

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

Council Meeting:	8/05/15
Item:	B-1
Minutes for:	4/15/15

**April 15, 2015  
6:00 p.m.**

**Council Chambers  
City Hall**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Mayor Robert L. Poythress  
Mayor Pro Tem William Oliver  
Council Member Charles F. Rigby  
Council Member Sally J. Bompreszi  
Council Member Andrew J. Medellin  
Council Member Donald E. Holley  
Council Member Derek O. Robinson Sr.

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 Operations Director David Randall, Chief of Police Steve Frazier, Director of Parks and Community Services Mary Anne Seay, Director of Human Resources Wendy Silva, Grant Administrator Daniel Abdella, Chief Building Official Steve Woodworth, Information Services Manager Ted Uyesaka, Planning Manager Chris Boyle, Parks Planning Manager John Scarborough, Commander Dino Lawson, and Fire Marshal Matt Tarr.

**INVOCATION:** Pastor Lee Brooks, Eastside Church of God

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Council Member Rigby 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.

Julie Herd, Business Development Marketing Manager for Madera County Economic Development Commission (EDC), stated she is here to introduce the Council to a tool that they have available at the EDC. They developed an app with Madera County last fall. She displayed what the app looks like and added that the app is actually an extension of their website. They can find the app on the Google Play Store, iTunes, and at the Windows Phone Store. She commented that the app has a listing of available properties including industrial and commercial properties in the City of Madera. For example, if somebody comes into the Planning Department, and she knows they bring projects to them often times, they can refer people to this app. She displayed a snapshot of what the listing looks like for properties. She added that the list is updated all the time and each listing expires after a couple of months so that it doesn't go stale. The listings are not up there for a long period of time. She noted that the other buttons

on the app include demographics, contact information, a little bit of information about business incentives, and tourism information. If they click on that they will see a listing of tourism sites and links to their websites for more information and then just a briefing of community information. When they launched this, at the time, it appeared that they were the first EDC in the state that has an app that people can use.

Mayor Poythress stated it is a great app and he has downloaded it.

Mark Cauley stated he is with the Madera Coalition for Community Justice which is a non-profit here in the City. He advised that he would like to make two quick announcements. The first is to make the Council aware that the Coalition was recently approved for a grant from the Sierra Health Foundation. He noted that this is a planning grant regarding bicycle ridership and infrastructure in the City. He stated that this is part of a larger effort that will tie into the Coalition's other grant from the Sierra Health Foundation regarding smart growth and air quality. He restated that this is a planning grant so it will do things like community workshops, surveying community attitudes about biking, their needs and interests in biking, barriers, most frequented destinations as well as feasibility studies. He stated that this program will be entirely youth driven and it will be implemented by their youth group called Madera Youth Leaders which is made up of high school students from Madera High, Madera South, and Mountain Vista. He added that their efforts will be aimed at both adults and other students. The reason he brings this to the Council's attention today is because the youth working on this project will be looking to connect with City staff in all facets of City planning. They will also be working with County Transportation Commission and other groups in Fresno. Mr. Cauley stated that the second announcement is that next Wednesday is Earth Day as most of them may know. They would like to invite the Council and members of the public here today to their Earth Day Celebration scheduled next Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> at their Community Garden located between Lake and 4<sup>th</sup> Streets next to the fire station. He advised that it is a free event and they will have food, music, activities for kids and they are also using it as a day of service where anyone from the community can come and plant seeds that day. Mr. Cauley left flyers for the Council and thanked them for their time.

Mayor Poythress thanked Mr. Cauley for his comments.

Victor Villar, Associate Superintendent for Madera Unified School District (MUSD), stated his purpose for being here is to let them know that they are getting a committee going through their Superintendent Mr. Gonzalez. Mr. Villar noted that he was at the Board of Supervisors yesterday and he is here today to ask for maybe a few of the Council to be part of this committee. They will be asking the business owners, the Board of Supervisors, and the Council. He stated that the purpose of this committee is basically for them to bring items forward from the district that they are doing or items that they are looking at doing. They would appreciate the input of this community committee to give them feedback in regards to: are they in the right direction, do they need to tweak some items, what is the general public feeling in regards to the school district, are they in the right direction or what is it that the public feels that they need to fix. He noted that this is a little bit of an extension on the LCAP/LCFF meetings that have been taking place. He added that it is also on one of their pillars in regards to their strategic plan. They were supposed to have had this committee ongoing since probably last year. With himself being new and Mr. Gonzalez finishing up about a year and one-half into his tenure, they want to make sure that they get this committee off the ground. As an example of items they would present to the committee, as he mentioned to the Board of Supervisors, today they have a community meeting in regards to a K-6 or a K-8 school by MLK. This is something they would present to them. They would present the pros and cons and then they would get some feedback from them and also some of the members of their Board of Trustees. He commented that at the Board of Supervisors they nominated right away. One of the things they would like to note is if there is anything that can be done today or if it is something that they need to call to get agendized.

Mayor Poythress stated he would like to see it agendized or Mr. Villar could send out an email describing what he just talked about to the City Clerk and she can coordinate. Mayor Poythress noted that they would vote on it but it is one of those things where they have to have 72 hours notice, etc.

Mr. Villar stated he understands.

Mayor Poythress stated it is a great idea and they are heading in the right direction. He stated his appreciation.

Mr. Villar stated at this point they want to be transparent with obviously all of their pertinent stakeholders within their community. They want to build a district that everybody is proud of.

Council Member Holley asked regarding meeting dates. He noted that there is one tonight and one next Wednesday.

Mr. Villar agreed and advised that the meeting referenced is the K-6, K-8 meeting. They will have one additional meeting at 5:30 p.m. at MLK.

A gentleman, identified later as Lupe Rodriguez, stated he wants to provide comment on item C-2 and asked if he should do it now or wait.

Mayor Poythress stated they will wait for C-2.

Mr. Rodriguez asked if they will be able to ask a few questions.

Mayor Poythress responded yes.

Mayor Poythress closed the public comment.

Mayor Poythress called on the City Clerk to give an announcement on a late distribution.

City Clerk Sonia Alvarez announced that pursuant to Government Code Section 54957, members of the public are advised that documents related to the following agenda items were distributed to the Council less than 72 hours before this meeting. Under Section B, Consent Calendar, Item B-1, subject matter minutes for 3/18/15, the minutes were distributed to the Council this evening. Also for Item B-7, subject matter resolution approving amendments to the budget, a revised Exhibit AA was distributed to the Council this evening. Ms. Alvarez advised that extra copies are available at the podium for members of the public wishing a copy.

**A. WORKSHOP**

There are no items for this section.

**B. CONSENT CALENDAR**

B-1 Minutes – 3/18/15

B-2 Information Only – Warrant Disbursement Report

B-3 Consideration of a Resolution Reappointing Robert Gran Jr. to the City of Madera Planning Commission (Report by Chris Boyle)

B-4 Consideration of a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Madera, Approving an Agreement for Online Research Services with Lexis Nexis and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the Agreement and any Documents Necessary to Effectuate the Agreement (Report by Brent Richardson)

B-5 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 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) (Report by Daniel Abdella)

- B-6 Consideration of the City of Madera Investment Report for the Quarter Ending March 31, 2015 for Approval and Acceptance (Report by Tim Przybyla)
- B-7 Consideration of a Resolution Approving Amendments to the Budgets in the Sewer Fund Increasing Expenditure Appropriations for Repairs to the Waste Water Treatment Plant (Report by Dave Randall)

Mayor Poythress asked if members of the Council wish to pull any items from the consent calendar for further discussion. No requests were made and Mayor Poythress announced that he would accept a motion for action.

**ON MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER BOMPREZZI, AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROBINSON, THE CONSENT CALENDAR WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 7-0.**

**RES. NO. 15-58 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA REAPPOINTING ROBERT GRAN JR. TO THE CITY OF MADERA PLANNING COMMISSION**

**RES. NO. 15-59 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA APPROVING AN AGREEMENT FOR ONLINE RESEARCH SERVICES WITH LEXIS NEXIS AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT AND ANY DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE AGREEMENT**

**RES. NO. 15-60 RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA DESIGNATING AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR, OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE, TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF MADERA TO EXECUTE APPLICATIONS, CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES AND AGREEMENTS FOR OBTAINING CALIFORNIA LOW CARBON TRANSIT OPERATIONS PROGRAM FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

**RES. NO. 15-61 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA AMENDING THE FY 2014/15 ANNUAL BUDGET TO INCREASE EXPENDITURE ALLOCATIONS IN THE SEWER FUND BUDGETS TO INCREASE THE ALLOCATION NECESSARY FOR REPAIRS OF THE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT**

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

**C-1 A Continued Public Hearing to Consider an Appeal by Barnes Welding Supply of the Planning Commission Denial of Conditional Use Permit 2014-10 MOD and Site Plan Review 2015-03, which Requested a Modification of an Existing Use Permit to Allow for Outdoor Storage**

**And**

**Consideration of a Resolution of Determination on the Appeal**

Planning Manager Chris Boyle stated this is a continued public hearing on an appeal for Barnes Welding Supply of a Planning Commission denial of Conditional Use Permit 2014-10 and Site Plan Review 2015-03 which requested an allowance from an existing use permit to provide for outdoor storage. He added that the Council will also consider a resolution of determination on this appeal tonight.

Mr. Boyle stated that on June 17, 2014 the Planning Commission approved a conditional use permit which allowed for the establishment of Barnes Welding Supply on the site with indoor storage. He noted that the use permit was required because in an "I" Zone the handling of gasses require a conditional use

permit. He added that subsequently on March 10, 2015 the Planning Commission (Commission) heard a request for outdoor storage of that same gas and in a 3 to 3 vote the item was denied by the Commission. He noted that the applicant filed an appeal and the Council heard that appeal on March 18, 2015. The Council provided direction to staff to come back to Council with additional information in order for the Council to make a determination.

