employment Physical Examinations (Report by Wendy Silva)
- B-9 Consideration of a Resolution Designating and Authorizing the City Administrator or his/her Designees to Act on Behalf of the City of Madera to Execute Applications and Agreement for California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Financial Assistance (Report by Daniel Abdella)

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver announced that item B-3 will be pulled due to a possible conflict.

City Administrator David Tooley stated that the record should reflect that he has a financial conflict of interest due to his wife's employment. Mr. Tooley recused himself from this item.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if members of the Council wish to pull any other items from the consent calendar for further discussion.

Council Member Holley stated he will also remove himself on item B-3 because he sits on their board.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver announced he would entertain a motion to approve the consent calendar omitting item B-3.

ON MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER MEDELLIN, AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROBINSON, THE CONSENT CALENDAR, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ITEM B-3, WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 5-0. ABSENT: MAYOR POYTHRESS AND COUNCIL MEMBER BOMPREZZI.

RES. NO. 15-51 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA APPROVING A SPECIAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MADERA AND DEMSEY, FILLIGER & ASSOCIATES, LLC AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT

RES. NO. 15-52 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA APPOINTING CYNTHIA ORTEGON, DENNIS SMITH, AND DANA DEFRANCO TO THE MADERA ADA ADVISORY COUNCIL

RES. NO. 15-53 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA APPROVING AN ADDENDUM TO THE AGREEMENT WITH THE PERMANENTE MEDICAL GROUP, INC. FOR PRE-EMPLOYMENT PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

RES. NO. 15-54 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA DESIGNATING AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR OR HIS/HER DESIGNEES TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF MADERA TO EXECUTE APPLICATIONS AND AGREEMENTS FOR OBTAINING CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES (CAL OES) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Council Member Holley and City Administrator David Tooley exited the Council Chambers.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver moved to item B-3.

B-3 Consideration of a Resolution Approving Amendment #2 to the Lease for Millview Community Center Between the City of Madera and the Community Action Partnership of Madera County and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the Amendment to the Agreement on Behalf of the City (Report by Mark Etheridge)

Council Member Medellin stated he wanted to thank the Parks and Community Services Director Mary Anne Seay and staff on this particular item. He noted that the Community Action Partnership is a wonderful program and asset to the City and County of Madera. He is proud that they have a 20 year relationship with them. He is also proud of the fact that Ms. Seay and her staff have found some creative ways to work together with them. If they read the bottom of the report, she found an additional \$6,000 to put into their general fund. He extended kudos to Ms. Seay and her staff and also thanked the Community Action Partnership. He looks forward to at least another 20 years to come.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if there are any other comments or discussion on item B-3. There were no other comments and Mayor Pro Tem Oliver announced that he would entertain a motion for action as presented.

ON MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER MEDELLIN, AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROBINSON, ITEM B-3, RES. NO. 15-55 WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 4-0. ABSTENTION: COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLEY. ABSENT: MAYOR POYTHRESS AND COUNCIL MEMBER BOMPREZZI.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA APPROVING AMENDMENT #2 TO THE LEASE FOR MILLVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER BETWEEN THE CITY OF MADERA AND THE COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP OF MADERA COUNTY

Council Member Holley and Mr. Tooley reentered the Council Chambers.

C. HEARINGS, PETITIONS, BIDS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, AND AGREEMENT

C-1 Public Hearing to Review the Draft Community Development Block Grant 2015/2019 Consolidated Plan and Updated Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing

Grants Administrator Daniel Abdella announced that Chelsey Payne, the consultant from Vernazza Wolfe Associates, will make the presentation.

Chelsey Payne clarified that she is with Mintier Harnish Planning Consultants. They are working with Vernazza Wolfe and Associates and they are working very closely with City staff on preparing the Consolidated Plan and on the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. She commented that these are two different plans that they are presenting tonight.

Ms. Payne began with the Consolidated Plan. She commented that the City of Madera is an entitlement jurisdiction for Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDBG). That means that every year the City receives these CDBG funds directly from the federal government. She advised that for this next fiscal year the City has received about \$897,000 in CDBG funds. She stated that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that all entitlement jurisdictions prepare this Consolidated Plan and the Consolidated Plan is their strategy for how they are going to spend their CDBG funds over a 5 year planning period. She explained that the funds have to primarily benefit low and moderate income residents in their community. She commented that there are a lot of different eligible funding activities for CDBG funds. They can be used for a range of housing activities and infrastructure improvements like water and sewer or street improvements. They can be used to maintain public facilities and provide public services, and also for economic development for business expansion and job creation. She commented that at least 70% of CDBG funds have to directly benefit low and moderate income residents in Madera.

Ms. Payne advised that there are three overarching goals of this Consolidated Plan. The first is to provide decent affordable housing for low income residents, homeless people, and people with special needs that live here in the community. A second goal is to provide a suitable living environment by improving neighborhoods and improving access to health and wellness programs. Ms. Payne stated that the third overall goal is to expand economic opportunities by creating jobs for low income people and empowering low income residents to be self-sufficient.

Ms. Payne stated that a big part of the Consolidated Plan is their 5 year strategic plan which describes how they are going to meet these goals and how they are going to address this range of priority needs. She commented that there are more than a dozen priority needs that this consolidated plan addresses from homeless facilities and services, affordable housing to economic initiatives like workforce training and providing small business loans. She added that CDBG funds alone can't meet all of these priority needs so while this is a document that describes how they are going to spend their CDBG funds they also acknowledge that the City does have HOME Grants that they have received on a competitive basis from the state. She noted that some of these needs, like affordable housing and homebuyer counseling, are met through the separate HOME Grant.

Ms. Payne advised that the Consolidated Plan also includes an Annual Action Plan. She stated that every year the City has to provide this Annual Action Plan and it is really a shorter version of their Consolidated Plan. It describes how they are going to spend that fiscal year's CDBG funds. She stated it has to be consistent with the overall 5 year Consolidated Plan. She noted that the next item on the

Council's agenda tonight is related to the Annual Action Plan. She commented that there are several proposed activities to be funded for this next fiscal year. They can see some of them outlined in the slide. She advised that she is not going to go into detail because they will be hearing a lot about all of these items on their next item.

Ms. Payne stated that the other document before the Council tonight is the Analysis of Impediments (AI) to Fair Housing Choice. She noted that this is also a document that is required by HUD for entitlement jurisdictions. She stated that all grantees that receive funding from HUD have to certify that they will affirmatively further fair housing choice in accepting this grant funding. She advised that what that means is that they have to provide for fair housing. She commented that fair housing is equal housing opportunities for all residents and addressing issues related to discrimination based on certain protected classes that are written, federal and state law.

Ms. Payne stated that in preparing the AI they have to conduct an analysis to identify if there are any impediments to fair housing choice, to equal housing opportunities. She noted that requires reviewing both private practices in the private housing market. They look at loan approval rates. They also have to look at public practices and policies; things like fair housing or how they distribute fair housing information and determine if there are any impediments that need to be overcome. If there are, they have to take actions to overcome those impediments and then document and report on those actions to HUD.

Ms. Payne commented that their draft AI contains a Fair Housing Action Plan with 8 different actions that the City would be committing to furthering fair housing choice. She noted that these involve providing fair housing information on the City website and at public facilities to make sure people understand what their rights are and providing this education and information. Another is designating an organization that would receive, officially, fair housing complaints and also working with partner agencies to reach out to landlords and property managers to help further knowledge about fair housing issues and fair housing choice.

