MINUTES: of a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Redlands held in the Council Chambers, Civic Center, 35 Cajon Street, on January 6, 2015, at 5:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Paul Foster, Mayor
Jon Harrison, Mayor Pro Tem
Pat Gilbreath, Councilmember
Paul Barich, Councilmember

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Enrique Martinez, City Manager; Dan McHugh, City Attorney; Sam Irwin, City Clerk; Robert Dawes, City Treasurer; Jeff Frazier, Fire Chief; Mark Garcia, Police Chief; Danielle Garcia, Chief Innovation Officer; Chris Diggs, Interim Municipal Utilities and Engineering Director; Fred Cardenas, Quality of Life Director; Tina Kundig, Finance Director; Oscar Orci, Development Services Director; Amy Martin, Human Resources Director

Mayor Foster called the meeting to order and adjourned until 6:00 P.M.

The meeting reconvened at 6:00 P.M. with an invocation by Mayor Foster followed by the pledge of allegiance to the American flag.

PRESENTATIONS:
Redlands Animal Shelter – Animal Control Officer Bill Miller, introduced “Monica”, a nine-year old female Welsh Yeorgi who is available for adoption along with thirty-six other dogs and forty-one cats at the Redlands Animal Shelter. Officer Miller informed the Council twenty-two dogs and thirty-four cats have been adopted since the last City Council meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Veterans’ Tax Exemption – Andrew Hoder asked why additional fees, added to property taxes by the City of Redlands, are not subject to the California State Veterans’ Tax exemption. He also asked why there is a paramedic tax, but not a police or firefighter tax.

Follow-up – Mario Saucedo requested more information on two items he had previously mentioned in public comments given at prior City Council meetings. He said he did not understand fully the explanation given to him about the first issue, the cutting of palm trees on Nevada Street, and requested a report to the public to explain further the sequence of events surrounding the first issue involved abandoned properties at various locations around the City. He asked for a plan to address these properties and their negative impact on the community. City Manager Martinez informed the City Council that code enforcement would be addressed at their second regular meeting on March 17, 2015.
CONSENT CALENDAR:

Minutes - On motion of Councilmember Gilbreath, seconded by Councilmember Harrison, the City Council unanimously approved the minutes of the regular meeting of December 16, 2014 as submitted.

Commission Appointments - On motion of Councilmember Gilbreath, seconded by Councilmember Harrison, the City Council unanimously approved the reappointment of Carol Dyer to serve on the Planning Commission for a third four year term ending January 6, 2019, and the appointment of Patrick Wallis to serve on the Planning Commission for a four year term ending January 6, 2019.

Committee Appointments - On motion of Councilmember Gilbreath, seconded by Councilmember Harrison, the City Council unanimously approved the appointments of Andrew Hoder and Christine Sedmack to serve on the Street Tree Committee for four year terms ending February 16, 2019, and the appointment of Roy Manickarottu to serve on the Street Tree Committee for an unexpired term ending February 16, 2017.

Settlement Agreement - On motion of Councilmember Gilbreath, seconded by Councilmember Harrison, the City Council unanimously approved the public disclosure of details of a settlement and general release agreement between the City of Redlands and Paulamarie Montes. Under the terms of the agreement, the City agrees to pay Ms. Montes $5,000.00 for the settlement and disposal of all claims associated with a lawsuit filed in the San Bernardino County Superior Court and entitled Paulamarie Montes v. City of Redlands, et al., Case No. CIVDS 1405827.

Fee Waiver - On motion of Councilmember Gilbreath, seconded by Councilmember Harrison, the City Council unanimously approved a request from the Boy Scouts of America to waive all fees associated with the 76th Annual Lincoln Pilgrimage to be held on February 7, 2015.

FEMA Grant Acceptance - On motion of Councilmember Gilbreath, seconded by Councilmember Harrison, the City Council unanimously approved authorization for staff to accept a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 2014 Homeland Security Grant Program allocation in the amount of $15,457.00 and authorized an additional appropriation of the same.