Mr. Boyle stated the information focused upon provisions for additional security, information on security, information on safety, and information on aesthetics. He noted that the first thing staff looked to do was to first look at their staff expertise and return back to Matt Tarr, the Interim Fire Marshal, for an assurance that the use itself would be in full compliance with existing codes, federal, state, and OSHA ordinances as it related to the handling of those materials. Having that confidence in hand, they looked harder at the conditions of approval that provide guidance for compliance with the use permit. One of the important components of that compliance comes from the Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMBP) which often times is called a business plan as well. He stated that the conditions of approval required that a Hazardous Materials Business Plan be submitted as a component of building permits and this application is in building permit now. Mr. Boyle noted that they secured the HMBP and reviewed that document. He commented that within that document, which is a living document and the final elements of that document aren't really finalized until issuance of building permit, they were able to glean parts of that information that the Council was looking for. He explained that the HMBP has a component that looks at training and there are extensive requirements that are brought forth from Barnes Welding as a component of the HMBP that speak to training. He advised that the staff report notes that Barnes itself has a very large training document, something like a 300 to 400 page document, that should be in room tonight. He pointed to the representative present in the audience holding the document. Mr. Boyle noted that he did not add that as an exhibit for obvious reasons. He commented that with compliance with the HMBP there should be an absolute sense of security in terms of the safety of the handling of gas on that site. They also queried the applicant for additional information as it relates to the safety and security of the operation and the applicant provided a three page synopsis of their performance in their other 11 oxygen and welding supply businesses. He noted that these businesses have been in operation since 1949. There are an extensive set of employees that have a long record of safety within their business and staff has a sense of comfort that the Barnes Welding Supply management team does provide for safety and security within their day to day operations and especially in terms of its handling of gas canisters for compliance with all regulations.

Mr. Boyle commented that the Council also asked staff to look harder at the aesthetics of the proposed structure. He noted that there is a condition of approval within the original entitlement that went to the Planning Commission that asked for an aesthetically pleasing enclosure, and within the condition of approval, to retrofit an existing trash enclosure to match in aesthetic quality the new enclosure that would be constructed in proximity to that. Mr. Boyle stated what they are displaying looks to be a sketch up document but it does a pretty good job of demonstrating the level of quality that would go into the construction of the enclosure and the quality of materials that might be utilized. He advised that the trellis feature within this graphic is only placed there to give a sense of what the enclosure might look like once vines would cover the enclosure. The intent is to have landscape plantings that would climb up and screen the enclosure to be kind of a living wall of sorts that would then reduce potential for graffiti and other types of vandalism from occurring on the structure. He also noted that the rear wall of the structure faces Maple Street so that there isn't a view from the street into the enclosure itself. He advised that the enclosure is required to have open sides per the law but those open sides will be constructed of a quality wrought iron to reduce potential for vandalism. He added that part of the security proposed by the applicant would include 24 hour cameras as well as lasers on the site to protect the facility 24/7.

Mr. Boyle stated that staff feels they have taken the direction of the Council and they are hopeful that the Council feels the same. With the additional information cumulatively, staff feels that there is a measure of certainty in the safety, security, aesthetics and overall compatibility of the use in the proposed location at the Span Industrial Park. Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution of determination after the appeal hearing. He noted that Interim Fire Marshal Matt Tarr is in the audience as well as the appellant. He advised that he has kept the two slides at the end of his presentation to be used for

reference at the discretion of the Council. Mr. Boyle noted that completes his presentation and offered to answer any questions the Council may have.

Mayor Poythress asked if members of the Council have any questions for Mr. Boyle. No questions were asked.

Mayor Poythress announced that this is a continuation of the public hearing and opened the public hearing. He asked if there are any members of the public who wish to comment on this item.

Julie Herd stated she is the Marketing and Business Development Manager at Madera County Economic Development Commission (EDC). She is here tonight speaking on behalf of their Executive Director Bobby Kahn who was not able to make the meeting tonight due to scheduling conflicts. She advised that Mr. Kahn has done some work with the client on this project. It was brought to their attention that one of the Planning Commissioners had an issue with outside storage of the oxygen tanks. She noted that Mr. Kahn and the client investigated that a little bit further. They met with Planning and with the Fire Marshal and it was actually preferred, through their discussions, as they saw in Mr. Boyle's presentation, that the oxygen tanks actually be stored outside and that it is actually safer for them to be outside rather than inside which is what she thinks was an issue with one of the Commissioners who thought it might be safer if they were inside. Ms. Herd stated that just to rectify that issue having them outside seemed to be the consensus and that is what was determined obviously as Mr. Boyle covered that. Ms. Herd added that the Madera County EDC urges the Council to be in support of this project.

Mayor Poythress asked if there are any other members of the public who wish to comment on this item.

Craig Wedgeworth, residing in Citrus Heights, California, stated that he filed the application for the conditional use permit on behalf of Barnes Welding. He has been working with the various consultants over the past 15 months to get the project to the point that it is now. Mr. Wedgeworth stated they want to thank the Council for giving them the opportunity to work on putting together the information to answer the questions that were raised. He really believes the fact that the voice vote approved the project originally and then the vote was changed to the 3 to 3 vote. He commented that in his mind, it appears it was more unanswered questions than there was any specific objection to the project going forward. He doesn't want to be overly redundant from Mr. Boyle's presentation but they hope they have addressed all of the Council's concerns and if there are any questions they would be glad to answer them.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver noted that the new proposed location appears to be about 10 or 20 feet to the west from what was initially proposed.

Mr. Wedgeworth responded yes.

Mayor Poythress asked if there are any other members of the public who wish to comment on this item. No other requests were made and Mayor Poythress closed the public hearing.

Council Member Medellin stated he voiced some concerns the last time regarding the security, safety and aesthetics. He thanked staff and Barnes Welding Supply for being patient and going through the process. He agrees with Mr. Wedgeworth totally. He doesn't think it was necessarily a no but maybe some unanswered questions. Council Member Medellin stated that in his opinion he thinks they have mitigated that. He again commended Mr. Boyle for doing a fine job. Council Member Medellin noted that he doesn't think the 24 hour cameras were on the original report; security lasers were on the original report; the drawings they had here tonight were not on the original one. He thinks that answers a lot of his questions and concerns and he thinks it would have at the Planning stage as well. Council Member Medellin restated that he is confident that they have mitigated all the issues as far as security, safety and aesthetics and he hopes that the ivy, or whatever greenery they use, grows in quickly because that is a perfect canvass for taggers. He commented that at this point he is in total agreement and he is certainly confident and comfortable, noting that he was never in doubt that they would not be successful, but he just wanted to make sure that they did things right. He welcomed Barnes Welding to Madera. He knows

that it has been since 1949 so they have obviously been doing things right. He added that he saw their track record, their safety records, and the various reports, and he appreciates their patience.

**COUNCIL MEMBER MEDELLIN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE ITEM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLEY.**

City Attorney Brent Richardson clarified that on this item they have some options.

Mayor Poythress noted that a motion would be a resolution of the Madera City Council and the decision is reversed based on the following findings by the Planning Commission.

Mr. Richardson stated that if the motion is going to be to reverse it, which he sensed from where Council Member Medellin was going then they would basically make a finding of whatever error the Planning Commission may have made. If the initial concern was a safety concern for a conditional use permit they have to be able to find that it is not detrimental to the health, safety and welfare of the surrounding community. He supposes that the Council could make a finding that it is not and that the error of the Planning Commission may have been...

Council Member Medellin stated he hates to use the word error. He asked if there is a way to justify based on lack of information rather than an error on the Planning Commission.

Mr. Richardson responded that when he drew up the resolution it is actually based on the code section but he thinks they could just say that the Council finds that the use as contemplated would not be detrimental to the health, safety and welfare of the surrounding community.

**COUNCIL MEMBER MEDELLIN STATED THAT HIS STATEMENT, AS PREVIOUSLY STATED, WOULD BE THE BASIS FOR HIS APPROVAL. COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLEY SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**MAYOR POYTHRESS ANNOUNCED THAT THEY HAVE A MOTION AND A SECOND TO REVERSE THE DENIAL FROM THE MADERA PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE SUBJECT ACTION. MAYOR POYTHRESS CALLED FOR THE QUESTION AND ITEM C-1, RES. NO. 15-62 WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 7-0.**

**RES. NO. 15-62            A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA MAKING A DETERMINATION AFTER HEARING ON APPEAL OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION DECISION DENYING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 2014-10 MOD AND SITE PLAN REVIEW 2015-03**

- C-2    A. Consideration Of A Minute Order Approving Engineer's Report For City Wide Landscape And Lighting Assessment District Zones Of Benefit 1, 2, 3, 4, 6a, 6b, 7, 8, 9, 10a, 10b, 10c, 10d, 10e, 10f, 10g, 10h,10i, 12, 13, 14, 15, 15b, 15c, 16, 17a, 17b, 17c, 17d, 18, 20a, 20b, 20c, 21a, 21b, 21c, 21d, 23, 24, 25c, 25d, 26, 26b, 26c,26d, 27, 27b, 28, 28b, 29, 29b, 29c, 29d, 29e, 30, 31a, 31b, 32a, 32b, 33, 34, 34b, 34c, 35, 36a, 36b, 36c, 37, 39, 40, 41, 43a, 43c, 43d, 43e, 44, 45a, 46, 50 & 51 For 2015/16 Fiscal Year**
  
- B. Consideration Of A Resolution Of Intention To Levy And Collect Annual Assessments For City Wide Landscape And Lighting Assessment District Zones Of Benefit 1, 2, 3, 4, 6a, 6b, 7, 8, 9, 10a, 10b, 10c, 10d, 10e, 10f, 10g, 10h,10i, 12, 13, 14, 15, 15b, 15c, 16, 17a, 17b, 17c, 17d, 18, 20a, 20b, 20c, 21a, 21b, 21c, 21d, 23, 24, 25c, 25d, 26, 26b, 26c,26d, 27, 27b, 28, 28b, 29, 29b, 29c, 29d, 29e, 30, 31a, 31b, 32a, 32b, 33, 34, 34b, 34c, 35, 36a, 36b, 36c, 37, 39, 40, 41, 43a, 43c, 43d, 43e, 44, 45a, 46, 50 & 51 For Fiscal Year 2015/2016 And Setting Date For Public Hearing**

### **C. Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing Amendments to the FY 2014/15 Budget for the Appropriation of General Fund Funds**

City Engineer Keith Helmuth stated that on an annual basis the Engineering Department prepares a landscape maintenance district report. He noted that the report addresses the City's landscape and lighting assessment districts. He advised that the report does several things as part of the management of the zones. Those things include adding additional districts to the Engineer's Report that did not exist in previous year and they have added one district since last year; updating exhibits and assessments to reflect parcels that may have been divided or merged in the last year and they have had two or three of those in the last year; and updating assessment amounts for any changes in costs.