Ms. Payne advised that in preparing both of these plans they conducted a lot of public outreach. They did a lot of agency consultations such as phone calls, direct communications to a lot of service providers in the City. They worked closely with the Housing Authority, business groups, non-profits, and a lot of others to both get the information that they needed to complete the plans and to help spread the word to the community about the opportunities to participate in the process and then to get help on determining the priority needs for CDBG expenditures. She added that they held two focus group meetings back in December, here in the City Council Chambers, and invited service providers, and members of the real estate development community to come and talk about what issues they are facing and what the priority needs should be to address in the Consolidated Plan. She advised that about 20 people attended those focus group meetings. She commented that one evening in January they held a community wide forum at the senior center where they talked to the community at large about the issues that they face in the community and what they think the priorities should be for this funding. They had about 20 residents attend the community forum. They also had a community needs survey that was specifically focused on the priority needs for CDBG funds. They had 87 survey responses. Ms. Payne added that they conducted all of their outreach in both English and Spanish and they had both English and Spanish speakers participating in the forum and the community needs survey. She commented that all of the results of their outreach are described in detail in the Consolidated Plan including all of the results of the survey and the comments from the forum.

Ms. Payne advised that the next steps in the process include officially releasing the draft Consolidated Plan and Analysis of Impediments on April 1st. She added that the 30 day review period on these documents will run until May 1st. They will then be back in front of the Council on May 6th for a public hearing for approval of the Consolidated Plan and the Analysis of Impediments. Following the public hearing they will be submitting these plans to HUD for their review. Then over the next couple of months they will be working with HUD and address any of their comments or concerns.

Ms Payne offered to answer any questions the Council may have.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated he really liked the outreach efforts that went into this presentation and into this plan. He likes to see that they were able to get several different community agencies, local industry, City staff to come together to identify some of these areas of concern and opportunities.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if members of the Council have any questions. No other questions were asked.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver thanked Ms. Payne for the presentation.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver opened the public hearing. He announced that during item C-2 they will be going over the recommendations. He asked if there are any members of the public who wish to address the Council regarding C-1. No comments were made and Mayor Pro Tem Oliver closed the public hearing.

C-2 Public Hearing to Consider the Community Development Block Grant Review and Advisory Committee Recommendations and Request for Council to Make Tentative Allocations for the 2015/2016 Action Plan

Grant Administrator Daniel Abdella stated this is the first in a series of Council hearings for the City's Community Development and Block Grant (CDBG) Action Plan.

City Attorney Brent Richardson advised that there may be similar conflicts on this item.

City Administrator David Tooley announced that he has a financial conflict of interest due to his wife's employment and needs to again recuse himself from this discussion.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked the City Attorney if they should open each particular section up for public hearing so that Council Member Holley can participate at least in the item for public services.

City Attorney Brent Richardson asked Mr. Abdella if it is possible to break these up completely.

Mr. Richardson stated that if they would like to proceed that way it is a little more complicated but they could do it that way however, he wondered if isn't it true that certain items could get shifted amongst the various sections. For example an allocation of one might be foregoing an allocation to another.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver agreed.

Mr. Richardson advised that if they have a conflict then the whole item would be off limits at that point.

Council Member Holley exited the Council Chambers due to a conflict of interest in that he serves on the Community Action Partnership board.

Mr. Tooley exited the Council Chambers.

Mr. Abdella continued with the presentation. He advised that Council will approve final allocations by resolution at its May 6, 2015 meeting. Mr. Abdella introduced Jorge Rojas, Program Manager, to offer translation services to those who may require them.

Jorge Rojas, Program Manager for Grants, asked in Spanish if any members of the public require assistance in Spanish for this item. Mr. Rojas provided translation services to the individuals who raised their hand.

Mr. Abdella introduced Ken Hutchings who serves as the Chairman of the CDBG Review and Advisory Committee (RAC) who has agreed to address any questions or concerns regarding their recommendations. Mr. Abdella thanked Mr. Hutchings for coming and stated his appreciation.

Mr. Abdella advised that the primary purpose of tonight's meeting is to present the recommendations from both staff and the RAC before Council makes its tentative CDBG allocations of \$942,952. Mr. Abdella commented that, as the table displayed indicates, Council may allocate up to 20% of the CDBG award to the applications listed under Administration; a maximum of 15% for applications included under the category of public services; and the remainder to Capital Projects / Public Improvements. He noted that the first column contains the RAC's recommendations and the second contains those of City staff. He asked that they note that staff's recommendations merely prioritize the City's internal applications and do not reflect a judgment on the merit of those submitted by external organizations. He added that given the proposed scope of the grant, the CDBG award has the potential to advance an extensive number of the Vision Plan's objectives depending on the Council's final allocation. Mr. Abdella stated this concludes his presentation and advised that he and/or Mr. Hutchings will gladly address questions or concerns Council may have while it makes its initial recommendations of CDBG funding.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if any members of the Council have any questions for Mr. Abdella or Mr. Hutchings. No questions were asked and Mayor Pro Tem Oliver opened the public hearing for item C-2. He announced that they would begin with Local Administration. Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if they are going to have presentations from each applicant.

Mr. Abdella responded no. That is what they try to resolve during the RAC hearing.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver commented that he actually had an opportunity to serve four years with Mr. Hutchings. He thanked Mr. Hutchings for being present tonight and participating on this board. He knows that Mr. Hutchings dedicates a lot of time to the City but he also knows that folks of that body put forth a lot of research and homework to put together these recommendations. He stated that it is really appreciated and more importantly it is great to see that body grow from five members to seven including more folks from their community to take part in civic government.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if members of the Council have any questions or comments. Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated with this particular item he really does like RAC's proposal. He believes, as was presented with the Consolidated Plan, they will see that a lot of the data sets that were incorporated into it that talk about homelessness and identify homelessness, certainly are made available because of the Point in Time counts which the Continuum of Care is going after. His initial thought is that he does feel comfortable with the RAC amounts for Administration.

Council Member Medellin stated his agreement with Mayor Pro Tem Oliver. He too would like to thank Mr. Abdella and Mr. Hutchings and the RAC for putting their time, noting that they obviously care about the distribution of these funds and it was a long process to get to this point. He agrees with Mayor Pro Tem Oliver wholeheartedly although staff has the \$179,000 completely, he does feel a little more comfortable with the request for the Continuum of Care at the \$15,000.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if anyone else has comment. He added that he believes this particular meeting they are forming a consensus and not taking any formal action.

Mr. Abdella responded correct. The Council is just making tentative allocations. He advised that the final vote will occur at the May 6th meeting.

Council Member Rigby asked if they are talking about each one individually or are they making general comments on all them.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver responded he thinks just general comments and trying to form some consensus. He added that if there are any questions they can use this opportunity to ask.

Mr. Richardson suggested that they open the public hearing and get every single comment out of the way first. Then close it and leave it to discussion among Council at that point. He believes that is how they typically handle it. He noted it is entirely up to the Mayor Pro Tem but it might just make for a cleaner record.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver opened the public hearing. No one requested to speak and Mayor Pro Tem Oliver closed the public hearing.

Council Member Rigby stated he would like to hear from Council Member Medellin a little bit more as to his wanting to go to the \$15,000 mark on the administration portion.

Council Member Medellin responded that quite simply they have a very serious homeless issue here in Madera. He thinks they recently did a census. He doesn't have the numbers in front of him but he thinks this is what was requested from the Continuum of Care. He knows this is nowhere near enough of what is needed to help those that are homeless with shelter, food, placement. That is why he thinks he would like to agree with their request of the \$15,000.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if there are any other questions.

Council Member Robinson asked if any money is allocated for the Mission Shelter.

Mr. Abdella responded no. They did not apply.

Council Member Rigby continued with discussion on the Continuum of Care request noting that he believes it is for a position that is already intact. He asked to be corrected if he is wrong but it is already intact and it is to maintain or manage what efforts are already being made by this organization to help with homelessness. Council Member Rigby asked Mr. Abdella if that is correct.

Mr. Abdella responded that is his belief as well.

Council Member Rigby restated that this is a position that is already established. This is not going to open a new position for this organization.

Mr. Abdella responded correct.

Council Member Rigby stated so it is a salary.

Mr. Abdella responded yes.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver commented that he believes there is a breakdown as well on the agenda.

Council Member Rigby commented that he is kind of leaning more towards the RAC's recommendation of the \$13,000. He is just kind of putting that out there to his colleagues.

Council Member Medellin stated this is not the final number and asked Mr. Abdella if this is because there is a contingency.

Mr. Abdella responded no. He commented that they were fortunate that HUD released these numbers early so these are the final numbers that they have available.

