



CITY OF MERCED

City Council Chamber
Merced Civic Center
2nd Floor
678 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340

Minutes

City Council/Public Finance and Economic Development Authority/Parking Authority

Thursday, February 25, 2016

6:00 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor THURSTON called the Town Hall Meeting at Rivera Middle School, 945 Buena Vista Drive, to order at 6:01 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

B. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor Stanley P. Thurston, Mayor Pro Tempore Joshua Pedrozo, Council Member Michael Belluomini, Council Member Kevin Blake, Council Member Tony Dossetti, Council Member Noah Lor, and Council Member Mike Murphy

Absent: 0

C. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

C.1 City Manager Presentation - City Manager Steve Carrigan

City Manager Steve CARRIGAN introduced himself to the audience and encouraged citizens to contact him. He spoke on his priorities for the City being Homeless issues, crime, jobs and fostering a relationship with UC Merced.

C.2. City Clerk Presentation - Assistant City Clerk John Tresidder

Assistant City Clerk John TRESIDDER spoke about the upcoming district-based Council election.

C.3. Police Presentation - Police Chief Norm Andrade

Police Chief Norm ANDRADE spoke about the Police Department's presence on the internet with tools available for citizens to use to view and report crimes in the City. He spoke about the hiring of new animal control officers.

C.4. Economic Development Presentation - Economic Development Director Frank Quintero

Economic Development Director Frank QUINTERO gave a report on some

new businesses coming to Merced.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

Nick PEREZ, Merced - spoke on various items in the City.

Kenneth JAMES, Merced - spoke on issues of repair at McNamara Park.

Kirk WRIGHT, Merced - spoke on McNamara Park.

Monica GRASLEY, Merced - spoke about youth activities.

Rick McMILLION, Merced - spoke on downtown issues related to park benches and parking signs.

Christopher GONZALES, Merced - spoke on homeless issues.

Eric MOORE, Merced - spoke about dead trees in the Bellevue Ranch Subdivision.

Tony SLATON, Merced - spoke about youth programs

Mayor THURSTON stated the City always welcomes partnerships for youth activities.

Steve RUSSOS, Merced - asked about the Youth Council format.

Assistant to the City Manager Mike CONWAY gave a brief update on the Youth Council.

Mayor Pro Tempore PEDROZO spoke about a school program geared toward the use of social media by the youth.

Kelly TURNER, Merced - spoke about her youth programs and developing the Youth Council.

Miguel LOPEZ, Merced - spoke about the landscape maintenance needed in Bellevue Ranch.

Preet BALI, Merced - spoke about the Bali learning center and issues with Elmer Wood park. She also asked about retail companies coming to Merced.

Council discussed the process involved to get new businesses to come to Merced.

Economic Development Director Frank QUINTERO spoke about the Gateway Shopping Center Project.

Ron COOK, Merced - spoke about heroin addiction.

Council Member BLAKE spoke about his experiences working with the narcotics unit at the Sheriff's Department.

Mark CHALICO, Merced - spoke about stray cats.

Marcia WICK, Merced - requested a recycle bin for her apartment building.

Ron COOK, Merced - spoke about the animal shelter.

Mayor Pro Tempore PEDROZO thanked the audience for attending and invited them to regular meetings.

Council Member MURPHY followed up on an issue brought up at the previous town hall meeting and thanked the audience.

Council Member BELLUOMINI thanked everyone for attending and commented on some of the evening's topics.

Council Member LOR thanked the audience and staff for attending.

Council Member BLAKE thanked the attendees for their civic engagement.

Council Member DOSSETTI thanked everyone in attendance.

Mayor THURSTON thanked the audience.

E. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor THURSTON adjourned the meeting at 8:04 PM.