Mr. Helmuth stated that as Council is aware there are a series of changes to landscape maintenance districts that will serve to increase assessments this year. He advised that those changes are associated with maintenance and the proposal to switch from a private contractor to City crews for the maintenance. He stated that the proposed change would occur on July 1, 2015 and they anticipate that the quality of the landscape maintenance would improve with that change. He noted that they are also requesting that the Council provide approval to start the hiring process for new staff to maintain the districts and to purchase new equipment, and second, there is a change in the reserve amount. Mr. Helmuth stated that previously it represented a 10% amount for repairs, and that is 10% of the total cost of maintaining the zones. It now represents an amount equivalent to the cost to maintain the zones between July 1<sup>st</sup> and December 10<sup>th</sup> as allowed per the Landscape and Lighting District Act of 1972. He commented that this change would be made over 5 years and it is expected to reduce the frequency and associated costs of Proposition 218 elections. He noted that as would be expected however, spreading the rate adjustments over a larger time would result in larger assessment increases when they do occur.

Mr. Helmuth commented that this year the majority of adjustments represent increases and there are two zones that have reductions. He advised that some of the adjustments are in accordance with the existing covenants. He noted that 40 of the zones, 23 of which were voted down last year, either do not have a covenant or the requested change in assessment goes outside the bounds of their covenant. He stated that these zones would be subject to a Proposition 218 election which they have tentatively scheduled for July 1, 2015. Mr. Helmuth referred to the drought and advised that the Engineer's Report does not attempt to address the financial impacts of the drought. They can expect that all zones will be physically impacted due to the reduction of the irrigation. Moving forward the subject of the drought may affect landscaping. He noted that several of the zones, if they do not have sufficient funding to cover the landscaping, they may look at drought tolerant landscaping with reduced requirements for maintenance. He advised that at first the economics may drive the need for that change but over time all zones may come into consideration for new landscaping simply for the reducing of consumption of water.

Mr. Helmuth stated the next steps for the Proposition 218 ballots, to the degree possible, they will provide additional information over the last year. That would include giving previous assessment history so that the property owners can see what they had in the past and the basis for any changes that occurred over the years. They are also planning a town hall type meeting after the delivery of the ballots so property owners can come and ask questions. He restated that the public hearing is also scheduled for July 1, 2015.

Mr. Helmuth requested that the Council approve the Engineer's Report, adopt a resolution to levy and collect assessments and make amendments to the general fund following the public hearing portion of this item. Mr. Helmuth offered to answer any questions the Council may have.

Mayor Poythress thanked Mr. Helmuth and opened the item up to Council for questions and comments and then they will hear from the public.

Mayor Poythress asked what the situation is going to be for the zones that passed last year. He referred to Zone 6B which he thinks was a zone that passed the assessment increase last year. He commented that it looks like it is going to remain the same and asked if that is true. Mayor Poythress referred to the



table in the report which states existing average assessment paid by parcel \$59.28; proposed assessment \$59.28.

Mr. Helmuth responded that if it matches there would be no change and there would be no Proposition 218 election.

Mayor Poythress commented that then the ones that passed last year no election.

Mr. Helmuth clarified that there are a few from last year that would have a Proposition 218 hearing this year with the proposed changes of going to City crews and adjusting the reserve amounts.

Mayor Poythress stated his understanding that some of those that did pass can still have that.

Mr. Helmuth agreed.

Mayor Poythress wondered what is going to happen between now and July 1<sup>st</sup>. He asked if things are ramping. For example, he thinks water has been turned on as far as maintenance goes and on some of the zones that didn't pass, do they have to wait until after July 1<sup>st</sup> before these things are taken care of?

City Administrator David Tooley commented that at this point and time there are no plans to provide additional maintenance to the area. He noted that is a business decision of the City Council. Most recently he had a discussion with several Council Members who asked him to evaluate the cost of the City providing additional service in the interim period. He advised if the Council would like to pursue that this evening they can engage in that discussion as well.

Mayor Poythress commented that certainly for zones that did pass. He knows there would be some issues with some zones that did pass last year paying full bore for things going on, and those zones that did not pass, it is kind of like what is up with that. He noted that on the other hand, even though his zone passed the increase last year, when he drives out on Woodlands Drive onto Sunset, he looks right across the street at a zone that did not pass. In fact, he is sure they don't like to hear this, but he took his mower out and mowed from Doubletree to Westberry last week. He plans to continue mowing because he just can't stand it any longer. He wonders if there is some way to...he doesn't like to take funds out of the general fund to do that and yet he just can't stand the way things look. He doesn't like to see things dying or dead trees and bushes standing up so he is throwing that out there. He guesses himself, he doesn't find it acceptable for the next 75 days for nothing to happen.

Mr. Tooley stated he has two points. First in the interest of full disclosure, he is in one of those zones that did not pass and his zone has some appearance issues that in fact he thinks the Mayor gets to look at every day.

Mayor Poythress commented that he mowed the other day too.

Mr. Tooley stated that he does have an interest in this that he needs to disclose. Second, for the Council to take any action with regard to the City doing something on an interim basis, they would have to bring it back because it is not properly agendaized this evening. However, he can give them a couple of reference points if the Council would like to pursue this portion of the discussion. Mr. Tooley noted that there are enough heads nodding yes that he thinks the answer is yes.

Mr. Tooley commented that since their last meeting he has asked staff to go back and do an evaluation on what it would cost for the City to provide some maintenance service on an interim basis. They are going to be strategically brownning out a number of areas in their public parks system. He noted that begins to provide some degree of staff time that is available for other activities and they are going to have to pay some overtime as well. He advised that if they provide service to those limited number of zones that have problems during the interim, it looks like the cost for 75 days, noting that he would give them three options, for monthly service would probably run order of magnitude \$4,000. Instead of receiving weekly service they would receive service once a month. For twice a month service or biweekly service it

is probably going to run about \$7,000 during the interim period. For weekly service it would run, order of magnitude, \$13,000-\$14,000. They are in a position that they could ramp up and do that if the Council so desires. If they do, they place it on the agenda and they begin the ramping up process now. He added that there are a limited number of areas. They are going to go to the worst areas first and obviously the first maintenance cycle is going to be the one that takes the most time and most expense because these areas haven't received attention for a number of months. Mr. Tooley asked Mary Anne Seay, the Parks and Community Services Director, if he has missed anything that she should add to that part of the discussion. Ms. Seay responded no.

Mr. Tooley asked if staff can answer any additional questions.

Mayor Poythress thanked Mr. Tooley for providing that information. Mayor Poythress stated what he does want to do, noting that he is one of seven so they need to hear from other colleagues, but once they get out there and educate and push for approval and zones don't approve an increase, all bets are off as far as he is concerned because those zones have been fully educated and they know what is going on. So if they don't want to vote for an increase then that is their problem but in the interim he would like to see at least some grace given until that particular time.

Council Member Rigby directed his comment to Mr. Helmuth and stated that researching every zone he has come to find that as District 5 Councilman he actually has four of these zones within his district, minimal amount, however the most impact from what he sees financially. He noted that maybe Mr. Helmuth can help shed some light on the table. He sees the existing average assessment. He sees the proposed assessment and then he sees previous high assessment. He asked what number he is looking at specifically on Zone 15B located in the Clinton/Knox area of Madera.

Mr. Helmuth responded that right now it shows it has an existing assessment of zero dollars and it actually has a proposed assessment of zero dollars. He noted that the previous high had been \$53.70. He advised that there would not be a Proposition 218 hearing on 15B.

Council Member Rigby stated that the previous high, just in layman's terms, is?

Mr. Helmuth responded that the \$53.70 occurred in the 12/13 fiscal year. At that point and time that zone more than likely would have had a surplus and it was zeroed out to allow that surplus to run down.

Council Member Rigby referred to Zone 15C. He noted that it was existing at an assessment cost of zero and with this new proposed assessment it would increase to \$40 shared amongst the housing units in that area.

Mr. Helmuth agreed that 15C would go to \$40. It had a previous high of about \$111. He doesn't have all the specifics in front of him but 15C will have had a covenant in place previously that indicated that it had a base amount which was in excess of \$40. He noted that going back to \$40 does not trigger a Proposition 218 because the property owners in that zone previously approved an amount higher than that.

Council Member Rigby asked for confirmation that is the annual amount.

Mr. Helmuth responded that is the annual amount.

Mayor Poythress asked if any other members of the Council have comments or questions on this item.

Council Member Medellin stated he agrees with what Mayor Poythress opened with. First of all it is his understanding that the water is turned off only for the winter time with the assumption or hope that they get rain and that is from November until about March or so. He doesn't have the exact dates.

Parks and Community Services Director Mary Anne Seay responded that the exact dates are triggered by the weather. If they were to have a wet year the water could go off earlier but in roundabout terms

Council Member Medellin is correct. She commented that the water is shut off just like in their own homes. They shut it off during the winter season and it comes back on when the weather starts to warm up and the rain stops. Unfortunately it is a little early this year.

Council Member Medellin stated that makes sense. They talked about the drought and he knows they are going to talk about it over and over again but it is his understanding on the scheduling, that they did turn the water back on, that it was never turned off. His issue is, if they start to die off trees, shrubs and things like that now they are talking about irreparable damage and costing them even more money in the long run. If the grass turns a little brown maybe they can water it or they can still maintain it but they did not turn the water off nor did they intend to and asked if that is correct.

Ms. Seay responded that is correct.

Council Member Medellin stated that in his zone they did vote for it and he lives just behind the Mayor but it is not just in his particular neighborhood; it is all neighborhoods and it is in the community. He thinks there is a property value issue and there is no easy answer. He appreciates the Mayor not only mowing but he thinks he saw him plucking some mistletoe. He thinks there are other neighbors and there are some people that are doing their own maintenance whether they are paying somebody else to do it or pulling out their own lawnmowers so this does kind of also become a Love Madera, if you will, but not everybody is doing all zones. He thinks they should seriously look at this particular issue. He knows Mr. Tooley has given them some numbers here on a monthly, bimonthly or weekly and he would like to address that with the rest of the Council and see if there is something they can do over the next 75 days to possibly mitigate that and pay a little more attention to some of these zones that really do not look good at all.

