



## MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MADERA CITY COUNCIL CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA

Item:	B-1
Minutes for:	6/02/15
Adopted:	10/21/15

**June 2, 2015  
5:30 p.m.**

**Council Chambers  
City Hall**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The special meeting for 6/02/15 was called to order by Mayor Poythress at 5:30 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Mayor Robert L. Poythress  
Mayor Pro Tem William Oliver  
Council Member Charles F. Rigby (arrived at 5:32 p.m.)  
Council Member Sally J. Bomprezzi  
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, Procurement Services Manager Becky McCurdy, Planning Manager Chris Boyle, Commander Dino Lawson, Parks Planning Manager John Scarborough, Recreation/Community Programs Manager Ozzie Naranjo, Fleet Operations Manager Randy Collin, Financial Services Manager Gina Daniels, Successor Agency Director Jim Taubert, Neighborhood Preservation Supervisor Viola Rodriguez, Fire Chief Nancy Koerperich and Battalion Chief Jim Forga.

### **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.

No comments were offered.

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **1. Budget Workshop FY 2015/2016**

City Administrator David Tooley advised that this evening the Director of Financial Services Tim Przybyla will be hitting in the leadoff spot. He will provide the Council with overview discussion. They will then move into the individual department budgets. They will take them through the budget pretty much in the

order in which it is presented. Where they don't, they will direct them to that portion of the budget. They will provide brief discussion of each operating budget. He advised that to the extent that the Council has questions, he asked that they feel free to stop them and take the time they need to make them comfortable.

Director of Financial Services Tim Przybyla stated that the document that was sent out to staff and to the Council is the format that they are going to follow today. They will start out with the general fund budget overview. They will talk about the enterprise fund budget overview. They will then discuss very briefly the internal service funds budget overview. Then they will follow the budgets by department and just work their way through that. They will have each department come up and present brief information about their various budgets as will be outlined.

Mr. Przybyla stated that as mentioned here the general fund revenues and expenditures, Exhibit A, shows that the overall projected general fund revenues of \$32 million are basically \$2.2 million or 8% higher than the 14/15 adopted budget while the proposed expenditures reflect an increase of about \$1.68 million or 5%. He noted that is good and added that their revenues are increasing more than their expenditures. That brings the projected deficit down from slightly under \$970,000 in the 14/15 adopted budget to slightly under \$375,000 in the proposed 15/16 budget. He thinks that gives a good overall picture and probably covered enough detail on it at this time.

Mr. Przybyla referred to the enterprise fund budget overview. He noted that, as can be seen on Exhibit C, the overall estimated deficit for 14/15 is \$1.6 million and the projected 15/16 enterprise fund deficit is \$4.1 million. He commented that is their estimate compared to the total expense for the enterprise funds. He noted that it is a lot different picture than what they were looking at in the general fund. He stated that, of course, they are anticipating a successful Prop 218 process. They are hoping that the rates will be approved so that they won't actually be funding a \$4.1 million deficit. He added that obviously, if the rates are not approved, a lot of the costs will be held off, a lot of the capital projects will be deferred even further out. He thinks they all understand that they are kind of waiting to see how that falls out.

Mr. Przybyla announced that they would skip to the internal service fund budget overview. He advised that they are projecting a deficit of \$102,000 in 15/16. He noted that he broke it down into different sections so that it is easier to see on the page otherwise this would be one big schedule that none of them could read. He commented that if they work down to the bottom, \$102,000 was the deficit that is projected. He stated that for the internal services, it is typical for those to be under or over on their revenues or expenditures. It just depends on what expenses they have in the year. He referred to the display noting that the deciding factor on this one is pretty much the fleet budget which has \$105,000 deficit budgeted for next year but that is just because it has saved up funds over time to be able to pay for those replacement vehicles that will happen in the next fiscal year. They can see also by looking at the detail of the report that they are expecting a \$74,000 surplus in 14/15 but because some projects have been delayed they are actually looking at \$125,000 surplus. He noted that is ok because the funds will build up and they will spend them next year or whenever the vehicles are actually replaced.

Mr. Przybyla asked if there are any questions on the summaries of the general fund, enterprise funds or internal service funds at this point. No questions were asked and Mr. Przybyla announced that they would move on to the table of contents and walk through the different budgets by section. They will follow them in order. He explained that the ones that have the little boxes around them are the ones he will click on and they will move on to those. He advised that the first one is the City Administrator's office.

#### City Administrator's Office

City Administrator David Tooley advised that he is responsible for three operating budgets. He referred to page D-2 and noted that they are the City Administrator's budget, central administration, and community promotion. He commented that it is hard to make a one person department too exciting. He stated that there are minimal changes here. They will note that there is an additional \$20,000 in community promotion because they anticipate expanding on what they are doing right now on how to start up a new business. They are going to bring in additional consultants and provide additional hours of counseling time for new businesses because obviously as they start a new business that is when they need the most

help and the most guidance. They are going to make an additional investment there in terms of the support they provide the new business community.

Mr. Tooley noted that there is also an increase of approximately \$15,000 in funding other agencies. They failed to capture from one year to the next the need to provide funding for some agencies. He advised that one example is the Transportation Commission. He noted that they regularly come in at mid-year or shortly after the beginning of the year and they ask for additional funds for a trip to Washington, D.C. They will see that in the next budget and that represents about \$9,300. He advised that they are simply capturing those funds at the front end of the budget as opposed to making an amendment later on.

Mr. Tooley stated that what he thinks is more interesting about his budget is what is not in it. He gave consideration to some additional personnel requests this year and chose not to include them in the budget. He advised that one of them would be a position for what he will characterize as an ombudsman. He stated it was the second job he had in professional management and what he did for the city was that every complaint that came in it got personal attention. He called each of the people who called in with a complaint. He coordinated the service delivery response from the departments and he was the eyes and ears for the city manager because if they had a problem and it was a systematic problem as opposed to just something that happened then it deserved a system response. He stated there is a lot of value in paying attention to complaints because they can improve their service delivery plan. He chose not to pursue an additional position this year simply because he felt like, as a City, they had other competing priorities that deserve more attention.

Mr. Tooley commented that the second area that he gave a lot of thought to was their business development center that they still plan to create inside City Hall. He looked at additional personnel there and he just doesn't see that they are at the right point in the business cycle to make an additional expenditure in that area.

Mr. Tooley advised that the third area that he thought was critically important was technology. He noted that the Information Services Manager Ted Uyesaka will cover that in his presentation.

Mr. Tooley offered to answer any questions.

Council Member Medellin noted that LAFCO shows zero. He thinks that is just going to be a one time thing this year where LAFCO actually had a surplus and that is \$30,000/\$35,000 or so that will be credited to their fund. He thinks they are going to re-examine the City of Chowchilla, the County, and their portion so it shouldn't be what they have been paying in the past but it is nice to have \$35,000 or so extra.

Mr. Tooley responded that Council Member Medellin is absolutely correct.

Council Member Medellin stated he loves the ombudsman idea.

#### City Clerk's Office

City Clerk Sonia Alvarez stated that for the City Council budget the one obvious decrease would be under the Section 125 benefit allowance on page D-7. Ms. Alvarez advised there is a decrease on the amount that is allocated because it depends on the level of coverage that the Council Members have for health insurance. She noted that it was higher in the prior year because they had new Council Members coming in and they did not know what they would elect for that coverage.

