

## **MINUTES**

### **CITY OF DELANO CITY COUNCIL – SPECIAL MEETING May 11, 2011**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Chavez called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 1015 – Avenue.

#### **FLAG SALUTE**

Councilwoman Morris led the flag salute.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Council members present: Aguirre, Chavez, Morris, Vallejo  
Council members absent: Ramirez

#### **OFFICIALS PRESENT**

City Manager Salem, City Attorney Alan Peake, City Clerk Kraft, Finance Director DeDios, Transportation & General Services Director Newhouse, Community Services Director Tracey, Community Development Director Woodcock, Chief of Corrections Galaza, Economic Development & Redevelopment Director Reyna, Human Resources Director Kirkwood

#### **SPECIAL AGENDA ITEM**

- 1) Discussion and possible action regarding letter received from California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Center affecting Delano CCF.

Mr. Salem presented the staff report. He stated a letter was received yesterday from CDCR formally terminating our agreement August 21, 2011. At a meeting held here April 29, CDCR announced they would terminate the agreements with Coalinga, Lassen, and Delano CCF's. Staff has done everything we can to extend the agreement. Chief Galaza, Mr. Salem, and others have been meeting with county sheriffs regarding use of our facility to house their inmates. A meeting regarding this situation will be held this Friday in Galt with police chiefs and county sheriffs in attendance. We may make a presentation regarding the availability of our facility.

Our facility has been an asset. The general fund received just below \$800,000 from our contract with CDCR. The CCF has 87 full-time employees who will be negatively impacted if it closes.

Chief Galaza stated that 3 of the 5 remaining public CCF's will not have their contracts renewed or extended. Shafter and Taft have agreements until 2017, however they have termination language. Our facility is an asset valued at \$21 million. Fifty percent of the CCF staff live in Delano and have a total annual salary of \$2.5 million.

Mayor Chavez announced he had received a letter from CDCR Secretary Cates dated May 4, stating our contract will be extended to February 2012 pending approval. He added Senator Rubio's office had called him today to inform us that the Senator is trying to help us.

Mayor Chavez called for a recess at 4:12 p.m. so that staff may call CDCR regarding the two letters recently received.

Mayor Chavez reconvened the meeting at 4:19 p.m.

Mr. Salem announced that just called CDCR staff and was informed that the letter received by Mayor Chavez was sent before the decision was made to terminate the contracts. CDCR staff noted that the May budget revision is due next Monday and it may contain changes to the CDCR budget which could make a difference regarding the contracts.

Chief Galaza stated the sheriffs do not have a clear picture yet of what will happen when the proposed re-alignment regarding CDCR is done. No state inmates will be released. The state is shifting the cost for housing some inmates from the state to the counties. CDCR does not have a de-activation plan. The unofficial word is that by August 12, the inmate population at the CCF will be zero. About 310 of our current inmate population of about 550 are projected to parole by August 12, the others will transfer to other facilities.

Chief Galaza stated it is not known if the counties will be as strict as the state regarding parole violations and return to custody. It is estimated to take from zero to one year to have sufficient inmate population to fill the facility.

Staff is requesting council approval of an agreement for a lobbyist and will have an item on the May 16, council agenda.

There was brief discussion regarding AB 109 and SB 89 regarding prisons, the re-alignment proposed by the governor, the role of the CCF's in the re-alignment, possible lay-offs of city staff, uses for our facility, and private sector interest in the facility.

- 2) Approval of travel to Sacramento; Chief of Corrections, Galaza and council member Sam Ramirez.

Moved by Councilwoman Vallejo, seconded by Councilwoman Morris and unanimously carried to approve Chief Galaza, Councilman Ramirez, Chief DeRosia, and CCF Lt. Jones travel to Sacramento to attend meetings in Galt regarding the CCF's.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councilwoman Vallejo, seconded by Councilwoman Morris, and unanimously carried to adjourn at 4:46 p.m.

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Phyllis A. Kraft, City Clerk