Council Member Medellin commented that usually in the past, he thinks, they will find out formally that they have a 10% contingency. What he was going to suggest is that they put in the \$13,500 and if there are additional monies then maybe they can but what Mr. Abdella is saying in this case is what he sees is what he gets.

Mr. Abdella responded that is correct.

Council Member Medellin responded that he doesn't have any issue with the RAC's recommendation at \$13,511.

ADMINISTRATION TENTATIVE ALLOCATION

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Local Administration | \$166,000 |
| Fresno/Madera Continuum of Care | \$13,511 |
| Total | \$179,511 |

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated if there is no other discussion they will move on to the Public Services section. He stated they can invite Mr. Tooley and Council Member Holley back in.

Mr. Richardson responded they conflicted out for the entire item.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver opened the public hearing portion and invited any members of these respective agencies to come forth and tell them a little bit more about their application if they wish.

Lourdes Herrera stated she is the Director for the Madera Coalition. She introduced her coworker Marcela. They would like to invite the Council Members to support this program.

Marcella Lopez thanked the Council for allowing them to speak today. She stated that this grant proposal specifically goes towards their Madera Youth Leaders Program. They offer college career and personal planning in order to make sure that each young person that comes through their program is prepared and eligible to graduate from high school and then be guided through to the college path. She stated that in looking at Madera overall their median age is 26. They have a very young population. When they look at what is allocated towards their programming it doesn't reflect the population of Madera and the investment that currently, she thinks, has been offered in the recommendations. She commented that this program, like their other allocations in the past for CDBG, they have exceeded their grant goals as far as participation. Any funds that are given to them, they definitely work to leverage all of their grant funding that they apply for on their own. They are a very small staff, very community driven. So they do work to stretch the dollars that the City gives them but like she said, any investment that they do put towards this program directly goes to the future of Madera because their community needs a lot of programming for young people. Not just something that allows them a safe place after school, which is important, but something that allows them the skills and the mentorship to actually reach their goals which is what this program offers. Ms. Lopez stated she is sort of newer to Madera but knows that the Madera Coalition has been supporting the community, specifically the indigenous populations that are not always reached through other organizations and services that are provided. They have been very lucky, in the short time that she has been with the Coalition, to partner with MCOE and Madera School District. She noted they are being very helpful in connecting to young people that traditionally don't fall into leadership which is what they are trying to offer, foster youth, youth in transition or homeless.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated he knows that the Coalition has participated in the CDBG in the past. He asked Ms. Herrera to take a moment and share, utilizing those monies previously, how they have been able to leverage that as to the work that they all do at the Coalition.

Ms. Herrera stated she has 11 years working for the Coalition. The first program she worked with Jorge is the Time Dollar. They recruited people to serve others. For example one teacher can help her kid to do their homework and she cooks for her or something. It is like a service exchange free. They have had for many years the Madera Youth Leaders. They have graduates from Madera Youth Leaders. One is Elsa from the Madera Tribune. Another is Pablo Fernandez and now he is working with the City Parks she thinks. They have another kid who graduated from UC's and State. They come back and support the youth. They joined them in the youth group. Last year they were working with kids 8 to 13 years old and the reason they applied for that money is to start working with the young youth leaders. They see the problems start earlier not usually when they change to teenagers. They work with little kids 8 to 13 to put some seeds there such as ok you need to do this in your community, you need to understand what is the role in your life, go to college. It is many, many things. Now they would like to work with kids to continue working with offering scholarships or information about scholarships for college. She noted there are a group of parents here and they are learning why it is important for the parents to support the kids. This year they are applying for one of the grants with many things to do in the grant but they would like to be part of the lives of the teenagers.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver thanked Ms. Herrera.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if members of the Council have any questions.

Council Member Medellin thanked Ms. Herrera for coming down every year. She always makes a wonderful presentation and her heart is in the right spot helping their youth and their leaders. He thanked her once again for coming down this year.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if anyone from Workforce Investment Center is present that would like to speak at this time.

Maiknue Vang with Madera County Workforce Investment Corporation stated the proposal they submitted is to provide training, education or supportive services to identified industries that are in demand for Madera County including their pre-apprenticeship trades. They have received CDBG funds in the past. They currently are working on a CDBG grant. They currently have served 15 customers so they try to leverage from their Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Funds as much as they can to stretch the dollars that they do receive. All of the CDBG funds that they receive go directly towards their customer and then they leverage WIA funds to provide any of the supportive services such as mileage, textbook fees, uniforms, test fees. She advised that they would truly appreciate any additional funds that they can get. Ms. Vang offered to answer any questions.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver thanked her.

Council Member Medellin asked Ms. Vang to be a little more specific because in the application it was kind of vague. He noted that it was kind of the same application as last year. He asked that she be a little more specific on exactly what they are doing with the request.

Ms. Vang responded that the request is to provide training, education, supportive services for low income individuals within the City of Madera. They do have an additional component this year due to their new legislation that is coming down regarding the Learn and Earn Model so they are looking to providing training for these individuals and then also supporting them with some type of internship or on the job training, job shadowing that can allow them the experience that they can get with employers prior to placing them into employment.

Council Member Medellin asked if they are working at all for job placement with the High Speed Rail Authority.

Ms. Vang responded that they usually refer to the unions for the High Speed Rail. They don't work directly with the customers that they have with the High Speed Rail but if they do have interest that is something that they can definitely look into or see where they can refer the individual's to.

Council Member Medellin thanked Ms. Vang.

Council Member Rigby asked what their application process is. He is looking at what they are requesting, \$64,000 for possibly 20 people, and that is about \$3,000 per person. He asked how one becomes a recipient of their aid.

Ms. Vang responded that they would come in through an orientation and then would go through an eligibility process where they would determine whether they are eligible for either an adult low income or dislocated worker services. They usually co-enroll if they are also eligible residents of Madera City. They co-enroll in the CDBG funds as well. They typically pay for everything out of the CDBG if they are eligible to be enrolled into that grant and then anything above the amount that they would sponsor the individuals for then that is what they leverage out of their WIA funds. Generally what they have done in the past for the CDBG grants that they have received, staffing time and any supportive services have come out of leverages.

Council Member Rigby asked how many of their customers complete their training.

Ms. Vang responded that currently they are serving 15 and 7 of those that they are currently serving for this fiscal year have already been placed. There are more that are finishing training unfortunately she doesn't have the exact numbers with her but they can definitely get that information to the Council. Last year they served 22, out of the 7 or 8 that they had identified serving, and 17 of those individuals were placed upon completion of training into different in demand industries.

Council Member Rigby asked if they are Madera industries.

Ms. Vang responded yes. They are specific in demand sector industries. They focus on manufacturing, transportation and logistics, health care, agriculture and renewable energy, and hospitality and tourism.

Council Member Rigby asked what happened to the other 7.

Ms. Vang responded that they are either working through the process or they look for additional on the job training, paid work experience or job shadowing that they can provide them to give them the additional skills and training that they need to be able to eventually place them into employment.

Council Member Rigby apologized to Ms. Vang for all the questions but he has to echo Council Member Medellin noting that the application was just a little vague.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver thanked Ms. Vang.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if anyone else has questions. No other questions were asked and Mayor Pro Tem Oliver invited Mary Anne Seay with the City Parks Department to speak.