Ms. Alvarez stated that the other thing they wanted to bring to the Council's attention is the conference budgets for Council Members. She advised that the proposed budget shows each Council Member is allocated \$1,700 per year. Ms. Alvarez noted that Mr. Tooley would like to add a comment regarding that.

Mr. Tooley stated that they didn't catch it when they were preparing the budget but they reminded themselves that Council Member Robinson serves as a Vice President of their area representation for the League of Cities. He advised that entails a significant degree of travel and in fact, based on his prior

experience, they could easily double the budget for Council Member Robinson and probably still be inbounds. He would think that at the very least that travel and training budget should probably represent at least \$3,000 as opposed to the \$1,700. He noted that he leaves it to the Council's discretion but he thinks it is probably important that he is going to do a great deal more travel simply because of the responsibility he has accepted on behalf of the league.

Mayor Poythress commented that Council Member Robinson is the first one, he thinks since he has been on the Council, who has taken an active involvement in the League of Cities. He knows that is putting them on the map in terms of the League of Cities. He would agree, as mentioned, doubling the budget may be in line. He is not sure if his colleagues have a comment or thought.

Council Member Medellin stated he agrees. He thinks it is great to have representation and Council Member Robinson is doing a fantastic job.

Mayor Poythress asked if it would be ok to propose doubling.

Mr. Tooley stated that if the Council directs it they would add \$1,700 to that particular line item for Council consideration.

Council concurred. Ms. Alvarez advised that is all she has on the City Council budget unless there are any other questions. No other questions were asked.

Ms. Alvarez moved to the City Clerk budget and stated that it is largely status quo other than the significant decrease because it is a non-election year so that is \$50,000 right off the bat. She added that everything else is just minor adjustments pretty much between the maintenance and operation budget line items so that she still did not have any significant increases. Ms. Alvarez advised that is all she has to present unless the Council has questions.

#### City Attorney's Office

City Attorney Brent Richardson stated that the City Attorney's budget essentially, like the City Clerk's, is going to remain largely unchanged. They will still remain a single attorney office as they have done for the last few years and they have been managing to keep above water. He noted that the only minor change was the \$1,000 addition to the conference and budget training line item and that is so that he can actually have his paralegal attend the City Attorney's conference with League this year. He thinks it would be good for her professional development. Other than that everything is status quo.

Mr. Przybyla noted that with the \$10,000 decrease in computer maintenance they didn't even notice that \$1,000 increase so that worked out well.

#### Finance

Director of Financial Services Tim Przybyla displayed their organizational chart, and goals and accomplishments. He referred to Department 104 and stated that salaries are down by about \$40,000 due to allocation of time to grants and enterprise funds for both himself and the Financial Services Manager Gina Daniels. He noted there is an increase in the overall expenses for the Finance Department 104 that are related to the increase related to software costs. He advised that this year they had \$75,000 budgeted and next year they may actually spend it because they are working on that RFP process now and hoping to get things going with Tyler Munis. He noted that is the substantial increase in that budget.

Mr. Przybyla commented that there is also a slight decrease in utility billing salaries and benefits due to the use of part time staffing. He added that in the current year there are also some savings related to turnover. He commented that there is a \$10,000 in operational costs increase due primarily due to the interfund computer charges. He stated that there was some change in the allocation method that the Information Services Manager Ted Uyesaka put together this year which more accurately reflects which departments are charged for the computers that they actually have in their department. He noted it is about a \$4,000 increase there and there are really no significant changes there.

Mr. Przybyla referred to purchasing and stated that it is basically status quo with an overall 2% increase to that budget over last year's budget.

Mr. Przybyla stated that the other budgets that are within the Finance Department are the CFD budgets and the Parks Facilities Lease. He advised those are basically the same as last year, status quo, with very little change. Mr. Przybyla offered to answer any questions. No questions were asked.

#### Human Resources

Director of Human Resources Wendy Silva stated there are two items of note in the Human Resources (HR) Department budget. The first is a request for funding of \$2,500 for the City of Madera ADA Advisory Council. She advised that historically they have had funding through CDBG but they did not have enough members to actually have a body to apply for funding and sign documents so they missed that funding cycle this year. Ms. Silva stated the request, placed in their budget, was so that they can do the things they do which is go out to community events, go to the fair. They have pamphlets they print up but none of that is free and they have things that they purchase to hand out to kids at the fair like coloring books on disability awareness to try and help the community. She stated that request is in the budget.

Ms. Silva stated the second item of note is that they have had people ask them about the AEDs, Automatic External Defibrillators. They don't have them in any City facilities but their staff is trained to use them because it is included now in standard CPR first aid training. They did some research with other local entities and got some quotes on what the equipment would cost. She advised that there is \$12,000 in the budget for purchase of approximately six devices and they would put those in basically the major City facilities. They have a life cycle of about 8 years and then per device there is about a \$250 maintenance cost because they have to have a subscription and certain paperwork to have the device and there is a subscription service for said paperwork. Ms. Silva advised those are the major points in the HR Department budget and asked if there are any questions on that.

Ms. Silva stated the other piece that she has is the insurance risk management fund. They talk about this sometimes in closed session when they are looking for settlement authority on claims. They have some retrospective adjustments coming up that are going to be pretty sizeable. Historically they have had some retrospective adjustments that gave them some really nice deposits into that fund and those were used to pay for their costs in those current years. She noted that now they are going to be owing because of actual claim costs. She looked back and the 15/16 is what is going to be hitting. They are going to pay that out of current year revenues. She advised that the estimate is that they are going to owe \$605,000 on the workers comp. She stated that is mostly due to the 09/10 program year. She looked back at those claims again this afternoon and they had some pretty serious major back injuries on a couple of employees which required multiple surgeries. They hit their SIR (Self Insured Retention) on several claims which means after that the pool picks it up but the problem is they hit their SIR a lot of times so that gets very expensive. Now what they are doing is going to be putting that money into the program and that includes estimated future medical. She noted this isn't like they are going to keep getting a bill every year for those claims. They are taking their money and they are putting it on deposit now and setting it aside so that those claims are taken care of and they are not trying to put money aside for those claims at the same time that they are now taking the next year's claims, and next year's claims, and kicking the can down the road. She advised that the amount owed is going to be a lot, and it is going to be a lot going forward because they have a few years where they just had some really big claims. Ms. Silva asked if there are any questions on that. No questions were asked.

Mr. Przybyla added that in the 14/15 estimate they will be paying out that \$940,000 in the current year. They will see how those figures fit in from what is in Ms. Silva's department summary and the figures that she just discussed. He stated that as Ms. Silva mentioned they have over \$1.5 million coming in the next three years so that is something they will need to watch as they move forward.

Mr. Tooley stated they will recall that they had a discussion about this. They will probably recategorize a portion of their general fund balance position and put that as a stop gap in the insurance reserve fund. He explained that the insurance reserve fund is a component of the general fund so they are not really

moving out of the general fund, they are just earmarking it as a safety net. He noted that doesn't mean they shouldn't be paying attention to costs; it doesn't mean they shouldn't be creating a carve out in their revenue plan to pay for some of that out of their current revenue stream. They are just creating a backstop just in case. He asked if that makes sense to everyone.

Mr. Przybyla thanked Mr. Tooley for the clarification.

