

Call To Order

The regular council meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Frith. Vice Mayor Thompson, Councilmembers Arnold, Bottorff and Sheppard were present. Staff present: City Administrator Pete Carr, City Attorney Greg Einhorn, City Engineer Steve Speights and City Clerk Roben Dewsnap.

1. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION: None.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- A. Approval of Council Minutes for Regular Meetings of June 20, 2011 and Special Meeting of June 20, 2011.
- B. Approval of warrants: #25374 - 25546; #7958-7998; Z00476 - Z00503 for months of June and July 2011 in the amount of \$597,379.78.
- C. Acknowledge receipt of Police Department Report for July 2011.
- D. Acknowledge receipt of Gridley-Biggs Animal Control Officer Report for July 2011.
- E. Acknowledge receipt of Biggs Fire Department Report for July 2011.
- F. Acknowledge receipt of Accountant's monthly cash and investment report for June and July 2011.
- G. Approve Engagement Letter for auditor Donald Reynolds CPA.
- H. Approval of *RESOLUTION NO. 2011-13* by reading of title only, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIGGS APPROVING THE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION AGREEMENT (2CA0144) FOR SERVICES FROM JULY 1, 2011 TO JUNE 30, 2012."
- I. Approve Fire Engine Usage Agreement.
- J. Approval of *RESOLUTION NO. 2011-18* by reading of title only, "RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIGGS ADOPTING AN EXPENDITURE PLAN TO RECEIVE CITIZEN'S OPTIONS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY (COPS) GRANT FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011/2012."

Mayor Frith made a correction to a motion made on page 4, the second motion/second was actually made by Sheppard/Thompson and a motion on page 5 motion /second should be Sheppard/Frith.

Motion/Second to accept the consent calendar with changes. (Thompson/Bottorff, MCU)

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

A. Planning:

City Administrator Pete Carr reviewed the Department Activity Report – July 2011 / August 2011 included in the agenda packet.

B. Engineering. City Engineer Steve Speights reviewed the Activity Report and Project Updates report in the agenda packet. Mr. Speights distributed a cost estimate for the Sixth Street Bridge and the Waste Water Treatment Plant Evaluation.

Mr. Speights stated the city has not been meeting its waste discharge requirements since 2008 and the city has been receiving fines for this. Bennett Engineering has proposed a plan to help get the project back on track. The regional board is looking for compliance by June 2012 and the city is not in a position to meet that schedule at this time. Mr. Speights was asking council to approve a work plan that would help meet the discharge requirement of June 2012 and put the city on a path to the longer term land disposal. Mr. Speights reviewed the tasks that would need to be completed to meet the schedule.

The city would also need to get the USDA application back on track. He was asking for an emergency finding to authorize the engineer to begin this project at a cost of \$93,390. Mr. Carr stated the funds would come from sewer improvement and general funds.

Motion/Second to add this emergency item to the agenda. (Bottorff/Sheppard, MCU)

Motion/Second to approve the estimated expenditure of \$93,390. (Thompson/Sheppard, MCU)

- C. Public Safety. Mayor Frith asked Assistant Police Chief Dean Price to come forward. He thanked him for the help with National Night Out and presented him with a letter for Police Chief Keeler.
- D. Councilmember Bottorff reported on the Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency Meeting he attended. The agency would like to make a 30 minute presentation to council at the next regular council meeting on September 19th.
- E. Public Works. Councilmember Arnold stated the city was still working with CEC on the engineering transition.
- F. Electric. Mayor Frith stated legislation is being enacted for the reassessment of the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS). The city may want to look at projects for renewables. The city will also need to redo their RPS document.
- G. BCAG and Air Quality. Vice Mayor Thompson stated the City of Chico passed the mandatory burn ban and would like Butte County to assist in regulating this ban.
- H. Solid Waste. Nothing to report.
- I. Other commission reports. Councilmember Sheppard reported on Mosquito Abatement and stated the environmental impact report was accepted.

Vice Mayor Thompson stated a recreation program has started at the Biggs Community Hall with Zumba classes.

- J. City Attorney Greg Einhorn stated in January of 1996, the City provided \$19,500 in a block grant fund to Lamoin Brooks for improvements on his home. Mr. Brooks passed away some time ago and the property has been vacant. The City placed a lien on the property in 2007. The property is being sold in a short sale and the reported value of the home is \$50,000. USDA has a first in line lien for \$72,999 and the City of Biggs is second in line. USDA will not distribute any proceeds to the city and the sale of the home cannot take place until the city releases the lien on the property. Mr. Einhorn was asking council to allow Mr. Carr to sign a Substitution of Trustee and Deed of Full Reconveyance to allow the sale of the property.

Mayor Frith stated concerns of possible liability and would authorize reconveyance subject to no negative impact to the city.

- K. City Administrator.

- 1. Proposal for Grant Administration and Community Development Services. Mr. Carr recommended PMC to handle the city's grant administration and assist in community development activities up to \$15,000. Councilmember Arnold suggested looking at other options and contact Lori Adams. Council agreed.

2. Annual Salary Adjustment. Mr. Carr stated Biggs has traditionally provided an annual cost-of-living (COLA) salary adjustment for all employees on October 1 of each year. In 2010, the City and union agreed to drop the COLA and give all employees, except the city administrator, a \$1 per hour increase in 2010 with a 25 cent increase for 2011 and 2012. Mr. Carr asked council if the 25 cent per hour was applicable to all employees or just the bargaining employees. What happens if the increase causes an employee to go over the top of the salary limit?

Mayor Frith stated a merit increase takes away the ability for council to maintain budgetary controls of salary costs. He felt the elimination of the COLA and the addition of the merit increase was costing the city more money.

Resident Mary Frith explained how the government pay increase works. She said employees receive a merit increase after each year of employment until they reach the top of the pay scale. Then, the only pay increase the employee receives is a COLA and all employees receive it. The whole grid increases with a COLA. She also asked what it would cost the city for a 25 cent per hour increase for the employees. Mr. Carr stated the total increase would be \$5,600.

Council needed more clarification agreed to hold this item over to the next regular council meeting.

3. Mr. Carr stated Council was asked to designate a voting delegate and alternate for the annual business meeting of the League of California Cities scheduled for September 23, 2011. Councilmember Arnold was planning on attending the meeting.

Motion/Second to designate Councilmember Arnold to be our voting delegate with Mr. Carr as the alternate. (Thompson/Arnold, MCU)

4. Mr. Carr stated at a recent BCAV Meeting there was discussion to consider a new city motto. Council discussed different ideas and ways to inform the citizens of a possible change and suggested mottos. Mr. Carr would bring back more information at the next council meeting.
5. Mr. Carr informed council that staff received three bids for janitorial services at city hall for cleaning every other week and the council building once a month. He suggested council accept the bid from SJS Janitorial Services.

Motion/Second to accept the bid from SJS Janitorial Services and authorize city administrator to enter into agreement for services at stated bid. (Thompson/Arnold, MCU)

4. **INFORMATIONAL:** Councilmember Arnold was concerned about missing the closed session meeting at 5:30 p.m. and asked if the item could be brought back again for a council vote. Mr. Einhorn stated he would discuss this with him.

Councilmember Bottorff asked what the results were with the meeting on medical. Mr. Carr said the city would be staying with PERS and cap at a PPO cost.

5. **CLOSED SESSION:** Cancelled

6. **ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

ATTEST:


Roben Dewsnap, CITY CLERK

APPROVED:


Roger L. Frith, MAYOR