Mary Anne Seay stated that the City of Madera Parks and Community Services Department has submitted CDBG applications for four years for their senior programs. They have three senior sites where seniors can congregate. One is at the Bergon Senior Center, one is at the Pan Am Senior Center and they also have an Adult Daycare Program available for those needing more specific care. She advised that most of the clients have dementia, Parkinson's or related diseases. She referred to the request for \$134,633 and noted that they saw the total amount of available resources in that category. She would like to echo Mr. Abdella's comment that this is a very difficult decision for the RAC, thanking Mr. Hutchings, and for the Council because there are a lot of really meaningful programs that are happening here. She noted that seniors are a very vulnerable population and they serve, in their congregate program and their homebound meal program, about 700 seniors a year. She commented that those are unduplicated numbers. She thinks the number was 80,000 meals served last year. They do have about 100 seniors that are unable to come to the centers and they have a homebound meal program for them. In addition to the daily lunch they get a light breakfast and they actually get seven days worth of food when the delivery happens. Ms. Seay added that they also have extensive recreation programs that it is not just about coming and having the meal. It is a place to come and connect. Many of their seniors volunteer and give back to their own organization and volunteer out in the community. They have a lot of fitness programs, wellness programs. They invite partner agencies to come in and make presentations. The Police Department comes in and educates them for example on fraud awareness and how to be prepared for people that are sending out emails and mailers to get money from seniors which is a growing problem. Regarding their wellness programs, they have nutrition programs, classes, yoga, Tai-Chi, as well as chair exercises. They also take several trips on an annual basis. They have been to Monterey, Morro Bay, San Francisco, etc. In a nutshell that represents the senior services program. She stated that the whole entire budget is \$366,000 plus. She added that the revenue trends from their other funding agency, which is FMAAA, and senior donations have continued to go down over the last 5 years significantly. She noted that seniors are asked to make a voluntary contribution of \$1.75 a day and that number has dropped sharply with the recession. As their income levels are static and the price of everything is going up most seniors don't have the ability to donate. Their revenues were significantly higher and this is part of the reason they came to apply for the CDBG grant.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver thanked Ms. Seay.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated that in reading through the application and seeing the letters from the participants, he thinks, it shows that this is a great service, many different angles for these folks and also provides families of these elderly a sense of comfort that they are in good hands. He thanked Ms. Seay for sharing that.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if members of the Council have any questions for Ms. Seay.

Council Member Medellin stated he just wanted to echo those comments. He thinks Ms. Seay runs a wonderful senior program. He stated this is more of a comment than a question. He knows that they used to do the homebound daily but for budgetary reasons they went to weekly. He thinks the biggest complaint for that was not so much the food but the interaction that the seniors received every day. A lot of times, in most cases, that was the only interaction with another human being is when they received that meal. Now they are giving seven meals and in some cases really, that is the only person they talk to. He has worked with Ms. Seay and her volunteers. They love to volunteer. He has seen the Tai-Chi. They can really move. He commented that Ms. Seay runs a wonderful program and these seniors are really engaged so hats off to them.

Ms. Seay acknowledged Corinne Long-Folk in the audience. She is the coordinator over the senior programs. She is the one that comes up with some of these ideas of arm chair travels and making sure that they have entertainment. Ms. Seay commented that the coffee, cards and conversation part of this doesn't get discussed enough. It is their connection. They had a senior participate in their program for years who passed away and left a bequest of \$100,000 because he felt like this was his home away from home. She noted that most other seniors don't have \$100,000 but they did renovate that center to more reflect the living room like feel and to give seniors a place to come and congregate.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver thanked Ms. Seay.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if Council has any other questions. No other questions were asked and Mayor Pro Tem Oliver invited any other members of the public who wish to address the Council regarding these three applications. No other comments were made.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated that obviously each presented a great need and offer a great service to their community from jobs in economic development, through social services, through their Parks and Community Services with their senior citizens so certainly their community provides a great need and their community provides a great service.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated that he likes the RAC's suggestion and at the same time he might be encouraged to look at possibly increasing the amount for the Coalition from \$6,000 to \$10,000. He knows that this is a new program but seeing the work of the Coalition in the community for several years he also acknowledges that a lot of the services that were packaged in the application basically are what their mission has been for many, many years since their inception. They are reading articles like \$2 million being left on the table through FAFSA funds among their high school youth and it is troubling because it certainly would open up a lot of opportunities. He thinks that would be money well spent with this particular application. He noted he would encourage hearing any other thoughts from Council.

Council Member Rigby commented that he is encouraged to even see a possible increase in their senior services. He stated that the hard part is trying to find the perfect amount of money for each of these incredible organizations. He noted that a service however, that serves nearly 700 if not more people versus a couple. He commented that Madera County Workforce is doing a tremendous job but at nearly \$3,000 a person he finds that hard to be able to award that type of funding if they are dealing with 20 customers at the most. He restated that they are doing a phenomenal job but to leave that where they can serve 700 people; he doesn't know, but that is his take from it all.

Council Member Medellin stated he agrees wholeheartedly with Council Member Rigby. He thinks that is kind of what they have to look at is maybe the number of folks that they can reach. In simple terms, what do they get for a buck so to speak? He thinks they can reach out to quite a few folks. Again as he mentioned about the senior program, it is a wonderful program led by Mary Anne Seay and her staff. The numbers he proposes to his colleagues are \$10,000 for the Madera Coalition and \$124,633 for the City Parks Senior Services. He thanked Ms. Herrera again noting that it is truly an investment with their youth and leadership not only to help the kids reach their full potential but preparing them for college of which, a lot of these kids come from poverty and English is their second language, to help them reach their goal of not only, again, graduating high school but continuing to move on and get a higher education. He thinks that is wonderful and that is something that he would certainly love to invest in.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated that obviously this discussion, especially with Parks and Community Services what they aren't able to fill here, he is sure will become a general fund discussion at a later date. He concurs with Council Member Medellin. He thinks this might be the best return on investment for them in the short term with these CDBG monies and he would certainly support that.

Council Member Robinson stated he agrees that they need to honor their senior citizens plus help their youth because they are the future generation. But then again also to help the working adults making sure that they can obtain an education and work experience.

Council Member Rigby stated he would also like to see RAC's \$6,000 proposal bumped up a little bit, maybe not quite to the \$10,000 mark but at least \$8,000, and maybe dropping Madera County Workforce closer to \$15,000. That would leave their senior citizens with \$131,000 getting closer to what they originally proposed.

Council Member Medellin commented that he is uncomfortable with the vague application and with the \$15,000 for Madera County Workforce. He is not opposed to allowing something but he is not comfortable with the \$15,000. He noted \$8,000 he is ok with. He would like to see \$10,000 for the Coalition but he is not comfortable with \$15,000 for Workforce.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated that obviously they are all great offerings. He agrees and notes that Council Members Rigby and Medellin presented some of their concerns with the Workforce Investment Center application. He proposed that they go \$13,000 for the Workforce Investment Center, \$10,000 for the Coalition, and the remaining amount for Parks and Community Services.

Council Member Rigby stated he agrees with that.

Council Member Medellin agreed as well.

Council Member Robinson stated that sounds good.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if there are any other discussions. No other comments were made.

PUBLIC SERVICES TENTATIVE ALLOCATION

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Madera Co. Workforce Investment Center | \$13,000 |
| City of Madera Parks Senior Services | \$111,633 |
| Madera Coalition for Community Justice | \$10,000 |
| Total | \$134,633 |

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver moved to the Capital Projects / Public Improvements category. He stated he thinks this particular area is fairly straight forward but would certainly welcome anyone to speak at this time from any of the applying entities. No comments were made.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated he would entertain to move forward with all applying bodies and RAC's recommendation as presented. Council concurred.

CAPITAL PROJECTS / PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS TENTATIVE ALLOCATION

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| City of Madera Public Works | \$163,570 |
| Neighborhood Revitalization Program | \$400,000 |
| City of Madera Parks ADA Improvements | |
| <u>Community Centers</u> | <u>\$65,238</u> |
| Total | \$628,808 |

Mr. Abdella advised that concludes the tentative allocation process and they will come before the Council the first meeting in May to seek final approval. He noted that the 30-day comment period commences tomorrow and they will also bring those comments back to Council.

Council thanked Mr. Adbella and Mr. Rojas.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver announced that they would close the public hearing portion of that item.

D. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

D-1 Request from the Friends of the Madera Animal Shelter to Address the Council Regarding Shelter’s Aging Facility

Kay Rhoads stated she is a resident of Madera County. She has resided in Madera for 41 years. She is a business owner of 29 years in the City of Madera. She is the treasurer of the Friends of the Madera Animal Shelter and one of its founding members. She is here tonight to tell them about the Friends of the Madera Animal Shelter which she will refer to as FMAS. She advised that they are going to present a real quick slide show to show them what is going on at the animal shelter. Ms. Rhoads stated that the Madera County Animal Shelter, as far as they know, was originally built before 1970 and it might be long before that. She noted that since that time it has served their growing community with close to over 350,000 animals in those 44 plus years. She stated that after 44 years of moisture, cleaning solvents, insects, and rodents, the animal shelter has seriously deteriorated. They have an inadequate and unsafe intake area; antiquated and small animal enclosures; no separation of kennels, cat cages, and isolation areas; a non-existent euthanasia area; 19th century washing area for dishes and laundry which she will show them in a few minutes; and inadequate air circulation and temperature controls. She displayed a photo of the stray building holding area for cats and dogs with cats on the right and barking dogs on the left so all day long the noise level is absolutely excruciating. The next photo shows a side of the shelter that is falling down; absolutely rotting. There are also inadequate storage areas; non-ADA compliant bathroom; and non-existent staff area for breaks or lunches. She stated there is literally none. They go out in the parking lot to eat. She added that there are numerous health and safety hazards for staff, constituents and animals and noise pollution that is deafening. She displayed a photo of the sick bay and the cages in the back are for the sick animals. Next she displayed the outside wash area where they wash pots and pans, metal ones, and also the cat, litter and the cages all have to be sterilized before they can put another animal in them. She is talking about cages and crates that they take to transport animals. The next photo is the food storage area noting that it is kind of appalling. She commented that they should consider that they feed 300 animals a day, year in, year out, 300 minimum.

Ms. Rhoads stated that the Roberta Wills Adoption Center was built in 2008 as a temporary solution to overcrowding in the old shelter building. She advised that funding for the adoption center came from a teacher in Madera County named Roberta Wills who left approximately \$286,000 for the animals in Madera but it ended up costing \$400,000 because the money was sat on so long and the cost of building went up. She added that additional funding of approximately \$200,000 came from the County of Madera and the City of Madera. She commented that the adoption center added 4,000 square feet of space to the animal shelter operation. Ms. Rhoads displayed a photo of the adoption center. She noted that the new jail facility cramped everything. The office is on the right and then the adoption center. She advised that it is a metal building and the constant moisture from cleaning, which has power washing daily, has resulted in major rust and deterioration issues of the sheet metal throughout the building. She commented that the multiple overhead doors are in need of major repairs or replacement due to rust at a substantial cost. She added that temperature control and air quality are hard to balance in extreme

temperatures which affects staff, animals, and the public. She displayed a picture of some of the rust. She noted that this building is only 7 years old. They opened it in 2007. She noted that there are cracks in the floor and there are cracks in the holding cage areas also. She stated that a lot of the public paid \$1,500 each to support one of these cages. They cost \$2,000 a piece because of cross contamination and that is what those red panels are. She stated it isn't like they can just put them in there and think oh they are going to be well. They have all of this disease. They are never going to get any out alive if they can't keep them healthy.

Ms. Rhoads stated they have two options that exist in addressing the problems with the animal shelter. One is major and expensive renovation of existing buildings with very little area, very little parking. Second is investing in a new and modern facility that will accommodate the growth of Madera County and its animal population for decades to come.

Ms. Rhoads stated that the Friends of the Animal Shelter have partnered with the animal shelter for 14 years. She referred to the place mat distributed which shows what they did in 2014. There are close to \$1.5 million so far in spay and neuter with still money to go to spay and neuter and all kinds of medicines and vaccines. They have donated thousands of hours of volunteer time. They donated over a million in medications, vaccines, equipment, supplies and services. She stated the Friends buy all of the vaccines and medicines for every animal at that shelter. They are administering the FREE Red and Nancy Arnold Spay and Neuter Program which they received \$1.5 million for. So far they have spay and neutered 12,000 animals in this County alone and they have 7,000 on a waiting list. They are working with all the local vets, a vet in Mariposa, one vet in Kerman that does a little bit, and the HOPE Foundation.

Ms. Rhoads stated they have made a great commitment to Madera County. They are committed to partnering with Madera County. They have already spoken there, the City of Madera and the City of Chowchilla. They are committed to the residents of the County and the animals that people care about. They have had the support of the animal loving community and hundreds of active volunteers. They have decided to commit to a fundraising campaign to build a modern community animal shelter that they can all be proud of. She stated that they need the City's support. They are requesting that the City acknowledge the tremendous need for a new animal shelter to serve their growing community and its animals. They are requesting the City's support for fundraising endeavors by using their personal and professional network to support their efforts. That means they would like some of them to turn out when they do some fundraising things. They are requesting a long term commitment as a partner to assist them in the fundraising campaign that will benefit the entire community. Ms. Rhoads added that they are asking the City of Madera to set aside, in the upcoming budget, funding that is targeted for a new animal shelter since at least a third of the animals coming to the shelter are from the City. She personally can tell them that she can pick up two or three Chihuahuas every day on her way to work. And if any of them are looking, they are seeing them too. She stated that the City has an obligation to address the costs associated with building a new animal shelter. She noted that an architectural firm hired by the County estimated that the proposed animal shelter should be 22,000 square feet. She commented that this estimate encompasses the growth projected for Madera over the next 20 years and the thousands of animals that will need their help. She stated the good part is the rough cost of the proposed animal shelter is over \$20 million. She commented that Madera cares about its animals and cares how they are treated. Together they can build a new animal shelter that they can all be proud of and that will humanely care for all of the animals that need their help.

Ms. Rhoads stated that FMAS is an all volunteer group of people. They doubled their wages when they got the Nancy Arnold request so they go double ought instead of ought. She commented that this is a non-profit organization and 95 cents of every \$1 goes directly to help the animals in Madera County. They are a community that cares about the animals and how they are treated and they need to invest in a shelter now; plan for the future, plan to invest, commit to a building and shelter where innocent animals can find comfort. They are asking for the City's commitment today. They are not asking for a specific dollar. They are asking for them to help take care of a third of the animals that come from the City in their shelter. Ms. Rhoads concluded with a photo of a Chihuahua, which is one of those many thousands that deserve a better life. She offered to answer any questions the Council may have.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver thanked Ms. Rhoads for the informative presentation. He stated that he understands there might be some fundraising efforts later this month with a local partner, Food 4 Less.

Ms. Rhoads commented that all of the Food 4 Less stores, for about a week and a half, will be accepting donations, similar to what is done for Muscular Dystrophy or any of those, and the local Food 4 Less money will come to their shelter. They have many, many great partners as they can see from the list that she gave them. She commented that it just takes a village just like everything else to take care of these animals. She added that many of them foster. They have great partners in PetSmart. What they are doing now is taking 30 to 50 animals a month to the Bay Area. They have three vans that caravan. It is an 18 hour day and they are adopting 30 to 50 animals out of Madera County to places where people want them, where they have a spay and neuter program. They have been working very, very hard to save lives. They can see on the list she gave them. She can tell them that 15 years ago the euthanasia rate was 95%. That meant 5 animals out of every 100 made it out alive. They have a survival rate now, a live release rate of 47% thanks to Kirsten Gross and that is pretty amazing.

Council Member Medellin thanked Ms. Rhoads for the report. He commented that he had the opportunity to tour the facility with DJ Becker about a year, year and a half or so ago. He noted that there are more than dogs and cats there. He thinks there was a malnourished horse. It is countywide and they do a wonderful job.

Ms. Rhoads stated she has two of those horses and added that they all get more out of it than the animals do but it is still not enough and they need a lot of help from the whole community.

Council Member Medellin asked if they still hold the shot clinic the first Saturday of the month.

Ms. Rhoads responded yes at the fairgrounds. She added that all the money that they get from that shot clinic buys those vaccines and the rabies that take care of the animals at the shelter. That is where the profits go. She just bought \$4,000 worth of vaccines today for a shot clinic. They also do two in Chowchilla. She referred to the lines. They are working on maybe doing one at the Rescue Mission. They are going to talk about it for homeless. It would be free. All the vaccines and get together with the community and try to do food packages because almost half of the people that are homeless have an animal. They notice that they are walking with an animal. She stated that any input from the public, any help, any volunteers, they would greatly appreciate it and thanked them for their time.