#### Police Services

Chief of Police Steve Frazier stated that the Madera Police Department (PD) represents a \$200,000 savings over their last year. He advised that is attributed primarily to grant funds that they have had that savings. He noted that their revenue projection for animal control in PD budgets are expected to be status quo. They will see in the PD administrative budget a decrease in revenue because they have taken some grants that were just deposited as revenue and created their own line item. He noted that is also were they saved a large portion of that money in their personnel costs.

Chief Frazier commented that they still have outside sources that fund three positions. They have the school district for two positions in Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) funds equaling \$396,000 that they save the general fund. They fund officers with those. He added that they will enter this next fiscal year with three vacancies not by choice but because the job market is such that they are competing with every agency in the state for the few qualified candidates. They anticipate that they will start the year providing some more savings to the general fund not by choice but just out of necessity. He noted that arguably the most important component of this year's budget is that they have a lieutenant built in that will be added to the Police Department. They are trying to extend the commander's longevity by getting him some help in providing adequate supervision to the PD.

Chief Frazier stated that there are also some submitted budget increases to the tune of \$70,000 in overtime, PG&E, and recruitment. He noted this is the aggregate cost of \$70,000. Other than that their budget remains largely the same. Chief Frazier offered to answer any questions.

Mr. Tooley stated the overall plan, over the next three years, that they are looking at is increasing the staffing by three lieutenant positions. He noted this is just a first step in an ongoing program and stated that Chief Frazier might want to add to that.

Chief Frazier stated agreed. He noted that the lieutenant will be a new old position. They will have to sit down with HR, create the job description and they will probably look at bringing on a lieutenant at the end of this fiscal year, last quarter. Then bring on the next lieutenant in the first quarter of the next fiscal year. The third lieutenant will be in the first quarter of what would be 17/18. He commented that this has been a necessity for them for a long time, span of control, liability reasons, and they miss something because they just don't have enough eyes to provide adequate supervision. He advised that this is desperately needed. They had two commanders in 2011 when they lost one commander, and it just too much. He realizes that Commander Lawson is exceptional but it is just too much for one person. He stated that span of control is 1 over 77 and that is just too many, it is just too broad, and they will be setting themselves up for failure. He noted that when the PD fails it costs the City a lot of money. They need to bring in those additional supervisors in order to make sure that they have adequate supervision. He asked if there are any questions.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked, for some frame of reference, if the Chief can provide a little bit of a picture as to where they have come from say 10 years before the recession hit and where those levels are today as far as staffing, patrol folks.

Chief Frazier responded that they have been at a high of 61 sworn personnel. They reside at 57 right now. He added that in the biggest, not necessarily recession related, but they have consistently run with five long term absences and they are presently with five long term absences. He stated that with the three openings that they have they are down to 49 sworn positions. He noted that 10 years ago they were probably situated very similar to where they are now. He added that a little more, in the not so distant past, they have had the 61. He stated the 61 was actually an over hire position which they never

fully realized. He noted that staffing has just always been kind of a tenuous situation. It just depends on the things that are happening. He added that they did lose some positions in the recession. They are working to get those back because they are key positions. He stated that a lieutenant is a huge step for them and it will provide opportunity for them to do a lot of things that they haven't been able to do even back when they had two commanders. He commented that personnel wise he thinks they are situated the same. He added that obviously right now what they had 10 years ago was two commanders. They have one now. He stated that again, on staffing, because that really tends to fluctuate, it just depends. He thinks they are a little lower right now just based on the 57 and the three vacancies and then the five long term absences. He advised that it is making things very tough right now.

Mr. Przybyla stated that Chief Frazier did mention that there was a new budget created and it is the first one that is shown in his budget. It is the AB 109. He noted that before that was included in the Police general admin budget. They broke it out so they could track it separately in its own department.

#### Fire Services

Chief Nancy Koerperich stated for the Fire Department most of their budget is relatively the same but there was an increase from the previous fiscal year. She advised that where Chief Frazier saved them \$200,000 she is going to spend their \$200,000 unfortunately. She noted that there was an increase to PERS which she is sure Chief Frazier can attest to that too. She advised that there was an increase to the retirement fund and unfortunately that increased their admin fee as well as the benefits/salary rate that was increased by 11.16%. She noted that the other issue that occurred for the state is that they were successful in negotiating a 4% increase. She stated the 4% increase was good as a general overall increase for their employees but it did not meet minimum wage for firefighters. She commented that the Firefighter II's actually received a 6% and the City has four Firefighter II's in their budget so they received a 6% pay increase. She noted that they are just now barely like 32 cents over minimum wage.

Chief Koerperich stated that there was also the fire engine that was set in the budget that was not funded. It was supposed to be in last year's and it didn't get funded last year. She added that they will also increase a cost of \$210,000 from January whenever they receive the chassis for the new fire engine. She advised that those are the big increases and it is about a \$233,000 increase but she can promise them that all of the people that have been injured in their City that are firefighters, the state has paid for their SCIF (State Compensation Insurance Fund) and their worker's comp so she probably saved them that in worker's comp she promises because there have been some long term outs in their Fire Department unfortunately. Chief Koerperich offered to answer any questions.

Mr. Przybyla stated those are the benefits of having contracted services. They will notice that they don't have a salaries and benefits section because they contract services with them.

#### Community Development Department

Community Development Director David Merchen stated that the Community Development Department consists of two groups of departments. He noted that development services, as they commonly refer to them is the Building, Planning, and Engineering departments. He advised that he will summarize those in kind of a lump sum format this evening and the development managers Steve Woodworth, Chris Boyle, and Keith Helmuth are also here should the Council have any more specific questions regarding those budgets. He noted that the second half of Community Development is the Public Works side which obviously is operating and maintaining the City's utility systems as well as solid waste, the airport and so forth. He advised that Dave Randall will summarize those separately after they talk about development services.

Mr. Merchen stated that on the services side over the last year the development activity level work flow has continued to go up as the recession has tapered off and the recovery has continued on the upward trend. He noted that combined with an adjustment to the fee schedule, which they approved over the fiscal year, all of the development services departments have generated more revenue than anticipated. He doesn't remember what that number is off the top of his head but it is, he believes combined well over \$200,000 in excess of what their projections were. He stated that combination of increased fees plus increased development activity has done well on the revenue side. They anticipate that that increasing

trend will continue over into the next fiscal year although, it is always difficult to anticipate exactly what subdivisions are going to come online and be interesting to buyers, as well as what new commercial projects come into play. For instance, if the travel center that is proposed at the north end of town is approved and goes into the building phase, during the next fiscal year, that could result in a bump in all kinds of fees, development and impact fees together. If it doesn't they wouldn't receive those fees this year. He stated that it is a little bit hard to anticipate exactly what kind of fee revenue will be received but they anticipate in general an increasing trend.

Mr. Merchen stated that during the lowest point of the recession the staffing level in the development services departments did shrink mostly through moving people out of the departments as well when folks left, their positions weren't rehired. As the economy has recovered it has proven difficult to get all the things done that they have talked to the Council about doing. Some of those are routine things just in terms of meeting their turnaround times that they would like to meet. He added that others are getting special projects done like updating the zoning ordinance. He stated that each of the development departments has proposed a response to that situation and he will describe that to them briefly.