Council Member Rigby stated he couldn't agree more with Council Member Medellin on what a great opportunity for some of their service project groups to maybe take something on. One of the things that he would have a hard time with, and maybe those that seem to agree with the Mayor can help him process this a little as he is just kind of getting everybody in his head but his constituents don't have very many of these zones as opposed to maybe Council Member Medellin or even Council Member Bompreszi. He noted that it would be really hard for him to approach his constituents and convince them that their taxes that are going into the general fund are helping pay for the landscaping of the west side where on the east side they perhaps may not see the benefits of it 100%. It would be hard for him to convince even his next door neighbor why their taxes that are going into the general fund, why they aren't mowing his lawn. He noted this is just something he is trying to process through that if they were to go into the general fund, if he is incorrect in thinking that is how it would work, then he might need some help. He is not opposed to it however, he would definitely need a lot more information before he could yea or nay something like that.

Council Member Medellin commented that he went through each and every one of the zones. He doesn't believe that all the zones are only west side. He thinks they are kind of scattered throughout.

Council Member Rigby clarified that he has four and again, looking at the zone structure, predominately west side zones.

Council Member Medellin stated one of the issues the Mayor brought up, and he knows they are going to discuss tonight and he really wants to get into, is the outreach and education. He doesn't think that they would even be at this point if they had proper outreach and education. They charged a certain assessment and then by law they had enough funds so they actually could not charge anymore so they reduced an assessment, and then they came back later on and charged more money. He understands it through a series of questions with staff and emails and things like that but he thinks the person at home got their bill and it said 20 bucks and maybe the last vote was 70 and then they come back a year or two later, or however long it is, and now it is back to 80 bucks. There is no outreach, there is no education; it is basically just a bill. For the ones that do actually read it, he thinks there is some confusion. He knows they talked about town halls and doing outreach. He thinks that is going to be very, very important so that they don't get to this point and have people say why or I didn't know.

Mr. Helmuth commented that when the ballot goes out it has a description of the changes in the assessments. This year they plan to show a history of what it was and a short description of the reasoning behind the past to give them an idea. For instance, when they went from say \$70 to zero dollars and then back up again, they want to educate the public to know that it dropped down to diminish the surplus monies in that account and they had to bring it back up to match the maintenance with the funding. He noted that it wasn't clearly shown last year. It showed that they did need to increase the funding. He agreed that they can do a better job and give that explanation this year.

Mr. Tooley stated that the City Attorney reminds him that they need to return to the main point which is the Engineer's Report. He thinks this is an important part of the discussion. He added that perhaps offline he can visit with Council Member Rigby and work him through some of the equity issues and when they come back and have this very specific discussion about City funding, he thinks he will be in a position to make an informed decision.

Council Member Bompreszi stated that was her concern when they started to get all the complaints. She knows they are off the subject. She asked how much public education did they go out there and tell these zones what was going to happen if they didn't vote for this. She thinks they do need to do a better job of getting the word out of what the impact is going to be. She agreed with Mayor Poythress that they need to provide interim whether that be biweekly or whatever. She commented that who expected the warm weather that they had thus far. They are having weather that should be on down the road a little bit and heaven knows what summer is going to be like. She asked Ms. Seay if twice a month would be sufficient. Does it need to be done every week?

Ms. Seay responded that they are happy to provide information in a staff report that can give Council the benefits of doing it each of the three ways. They do have some concerns about a lot of overtime for staff and burning them out for their primary functions. All that can be discussed in the staff report on that particular subject area. Any one of the three would be a significant improvement over nothing.

Mayor Poythress asked if there are any other questions or comments from Council.

Mayor Poythress directed his comment to Council Member Rigby. He thinks that there are some legality issues potentially but talking about a volunteerism / community effort / Love Madera type of thing could be a real way to go at this time.

Mayor Poythress thanked Mr. Helmuth.

Mayor Poythress opened the item to the public for comment, concern, or clarification. He asked that they come up to the podium and state their name and address for the record.

Lupe Rodriguez, residing in Madera, California, stated he has lived here all his life. He thinks he knows pretty much everybody in here and he loves Madera. He is not here to put blame or say why didn't you do it this way but he guesses maybe he is a little. He wants to be part of the solution not part of the problem and asked that they take it that way. If he doesn't explain it right he is sorry about that but he will clarify it. He noted that they said something about hiring new employees and asked if that is part of the solution that they are thinking they are going to have to hire more employees. He is talking about grounds crew or whatever.

Mayor Poythress responded that the agenda item is a pretty extensive report but there are a lot of actions. One of the decisions that they have made, at least on a preliminary basis, their direction is to go with City employees rather than an outside contractor because they can do a couple of things. Number one they can control the quality if they go that direction. The second thing is that with the way the bidding process goes they have to go with the low bid and a lot of times if you go to low bid, you get what you pay for. Mayor Poythress added that a lot of times with some of the outside companies their costs are going up so he doesn't think there is going to be quite the gap that there has been in the past but that is what the deal is.

Mr. Rodriguez responded that he really is not for hiring new employees. He thinks what they were doing before when they had contractors out there, his personal opinion, and asked that they don't kill him for this, but he thinks they get too many more employees then they are having to deal with workman's comp and that is the reason why you get contractors. That is their problem. He noted that they just have to have a person that goes out and they have somebody that is responsible and knows that hey this is the job that needs to be done and this is how I want it done. That is how I pay you. Pay you at the end of the week or however they do it, at the end of the year or end of the three month, one month, or however they pay. If he does the job then he gets paid; simple as that. He knows it is not as easy; they have to have people out there that go out. He knows they have people. He knows the people that are there. They can do that for them. They just have to make sure to give them the time to do it. That is his personal opinion as far as hiring new employees. He thinks ok now I gotta get a truck. Now I gotta get three more lawnmowers. Oh wait now it got stolen, or broken or ran into something, or I got hurt. He doesn't think that is the way to go but that is his opinion. He knows they talked a little about elections. When he received that, did he read it? He probably didn't. He probably looked at it and said heck they want more money and he said he is not paying any more taxes. He noted that this comes up and it is his ignorance for not looking at it real good and probably somebody else's fault for not sort of explaining things a little better too but that is ok, that is how they learn. He commented is he willing to pay more and he is but he wants to know what he is paying for. He wants to know ok it is going to be \$60 more a year or a month or whatever they want to do but he doesn't know what he is getting and what are they paying for. Are they paying for drought tolerant landscape? Are they making sure the code has been followed when they are putting trees and putting in some kind of a barrier where the root doesn't come up three years later and it breaks the concrete then they've got a huge amount of money that has got to be spent. He added that it doesn't get fixed and he knows it doesn't because he runs over it every day and the reason is, it is a big amount of money. He noted that goes back to code enforcement. When they tell a contractor or somebody that is going to put in a subdivision, this is what our code is, we want trees every 25 feet, we want drought tolerant. What trees do we want to put in there? Do we want a barrier so it doesn't ruin our streets later on? Mr. Rodriguez commented that this is not being done he is telling them. They can tell by the way they look out there. It is that way. It ruins the sidewalks. He has seen the City working on some sidewalks already out there but that is the people that they could use mowing the lawn instead of having them fix sidewalks. He stated that is something else that needs to be addressed. He thinks they will be able to address it when they have these town meetings and things like that. He just wanted to say that they have to start from the basic and that is when they get those houses built out there. He agreed that the boom is gone but it is coming back so they need to get on it. He suggested they talk to code enforcement and say hey you guys make sure that those guys, when I go out there and inspect that, I am going to see that barrier around that tree and I'm going to know what kind of tree you are putting in and what kind of a watering system you are putting in; things like that. He stated that is simple stuff and he knows they have the people that can do it. They are smart people and he knows they are but they just have to push code enforcement. He noted that code enforcement is the hammer. They don't let the guy put it in then. Mr. Rodriguez asked if the City has thought about prison help and has anybody contacted them. He knows there is a liability there. He sees them around working on the freeways and working everywhere else.

Mr. Tooley responded that that they have used crews in the past. They don't envision using them for this particular activity.

Mr. Rodriguez asked why.

Mr. Tooley stated that what the City will do will provide a better quality of service. It is going to be more predictable and they think it is going to be cost effective. Mr. Tooley added, so that Mr. Rodriguez understands, they are only hiring two full time people. The rest of it is going to be part time labor so that they ramp up or ramp down depending on what they learn and how they begin to change things with regard to the drought.

Mr. Rodriguez stated he stands with what he said. He still doesn't go with hiring new people. He thinks they should stay with their contractors just make them do what they are supposed to do; what they pay

them for. Mr. Rodriguez thanked Mr. Tooley for the answer. He noted that he still thinks that the prison help is pretty viable. They can use it in certain spots. He added that for a while there they were working the kids on Saturday. He doesn't want to take too much time. He is running his mouth and he just wants to try and make sure he gets everything down. Mr. Rodriguez referred to other funding sources. He asked if they have looked at the Redevelopment Agency.

Mayor Poythress responded that there is no more Redevelopment Agency thanks to Governor Brown and that has been gone for a couple of years.

Mr. Rodriguez agreed but noted that there are still people that are working it and there is still money that is coming in some part.

Mayor Poythress responded that it is not anywhere near what was coming in. Mayor Poythress added that second, they need to be in an RDA district to get those kinds of funds. He advised Mr. Rodriguez that he is not in an RDA district. Mayor Poythress added that they are looking for anywhere they can get funds. There are strings attached and they are hard to get and that is the reason why they are having this...

Mr. Rodriguez stated he just wants to make sure that they are looking at all of the options there.

Mayor Poythress stated they are looking all over the place. They are very good with local funds.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that the Governor has told them that they can't water the....

Ms. Seay responded it is the ornamental turf in the median.

Mr. Rodriguez asked what they are going to do with that. He noted that the Governor is putting money out in front of them, no water and what are they going to do with that. Are they going to apply for any bonds?

Ms. Seay asked Mayor Poythress if he would like her to engage on a one on one with Mr. Rodriguez.