Council Member Holley stated he likes what they have been doing out there. He worked there for a little over a year and a half. When he first got there they were using an inhumane process with the animals. He was a kennel attendant. He commented that when Berry got there he implemented the euthanasia process. He noted that to do that it takes a strong will of a person. He stated that whatever the City can do to help in this endeavor he is in support of. He added that they are to the point of overcrowding. They can't build a bigger facility. It is just something that keeps going and going. He commended Ms. Gross and her staff for the job they are doing but he thinks they can do more as a City to help put this project together. He has been out to a lot the clinics that they have and he thinks that they need to participate more and their City Animal Control Officers being there on those days to work with those County employees.

Ms. Rhoads commented that if the City had some of their people out there they could get a lot of them licensed because the County takes in a lot of money at every shot clinic. They pay for their rabies and walk right over and get their dog licensed. She noted that would be money in the City's coffers. Regarding euthanasia she added that it isn't like that anymore thanks to Kirsten and the laws of the State of California but one is one too many to euthanize.

Ms. Rhoads commented that Council Member Medellin has been a supporter. Council Member Holley has been a supporter. She added that they are also going to get the City's past Councilman who is now her County Supervisor. She saw him here but he left. Ms. Rhoads thanked the Council for their attention and stated her appreciation.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver thanked Ms. Rhoads and added that he looks forward to working with her.

Council Member Holley asked Kirsten Gross, Director for the Madera County Animal Shelter, to stand. He noted that she is a good person and does the good work out there.

E. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

E-1 Discussion and Prioritization for Housing Related Parks Program (HRPP) Grant Resources

Director of Parks and Community Services Mary Anne Seay stated today they are here to talk about the prioritization of resources they got through the Housing Related Parks Program (HRPP). She advised that they are going to do three things tonight. First she will give them some background on what the Housing Related Parks Program is. Then they are going to present to Council prioritized alternatives for the use of the funding from staff and then they will ask the Council for their input. Ms. Seay thanked Daniel Abdella, Grant Administrator and Mark Etheridge, Parks Business Manager for extensive work in getting this grant proposal together. They tried some unique ways and actually received some congratulations and some adulations from the Housing and Community Development Department for some methods they used to get some responses back from the public.

Ms. Seay advised that in 2014 the City of Madera received a formula grant award for \$731,000 from the Housing and Community Development Department for the Housing Related Parks Program. Ms. Seay noted that the HRPP is designated to incentivize counties and cities to develop new residential housing by rewarding those jurisdictions with resources that can improve the City's infrastructure and make sure that they are compliant with State Housing Element Law. Ms. Seay stated that the program provides funding for parks and recreation projects specifically. She commented that that actually changed. Initially it was a wider scope of projects that could qualify for the funding and in 2006 the City received an award and those are the resources that they used to renovate City Hall. She added that now however, all the resources are to go specifically toward the creation or rehabilitation of existing parks.

Ms. Seay stated that initially the Parks and Community Services Department and the Grants Department were informed that \$25 million was available for this 2013 program. She noted that staff initially estimated from that number that they would receive approximately \$250,000 if things went well. Later in the process staff was informed, as were the rest of Californians, that the pot grew to \$75 million so staff, in the later stages of this application process, added a second project so that they could bring as many resources to Madera as they could.

Ms. Seay advised that the sole project in the early iteration was the rehabilitation of Knox Park. She noted that currently Knox Park sits at "A" and Knox. It is a ponding basin that used to double as park space. She commented that it is counted in Madera's park inventory however, it has a fence all the way around it and there is no access to it. They can see that there was opportunity for play there at some point. She advised that it is unsafe in its current condition and what they are proposing is a two tiered recreation amenity that can be open year round on the top level and then make some amenity shifts in the basin and open that when the weather and safety allow for it.

Ms. Seay advised that a second and similar project was added to the application for the aforementioned reason realizing that they had a greater chance at a higher number. The second project included land acquisition and improvements to the existing ponding basin at Sherwood and "D". Since applying staff has learned, just within the last month or so, that the landowner is not at all interested in selling that property at anything that resembles fair market value. She advised that because of the narrow timelines, since they have to have all funds expensed by April 30th of 2016, it forced them to make some recommendations for Council's consideration. She noted that eminent domain is not possible because of those narrow timelines.

Ms. Seay referred to the alternatives noting that as she said in her opening comments, these are prioritized the way staff saw it but they are certainly willing to take input and hear the Council's thoughts

on the alternatives. Ms. Seay stated that each of the three alternatives has a set of pros and cons that come with it and staff members feel that each of them will add value to Madera's Parks and Community Services system.

Ms. Seay stated that the first alternative is to make ADA enhancements in eligible parks and recreation spaces. She referred to a presentation made by the Director of Human Resources Wendy Silva at the last Council meeting on the ADA Self Evaluation and Transition Plan. They saw in the timelines that the City had committed to making an effort to find funding to make those adjustments. She noted that the unfortunate thing about this recommendation is that Lions Town and Country Park does not fall within a demographic zone where they could use these funds. She advised that implementation of the plan that she spoke about is contingent upon the City going out and finding available funds and there just aren't big pots of money where they could go back into their existing infrastructure and make these ADA changes that are required by law. Ms. Seay stated that several California cities are using HRPP resources to renovate existing parks to ADA standards. She added that among other enhancements, ADA projects would include improvements to path of travel, a slope in the parking lot is a very consistent problem, restroom fixture heights, counter heights, that kind of thing. Ms. Seay advised that the City also obtained a grant from the Fansler Foundation, thanking Mr. Abdella for that, for a \$67,000 universally accessible play feature also called an inclusive play feature. She stated that people often misinterpret and think that this is a play feature only for children who have special needs or limited mobility. She advised that the language that they started using is inclusive play feature so that they could see that all children are going to be attracted to these play features and would make them more ADA compliant. She noted that the \$67,000 they have from the Fansler Foundation Grant, while very generous, is less than half of what it would take them to do site prep work. They think that this would be a wonderful addition to their City infrastructure and because of funding limitations they have narrow selection of locations where they can place the feature. Because the John Wells Youth Center attracts so many youth, next door to the swimming pool and it qualifies for funding, they thought it would be an excellent location.

Ms. Seay advised that a second option would be to pursue land banking for future park development. She noted that the General Plan is clear and the Parks and Recreation Master Plan used by staff for guidance both call for increased parkland in Madera. She commented that the City has not really added any significant parkland to accommodate the growth they have had over the last 20 years. She stated that the acquisition of land in underserved areas, obviously consistent with funding requirements, could create opportunities for additional grant funding. Ms. Seay advised that on this alternative she learned some information from her colleague Mr. Abdella today that makes this even less savory than it sounded in the staff report. Initially this was staff's first recommendation because they have an unfinished capital project at Sunrise Rotary. They had a plan to add a booster pump, a soccer field, a parking lot, curb, gutter, fence, lighting and they have gotten partial funding for all those things. They decided to phase the project in because of significant demand and need so they built the soccer field. They have the lights purchased. They don't have the resources to put them up just yet. The problem is that the grant criteria calls for parkland efficient areas which it is in the middle of a park and there is not a lot of residential there. The funder perceives that it is in a largely rural area and the news that Mr. Abdella got today was that the census tract has changed so that \$165,000 number that they would have to give back to the state would probably double. She doesn't feel like she should spend more time on this hearing that news today but she is happy to continue if the Council wishes.

Council Member Medellin agreed that does throw a monkey wrench into things and asked if that is because there is no established housing. He asked if it is not in their General Plan that they have that zoned for potential down the road and does that not necessarily qualify or help the case.

Ms. Seay responded that her understanding from Mr. Abdella is that it does not qualify so she would yield to him to be specific.