Mr. Merchen noted that in the Engineering Department the proposal is to add two interns to the staffing mix. He commented that as simple as an intern sounds, it just creates a lot of flexibility by removing the routine busy work from there certified smart people and of the engineers, to folks who don't necessarily need to have those credentials in order to do the work so that will provide a lot of relief there.

Mr. Merchen stated that in the Planning Department the proposal is to take what is now kind of a shared position with the Public Works Department and make it a part time assistant planner. He restated that it is a part time intended to be not seasonal but not a full time position. He noted that would provide assistance to meet peak demand and create enough flexibility to do the kind of work that both the public, the Council, and the Planning Commission expects of them.

Mr. Merchen stated that in the Building Department they are proposing to increase the contract services line item by about \$30,000 and that gives them the greatest amount of flexibility, as they get more plan check requests and inspection requests, to just use contract services. He noted that it is more efficient for them to use contract work than it is to even use part time folks. Mr. Merchen stated those are the proposals to adjust workload accommodation or increase staffing in each of the departments.

Mr. Merchen commented that beyond those staffing changes or staffing costs there is not a whole lot of operational change in departments. He advised that services will stay the same. They will react to different development projects as they come in and different capital projects as they come up in the queue but the core services will stay the same. He stated that if they look at individual departmental line items, and they might compare one to the next, they will see some change just for odd items. For instance, last year the Planning Department's budget included money for a Housing Element update and he thinks the Planning Department last year also paid for the update to the fee program for that set of consultant work. He noted they don't pay for that every year so those one time costs coming in and out of the departments where they will see some changes in that regard but for the most part the activity level doesn't really change beyond the staffing changes. He stated that there is not enough money in the line items to really represent significant differences.

Mr. Merchen advised that the one item he would call to their attention is there is a request for \$15,000 in the travel and training line item in the Planning Department. He explained that is to allow Planning Commissioners to attend training. He commented that with almost an entirely new group of Planning Commissioners, noting they have not sent any Planning Commissioners to training in at least the last five years, so he thinks, with the exception of one Planning Commissioner, none of their commissioners have received training during their tenure. They would like to provide an opportunity for at least some of them to go through either a league event or an American Planning Association event next year.

Mr. Merchen stated that pretty much covers it from a summary perspective. He restated that the development managers are available if they have any specific questions.



Mayor Poythress asked if anybody has any questions.

Mr. Przybyla referred to Mr. Merchen's comment that there is a \$35,000 item for contracted services. He asked if that line item should be \$35,000.

Mr. Merchen responded that was the prior year. That is what he was referencing.

#### Public Works Department

Public Works Operations Director Dave Randall stated that Public Works isn't all that exciting. He noted if that the toilets flush and the water flows they are happy. He advised that when they sat down and tried to develop their budget, they tried to endorse some of the City's core values. One of which is not to just accept the status quo. He stated that he asked his staff when they developed this budget two questions. The first question is are they providing the services that are necessary at the service level requested by the public and by the Council. He noted that it is really easy to fall into just doing what they used to do. He commented that this budget represents them taking a careful consideration of that issue however, they are not going to see any major service changes. He stated that the toilet will still flush, the water will still come out, the street sweepers will go by but they do want the Council to know that it is not just the same old same old. They do look at it. He noted that the other element is to look at are they providing those services in an efficient manner and are those sustainable. Can they maintain those services for the long period of time and that is where they really tend to be having a little more focus and a little more energy put into their efforts. It is trying to make sure that they can maintain those services, in particular, their infrastructure and replacement on a longer term basis.

Mr. Randall stated he won't go through all twenty-some budgets for them but he wants to just sort of give them some of the highlights. He stated that obviously the biggest thing is water and sewer fee rates. As they heard earlier, if they didn't do anything they would be looking at about \$4 million and that is not sustainable obviously so it is something that they have to deal with. He noted that assuming that they do deal with that issue, the study they have seen and prepared is acceptable, and they can survive the pitchforks and torches, they will hopefully be in a sound position where they can continue forward doing things that should provide a long term solid infrastructure where their generations will not be looking at a built up deferred liability. He commented that they have quite a bit of that but they are looking to try to systematically manage that and eliminate it and be more proactive in their preventative maintenance and understanding what their liabilities are. He stated that in the first year there are not very many capital projects. He advised that was designed intentionally so even if they didn't get that money, they really would be hurting because there is not much capital to cut. He restated there is very little. He noted that there is one large study which is an assessment of the sewer and water infrastructure and again, that is sort of a kick off on that same theme of trying to make sure that they understand what their deferred liabilities are and they have a consistent, well thought out plan at how to address those things. He is not trying to say that there is any doom and gloom but for the most part their infrastructure is in relatively good shape. They are not Parksdale, right? *(Note: Mr. Randall meant Parkwood)* He noted they have sufficient ability to maintain what they have. He added that as was seen when Parkwood went out, they have to have a certain amount of redundancy. Their services are something they can let lapse. They have done things such as taken Well 18 and made it from a standby to a fully operational well. They are hoping to go live with it in the next week or two. He stated that Well 27, which has been offline for a number of years, will be coming online this next year. They are resolving a problem with some nitrate build up in the filters so that will happen. So in all, what they will see is the budget represents their expenditures and makes sure that they are maintaining both the capacity and redundancy so they should be ok. He noted that the drought is the drought and the aquifer and the hydrology is a bit sketchy but they are in a good enough position where they are managing their assets so they can react in a reasonable fashion and they are not gonna get sort of caught with everything breaking down at the same time.

Mr. Randall referred to the wastewater treatment plant noting that some people think it is a new plant; it really isn't so they are seeing a lot more expenditures on preventative maintenance this year but then again that is a good investment in their future to make sure that they have sufficient capacity. They are at 5.6 million gallons a day on a plant that is designed for 10.1 but they want to make sure they maintain the

effectiveness of that system so they don't lose capacity so as they grow they have those opportunities and capacity.

Mr. Randall referred to streets. He stated that some of the focus that they will see a little bit is to look at trying to take some of their storm drainage facilities and look further at trying to make them more effective for water recharge. He advised they do that to a certain extent already but as water becomes the topic of every day, they are looking to try to maximize that in any way. He added that there is an ongoing problem in funding streets. Unlike water, they know the problems as they really don't have any new resources but the Mayor has his stake committee and they are going to find them new fees. They are hoping for some relief but in the meantime they are trying to work the best they can to maintain what they have.

Mr. Randall referred to the facilities and electrical division. He noted that they have been working quite diligently to try to do a number of things. They unfortunately had a few absences and some injured individuals so they have been a little short on people but they still have managed this year to get a lot of their LED projects done and next year, they will see the last phase of that completed and they will be completely converted.

Mr. Randall stated that they are, in this budget, proposing four different positions. He advised that two of them will be in the water division. He noted that this is reflective of the fact that they added 13,000 meters and they didn't have any staff, and those things are coming home to roost. They have to try to address how they manage those things and how they get the rest of the services done. He restated that there are two positions there.

Mr. Randall stated that in the wastewater treatment plant they are bringing in a part time person to try to help them recruit and train somebody for their lab position as that person is retiring. He noted that it is just very, very difficult to have a highly technical person be hired to work in a stinky sewer plant. He stated it is just hard to find for the money that is available. They are looking to hopefully grow their own.