Mayor Poythress suggested that Mr. Rodriguez ask some of the questions afterwards because this is getting kind of technical with what the Governor is doing. He stated that some of this stuff has just come out as of last week. They are still assessing. They are still getting information from Sacramento with what that means.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that is the reason why he is bringing it up. He just wants to make sure...that is the other part of it that they can address some of this with. He is not just talking about his small area that they want to keep the grass mowed; the overall thing for the City. Mr. Rodriguez restated that there is money there. The Governor is kicking out some money so he is sure they have the people here that know how to get it. He looks forward to that. Mr. Rodriguez referred to what Council Member Rigby said about how his constituents, it's hard. He really doesn't like this, his constituents. They are all Madera but he understands where the law says they have to have representatives from every place. The deal that sort of hit him in the ribs there a little is when Council Member Rigby said, well how can I make them pay for something that is over here on the west side. Mr. Rodriguez commented that if he lived over there and he used to live over there, and there is nothing wrong with it, and he enjoyed living over there. His daughter lives over there and he would ask her, well do you want to come to Madera and see the weeds this high when you go take your kid to school, when you go shopping or whatever, and she stated no. His other comment is who is paying the higher taxes. Is he paying the higher taxes? Is that the costlier houses over there? Well he sees a lot of costly houses over here. He doesn't know; it is sort of iffy. He sees Council Member Rigby's point but he doesn't know if he totally agrees with it. Mr. Rodriguez stated that as far as twice a month mowing for the 75 days; whatever. He noted that the City is going to do that. He is not worried about the 75 days. He is worried about the long term. Regarding the 75 days, he mowed it. He mowed it one time already. It is not like he is going to fall apart but they do need to get a

plan together so they can have it for next year and they won't be over here all worried about why they are not going to get things mowed or other things done.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that is it. He appreciates them listening. He knows he sometimes sounds a little too pushy but he doesn't mean to be. He really is here to help. Whatever they need, he thinks there are people all over that are very more than willing. He wants to say one thing, he appreciates Council Member Medellin coming. He talked to them. He noted that Council Member Bompreszi was gone. They do appreciate that. They had their feathers all ruffled and everything. They were ready to go to battle and everything. They did talk to Council Member Medellin and it made a lot of sense.

Council Member Medellin thanked Mr. Rodriguez.

Mayor Poythress asked if any other members of the public wish to address this item.

Don Williams, residing in Madera, California, stated he understands they have two issues. One is the immediate issue of the next 75 days they will muddle through however, the City will decide how they will muddle through it. He is mowing his little island himself and he also saw the Mayor doing his. His neighbors are doing theirs. They are all doing what they can. Mr. Williams referred to increasing the fees in the districts and commented that he probably is like Mr. Rodriguez, he looked at his deal and said oh and threw it away or maybe he did understand and didn't vote for it. He can't remember and that is neither here nor there. What they really got, and he would take this agreement with the Mayor's position that if the people don't vote for it this time well it is their problem or Council Member Rigby's position that it's on the west side and I'm on the east side; it is their problem. Mr. Williams commented that they are all in the same city. They all drive down the same streets. He drives through the east side, east side people come to the west side. They all look at the same landscape. They all share the same benefits when they look good. He stated that Council Member Rigby can roll his eyes but they all do. They all share the same benefits and they should all share in the same costs. He noted that right now they have a calico cat approach. They have 80 different districts. They all look different. They have 80 different ways to manage them. One district has a zero fee one year, \$40 the next, zero the next. They can't make heads or tails out of it because they don't know what is going on either. He asked if it is possible, and he was here before they had these districts, he has been here a long time, that they reevaluate this as a global problem because right now they are going to take care of what they can take care of. He noted that it is not going to happen before July 1. They will have their votes on July 1 and what happens happens but maybe they need to look at this and say hey maybe we need to go to a system where everybody is equal. Every land owner pays an equal amount because they all share an equal amount of service just like they do from their police officers or fire or city government. He added that everybody goes to it and then the City does the best they can with maintaining it with whatever they come up with from each landowner. To him that seems fair and equitable because what they've got now really is a patchwork that is falling apart at the seams.

Allen St. Lucia, residing in Madera, California, stated he has been here since 1978. He hasn't lived here all his life. He has heard what people say about this. He lives in District 1. He thanked the Mayor for mowing the center median. He noted that the west side still has 3 foot high weeds in it. He added that the HOA on the east side, they had their guys mow it. He thanked the Mayor again for doing that noting that he shouldn't have to do that. They have City personnel that can do that. He knows they all have to do more with less these days. He commented that three years ago he had 11 guys under his jurisdiction at the prison. He is a Chief Engineer. He noted that it is a fancy title for maintenance supervisor. He stated that they downsized, reorganized. Whatever they want to call it, just like everyone else in this room that runs businesses, and he ended up with 8. He asked for 10. They immediately put one in salary savings. That gave him 7 and one retired and that gave him 6. He has 3 on workers comp. He is running a small city. He runs wastewater, water, lights, all the air conditioning, the backup generators, and if he took the same attitude as someone took when he voted it down, and he did vote it down, he won't tell them he didn't, well we will let them see what happens. They would have 3,000 felons on their doorstep sleeping tonight and they have done some of the most heinous crimes. He advised that he didn't. He pulled up his bootstraps and he said I've got a job to do, I'm committed to this community to keep them safe, and he did his job with his 3 men and he is going to keep doing his job. That is what

upsets him the most, people just say well I voted it down and I'll tell you why I voted it down. He has lived in that neighborhood for 24 years. He built that house 24 years ago and since he has lived there he has seen plants die all around that district and pulled out and not replaced. He has seen lawns go weeks or two weeks without getting mowed. They are paying a contractor to do something. He has seen there are dead trees there right now. They are not being trimmed or pulled out. There is mistletoe in trees that is not being trimmed and that is why he voted it down. He stated he is not going to stand here and say he didn't. Now they want to tell him they want to increase it. He pays \$14.08 December and April. That is \$28.16 times 245 houses in that district. That is a little over \$6,700 and it hasn't been touched in four months. He asked where is the \$6,700. Where he works at the prison, that is mismanagement of funds. He asked that they tell him what he is going to get for his money and he will pay the extra money. He commented that \$14 isn't a lot of money but he wants to know that when he drives around his neighborhood he is not going to see weeds this high and he is not going to see bushes not replaced that died and he wants to see grass mowed. He is not opposed to paying more. He is not here to beat anybody up. He has sat in those chairs with news cameras out here. Council Member Medellin knows. He did it for 3 ½ years on the Planning Commission. He spent weekends, Saturdays for 16 months taking juvenile delinquents around cleaning up alleys. They cleaned the lot where the courthouse is being built. He noted that there are resources out there. There are people they can use to do these things. He added that if need be he will do what the Mayor did and he will take his mower over there but he wants to know what he is paying for and he wants to know and be explained to. He read it and he voted it down. If it is not explained to him and he doesn't see some results he will vote it down again. He doesn't like the idea of well it's on them then; that is not right. They all live in the same City because if he went oh well it's on them and the gates opened up and he didn't keep the fence on they would have 3,000 inmates sleeping on their porch. Mr. St. Lucia thanked the Council.

Mayor Poythress asked if any other members of the public wish to comment.

Henry Arredondo, residing in Madera, California, stated Don Williams is his neighbor. They get up and they mow the median. He noted that is alright. A couple of years back he joined the graffiti abatement to keep Madera clean. He likes this place. It is a good City. He commented on how they are going to keep it clean; by graffiti abatement. He added that early in the mornings, erasing graffiti, he would see the Mayor running by and say how you doing. He stated that the same thing goes here, how are they going to keep the City clean if they don't mow the medians, the islands and the parks. He loves this City. He thinks it is a good City but if they neglect the medians, the lawns, pretty soon they have a little bit more graffiti and there it goes. He agrees with Don Williams. There are ways to do it and hopefully it will be done. He thanked the Council for their time.

Mayor Poythress asked if any other members of the public wish to comment. No other requests were made.

Mayor Poythress thanked everybody for their contributions tonight. He commented that unfortunately it sounds simplistic but it is not. They've got a general fund which is roughly \$27-\$28 million or something like that. About 63% of it goes to personnel costs, law enforcement, safety, staff, parks and rec and so forth and their only sources of income to offset that are sales tax and some property tax and again it is not the full intake of any one of those things rather it is a combination of things. These landscape zones have been in place for quite a few years and unfortunately the ones that were set into place before 2002 didn't have automatic escalation clauses so they didn't have to go through this particular process and keep up with things. He added that if they don't have these assessments it is a continued drain on the general fund. They would see reductions in services in other areas that he doesn't think any of them want to see. It is not easy. It is somewhat complicated. What he does pledge to everyone here in the public is that the process moving forward will be a lot different than it was last time. They are going to have informational sessions, town hall meetings, neighborhood meetings and there is a lot of information that still needs to go out that people need to understand and they don't want to have any question unanswered. He asked that they stay tuned. He has heard a number of them say they want to help. They can help by helping the City stage these meetings in their neighborhoods so that they can get a big turnout, get the information. He noted that is pretty much what he has to say on that topic and is not sure if anybody else



would like to comment on that. Otherwise he thinks they have three actions tonight and reviewed the requested actions. Mayor Poythress advised that they would take them in order.

Mayor Poythress announced that he would accept a motion for action on item C-2A.

**ON MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM OLIVER, AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MEDELLIN, ITEM C-2A, THE MINUTE ORDER APPROVING ENGINEER'S REPORT FOR CITY WIDE LANDSCAPE AND LIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT ZONES OF BENEFIT 1, 2, 3, 4, 6A, 6B, 7, 8, 9, 10A, 10B, 10C, 10D, 10E, 10F, 10G, 10H, 10I, 12, 13, 14, 15, 15B, 15C, 16, 17A, 17B, 17C, 17D, 18, 20A, 20B, 20C, 21A, 21B, 21C, 21D, 23, 24, 25C, 25D, 26, 26B, 26C, 26D, 27, 27B, 28, 28B, 29, 29B, 29C, 29D, 29E, 30, 31A, 31B, 32A, 32B, 33, 34, 34B, 34C, 35, 36A, 36B, 36C, 37, 39, 40, 41, 43A, 43C, 43D, 43E, 44, 45A, 46, 50 & 51 FOR 2015/16 FISCAL YEAR, WAS UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED BY A VOTE OF 7-0.**

Mayor Poythress moved to item C-2B.

**ON MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIGBY, AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROBINSON, ITEM C-2B, RES. NO. 15-63 WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 7-0.**

**RES. NO. 15-63            A RESOLUTION OF INTENTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA TO LEVY AND COLLECT ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS FOR CITY WIDE LANDSCAPE AND LIGHTING DISTRICT ZONES OF BENEFIT 1, 2, 3, 4, 6A, 6B, 7, 8, 9, 10A, 10B, 10C, 10D, 10E, 10F, 10G, 10H, 10I, 12, 13, 14, 15, 15B, 15C, 16, 17A, 17B, 17C, 17D, 18, 20A, 20B, 20C, 21A, 21B, 21C, 21D, 23, 24, 25C, 25D, 26, 26B, 26C, 26D, 27, 27B, 28, 28B, 29, 29B, 29C, 29D, 29E, 30, 31A, 31B, 32A, 32B, 33, 34, 34B, 34C, 35, 36A, 36B, 36C, 37, 39, 40, 41, 43A, 43C, 43D, 43E, 44, 45A, 46, 50 & 51 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015/2016 AND SETTING DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor Poythress moved to item C-2C.

