

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF BIGGS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
COUNTY OF BUTTE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

August 13, 2013

Call To Order

The regular council meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Frith. Vice Mayor Sheppard, Council Members Arnold, Busch and Thompson were present. Staff present: City Administrator Mark Sorensen, City Attorney Greg Einhorn, City Planner Scott Friend and City Clerk Roben Dewsnap.

1. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION:

Raymundo Solorio stated he received a 48 hour notice to clear up a nuisance abatement issue. He thought he had cleared up the problem correctly but later discovered he had not and was now being fined. Mayor Frith suggested he contact the City for help.

2. PRESENTATIONS:

- A. Department of Fish & Wildlife Regional Biologist, Henry Lomeli and Lieutenant Sam Castillo discussed what can be done to address the Night Heron/Bird Infestation issue. Mr. Lomeli stated if the City follows a prescribed action plan, there would be success. After September 1st, the trees where the birds are nesting should be trimmed, cleaned and the nests removed. When the birds return to the trees to nest, the idea is to discourage them from nesting so they will establish their rookery elsewhere.
- B. Dave Myers of Bird Abatement Services uses falconry as a non-lethal method to displace wild birds that cause agricultural and property damage. He stated he could help displace adult Herons attempting to relocate in the City.

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A. Adoption of the CDBG Program Income Reuse Plan and Adoption of the Single Family House Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program Guidelines.

City Planner Scott Friend stated this action will allow the City to reuse program income money.

Mayor Frith opened the hearing to the public.

Proponent – None.

Opponent – None.

Mayor Frith closed the hearing to the public.

Motion/Second that the City Council find the proposed action to be exempt from CEQA pursuant to State of California Code Section 15063(b)(3); and move to adopt the CDBG Program Income Reuse Plan. (Busch/Sheppard, MCU)

Motion/Second that the City Council find the proposed action to be exempt from CEQA Pursuant to State of California Code Section 15061(b)(3); and move to adopt the Single Family Housing Rehabilitation Program Guidelines. (Frith/Thompson, MCU)

- B. Tentative Parcel Map: TPM #2013-01 (Casey) 568 B Street.

Mr. Friend informed Council that Mr. Rufus Casey wished to re-subdivide portions of three lots into two lots. The utilities would be separated and re-directed to each individual home.

Mayor Frith opened the hearing to the public.

Proponent – None.

Opponent – None.

Mayor Frith closed the hearing to the public.

Motion/Second that the project is Categorically Exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) section 15315, Minor Land Divisions and move to approve Resolution 2013-27 “A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIGGS APPROVING TENTATIVE PARCEL MAP 2013-01 (CASEY) ON ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER 001-181-004, LOCATED NORTH OF B STREET, WEST OF TENTH STREET, AND, EAST OF ELEVENTH STREET, SUBJECT TO FINDINGS AND CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL.” (Conditions also include payment of City utility debts.) (Thompson/Sheppard, MCU)

- C. Municipal Code Amendment ZCA2013-02 – Temporary Occupancy of Manufactured Homes and Recreational Vehicles. THIS ITEM WAS CONTINUED TO THE SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- A. Approval of Council Minutes for Regular Meeting of July 9, 2013.
- B. Approval of warrants: #8374– 8399; Z00854 – Z00887, and 27197 – 27322 for the months of June and July 2013 in the amount of \$615,834.59.
- C. Acknowledge receipt of Gridley-Biggs Police Department Report for June and July 2013.
- D. Acknowledge receipt of Biggs Fire Department Report for July 2013.
- E. Adopt Ordinance No. 398 by reading of title only, “AN ORDINANCE OF THE BIGGS CITY COUNCIL AMENDING THE BIGGS MUNICIPAL CODE TO MODIFY REGULATIONS IN SECTION 14.60.080 FENCES AND LANDSCAPING – GENERAL HEIGHT LIMITATIONS RELATING TO THE REQUIREMENT FOR FENCE PERMITS AND FENCE AND LANDSCAPING STANDARDS IN THE CITY OF BIGGS.”

Councilmember Arnold asked to remove item A from the consent calendar. He referred to item 4.L.3 of the July 9, 2013 Council Minutes and requested that the reason why he asked for the legal description to be re-written be included.

Motion/Second to approve the council minutes (item A) as corrected.
(Thompson/Arnold, MCU)

Motion/Second to approve the balance of the consent calendar. (Thompson/Arnold, MCU)

5. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

A. Planning.

City Planner Scott Friend gave a brief review of the Planning Activity Report included in the agenda packet. He also reported on City code enforcement issues.

B. Engineering.

City Administrator Mark Sorensen reviewed the City Engineer’s Department Activity Report which included the Sixth Street Bridge Project, the Wastewater Treatment Plant Phase 1 Design and Funding and Wastewater Treatment Plant Phase 2 Funding.

- C. Public Safety. Assistant Chief Dean Price gave a verbal police report.
- D. Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency (SBFCA). Vice Mayor Sheppard reported on the SBFCA Meeting he attended.
- E. Pubic Works. Public works items were discussed earlier in the meeting.
- F. Electric. Mayor Frith stated the City was working on RPS compliance.
- G. BCAG. Council Member Busch reported the BCAG meeting had been canceled.
- H. Air Quality. Council Member Thompson reported the Air Quality meeting had been canceled.
- I. Solid Waste. City wide fall clean up will be October 12th. Resident Mary Frith asked if the expiration date on the voucher for the dump could be eliminated. Marlee Mattos said this might be something that could be negotiated with Waste Management.
- J. Mosquito Abatement. Vice Mayor Sheppard stated the West Nile Virus was increasing in Butte County with one human case reported.
- K. Other commission reports. No report.
- L. City Attorney. City Attorney Greg Einhorn stated Vice Mayor Sheppard had requested a description be written for the Employee Relations Officer. Mr. Einhorn recommended providing the scope of duties, legal authorization of what can be done and can't be done and provide this information at the next council meeting for discussion.

Vice Mayor Sheppard asked that the duties include what has historically been done by the Employee Relations Officer.

K. City Administrator.

1. Responses to the 2012-2013 Grand Jury Report.

Mr. Sorensen stated a letter had been drafted to address the recommendations and findings of the Grand Jury.

Motion/Second to send the attached letter to the Grand Jury. (Sheppard/Arnold, MCU)

2. Energy Storage Systems.

Mr. Sorensen stated council is being asked to consider suitable local energy storage systems in accordance with AB 2514.

Motion/Second to adopt the recommended plan. (Sheppard/Busch, MCU)

3. Encroachment Ordinance.

Mr. Sorensen asked council to consider the creation of an Encroachment Ordinance.

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Mayor Frith felt this was a good draft and asked that it be written in more simple English.

6. INFORMATIONAL: Mary Frith reported on National Night Out.

7. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

ATTEST:



Roben Dewsnup, CITY CLERK

APPROVED:



Roger L. Frith, MAYOR