Mr. Randall stated that in facilities they are adding a position that is necessary to deal with a lot of the automation that they have. He commented that most people don't see it, but besides the street signals, all their wells and the wastewater treatment plant use an awful lot of automation. He stated they may have heard the SCADA system referred to which is one of the systems that gives them all of the information and allows them to handle the 22 different lift stations and the 19 different wells and the entire alarms working at the wastewater treatment plant. They will be hiring a person that is a technician to help them further do some of those things.

Mr. Randall stated that out at the airport things continue to be well out there. They always love the airport because it just seems to go along and they are always proud of it but it actually is a pretty expensive operation for a big parking lot with the most expensive thing being the pavement. He noted that the FAA continues to give them money thank goodness and this year they will be doing another \$500,000 project. He advised this will be crack sealing. He stated that it comes as a result of the Pavement Management Plan they completed this year. He advised that \$300,000 of that will be funded out of the FAA and \$200,000 out of their airport fund balance.

Mr. Randall stated that summarizes everything he has and offered to answer any questions.

#### Parks and Community Services

Director of Parks and Community Services Mary Ann Seay stated they have been hearing a little bit of a theme largely the same except for this change and that change. She noted that theirs is a little bit different. She stated that across all divisions in the Parks and Community Services Departments they are impacted by the increase in minimum wage. She stated that in July of last year the minimum wage went from \$8.50 to \$9.00 and it is scheduled to increase to at least \$10.00 in January; potentially more. She commented that there is legislation on the table so they are not entirely sure how that is going to impact them. They have prepared the budget as though it is going to increase to \$10 per hour so they will see some shifting in part time salaries and that is the reason for it. She added that there is also a new law

that for every 30 hours a part time seasonal employee works they get an hour of sick leave so they are building that into their budgets also. Ms. Seay stated that in the last 7 or 8 years they have seen first picking the low hanging fruit and then kind of getting on the ladder and picking the higher fruit and then getting into the middle of the tree and picking some of that too so what they are attempting to do in this budget cycle is to take care of some of those things that they have pushed and pushed and pushed. For example, the exposed wood at the youth center is deteriorating at a pretty rapid rate. She commented that some construction issues beyond their control have necessitated that they go back in and that they retreat that wood. They don't have any resources to do that without making a request so there are some capital requests like that and then some more minor equipment purchases like replacing a mule with four tires, not four legs just for their edification, and pool tables and ping pong tables, those kinds of things that have exceeded their usable life. Ms. Seay stated the sum total of those recommendations is about \$160,000 paired down from an initial ask of about \$211,000 at the start of this process.

Ms. Seay referred to the master fee schedule. They may have noticed in their copy of the budget that what the Parks and Community Services Department does on an annual basis is they collect data from their own users. They collect data from other cities. They collect data from their competitors. Are they priced right? Should they consider an increase? Should they consider a decrease? She advised that in some cases they made some minor adjustments. For example, the Millview gym was not a very popular place to rent, then this last year, due to a marketing effort, due to the fact that they entered into a contract with MUSD and they are going to have the floors redone and the interior repainted, and that they have been getting usage, they have increased that rate. She added that at the same time they have taken Pan Am and they have compared it to other places that rent out similarly sized halls and they think they are a little overpriced so they are dropping the full day rental from \$670 down by \$70 to try to drive revenues. She stated that in all cases where they have made minor adjustments in the master fee schedule, they have done that by analyzing what their neighbors in Kerman are doing, what their competitors in town are doing, to just try to increase their revenue stream in Parks and Community Services.

Ms. Seay referred to the budget noting there is a big section all in red. She stated they are not new fees, they are just new to the Parks and Community Services section. She advised that they used to reside in the Engineering Department fees for plan checks, and in the Engineering Department part of the master fee schedule it asks them to look at the Parks and Community Services Department for those plan check fees. She restated that there is not a change in the fees or it is not a new fee; it is just in a different place.

Ms. Seay stated that in the Parks Division, they added a wing of services, people/equipment, etc., to manage landscape maintenance zones, which has been before them several times this spring, and staff was directed to take this action. She noted that is the biggest change in the Parks Division and it is the addition of two full time and 4.1 something part time people.

Ms. Seay noted that she would be remiss to make it all the way through the parks division without talking about water conservation. She stated there are discussions internally in their department, internal in the City. They are going to have wider discussions with their neighbors, best practices in other jurisdictions and she would expect that during the balance of the next 12 months that they as a collective staff will be back before the Council seeking direction on some additional water conservation efforts. Right now for example, staff is going through and retrofitting existing median island irrigation, turning the irrigation off the ornamental turf and turning it on to the trees. She noted that right now they are able to absorb that into their existing budget. She added that what they end up doing 6 months from now may require additional Council action. She noted that there is nothing that she really wants to draw their attention to in the document they see before them, the document they will be voting on in a few weeks, but she thinks it is only wise to mention that this coming fiscal year they may be forced to make some changes relative to water conservation.

Ms. Seay stated that in the recreation and community services division there used to be two divisions. They had a manager in charge of each division. She noted that one of the low hanging fruit pieces she talked about earlier was when they lost those positions, they downgraded them, they under filled them, and they hired them at supervisors. She commented that then, one of those people left and another low hanging piece of fruit that they picked was to merge the two positions into one position. So they have

gone from a higher number of FTE to a significantly smaller number of FTE and what they are requesting in this budget cycle is to add one person back in the form of a Recreation Supervisor to help with some of this additional work that they have. By way of example, they have a \$221,000 contract for their consideration tomorrow evening with Madera Unified School District. She stated that a lot of that is the provision of recreation programming at afterschools and it takes bodies to do that work and they are requesting that they add an additional person in the form of a supervisor.

Ms. Seay stated that encapsulates the biggest portion of the changes. They do have some more minor line item by line item shifts where they do ask for minor increases in travel and training budgets. She noted that none of their staff have attended training for some time due to the recession and things of that sort and some energy costs that are changes. Some things that are kind of beyond their control. Ms. Seay stated that other than that, it is about what they have seen in the past. She offered to answer questions.

Mr. Merchen stated he wanted to build on a point that Ms. Seay made that there are some changes to the fee schedule that she described. He noted these are the fees that were included in what they will call the old fee schedule which did not get incorporated into the current fee schedule when the development services fee update was completed and a big bulk of those were the landscape fees that she described. He added that there are also a couple of fees on the development services side, things like archival fees and a few minor nuances, a penalty fee, that had been in the fee schedule before and got left off because the fee study didn't address them so those are not new fees but will be proposed to be reincorporated again along with the current year budget. He added that finally, they noticed that there were a couple of fees that they did update that when they applied them they were just too high. He advised fees like window replacement and roofing where the fee for one unit was fine but when somebody applied for 10 windows or 500 units of roofing, when they multiplied that out, it ended up being way too high and they set out that the multiplier is wrong so they will adjust that back down. Mr. Merchen stated none of those affect revenue projections or really the way they are treating people. They are just making them official again.

Mr. Przybyla advised that the master fee schedule will be presented to Council with the final budget. They have updated the fee schedule this week so that will be included in the June 17<sup>th</sup> regular City Council meeting information.