Grant Administrator Daniel Abdella stated that is correct. He noted that the Housing Related Parks Program offers bonuses based on whether or not the park project is in a park deficient neighborhood and there is an online tool for that. They also award bonuses if the park is in a disadvantaged community and the Sunrise Rotary Park is neither. Unfortunately as of whenever the Department of Housing and Urban

Development decides those things, the practical impact is that they would lose about \$1,000 per bedroom that they documented that went to low income people. Since they documented about 328 bedrooms that is how much they would lose, 328 times \$1,000. He noted that it is not that the program would penalize them for that; they just wouldn't give them those bonuses so the net effect is they are out \$328,000 if they go with Sunrise.

Council Member Medellin commented that building the park before the houses is not a good idea in HUD's eyes.

Ms. Seay noted that they have applied for several grants. They have gotten some of them; they have not gotten others. She added that there was a big California Parks Grant that they applied for and it was the same reason that they were denied. They are continuing to piece it together. They were really hoping that these could help them get further to their goals and as the process evolved they realized that it wasn't going to be the answer. She apologized for including that as an option, getting their hopes up. She added that another benefit to the first option would be that the Fansler Grant has a timeline on it as well. They either need to get the equipment and get it in the ground or they will lose that \$67,000. As she said before, it is going to be more than double that to do those things and those resources would come from DIF so they could reprogram DIF back over to alternative 3 to help get the lights up. She noted they are sitting in the corporation yard.

Council Member Medellin commented that would help but he really wanted to explore number 3 a little bit more. He certainly values staff's opinion and he is not throwing out option number 1 but before she gave them that wonderful news that was kind of his basis was a parking lot without asphalt and field lights that are sitting there that they just need to erect. He noted there is so much that is unfinished so he kind of wanted to expand on that. He knows at the time it was \$165,000 or so that they may not get but in this particular case that is less savory that it is now \$300,000 plus.

Ms. Seay stated it is very disappointing. They were hopeful as well. She does think that the trends that they are seeing in increased development, they are starting to collect developer impact fee revenue at a faster clip and they are piecing together funding sources to get to a finished product on that. She noted that staff is very anxious to complete that. They hear from the public a lot. They have a soccer playing community, softball playing community and they need to get that finished.

Council Member Medellin thanked Ms. Seay, Mr. Abdella and all of staff for their hard work. He knows they have worked extensively on this to do what is best.

Council Member Rigby stated he is very interested in Knox Park getting completed. A lot of his constituents live around that area. He has driven by there several times just kind of dreaming of what it could be. He noted that it is unfortunate that it is all gated up and inaccessible. They would never guess that it was a public space at all. He is excited to get that project off the ground and running. He is in full support of it. He commented that he is curious regarding what parks are eligible for ADA enhancements with all this news.

Ms. Seay responded that the two biggest parks that they have, Madera Sunrise Rotary which is formerly Millview, and Lions Town and Country are excluded for the same reason they are talking about. She stated that Centennial Park, where the swimming pool is, McNally Park, Pan Am Park, Rotary Park are all eligible for ADA upgrades. They are getting close to hiring a consultant on the Knox Park Project and the remainder of the funding they have, they will make as many ADA improvements as they possibly can, including the addition of this wonderful amenity for their community.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver referred to alternative 2. He noted that obviously they are very deficient in available park space in their community but with the April 2016 date around the corner would that kind of constrict them in going out and acquiring those particular parcels or have they already done a lot of that due diligence and do they have those in mind.

Ms. Seay responded that this is exactly why they are before the Council today. When she woke up this morning they had 2 ½ - 2 ¾ viable options and they have an extensive amount of work that staff is trying to accomplish in this season. They are happy to explore any and all that the Council asks them to but they wanted to get a little direction from them before they invested a significant chunk of time in that work.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated his other comment is that he is really excited with the idea of leveraging those resources at the park with the John Wells Youth Center and the Fansler Foundation money. He thinks that presents a great opportunity to extend that resource as best as possible. He certainly kind of leans in that direction with staff's recommendation.

Council Member Medellin agreed. He sees where Mayor Pro Tem Oliver is coming from on option #2, if it didn't cost so much money and take so much of staff's time to explore that, that certainly would be another viable resource and option for them to do but he agrees with Ms. Seay and values her opinion. They have quite a bit on their list of things to do.

Ms. Seay stated they would love to be in a position to land bank. Hopefully some of these trends will continue and they will be able to do that shortly. As they know, from going through the General Plan process that they have very specific and targeted areas for where they need to acquire some parkland.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if the Council has any other questions.

Council Member Holley stated he doesn't know who remembers but back in 1970, talking about Knox Park, it used to be an open park. There used to be a playground there. He lives down the street from there and they used to go down there and have a good time. He advised that the reason it got closed up is that they had a rain one time and it flooded half of Madera. When it flooded half of Madera, the ponding basin filled up and it became a liability to the City. That is the reason they closed up the park. He added that it hasn't rained in so long so now they look out there and they say it would make a great asset but they also have to think about the future. There used to be a fence around the playground area on the corner of Knox and "A" Street. He stated that it was a nice park area for the community. If they need to open it up it will take some of the pressure off of McNally Park. That park is now getting over used. He thinks they need another park area.

Ms. Seay stated they are trying to learn best practices from other jurisdictions on providing recreation space adjacent to ponding basins. She advised that there are some parks that aren't too far from here that do just that. That was the basis of their original proposal when they wanted to do something with Sherwood and "D" location. She added that they will continue to pursue those avenues as well.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated he thinks staff has direction.

Ms. Seay responded that she feels like she has direction.

Council Member Robinson stated he knows they can't have a big park like Golden Gate Park but they can have smaller venues like community gardens, botanical gardens, even though they are in a drought, but on a small scale where their citizens can go out and have some exercise and also produce vegetables, food.

Ms. Seay agreed that those are excellent points. The reason they have limited the choices to these three, now two options, is because these projects are things they feel they can reasonably do within the short window of time that they have. She is not saying that staff doesn't have time; they don't have time within this funding cycle to build a community garden with the resources but it is certainly something they could consider for future funding cycles.

Council Member Robinson stated he talked to Successor Agency Director and he has vacant lots that would be ideal all over the City.

Ms. Seay commented that is a very good point and thanked Council Member Robinson.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if there is anything else. No other comments were made. Mayor Pro Tem Oliver commended Ms. Seay for their great work.

E-2 Presentation of the Preliminary City of Madera Capital Budgets for Fiscal Year 2015/2016

Director of Financial Services Tim Przybyla stated this is the presentation of the preliminary capital projects budget for FY 2015/2016. He noted that they recently did the mid-year budget presentation and told Council that they would be coming forward with these preliminary budget presentations. He advised this is the first of four preliminary budget presentations. He noted that the preliminary enterprise fund budget should be presented at the next Council meeting which would be April 15th; the preliminary general fund budgets should be presented on May 6th; and the budgets for the other funds should be presented on May 20th. He added that a special budget workshop will be held on June 3rd and the final budget presentation should follow on June 17th. He advised that is their calendar at this time for their budget presentations. He likes to try to break it up into pieces so that they can discuss in detail any questions they might have. He commented that of course there will be changes from the preliminary to final. For example, he thinks he saw before his eyes a change on one of the capital projects just a minute ago.

Mr. Przybyla stated they began with the 5-Year CIP which was presented by Engineering in February, he believes, and that is the basis for the beginning of their capital budgets. Departments then make revisions to the 5-Year CIP Plan for the upcoming fiscal year projections as needed. He noted that the projects are only budgeted if the funds are available. He commented that these projects are funded from non-operational sources or one-time revenues rather than from current year revenues which is different from operational expenditures. They try to keep their operational expenses within current revenues so that they are balancing the budget and not living off reserves or trying to fund ongoing operations through one-time revenues. He advised that these do not represent recurring or ongoing expenses but they may require maintenance costs. For example, if the new park is installed it will have ongoing maintenance costs but those would be paid out of the operational budgets rather than the capital budgets.

