MERCED CITY COUNCIL/PUBLIC FINANCING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY/PARKING AUTHORITY
MINUTES
May 30, 2012

The City Council/Public Financing and Economic Development Authority/Parking Authority of the City of Merced, California met in continued special meeting session on Wednesday, May 30, 2012. The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Mayor/Chairperson THURSTON.

(B) ROLL CALL

Present:	Mayor/Chairperson:	Stanley Thurston
	Mayor Pro Tempore/Vice-Chair:	Noah Lor
	Council Members/ Authority Members:	Bill Blake
		Tony Dossetti
		Mike Murphy *(arrived at 5:43 p.m.)*
		Joshua Pedrozo
		Mary-Michal Rawling
	City Manager/Executive Director:	John M. Bramble
	City Attorney/Legal Counsel:	Gregory Diaz
Absent:	Council Members/ Authority Members:	None

(B-1) City Clerk Announcement Pursuant to Government Code 54952.3 *(In accordance with Government Code 54952.3, it is hereby announced that the City Council sits either simultaneously or serially as the Public Financing and Economic Development Authority and/or Parking Authority. City Council Members receive a monthly stipend of $20.00 by Charter for sitting as the City Council; and the Mayor receives an additional $50.00 each month as a part of the adopted budget and Resolution 1975-37. The Public Financing and Economic Development Authority and Parking Authority receive no compensation.)*

Deputy City Clerk/Assistant Secretary JAMIE FANCONI advised the members of the audience that if they wanted to address the City Council, Public Financing and Economic Development Authority, and/or Parking Authority, they must submit a request to speak form.

(C) CONTINUED - CITY MANAGER'S FISCAL YEAR 2012/2013 PROPOSED BUDGET REVIEW *(Reviews next fiscal year's proposed City budget.)*

City Manager JOHN BRAMBLE reviewed a Microsoft© PowerPoint presentation entitled "2012 Proposed Budget, Council Questions - May 30, 2012 Budget Planning Session," and answered Council Members'/Authority Members'/Audience Members' questions. Finance Officer BRADLEY GRANT assisted in addressing City Council's/Authority's questions.

Council Members MURPHY and DOSSETTI stated more information was needed on increased revenue assumptions before the budget could be finalized.

Economic Development Director FRANK QUINTERO, Police Chief NORM ANDRADE, and Development Services Director DAVID GONZALVES answered questions relative to their respective departments.

Speakers from the Audience:

Merced Youth Soccer Association President JAVIER RENTERIA, Merced

NAILAH HUBBARD, Merced – suggested department heads give up travel/vehicle allowances so the money can be allocated to the Boys' and Girls' Club and/or youth services.

Senior Center/AARP Affiliate DON LEE, Merced – questioned the Senior Center's reported annual expenses.

Senior Center Participant LOIS JIMENEZ, Merced – asked if interested parties could meet with City staff to better educate themselves about the budget.

Mayor/Chairperson THURSTON offered to attend their next meeting.

Recreation and Parks Commissioner/Youth Sports Advocate PETER PADILLA, Merced – recommend utilizing City assets (40-acre parcel for youth sports complex) to generate revenue.

Senior Center Volunteer/Participant RICHARD HASTINGS, Merced – advocated to retain paid employees at the zoo.

Zoological Society President MARLENE MURPHY, Merced – asked that services relating to community activities not be cut.

Merced Zoological Society Vice President JOHN CARLOS, Merced – shared his attempts at raising funds to support his organization's share of the zoo's budget.

Merced Youth Soccer Association Affiliate LANCE EBER, Merced – advocated for the services provided by Parks and Community Services Department.

Youth Activities Advocate MICHELLE XIONG, Merced – provided an update on the press conference held at McNamara Park regarding the pool opening and the swimming program being offered this summer.

CARL POLLARD, Merced – urged the Council/Authority to replenish the funds cut from youth services.

Council Member/Authority Member LOR requested information regarding the cost to maintain parks.

Council Members/Authority Members RAWLING, PEDROZO, DOSSETTI did not agree with the cuts made to the Parks and Community Services budget. RAWLING and PEDROZO were in favor of using a portion of the $800,000 in the Reserves Fund to support youth programs. RAWLING further requested scenarios be presented on what a 5% reduction would mean to the departments.

THURSTON suggested the Council/Authority determine an amount to be put back into the budget.

DIAZ clarified it was appropriate for direction to be provided regarding budget expenditures.

City Manager BRAMBLE advised that he and Finance Officer GRANT were comfortable with the use of $300,000 of the reserves.

(D) ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

(E) ADJOURNMENT

1. Adjourn to 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 4, 2012, to conduct Closed Session, followed by the next regularly scheduled meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m. to5:00 p.m., Monday, June 4, 2012, to continue the review of the proposed budget, followed by Closed Session and the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Tony Dossetti Moved, Noah Lor Seconded

Vote: 7-0

Voting Aye: Bill Blake, Tony Dossetti, Mike Murphy, Mary-Michal Rawling, Noah Lor, Josh Pedrozo, Stan Thurston

Clerk's Note: Staff recommendation was approved with amendments.

By:

Jamie Fanconi
Deputy City Clerk/
Assistant Secretary

Approved:

Stanley P. Thurston,
Mayor/Chairperson