#### Grants

Grant Administrator Daniel Abdella stated that as the Council is aware, the Grants Department administers the City's portfolio of grants and pursues additional sources of funding from outside agencies. He added that the department also manages a number of City programs including the Madera Area Express Transit System and various housing programs. He stated that as their proposed budget for 15/16 reflects, the department intends to maintain these activities with its current staffing level and does not anticipate making any extraordinary expenditures outside of these grant funded areas. He noted that in particular, the department will continue to manage the Neighborhood Stabilization Program which seeks to rehabilitate and resell foreclosed homes in the Parkwood neighborhood and they will also continue to seek out water related grant resources. He added that the department will continue to pursue construction of the new joint use transit facility / public works yard in FY 15/16. He stated that again these projects and programs receive support from grant resources and will not negatively impact the general fund. Mr. Abdella stated this concludes his presentation and offered to answer questions. No questions were asked.

#### Code Enforcement

Neighborhood Preservation Supervisor Viola Rodriguez stated that the Neighborhood Revitalization Department's goal for 2015 has been to eliminate blight from the neighborhoods and improve them in a way that allows for safe and healthy environments. They are currently accomplishing these goals by the use of code enforcement, waste tire programs and the neighborhood outreach program. She advised that recently they added another program to the department which is a weed abatement program. They are currently in the middle of implementing this program and they have received more compliance than anticipated which is a good thing because in terms of finance it isn't costing them as much as was

originally estimated. She added that along with these programs just mentioned they are continuing to work with the neighborhoods through the block party meetings and community events of which they have conducted 40 such meetings thus far and they have established 44 neighborhood outreach groups. She commented that a National Night Out is also being organized for August 4<sup>th</sup>. Ms Rodriguez stated that important to note is that they have been working these programs and services with a reduced staff and they are working to remedy the vacancies. Ms. Rodriguez noted that in summary for 2015 their department was funded 100% with grant funds, fines and penalties and no contributions from the general fund were needed. Ms. Rodriguez offered to answer questions.

Mr. Przybyla stated the next section is the internal service funds which will be the last section of budgets that they will discuss as the remainder of the budgets below are pretty much capital budgets and non-operational.

#### Fleet

Fleet Operations Manager Randy Collin stated that fleet is really comprised of two divisions. One is the maintenance side which is just maintaining what they currently have and the other half is the new equipment purchasing, new equipment to replace what they have.

Mr. Collin stated that on the maintenance side everything is pretty status quo. They haven't made any changes really; just minor changes there.

Mr. Collin stated what he really wanted to talk to them about is the equipment replacement fund. What they have tried to do there is establish a new program and basically the purpose of this is to enable the scheduled and timely replacement of equipment and ensure funds are available for that purpose. He stated there are really three key things in that. There are scheduled replacement dates so instead of just letting equipment go until it completely falls apart and then say this has got to be replaced and they will kind of have a predetermined schedule date for that. With that they will have defined annual contributions from the departments that way they will know exactly what their contribution is going to be to replace it and then again have the funds available when that comes due.

Mr. Collin stated there are two sections to that. The first is contribution and the way he calculated that is each class has a defined life so a sedan will maybe be 15 years, a heavy duty truck maybe 20, off road would be maybe 25 years. It just depends on the class so it is divided up that way. He stated that the price is determined by the previous year. He knows that last year a truck cost him \$21,000 so that is what they will budget. If it increases then the following year they will up that to accommodate that so it will just kind of go as actual values come in. With that he calculates the annual value so he just takes the price of the vehicle divided by the number of years. That gives him a prorated rate. For each department he takes all the vehicles, adds all that up, and then that is their contribution for the year, the sum total of those.

Mr. Collin stated that on the fleet side the way they look at purchases is that he has all the equipment scheduled out so for the next budget year he pulls everything on that schedule that would be normally purchased, put that into the budget. He sits down with the shop and they go through every piece of equipment and if something is still in really good shape, they can put off purchase for a year or two, they will do that. If something is in really bad shape and they say hey we are going to have to put a lot of money into that to keep that going, they may move that up a year or two just to make those small adjustments. With that they add up all the costs for the department, put that into the budget and just make sure that they have the resources to cover that in the equipment replacement fund.

Mr. Collin provided a quick example. For a small department with a ½ ton pickup and a mower, the ½ ton pickup they expect a 15 year life at a cost of \$22,500 so the department has to contribute \$1,500 year to cover that. The mower is a little bit shorter lifetime and a little bit more expensive, \$2,500 a year so that department would have a total cost of \$4,000 a year and that would be pretty consistent with just small increases for inflation. Mr. Collin stated that on the equipment side fund of that, the equipment fund would see that \$4,000 come in annually. He noted that the mower, in 10 years, they would expect to replace the mower at \$25,000 and in 15 years the pickup at \$22,500. As they can see, the cash flow

there, the income is what the departments see so they see a consistent \$4,000 charge to their department every year and the outflow is kind of what fleet sees so they don't see anything until year 10 when they purchase a mower at \$25,000 and year 15 the pickup at \$22,500. The balance there is what is left in the equipment fund balance. He stated that will fluctuate up and down as equipment purchases come in and they can see there in year 15 there is a little bit of a balance but as this rolls through in another 5 years they need another mower so that would hit that up again and it just keeps flowing through.

Mr. Collin stated that the last page is just a couple of other notes but basically what they are trying to do here is keep the equipment upgraded, save some money for the City and also make fleets job a little easier. Mr. Collin offered to answer questions.

Council Member Medellin asked what they do with the old vehicles and equipment once their life is over. Are they no longer usable?

Mr. Collin responded that once they are no longer usable they surplus that. They will get a list of the surplus equipment and approve that and what they have been doing recently is putting that on an online auction and they seem to get a lot better returns then they do just sending it down to the local yard.

#### Information Services

Information Services Manager Ted Uyesaka stated they would split this up into two parts. One is going over the budget and the second piece is discussing some of the things that Mr. Tooley talked about earlier about the possibility of changing the way they do technology in the City.

Mr. Uyesaka stated that much like Mr. Collin they have been establishing an internal service fund for computers and maintenance and replacement of equipment. He noted that over the last five years they have been trying to begin to build into their budgets the replacement as they have not been doing that in the past. Finally, this year is the first year that they are trying to fully fund their replacement. They have identified all of the equipment that they have, put it on its life cycle, identified costs and then they are able to split that out towards the departments. Mr. Uyesaka stated theirs are done a little bit differently. They have capital outlay, which is the big equipment items that are in their back office or in the server rooms that are the different departments, and those are allocated directly to the departments. He commented that the maintenance and operations salaries and benefits are allocated and this year, with the help of Mr. Przybyla, decided to do this through the actual number of computers within each department trying to get a fair allocation. They will see that the numbers have changed in the departments from the previous years and that is where those shifts are. Also they are going to see that there are some fairly drastic changes in the line items including some additional line items in their budget this year and much of that was done to clarify their accounting to take some things that were in capital equipment, computer equipment, and put them in their proper places in maintenance and operations for leases of the computers that they have now for most of their laptops and desktops which are leased and also for software costs. Those were in previous years put into capital outlay for computer equipment. This year they have been allocated in the different areas.