**ON MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER BOMPRESZI, AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROBINSON, ITEM C-2C, RES. NO. 15-64 WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 7-0.**

**RES. NO. 15-64            A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA AUTHORIZING AMENDMENTS TO THE FY 2014/15 BUDGET FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF GENERAL FUND FUNDS**

Council Member Medellin stated that at one of the meetings in the past the Mayor challenged the Council Members to reach out. He thinks it is their responsibility as elected officials to reach out to their constituents and answer questions, and help educate and hear from them as well as them hearing from the Council. They both have a responsibility. Homeowners have a responsibility to look at that bill and say why am I paying taxes not just for landscape maintenance but everything else they pay taxes for and question if they feel necessary versus tossing it. Council Member Medellin noted that he will be honest too, he thinks his wife threw it away. It is not a bill and tossed it so they are guilty of that too. He commented that he wants to reiterate and challenge his colleagues to reach out to their constituents and get their feedback and explain to them and educate on where they are with this issue and get input from everybody. He just wanted to say that.

Mr. Tooley asked if he may assume that there is a consensus among the Council that they would like to see an item for discussion and potential action that addresses the interim period at their next available meeting.

Mayor Poythress responded that would be great and asked that they include options.

Mr. Tooley agreed and advised that they will provide a complete staff report.

**D. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

**D-1 Presentation on College and Career Readiness for Madera Unified School District**

Mayor Poythress commented that they are looking forward to a presentation by Sheryl Sisil who is leading the charge on the College and Career Readiness for Madera Unified School District (MUSD). He noted that is one of the best things that has been happening in many, many years. He thanked Ms. Sisil for joining them here this evening.

Sheryl Sisil stated she is the Director of College and Career Readiness at Madera Unified School District. She advised that this is a brand new position but one that she feels is long overdue. She comes from the career/technical education side of the house so her education career as a teacher was as an ag teacher. She taught in Firebaugh and here in Madera. She feels very passionate about the work with the career pathways. Before she enters into the presentation, she thinks it is important to understand that they are progressing forward in a time where if you listen to what is an education right now you hear the words college and career readiness. That is the buzz word. They are going to have students leave high school, college and career. It can't be either/or. It has to be both. She noted that unfortunately, she guesses a common theme, the Governor has said this however, money is being cut left and right. There are grants out there that are available and Madera Unified has applied for about \$6 million in grants to implement or revise new pathways and it looks really positive that they will receive those but if any of them are following what is going on in the legislature, and she is sure most of them are, there are two really important items that she would love for them to think about. One is AB 288 and that has to do with dual enrollment. If they have an opportunity to look up AB 288, she asked that they take a moment to do that and there is an opportunity to show their support for that. She added that SB 148 is the one that will directly affect them as far as funding. It is a bill that is proposing \$600 million annually towards career technical education and that would take them back to about where they were when things started being taken away. She knows local control is nice and in Madera they have a huge support for career technical education, a long standing relationship with business and industry partners, and she feels very confident in the support that they receive but to have a \$600 million, and it would be annual. What the Governor has put out there now is \$250 million a year but only for three years. After that everything goes away and they are sort of on their own. She restated that if they have an opportunity to look into SB 148 or AB 288 they would appreciate the support in either of those.

Ms. Sisil stated that at Madera Unified they sort of adopted a guiding principle and this goes back to that idea of college and career readiness and that is that all students will be provided an equal opportunity to graduate with the greatest number of postsecondary choices from the widest array of options ensuring that all students are college and career ready. She explained that what that essentially means is that a four year university is not the only option when students leave high school. She advised that there are multiple options and there are multiple pathways in which students can follow today and ultimately end up with a very good job and have a very fulfilling future and life. They have really started looking at multiple options for students.

Ms. Sisil stated that one of the things that Madera Unified was very visionary in was in 1995 they developed a career school model. Some of them in here may have been in school when that was implemented. Some of them have spouses who taught when that was implemented. In the career school model, what Madera did was, they had a super school. They had 5,000 kids spread at two campuses and she was in school during that time and it wasn't always the most pleasant place to be. Somebody asked her the other day how many times she spoke to a counselor in high school and she thinks it was four, once a year to pick her classes for the next year. She stated that when the career school model was developed, it was to take those super schools and give students a sense of belonging somewhere. Based on their industry sectors here in Madera they have career schools of Agriculture, Engineering and Technology, Human Services, Health Science, Humanities, and Business. She added that today, in 2014 they still have those same career schools. She noted that there has not been really any change to the system that they operate in. What has happened with the progression, that thankfully they are moving away from now with state standards and teaching to a test and everything being about math and English

language arts independent, not relevant to anything to make kids interested in learning it, was that they still operate as a career school but they don't operate as a career school. She advised that kids choose electives but it is not the model that it initially was. As it stands now, what they have in a career school model is that they have an array of electives that fall under one of those categories but what they want to see are outcomes that they can measure. They want to see how many students are completing pathways. They want to see that they are aligned to industry. They want to see that there are certifications in hand when students leave their program. What they are going to be doing is really shifting the focus away from the career school model and looking at what they refer to as a career pathway model. She explained that the career pathway model is really aligned to the idea that when students leave high school they will have had an academic program that was rigorous and meaningful and relevant and that relevancy is tied through a career pathway that they make an educated choice based on career, guidance, and exploration K-8, if you will. Right now they don't have anything for career guidance or exploration. They have kids in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade asked what do you want to be when you grow up and if it doesn't fall in one of those categories they sort of put them in one and that has been sort of the extent of it because the career component hasn't been important; it has been all about a test and standards.

Ms. Sisil stated that the Pathways to Prosperity Report is a report that came out of Harvard Graduate School as well as Jobs for the Future and this is really what career technical education is being based on, the ideas and notions that came out of this report. She advised that there are four really important components to having an appropriate grade 9 to 14 pathway system. They have to have engaged employers that are offering Work Based Learning (WBL) and internships. Many of them have met her this year for the first time. Many of them have re-met over the time that she has been here and in a different capacity she had an opportunity to reach out to a lot of business and industry. She stated it is huge, it is key, it is on here because it is one of the big four that are required for their career pathways to be successful. She added that underneath that workplace learning and internship component is externships. She advised that there is a new requirement for teachers teaching career pathways that is effective in July and that is that they now have to have a credential that says they can teach career pathways but they have to go out annually and be in industry. They have to have a way to show that they are spending hours that are relevant to what they are teaching with the industry people that they are preparing kids for. Ms. Sisil noted that is a big game changer. She commented that teachers are still going to do professional development and they are still going to do their school component but annually they have to go out and meet with the business and industry people that they want to prepare their kids to go work for if that is what they so desire. They also have to have what is called an intermediary and that is basically a link where education and employers come together. She noted that some in this room have been huge for her in that. She thinks Mr. Farinelli is still here. She commented that he has been a huge component in that, linking education with employers and he has opened a lot of doors for her this year that she might not have been able to get into. She added that Council Member Medellín has been a huge help to her and a big support to her this year. Also, Mayor Poythress has shown great support when they have met and all of them probably know that Council Member Bomprezzi's husband is retired after 36 years as an ag teach but she doesn't let him retire. They just bring him back. They let him take small breaks and then bring him back and he is wonderful. She emphasized that really linking education and employers, that is number two. Number three she already alluded to this, Early Sustained Career Counseling. She commented that she is part of education so she feels that she can stand up here, be transparent and tell them the honest truth. She stated that the honest truth is they have some good things but they could be so much better and she just got approval with the middle schools. Next year, they are actually going to be implementing what is called the Gateway to Technology. It is through project Lead the Way and they are actually going to have a comprehensive program built into the school system. Right now many of them hear about their robotics program. That and agriculture are probably the two kind of cornerstones that are noticeable in their community but the fact of the matter is they can be better. Robotics and engineering with the technology, that covers all industry sectors and agriculture included. They are going to imbed that grade 6 through 8 and they have a comprehensive plan. They are sending teachers to training and they are going to get that built into the day, not an afterschool program, not a student group that meets in the evenings. It is going to be available for all students. She advised that the following year they will roll out agriculture and after that medical careers. Those three will all be built into middle schools.

Ms. Sisil stated that as far as the career counseling, providing career guidance, they have elementary school counselors now. She actually was just given the opportunity to kind of take over working with all the counselors in their school district. She is working with elementary school counselors and secondary school counselors, which is a big piece to this all working, is how the counselors are able to understand and implement. Also, committed national and state leaders that create favorable policy. Like she said, sometimes it appears that there is favorable policy but then when they look underneath it is not so much but they are very lucky right now that there are people that believe 100% in the college and career readiness and really looking at what they have done in the past and learning from that.

Ms. Sisil referred to the display which is a visual regarding the partners. She noted that every piece of the puzzle on there is important for their success including employer associations, community based organizations, Workforce Investment Board, community colleges, employers, and then K-12. She added that the two things that might be shocking to them is the K-12 and the community college. Always before when they talk secondary, they look at just K-12. She advised that SB 1070 is a bill out there that requires community colleges to work with high schools. They can no longer be the gate keepers and say it doesn't matter how good your curriculum is or how good your teachers are, your kids are still going to come here and take those same classes over. She noted that is not going to happen and that goes back to the AB 288 that she spoke about which is going to deal with dual enrollment which is where students enrolled in the high school class will earn transcribed college credit when they leave high school. They don't have to pay anything in fact they can't pay anything. They don't have to go anywhere. It is a college education while on the high school campus and that is a game changer. She noted that is huge especially for their students. She commented can they imagine if they could have had their child leave with 60 college credits and an AS degree at the completion of their high school career because that is what is going to happen starting next year with their incoming freshman. All of their new programs of study have 60 college credits built into the pathway. She commented will every kid earn 60, not necessarily. Like she said it is rigorous academics and rigorous career component but students will have an opportunity to do that.