Mr. Przybyla stated this evening they are presenting \$6.6 million of capital projects in this preliminary budget presentation. He advised that these projects do not impact the general fund. He referred to Exhibit A included in the packet and noted that there are several funding sources. He advised that Exhibit A is broken into two pieces so that they can almost see it. At the bottom are summaries which he subtotaled by category. He advised that there are \$1.3 million of water projects, \$500,000 of sewer projects, \$732,000 of airport projects, \$572,000 towards the transit facility/planning and development and then there is \$3.1 million of street and sidewalk and bike paths. He noted that this basically gives them the high level view of what these projects involve. He added that on the second page there are \$290,000 of drainage projects for a total of \$6.6 million. As he mentioned there will probably be some changes between now and the final budget but they will at least have seen these and they can point out what changes they have come up with. For example if there is the change in the plans for the parks projects, they will point that out to Council. Mr. Przybyla noted that the funding sources are listed at the top of the schedule. They can tell that they are coming from water, sewer, airport departments. He commented that most of them are related to streets and there are numerous funding sources for the street projects. Mr. Przybyla offered to answer any questions the Council may have. He advised that the presentation this evening is informational only. There is no action required.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if Council has any questions for Mr. Przybyla. No questions were asked.

E-3 Update on the Status of the Formation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Madera Groundwater Sub-basin and Consideration of a Minute Order Authorizing the City to Make a Contribution of \$3,000 Towards Expenses Related to the GSA Formation

Community Development Director David Merchen stated he wanted to provide them with what he thinks will be a mercifully short update on the Groundwater Sustainability Agency process. They may remember saying, towards the end of the fall of last year, that the state adopted three pieces of legislation that addressed groundwater management at the local agency. He noted there has been a lot of talk for a few years about groundwater management and the state finally adopted some more defined language that requires local agencies to form these particular kinds of agencies for the first time, Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA), and then for those agencies to adopt a Groundwater Management Plan specifically, that would have some teeth to them. He stated that as opposed to some of the other kinds of things that have been discussed or adopted over the years, GSA's are going to be organized at the local agency but defined by underlying groundwater basins. For the City's agency, that is the Madera Groundwater Sub-basin. Other partners in that entity include the County of Madera as well as Madera Irrigation District and a couple of other local water districts. He commented that the seven agencies are working together with a formation committee to begin to define the organizational structure for that GSA. While the state requires that they be formed, there is quite a bit of flexibility regarding exactly what a GSA looks like and whether they end up with seven agency oriented GSA's under an umbrella agreement or a single GSA formed for the basin or some hybrid. He noted that it is a little confusing and every chance that the seven agencies get, they will delicately try to get everything they want without maybe stepping overtly on each other's toes. He stated that will be an interesting process to see how it plays out. He commented that certainly, the scrutiny with regard to groundwater is only going to get more stringent over the next period of time, weeks, days, months, years. He noted that if they are a normal person and don't have perfect memory at least of the alphabet soup which is groundwater, they may be thinking didn't we just do this a couple of months ago. He advised that the action taken in January of this year was to adopt a Groundwater JPA which is a joint powers agreement to form the Madera Water Authority. That agency is going to continue to exist in an umbrella format. They will do stakeholder interaction over the entire County not just by groundwater basin and there will be some public outreach and so forth. There will be a broader level countywide coordination through the JPA and they will fulfill the state's specific requirements for groundwater management with the GSA. Mr. Merchen advised that their initial contribution financially is for \$3,000. That will get them at least part way. They don't know how far into the formation process with probably legal expenses across the board being the most significant potential expense. He noted that clearly they won't know what that looks like until they are a little further into it. Unless the Council tells them otherwise, they will go ahead and make that contribution and they have at least informally agreed to act as the fiscal agent for the formation committee which means the City deposits the checks and pays the few bills that come in.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver thanked Mr. Merchen. He likes to see that they are collaborating with their partners in the region and doing what they can to be as proactive as possible which he thinks will be fruitful ensuring that they have local control of their groundwater basin. Obviously with the news today, with Governor Brown actions, it just kind of emphasizes the need to collaborate and be as proactive as they can. He stated his appreciation for the update.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if Council has any other questions or comments.

Council Member Rigby asked Mr. Merchen if with the expansion of the GSA he sees the JPA dissolving at all.

Mr. Merchen responded that there has been some discussion about the differing roles. He noted that it is very likely, at least for the foreseeable future, that the JPA will stay in place and serve as a coordinating agency across the whole County. He advised that it has a broader, potential reach and the GSA is going to be very basin focused.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated that hopefully this GSA also, in its early formation, will make them a lot more competitive with grant funding that hopefully will become available with the water bond.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if there are any other questions or comments. No other comments were made.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver announced that he would entertain a motion for action to adopt the minute order.

ON MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIGBY AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MEDELLIN, THE MOTION TO ADOPT A MINUTE ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION OF \$3,000 TOWARDS EXPENSES RELATED TO THE GSA FORMATION WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 5-0. ABSENT: MAYOR POYTHRESS AND COUNCIL MEMBER BOMPREZZI.

F. COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Holley thanked everyone who showed up to the McNally Park Jesse Owens Games Kick Off. He stated his appreciation to staff for their support in being out there. He commented that was just a start, yesterday was a challenge, the day before was a bigger challenge, and tomorrow is going to be a greater challenge. He hopes to see them on May 9th.

Council Member Robinson reported that he attended a fundraiser for the Mission. They could donate any amount but mostly they brought in toiletries, paper towels and they had a small lunch. He advised that they have a meeting every month. He noted that Mayor Poythress attended the last meeting.

Council Member Rigby reported that he had the opportunity this past Saturday to participate in the Second Annual Second Wind 5K and several participants throughout the community were out there. He finished noting that was important and he may or may not have taken a short cut but he also had a stroller. He commented that it was a great event for their City and he thinks they did a great job putting it on and raising money for the Madera County Food Bank as well as the Madera Rescue Mission. He noted that if he recalls, and he doesn't want to be hyperbole, but he believes an estimated \$13,000 to \$16,000 was raised for those two organizations.

Council Member Holley reported that he had a chance to attend an NAACP Black History Program held at MLK School on Saturday evening. They had the kids stand and quote different things that happened in the past such as Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, all different people that have history. He stated that for those kids to stand there and tell them all about them takes a lot of work. It lets him know that somebody is still training kids.

Council Member Holley reported that he attended the Cesar Chavez Program at Cesar Chavez School. It was a good turnout as well.

Council Member Robinson reported that he and Council Member Holley attended the Tobacco Coalition meeting at the County Health Department. They are trying to reduce kid's use of the new e-cigarettes. They are decorated to look like little candy toys but it is addicting. He would like to have it banned from all parks.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver reported that he had an opportunity on Friday to spend the night with their Station 6 Fire Department. It was a great viable exercise. He has also had an opportunity to do the same with Police and it just really goes to show what they already know, the caliber of individuals that they have in their public safety units so it was very rewarding to see them in practice.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver reported that his neighborhood, their Sonora team, had its second neighborhood watch. They had over 25 people in attendance so everyone is very excited to move forward to make it formal at their third meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver announced that they would now move to the closed session.

G. CLOSED SESSION

G-1 Closed Session Announcement – City Attorney

City Attorney Brent Richardson announced that the Council will adjourn to closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) to discuss conference with legal counsel in anticipated exposure to litigation, as described under item G-2.

The Council adjourned to closed session at 8:05 p.m. ABSENT: Mayor Poythress and Council Member Bompreszi.

G-2 Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(2): 1 case

G-3 Closed Session Report – City Attorney

The Council returned from closed session at 8:11 p.m. with all members present. ABSENT: Mayor Poythress and Council Member Bompreszi.


City Attorney Brent Richardson announced that the Council met in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) to discuss conference with legal counsel in anticipated exposure to litigation, as described under item G-2, and reported that no reportable action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Pro Tem Oliver at 8:12 p.m.

CONSISTENCY WITH THE VISION MADERA 2025 PLAN

Approval of the minutes is not addressed in the vision or action plans; the requested action is also not in conflict with any of the actions or goals contained in that plan.


SONIA ALVAREZ, City Clerk


ROBERT L. POYTHRESS, Mayor