Mr. Uyesaka stated what they will see today is about a \$90,000 increase in their maintenance operations and capital outlay, and that is attributed to the fact that they are asking to begin to fully fund complete replacement on a regular schedule of all of their equipment. He noted that if they look back over the years there has been an increase in each year over the last 5 years. He thinks that in 12/13 they will see that they had \$663,000 but if they remember they replaced a phone system that year at the end of the year to the tune of about \$180,000. They have been increasing their capital outlay each year and they will continue to do so. He stated that some years will be up and some years will be down just like with the fleet maintenance depending on what equipment they are going to be replacing on the schedule. They will continue to try to build their fund up so that they will have a fund balance and they won't be in the negative but for the first couple of years they probably will be.

Mr. Uyesaka stated that with that he thinks the most significant thing they have in there, besides moving of costs from one area of the budget to the other, is an increase of about \$16,000 in their consulting

costs. What they will be doing this year, noting they are actually bringing it to Council for approval tomorrow, is that there will be a time and materials with a consultant to provide some services for them. He stated there is a local company in Fresno that provides services from desktop to the backend servers and networks. They are finding that they are not able to keep up with the work right now. They are putting a lot of pressure on the guys to get things done, projects are slipping so they will be bringing in some folks to help them out a little bit with Council's approval and hopefully help to take some of the burden off and help them to deliver some better service to the departments which they have known that they have been lacking in that for the last year. He offered to answer any questions on the budget.

Mr. Tooley stated as a reminder, and Mr. Przybyla touched on it, that obviously Mr. Uyesaka's department is going to be intimately involved in the acquisition and implementation of a new enterprise reporting system and that is probably going to be a minimum 18 month process.

Mr. Uyesaka stated, as Mr. Tooley mentioned, they have been discussing some ways that they can use technology to help create Madera as a smart city or how do they do that next generation of government services and delivery, things like smart sensors out there and cameras, and public facing applications, and ways for the community to get information from them, and for them to be more transparent in the way they provide information. Mr. Uyesaka indicated that Mr. Tooley asked him at one point to give him a general overview of what his general costs would be so today he can ask them for \$6 million as a one time and a \$1 million recurring costs. They thought that might be a little bit too much. He stated that would help them build out a true fiber optic infrastructure to link the City buildings, to link the streets and all those places that they want to put this technology out there. They know that is not realistic to do right now. They would like to begin to build towards that. So what they have done, referring to the handout noting that Mr. Tooley asked him to keep their presentation brief so he didn't put it up on the screen, but just to tell them that there are some steps they can take and there are some capital investments they could make. They know that they have more different priorities today. They knew they couldn't do anything like this today but it is just some things to open their eyes to what is going on, that they are thinking about where they need to go next, and that they think that there are some good possibilities of how they can do these things. He feels they just need to sit down and think about whether they want to make those investments and then how do they sustain that. He commented that they are more than happy to sit down and talk to Council at length about this but he thinks at this point and time they will just leave this for their ears only and they will have questions later.

Mr. Tooley stated that people drive up and down Highway 99 and what they remember about the cities in this corridor is that they are all hot and they begin with the letter M. If they are going to set themselves apart as a city they have to find something that is going to be meaningful to that next generation of person who is looking for a place to work, live and play. He noted that as younger individuals, and they have some of those on the Council, get past the sex, drug, and rock 'n' roll or that portion of their life, they are obviously looking for a place that provides quality of life and because they have lived and worked someplace else, technology is an intricate part of their lives. He noted that as a community, if they want to set themselves apart, technology has got to be part of that discussion. He added that while the numbers are going to be very large, they need to begin chipping away at it because if they don't begin today, they are never going to get there.

Mayor Poythress commented that they have even talked about law enforcement noting that is a big deal in all segments of the City in terms of efficiencies and effectiveness.

Council Member Medellin noted that police officers that are computer savvy, at the same time it is kill two birds with one stone. They can be part of IT as well.

Mr. Uyesaka commented that the police officers they have are pretty savvy. They all do a great job of working with them and supporting what they do so he thinks the Chief has a lot of very technologically savvy guys on his hands so that makes it easier for them.

Council Member Medellin stated they have to come into the next generation. He noted it is about being efficient with their money. It is easy to save and they can cut back, and Ms. Seay in the Parks

Department has made tremendous cutbacks but, there comes a time when they have to spend a buck to make a buck so to speak or to use that money wisely. He added that sometimes it is an investment whether it is the latest technology in the Police Department or the latest technology in the City of Madera. If they are going to continue with increased service delivery and bring Madera to the next level it is going to cost money and he thinks they all realize that but it is using it wisely and being efficient in how they do it. He stated his appreciation to Mr. Uyesaka that they are starting the talks now because this isn't a short term issue. It is going to be a long term issue. He looks forward to seeing more presentations.

Mr. Przybyla stated, to wrap up the internal services fund, they will notice that both the Fleet and the Information Services Departments are now setting aside a level amount of funding each year so that the money is there and so they don't get surprised in any particular year that may be a recession year with \$2 million of expenses that weren't budgeted. They have leveled that out with that process. He added that they have yet to do something similar to that with the Facilities Maintenance Department but that will be one of their goals in the future to look at what needs to be replaced when and start setting aside money for that when funds are available.

Mayor Poythress commented it is like depreciation that is actually funded.

Mr. Przybyla agreed and added with increased cost of living.

Mr. Przybyla stated that in the general fund budget overview they had mentioned the \$375,000 deficit. He noted there is a lot in play right now not only in the general fund but also in the enterprise funds that could take a big swing between now and shortly into the new fiscal year. He advised that they are under negotiations for MOU. He stated that one thing that will probably improve the budget before the final budget presentation is a new cost allocation schedule which could save the general fund approximately another \$200,000. He stated they went out and got the consultant and they have to review their numbers and make sure those are good but those could be dropped into the budget next week in preparation for the final budget as well. He stated that obviously the Prop 218 for the enterprise fund water and sewer fees and the landscape maintenance district, all those things are pretty big items that are still out there but they have to go ahead with the budget now because these are the best figures that they have at this point. They will obviously have to amend the budget depending on what happens with each of those items but he thinks they have come up with some good numbers, a very good budget for this year and they will hope for the best for the turnout between the Prop 218 and the MOU's. Mr. Przybyla stated he would now turn it over to Mr. Tooley and also offered to answer any questions.

Mr. Tooley stated this is Council's opportunity to ask questions this evening. He added that they are not bound by the budget they have presented for their consideration. He noted that as elected officials they may have their own ideas and should have their own ideas about directions that they want to see the City go. They can certainly have that discussion this evening. He also reminded them that the budget is a living document and that throughout the course of the year they will revisit the budget and have discussions about what they want to change or what they want fund. He stated that tonight is not their only opportunity but in advance of actually approving the document at their June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting he asked what questions or what discussion would they like to entertain this evening.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated he sees the 13% projected increase in sales tax and asked what the estimated property tax percentage is that they are using in their budget calculation.

Mr. Przybyla responded 4.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if that is supplied from their friends across the street.

Mr. Tooley responded that it is. He noted that 4% is considered a lock and there may be something north of that in terms of value. He added that from an overall standpoint property taxes are not the biggest portion of their general fund sadly.



Council Member Medellin noted that compared to years past at 1% / 1½% increase at times, 4% is certainly a good number.

Mr. Tooley stated that just a couple of years ago, for the first time in living memory, property values decreased in California. He noted that was a shock to all of them.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver asked if they have built in the \$100,000 allocation that they set aside for the art center feasibility if they move forward with that.

