

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, City Engineer Steve Speights and City Clerk Roben Dewsnup.

1. **COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION:** Resident Jon Crawford advised Council of a public safety issue of motorcycles driving fast around town.
2. **PUBLIC HEARING:** Conditional Use Permit #CUP2013-01.

City Planner Scott Friend stated Chris Swanson was requesting permission to accommodate the seasonal occupancy of up to four recreational vehicles for temporary use at an existing business, Swanson Timber Products, located at 2984 Seventh Street. This does comply with the recent approved ordinance.

Mayor Frith opened the hearing to the public.

Proponents: Chris Swanson, property owner, asked council to approve the permit. He felt he had met all the required conditions and stated his neighbors were in favor of this permit.

Mr. Friend presented a citizen letter of support to council.

Opponents: Jon Crawford stated his concern about the new ordinance allowing compensation to the owner of the property. He felt this would be considered a business rather than just helping out a friend. He stated his concerns about the fairness to other residents in the community. He felt the utility fees should be consistent with a residential fee per unit and that no compensation be paid to the property owner.

Proponent's rebuttal: Chris Swanson stated the impact on the City would be very minimal. The recreational vehicles would actually be occupied 25 to 30 days.

Opponent's rebuttal: Jon Crawford was concerned about the precedence this action would set for the rest of the City's commercial properties.

Mayor Frith closed the hearing to the public.

Council discussed what the sewer and water fees should be.

Motion/Second that the City Council determines the project is Categorical Exempt from further environmental review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and meets the requirements of Section 15311, Accessory Structures of the State CEQA Guidelines as a Class 11 exemption. (Sheppard/Busch, MCU)

Motion/Second that the City Council adopts the findings contained in the staff report and presented as Attachment D, and approves Conditional Use Permit #2013-01, a request to allow the temporary occupation of four recreational vehicles on a season basis, subject to the Conditions of Approval presented as Attachment C. (Sheppard/Busch, MCU)

3. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**
  - A. Approval of Council Minutes for Regular Meeting of October 8, 2013.
  - B. Approval of warrants: #8426- 8436; Z00922 - Z00940, and 27447 - 27504 for the month of October 2013 in the amount of \$311,632.22.

- C. Acknowledge receipt of Gridley-Biggs Police Department Report for the month of September 2013.
- D. Acknowledge receipt of Gridley-Biggs Animal Control Report for the month of September 2013.
- E. Acknowledge receipt of Biggs Fire Department Report for the month of September 2013.

Councilmember Arnold asked to pull item A from the consent calendar. In regards to Section 4.A. concerning the inspection at 343 C Street, he asked that his concerns over the number of buildings allowed be included in the minutes.

Motion/Second to approve Consent Calendar with the corrections to item A.  
(Arnold/Thompson, MCU)

#### 4. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- A. Planning / Code Enforcement: Mr. Friend reviewed the Activity Report for September / October 2013.
- B. Engineering: City Engineer Steve Speights stated he would be retiring and introduced Brian Martin as his replacement. Mr. Speights then reviewed the monthly activity report.

#### C. Public Safety

- 1. Verbal Update. Mayor Frith discussed safety enforcement issues in the City.
- 2. Fire Department Grant Match Request.

Captain Todd Tindill asked Council to consider appropriation of up to \$3,500 as a match to a State grant for fire department-related personal protection equipment. This amount had already been budgeted.

Motion/Second to approve Resolution No. 2013-29 by reading of title only,  
"RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIGGS  
APPROVING THE DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION  
AGREEMENT #7FG13016 FOR SERVICES FROM THE DATE OF LAST  
SIGNATORY ON PAGE 6 OF THE AGREEMENT TO JUNE 30, 2014 UNDER  
THE VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OF THE COOPERATIVE  
FORESTRY ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1978." (Thompson/Sheppard, MCU)

- D. Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency (SBFCA). Vice Mayor Sheppard reported on the SBFCA Meeting he attended.
- E. Pubic Works. Items already discussed.
- F. Electric. Mayor Frith reported on electric issues pertaining to the City of Biggs.
- G. BCAG. Council Member Busch reported on the BCAG meeting he attended.
- H. Air Quality. Council Member Thompson gave a report on the Air Quality meeting.
- I. Solid Waste. The City clean up day was discussed and Mayor Frith stated he observed about half of the intake from last year.
- J. Mosquito Abatement. Vice Mayor Sheppard gave a verbal report.

K. Other commission reports. Mr. Sorensen reported on the SCORE training conference he attended.

L. City Attorney.

1. City Attorney Request for Proposals.

City Attorney Greg Einhorn presented a Request for Proposals for city attorney services. Council discussed the proposed hiring process time schedule.

Motion/Second to direct staff to move forward with the Request for Proposals.  
(Frith/Sheppard, MCU)

2. Duties of Employee Relations Councilor and Access to Information.

Mr. Einhorn reviewed the changes to the memorandum from the last council meeting relating to Duties of Employee Relations Councilor and Access to Information.

Council discussed what type of employee information they should have access to, which council members should have access to the information, and the possibility of holding a closed session each month to discuss employee issues.

Mr. Einhorn advised Council that under the Brown Act, there would be a problem holding a closed session concerning employees with a body that is not responsible for the hiring, firing and disciplining the employees.

After much discussion, no decision was made and Council agreed to have this item brought back for discussion and final approval.

Mayor Frith suggested also determining where this policy would be housed.

M. City Administrator.

1. Blackboard Connect.

Mr. Sorensen stated staff recently discovered that the Blackboard Connect Service had been discontinued. The service was originally purchased by Gridley Police Department for Gridley and Biggs. The vendor supplied a quote of \$1,927 per year for the service for the City of Biggs. Another option was Voice Broadcasting Company which would charge \$50 to \$100 per use. Mr. Sorensen would investigate what other agencies were using.

2. Waste Water Quality Update.

Mr. Sorensen provided a waste water quality update report to council.

3. Purchase Authority for Waste Water Aerators.

Mr. Sorensen informed Council the final two aerators had failed and asked Council to grant purchase authority to him for the repair of, or for the replacement of two waste water aerators, installation labor and materials.

Motion/Second to authorize the City Administrator to purchase and install two (2) 3 HP VaraCorp Turbine Aeration units with the cost of materials and labor not to exceed \$14,000, and to increase the Sewer Operating Fund expense budget line item 030-1232 "Plant & pump repair & maintenance" by \$14,000 to accommodate the purchase." (Frith/Thompson, MC; Noes: Sheppard)

4. Budget Review Quarter 1, 2013-2014.

Mr. Sorensen provided a brief overview of the status of the major operating funds at the conclusion of the first quarter of fiscal year 2013-2014, as of September 30, 2013.

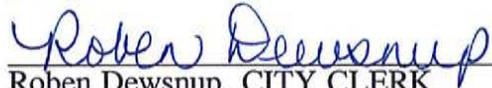
5. **INFORMATIONAL:** None

6. **CLOSED SESSION:** Council adjourned to closed session at 9:30 p.m. for a Conference with Labor Negotiators.

7. **RESUME REGULAR SESSION:** Council resumed regular session at 10:30 p.m. with no announcement.

8. **ADJOURNMENT:** The regular meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roben Dewsnap, CITY CLERK

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Roger L. Frith, MAYOR