Resolution No. 7479 – Recycled Water System Funding – Councilmember Gilbreath raised a question as to a source of funds to support City of Redlands obligations associated with participation in a U.S. Department of the Interior – Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Grant. Interim Director of Municipal Utilities and Engineering Chris Diggs assured the City Council that if a funding plan is not approved, the City can withdraw from the Grant without prejudice. On motion of Councilmember Gilbreath, seconded by Councilmember Harrison, the
City Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 7479 declaring the intention of the City of Redlands to cost share 68% of the City’s Recycled Water System Conversion Project for a U.S. Department of the Interior – Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Grant, and designating the City Manager as authorized signatory.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Grove Replanting – Mayor Pro Tem Harrison introduced this item to stimulate planning for the future of the Prospect Park Grove. Recommendations from the Citrus Preservation Commission have identified a need for action to address the grove’s status as not revenue producing. On motions of Mayor Pro Tem Harrison, seconded by Mayor Foster, the City Council unanimously approved the formation of an ad hoc committee from the City Council to work with the Citrus Preservation Commission Subcommittee to further explore and make recommendations regarding the replanting of the Prospect Park Grove, and appointed Mayor Foster and Mayor Pro Tem Harrison to the ad hoc committee.

River Trail and Parkway Funding – Mayor Pro Tem Harrison introduced this item in an effort to acquire possible funding for the completion of the Santa Ana River Trail and Parkway. An opportunity may exist at a January 29, 2015 meeting of the State Coastal Conservancy, the governing body assigned the executive responsibility for managing the use of Proposition 84 funds to complete the Santa Anna River Trail. A funding allocation decision will be made at that meeting to consider completing the portion of the Trail from Waterman Avenue to California Street. On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Harrison, seconded by Councilmember Barich, the City Council unanimously authorized the Mayor to sign a letter requesting the State Coastal Conservancy’s support for funding toward completion of the Trail and Parkway.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

AirFest Preparation – Quality of Life Director Fred Cardenas provided an update of events leading to a December 18, 2014 Airport Advisory Board meeting at which a request from Hangar 24 Charities to close areas of the Redlands Municipal Airport for a four and a half hour period during AirFest 2015 was recommended for approval. As public comment, Lloyd Janzen asked who will provide insurance for airport hangars during the event and why do the hangars have to be closed during the airshow? Chris Boatman, of the Quality of Life Department, assured the Council that Hangar 24 will provide insurance and explained that FAA safety rulings required the hangars to be closed during the show. On motion of Councilmember Gilbreath, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Harrison, the City Council unanimously approved the request by Hangar 24 Charities to close the Redlands Municipal Airport for four and a half hours to pedestrian access, hangar access and air traffic on May 16, 2015 for the Annual AirFest special event.
NEW BUSINESS:

Backhoe Purchase – Bassam Alzammar, of the Municipal Utilities and Engineering Department, defined the need for a replacement backhoe for the Department. On motion of Councilmember Gilbreath, seconded by Councilmember Barich, the City Council unanimously approved the purchase of a new Caterpillar 420F backhoe from Johnson Machinery in the amount of $71,910.38.

Pest Threat Notices – Chris Boatman, of the Quality of Life Department, outlined a program proposal to distribute notices to Redlands residents to educate the public of the threat and steps to be taken to prevent diseases carried by the Asian Citrus Psyllid. On motion of Councilmember Gilbreath, seconded by Councilmember Harrison, the City Council authorized distribution of the notices.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Resolutions No. 7462 – General Plan Amendment No. 131 – Mayor Foster opened the hearing and called upon Development Services Director Oscar Orci to provide a status report on a request from 800 Opal LLC to amend the General Plan Land Use Designation from Light Industrial to Low-Density Residential (0 to 6 units per gross acre) for 35.17 acres located on the north side of Colton Avenue, the south side of Nice Avenue, and the east side of Opal Avenue in the unincorporated community of Mentone. At the request of staff and on motion of Mayor Pro Tem Harrison, seconded by Councilmember Barich, the City Council unanimously agreed to continue the public hearing until the next regular meeting scheduled for January 20, 2015 to allow more time to address issues raised in the original December 16, 2014 hearing on this subject.

COUNCILMEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES:

AirFest – Councilmember Gilbreath said she has been attending all the AirFest planning meetings. She is encouraged by the diligence of all parties concerned and optimistic the event will be a great success.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further action required, Mayor Foster adjourned the meeting at 6:34 P.M. The next regular meeting of the City of Redlands City Council will be held on January 20, 2015.