Mr. Tooley responded that it is not identified in the expenditure budget at this time he doesn't believe. They have it set aside as a designation in the general fund balance position so should the other parties actually perform then they would come back and they would have an item for Council to make the allocation.

Council Member Holley stated he thinks it was a good presentation. He thinks everyone stepped up to the plate and showed them how things are looking. He noted that it is a good thing that they don't look as bad as they all thought it was going to be. He thanked each department for their hard endeavor in putting this together and told them to keep it going.

## **2. Council Reports**

Council Member Robinson reported that today he attended a meeting in Fresno on the California Drought Rebate Program, the California Drought Technology Program, and Sustainable Energy Roadmap. They discussed that and there were some pretty influential speakers there. He stated that one of the speakers was an expert in water management. They covered a broad field about the state of the drought in the valley and they had solutions to combat the drought. They also discussed the Governor's propositions.

Council Member Bomprezzi reported that she attended more landscape district meetings. She stated the one at VFW was quite lively. Council Member Bomprezzi asked who will be attending the meeting at the Frank Bergon since it is for all the zones.

Mayor Poythress stated that is Thursday.

Council Member Medellin stated he thinks the City Engineer Keith Helmuth sent out an email asking and he said he would be there.

Council Member Bomprezzi stated he didn't send it to her.

Council Member Rigby stated he will be at Madera South graduation.

Mr. Helmuth stated he thought he sent out a general email to everybody and he has one confirmation right now of somebody who really wants to be there. He advised that he can take two more. He asked that they clarify if he missed somebody. He thinks Council Member Medellin said he would be there.

Council Member Medellin responded yes for sure.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated he would be more than happy to be there.

Council Member Holley stated he isn't going because they put him out.

Mayor Poythress stated that it looks like Council Member Robinson has agreed so they have three.

Council Member Bomprezzi stated that she thinks the Mayor handled himself very well at the VFW.

Council Member Rigby reported that he attended the 8<sup>th</sup> grade promotion of Sherman Thomas Charter School. He had a great time being able to address the students.

Council Member Holley reported that he attended the Sherman Thomas Senior graduation and the Mayor was one of the speakers.

Council Member Holley stated he doesn't want to say this but he was told to tell somebody so he guesses he will tell them. He commented that he doesn't like to do these kinds of things but since they told him to tell somebody and they are his friends he will tell them. He commented that next Tuesday the school board asked him to come and be surprised that they have decided to honor him for the 28 years he served on the Jesse Owens Foundation for kids. He also received a letter from Senator Berryhill congratulating him and he also received a letter from the Jesse Owens Foundation. He thought they had forgot all about the Jesse Owens here in the valley but somebody wrote them and told them that it still goes on in Madera. They almost made him come out of retirement but not good.

Council Member Holley reported that Sierra Vista's graduation is this Friday. He will be attending that. He likes being at these local schools.

Mayor Poythress acknowledged Council Member Holley for a great job and congratulated him once again.

Council Member Medellin reported that last Friday he along with Mr. Tooley, Council Member Rigby and Council Member Robinson golfed in the League of Cities Golf Tournament in Dinuba. He thinks they represented Madera very well. He thinks they played very well and had a great time. They really thought they were going to be on the leader board because it is a very difficult course and as he said, in his opinion, he thinks they scored well. They did some sort of adjustment, asking that they remember that this is the League of California Cities and this is like a Sacramento adjustment, and they were second to last.

Mr. Tooley added that they were tied with a lot of others.

Council Member Medellin and Mr. Tooley stated they were robbed.

Council Member Rigby commented that somehow a team shot an 80 which was about 20 strokes worse than them and still ended up with the same score they did. They got handicapped almost 20 strokes.

Mr. Tooley added that in the interest of full disclosure the Council Member who claims he cannot putt won the putting contest.

Council Member Medellin stated that was his next statement and stated that Council Member Rigby won the putting contest. He stated that although this was on a real golf course it was very similar to the ant hill at the putt putt. That is how difficult it was.

Council Member Rigby stated that is why he won; his many Friday nights of youth pastoring paid off.

Council Member Medellin added that he thinks this was the second time Council Member Robinson had golfed in his entire life but he thinks they had a fantastic time and told him that it is addicting so he will need to tell his wife that he is going to be gone a little bit longer than usual. They had a fantastic time and it wasn't the place they came in rather, that they represented Madera well and they had a good time.

Mayor Poythress commented that it sounds like there may need to be an investigation of this thing.

Council Member Medellin commented that they are having tryouts for next year's team in a couple of months so if anyone is interested he will let them know.

Council Member Medellin stated that he attended, along with quite a few of the Council Members and staff, the LMZ meeting at Lincoln School last week. He noted that there were between 35 and 40 people or so. He commented that the Mayor did a fantastic job. He added that John Scarborough from Parks,

and Keith Helmuth, the City Engineer, took a few on the chin but he thinks they answered all the questions very, very well. He thinks the greatest part is that they had a chance to have an open dialogue with a lot of folks. They had a lot of questions that they know as staff and Council Members but they are certainly not privy to and they answered all of their questions. He thinks they all went home that evening with a better understanding on where they come from as a City and the decisions they make. He thinks that is what these meetings were about so it is a shame that the other meetings were poorly attended but, from VFW to this one, was attended very well. He appreciates staff being there, working overtime and answering those questions. He thanked staff.

Mayor Pro Tem Oliver stated he knows Mr. Tooley mentioned that the budget is a work in progress, and he knows looking at the budget, that this also includes a lot of work in years past. He just wanted to thank his Council colleagues who have been here before himself and Charles, as well as staff, for really showing leadership, making very, very tough choices in difficult times and helping guide and navigate the City through the clutches of the recession which he thinks they are getting out of. He thinks they are in a position of strength and good growth so he just wants to say thank you. He doesn't think it can be said enough especially in years past for that leadership.

Mayor Poythress reported that he attended the Road Charge meeting last Friday in Fresno. He thinks the whole process received a lot of good press. He knows on Wednesday the California Transportation Commission had kind of an open dialogue, open mic for those in the area who wanted to make comments. He noted that was well attended. He thinks a lot of education was dispensed. They had their monthly meeting in Fresno and then the Road Charge Committee meeting. He noted they are making progress. He added that there are a lot of things to consider in terms of privacy and what types of groups to include in the pilot program and so forth. He stated things seem to be moving well.

Mayor Poythress stated he would like to echo the Mayor Pro Tem's comments. He thinks they have great team here and everybody is working really, really hard in a lot of battle fronts. He commented that somebody asked him about a month ago to think about a team that he has been a part of in his life that has really made a difference. He can certainly think about all the banks he has worked for and he can even remember most of them but he can say that he looks at this team that they have at the City and this is the one that he really looks at as one that has really made a difference, really has marched forward in so many areas. He just wanted to let everybody know at this time again, a lot of things going on, a lot of moving parts that he is very proud and honored to be a part of this team.

Council Member Holley reported that he attended, in the Mayor's honor, the ribbon cutting for the new sheriff's office.

Council Member Rigby stated that the Police Citizen's Academy graduated last night. He commended them and stated he is sorry he couldn't be here.

Council Member Holley reported he attended the Police Citizen's Academy too.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Poythress at 7:02 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.

  
SONIA ALVAREZ, City Clerk

  
ROBERT L. POYTHRESS, Mayor