Ms. Sisil provided a visual of what a pathway should look like. She advised that it starts in middle school really implementing project based curriculum. They are actually going a little lower than that. She gave a little shout out to Mr. Farinelli, the Lyle's School of Innovation and Entrepreneurship is going to be implementing a science and math program called Kid's Invent. She stated that every 5<sup>th</sup> grade student in Madera Unified is going to get science. They haven't been taught science as science for years. Some elementary school teachers do it because they have a passion for it but very few do. Every 5<sup>th</sup> grader in Madera Unified, and she knows it is not perfect but it is a start, is going to have an opportunity. It is a STEM based program that focuses on science and mathematics; with technology and engineering; innovation and problem solving; really kind of embedding that project based curriculum idea at an earlier age; then keeping that going through middle school; looking at the career exposure; getting their students out; and job shadowing. That is really important and that is where employers again become a key component. She referred to community college certifications. Ms. Sisil commented that the state says now that if they are going to fund a career pathway, the capstone class which is the last class, has to have an industry based certification built into it. It means that every kid that completes a pathway and a capstone class, if it is going to be funded through the funds that they receive by the state, it is going to have to end in an industry based certification and/or dual enrollment which is where the kids would earn college credit in a particular pathway and that is big. It is something that is unprecedented on the west coast. She advised that if they go in the Carolina's and look more on the east coast, it has been happening for a while. They are slowly catching up. She noted that she mentioned multiple pathways to get to their goals. Right now they say four years of high school, go to a four year university. She commented that the fact of the matter is not all kids are ready to go to a four year university when they graduate from high school whether it be that they didn't have the greatest high school experience, whether it has to do with maturity, financial, lots of components. With this type of program, kids are going to have multiple opportunities. They can go to work and then go to college when they have a better idea of what they want to do. By having it really aligned to industry, looking at those certifications, that is all going to help their programs and their students.

Ms. Sisil commented on the rigorous academics and career technical education. They know there is a lot here and Council Members can see it. If they are interested she has copies for members if they would like. She noted it is a visual to show the progression looking at how the rigorous academics and career pathways come together to create an acceleration in college and career readiness by using dual enrollment, integrated instruction, and work based learning. The one shown that she hasn't talked about is integrated instruction. An example of that would be next year incoming freshmen who are in the school of engineering and technology, they will take a blocked class. They will take Algebra I and then they will take coding. She advised that the coding component will be the application of the Algebra I. Those students are going to get elective credit as well as math credit. Those are the opportunities they are looking towards in integrated instruction where kids can take a career pathway course and also earn math credit. She advised that they are going to learn algebra and it is going to make sense to them because it is going to be built into something that they are interested in.

Ms. Sisil advised that she used engineering and technology and added that there is an array. They have like 23 different electives that are offered that kids can take but as of last year they had 11 kids who completed a pathway. What that means is that kids are just taking electives but they are not sticking it out. They are dropping out. They don't have an opportunity to take electives. There are a lot of components that have to be reworked to make this now what it will look like on the bottom of the slide. An example, in their Engineering and Technology Pathway, 7<sup>th</sup> graders will take Design and Modeling and Automation and Robotics. 8<sup>th</sup> graders will take Science of Technology and Green Architecture. 9<sup>th</sup> graders will take Introduction to Engineering Design and 10<sup>th</sup> grade Principles of Engineering. Then they get into the Computer Integrated Manufacturing and then look at Engineering Design and Development as a senior. She commented that is a true career pathway. They are going to leave with 60 credits, and AS degree from the community college division. They are going to have certifications in hand. If they want to go to the four year university and become part of the VIP engineering program at Fresno State, they are going to be ready for that but if they want to go do an apprenticeship with JBT and go straight to work making \$45,000 as an 18 year old, they are going to be prepared to do that as well. She commented that is the true definition of college and career readiness.

Ms. Sisil stated that in Madera they are going to have a new high school. When she said they were going to do away with the career school model, they are going to move to a model which will implement multiple pathways but because they have amazingly successful programs in agriculture, engineering and technology and health careers those are going to be stand alone. They can't duplicate those programs at multiple campuses. If any of them have had an opportunity to tour the agriculture facility, that facility is better than most college facilities. That is 30 years of agricultural leadership in this community, maybe even more, to see that through. They wouldn't be able to duplicate that and if they did separate it out they are going to split resources, they are going to split support so as a district they really believe that they are going to have career academies with the pathways underneath there and they will go to the school they are supposed to go. She added that anybody will be provided the opportunity to take classes there. They are not going to restrict students to not being able to take classes. She commented that Clovis operates under that model, Tulare does. They have to provide transportation. They might extend their day a little bit. It might become a little more costly but they are going to work through those things so that kids have the best opportunities. She advised that every school, regardless of where they are at still has arts, media, and entertainment. That is where they find their band, choir, drama, art, digital media. Public services is going to be a pathway on all three campuses. Every year they turn away 100 kids that want to be in the public services pathway. She added that hospitality, tourism, and recreation will be at each school site as well as education and child development at each school site. She stated those are all programs that are easier to duplicate and kids will have an opportunity to take those and don't even have to leave their campus.

Ms. Sisil commented that at their continuation high school and their community day school, one of the things that in Madera Unified might not make sense to many of them, is that at those schools where electives would be the most important for kids, those are their kids who are no longer in a comprehensive high school, they have had no elective programs for them. They are going to be implementing elective programs. She advised that Ripperdan Community Day School is going to have residential and commercial construction. They have some really great support for that program. Mountain Vista

Continuation High School is going to look at production and managerial arts as well as kind of combining design, visual and media arts. They are very landlocked on space there, no room for equipment, not a lot of facility so they are looking at what they can do with technology. They have to have some screen printing machines and things like that that aren't being used that they are going to try to move over there and give those kids an opportunity to get a skill and put it to work. Ms. Sisil offered to answer any questions.

Mayor Poythress asked Ms. Sisil what are some ways that the City as an organization or Council people can help in this particular effort. He noted it is a great effort.

Ms. Sisil responded that what she would say specifically is what has started happening now and that is fostering the relationships back with education and employers. Many of them sitting in this room sit on an advisory committee or have sat on one but many of them have been frustrated by the lack of progress so they have pulled back and felt like it was a waste of their time. She saw it herself and she is working really closely with teachers. She commented that if they get a call or if they get an invitation that comes from her or comes from a teacher know that they are asking for input and support. They are using it and they are listening because she is there to make sure that it happens. She noted that some of them have attended meetings this year and they have had great support and they are moving forward. She stated that any help with the work based learning part of their work has to be with employers. They have to have a certain amount of hours in the classroom where employers are coming in and speaking to their kids. They have to have a certain amount of time where they can take kids and tour places. She advised that JBT has kind of stepped out in front of everybody this year with their needs and they were sort of visionary. They are doing something that she doesn't believe has been done here, if ever, not in her time it hasn't been, and that is an apprenticeship program but not in the sense that they are used to. There is still the 18 year old component but any opportunity that they all know about of manufacturers, agriculture, health careers, those are their three industry sectors that the county recognizes as their leaders. That is who they have to align with. They still support performing arts. They still support hospitality, tourism and recreation because those are things that kids like. Those are things that the community likes and they need but it is a little tougher sell to put certain monies towards those programs because it is not an economic component like agriculture, health careers and the advanced manufacturing. She noted that the business side is where they all can really help. She has met with some of them individually. She has a meeting with Mayor Pro Tem Oliver tomorrow morning at 8:00 a.m. She added that any opportunity to let them see the facilities, let them see the programs, she is happy to do so. She thinks that has been one of the parts for her that was eye opening because she is embedded in it. She knew how many great programs they had but when she went out and talked to community members they had no idea. Until they see the quality of work that is being done in some of these programs, she would say career technical education teachers are the worst about telling people how good they really are. They have some fabulous programs and some amazing teachers. She stated their ag program is a top three finalist to be recognized as one of the best in the nation this year. They have been recognized as the best in the state in the past but they are looking to be recognized as one of the top three in the nation this year. She advised that they have a robotics team going back to a national competition. They have some amazing programs that everybody can be really proud of.

Ms. Sisil stated she would love the opportunity to help the City with the community service component because all of their career technical student organizations have community service built into them. Those are FHA HERO, FFA, FBLA, Deca, Skills U.S.A., First Robotics. They are required to do community service. She doesn't know who to contact to sit down and really look at that but she knows how to contact the Mayor and Council Member Medellin. She might be reaching out to either one of them to look at how they can do that.

Mayor Poythress advised that she can contact Mary Anne Seay, the Parks and Community Services Director.

Council Member Medellin stated he wants to touch on something the Mayor talks about passionately and that is technical education. He noted that the majority of the jobs in Madera are obviously ag and industry based and they are looking for that technical education with specialized training. He too wants to give a

shout out to JBT. He thinks what they are doing, they are definitely going to set the way and he sees a lot of other industry following. He happened to meet with some folks the other day and they are certainly proud of the fact that they are going to bring in 10 students and train and pay and set them on the right pathway. He stated his appreciation to Ms. Sisil for what she is doing. He noted that she is very passionate about what she is doing. He encouraged her to keep fighting the good fight. He certainly will support that program as much as he can because he thinks this is definitely going to put them where they need to be as far as getting these kids not only to school but trained where they need to be trained and in that workforce here in Madera to help them to grow.

Ms. Sisil agreed and that is ultimately her goal. She is born and raised Madera kid. She spent her whole life here. Her dad was a business owner here. Her mom worked at Baltimore Aircoil for 35 years. Her goal is a big picture. She commented that better education is going to make a better Madera and kids connected to education is going to keep them engaged and in school and not on the streets. She thinks they all see the connections and that is what really drives her to do the work that she is doing.

Council Member Holley stated it sounds like a good program. He has been in Madera all his life. He thinks he is probably the oldest one in here. He hears a lot about these programs but none of them reach the southeast side of town. They have a lot of African American churches over there that this information would be viable. He knows they just talk about businesses but a lot of those that are in churches on that side of town have businesses somewhere or they have access to them. If they start putting out their flyers, he thinks it would be good to pass some out to those. They talk about community leaders. He has been in Madera all his life and he has been one of the main community leaders and he never heard about this. He stated that no one has contacted him. He knows that somebody is slipping through the loop. He has run a program across town for 28 years and it is going to end. He watches these things go on. He listens to people bring their presentations but he hasn't had one contact him. When he hears stuff like this he gets kind of bitter because he thinks if they are going to do something like this they should notify all on that side because they don't have that kind of access, those kinds of resources and he knows that they strive to try and get them an education too. He knows that would be something to reach out not only to the schools or the businesses but to the churches because there are a lot of kids there that need some help. He thinks this program that they have might help a lot of them if their parents know what is going on.

Ms. Sisil agreed.

Mayor Poythress commented that is why Ms. Sisil is here tonight because of just what Council Member Holley said, she wanted to hear from Council Members and know what is going on in the entire community.

Council Member Bompreszi commended Ms. Sisil and added that she is the right person for this job. She remembers back, it may have been the early 90's that the State Center Community College was trying to do the same similar thing. She noted that Bobby Kahn was involved and asked Mayor Poythress if he remembers. It was called Career to School. She commented that it never did quite get off the ground so she is excited that this is finally going to happen in Madera. She noted that Madera is the perfect place for it and the perfect person to do it because she will make it happen.

Mayor Poythress thanked Ms. Sisil for the presentation.

**E. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**E-1 Presentation of the Preliminary City of Madera Enterprise Budgets for Fiscal Year 2015/2016**

Director of Financial Services Tim Przybyla stated this evening he is presenting the preliminary budget for the enterprise funds for FY 2015/2016. He noted that included in the major enterprise funds the water and sewer budgets request for the FY 15/16 reflect additional costs which are driven in part by increasing state mandates from monitoring and for conservation. They also reflect an effort to better manage and



maintain existing assets to insure a sustainable water and sewer infrastructure that was called for by the Vision Madera 2025 Plan. He advised they would discuss a little bit about the rate increases that are being proposed as well as the rate study that has been completed. He noted that if the rate increases are not implemented it is likely that some of the capital projects listed in the budget tonight would be further delayed.

Mr. Przybyla commented on the major enterprise fund highlights. He advised that sewer is projecting a \$1.4 million deficit in 15/16 compared to a very slight deficit in 14/15 but there is \$587,000 of capital outlay being requested in the 15/16 budget. He noted that solid waste is projecting \$159,000 deficit but they plan to revise those projections and balance that budget by the final budget presentation. He commented that water is projecting a \$2.5 million deficit with \$1.7 million in capital outlay. He added that drainage is only projecting a \$38,000 deficit and they are also expected to balance that by the final budget presentation. He commented that the total major enterprise fund budget requests are about 15% up over the 14/15 budget. He stated that rate increases would have a huge impact on the water and sewer budgets. He advised that the budgets being presented tonight do not reflect any rate increases. They are assuming that rates would remain the same and that is how they end up with the numbers he reviewed. Mr. Przybyla referred to the display and advised that is the top half of Exhibit A. He wanted to show them some of the fund balance figures. He advised that these are actually the working capital figures which are their current assets minus current liabilities basically, cash plus accounts receivable minus accounts payable. They can see that the projected working capital for the sewer fund is coming down from over \$10 million at the end of fiscal year 2009 and if it is completed as projected, including the budget requests that they are looking at this evening, it will be ending the FY 15/16 with slightly over \$6 million. He noted that solid waste working capital has done better. They can see that it has increased over the past few years or even several years. As he mentioned they are planning on balancing that budget before the final presentation so that should end up with about the same working capital that 14/15 will end with. Regarding the water working capital, he noted that again that has gone down quite a bit since 2009, crept back up in 2012 a little bit. If they continue with the budget they will be looking at even more of a decrease, he believes it was the sewer fund they were looking at, going from over \$10 million down to slightly over \$4 million in working capital. Mr. Przybyla referred to the drainage working capital. He stated this is what the funds in that fund look like. He is just providing these for the major enterprise funds this evening. He stated they are talking about smaller dollars here with the drainage working capital. He noted that unfortunately with the drainage fund they have less opportunities to increase the fees; it is somewhat more restrictive than the other major enterprise funds. Mr. Przybyla offered to answer any questions. No questions were asked.

Mr. Przybyla moved on to the non-major enterprise fund highlights. He advised that the airport fund is projecting an \$80,000 surplus which will be set aside for future capital improvements. He is sure they are aware, there are some pretty sizable projects that are being planned that will be executed related to the airport. He advised that the golf course fund is balanced after \$193,000 transfer in from the general fund. It is a wonderful program that the City offers and net of the revenues and expenditures that the golf course itself creates, the City would contribute \$193,000 in 15/16 to be able to provide that service to the community, that recreational opportunity. Regarding the fixed route transportation funds, those are funded by transportation dollars, basically grant dollars and those are balanced. He noted that the total non-major enterprise fund requests are up about 38% from the prior year's budget due to capital outlay requests. He displayed the detail.

Mr. Przybyla advised that this presentation is informational only and there is no action required. He commented that this is the second of four preliminary presentations. He noted that the general fund preliminary presentation will come up at the next City Council meeting. They hope to be on schedule with that and then the internal service and the special revenue fund budgets will be presented on May 20<sup>th</sup>. He added that a budget workshop is scheduled to be held June 3<sup>rd</sup> if the Council is good with that date. They may need to officially set a date for that.

Mayor Poythress asked what day of the week that is.

Mr. Przybyla responded that is a Wednesday.



Mayor Poythress commented that he didn't think that they had their budget workshops the same evening as the Council meeting.

City Administrator David Tooley responded that normally they don't. They want to set aside enough time so maybe the short answer is that they need to identify a date that all of Council can attend and then they can spend an appropriate amount of time working through the elements of the budget.

Council Member Rigby advised that is graduation week here and he believes that is the evening where one of the continuation schools will be holding one of its graduations. He doesn't know if that is a requirement of Council Members to be there so maybe staff wants to take that into consideration.

Mr. Tooley commented that often times they do that on a Saturday.

Mr. Przybyla stated they will discuss that at a future City Council meeting and figure out what date is best for all Council Members for the budget workshop. Mr. Przybyla added that the final budget could then be presented to Council for consideration of approval at the June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting after all of those are completed. Mr. Przybyla offered to answer any questions the Council may have about this presentation or any of the individual budgets that make up the big dollars they are looking at tonight.

Mayor Poythress asked if there are any questions. No questions were asked.

#### **F. COUNCIL REPORTS**

Council Member Robinson reported that today he attended the First 5 Hero Award Celebration. He stayed there briefly and then he went over to Pershing Elementary in the Mayor's place to talk to the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders about how city government works.

Council Member Robinson reported that on Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> he attended the Administrative Services Policy Committee meeting for the League of Cities. He commented that SB 272 by Herzberg is the California Public Record Act Local Agency Inventory. He thought this affects a lot of the City. He read the bills summary regarding agencies keeping an inventory of electronic data. He noted that the League staff's recommendation is to watch the bill.

Council Member Rigby reported that he had the opportunity to come and sit in on the Planning Commission meeting. It was pleasurable to sit on the other side of the dais for once. They did an excellent job of handling all items on the agenda.

Council Member Holley stated his time has been well spent every evening from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. doing the McNally Park Jesse Owens Games. If they ever want to come out and watch some kids, their last day of McNally will be tomorrow and then they end up going to Martin Luther King School. He hopes to see all on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Council Member Medellin stated he wanted to take this opportunity and thank his colleagues as well as Jim Taubert, Chief Frazier and the Police Department. He thinks they are up to 49 registered neighborhoods and it is growing. He thinks they are making a huge impact with that relationship between them as elected, City Hall, and their Police Department. He noted that the interaction and the dialogue they have face to face with neighbors in the community is precious. He commended Mr. Taubert's staff on leading the charge. He added that every officer the Chief sends is very professional and always offering assistance.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated he wanted to take the opportunity to thank his colleagues, staff and others who have offered their thoughts and condolences to him and his family. Last week they lost their father. He is proud to say that his father lived a great and full life. He was from Britain. He came to the states at the young age of 22. He commenced a long and successful career as a fashion photographer in the 60's and 70's so he traveled the world and he lived in many places but the longest place that he lived was

here in Madera. He was very proud of that and he loved this town and this community. He loved the friendships and the proximity to family and good schools. He was very proud of this town and proud to see Mayor Pro Tem Oliver join the dais with his colleagues. He just wanted to say thank you for the kind thoughts and words. It means a great deal to his family.

Mayor Poythress offered their condolences and support to Mayor Pro Tem Oliver and his family. As he mentioned to Mayor Pro Tem Oliver before, he is his father's living legacy and the things that he does and the paths that he clears and the achievements he has are a great testimony to him and the way he raised him.

Mayor Poythress stated he was able to go to Pershing and read to some preschoolers about the Moose and the Muffin and added that it was a neat story.

Mayor Poythress reported that he also had a chance to attend the California Council of Governments Annual meeting last week and hear about COG issues and things. He added that there were a lot of discussions about funding and different initiatives that were happening and talking about self-help counties. He advised that Madera is 1 of 20 self-help counties and the ones that are not self-help counties wish to be self-help counties and would like to get that 2/3 vote threshold lowered to some point. He noted that some miss just by inches. They also had a chance to present on the progress of the Road Charge Committee as well. He advised that that he thinks it is the last Friday of May that the Technical Advisory Committee Study Group for the Road Charge will be in Fresno. He thinks it is going to be at the Fresno COG. He invited his colleagues and any staff members that would like to give some input and listen in to see what is going on. He noted it is close by so they should feel free to do so. He thinks it is on the 29<sup>th</sup> or something like that.

Mayor Poythress announced that the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast is May 7, 2015 at 7:00 a.m. at Hatfield Hall.

## **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 54957.6 to discuss conference with labor negotiators as described under item G-2; and pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) to discuss conference with legal counsel in existing litigation as described under item G-3.

The Council adjourned to closed session at 8:07 p.m.

### **G-2 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS - Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6**

Agency Designated Representatives: David Tooley and Wendy Silva

Employee Organizations: General Bargaining Unit  
Mid Management Group  
Madera Police Officers' Association  
Law Enforcement Mid Management Group  
Management Employees

### **G-3 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation. Subdivision (d)(1) of Government Code §54956.9**

One case: City of Madera v. Roy Roberts et al.  
Madera Superior Court Case No. MCV062827

**G-4 Closed Session Report – City Attorney**

The Council returned from closed session at 9:01 p.m. with all members present.

City Attorney Brent Richardson announced that the Council met in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6 to discuss conference with labor negotiators as described under item G-2 and reported that no reportable action was taken; and pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) to discuss conference with legal counsel in existing litigation as described under item G-3 and reported that no reportable action was taken.

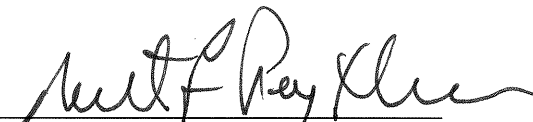
**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Poythress at 9:02 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.

  
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SONIA ALVAREZ, City Clerk

  
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ROBERT L. POYTHRESS, Mayor

