

**KINGSBURG CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 5, 2020**

**VIA TELECONFERENCE PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 ISSUED BY GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM. THE COUNCIL CHAMBER WAS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC. PUBLIC HAD THE OPTION TO CALL 1 (559) 207-3003 PASSCODE 5821 TO PROVIDE COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS. WRITTEN COMMENTS WERE TO BE SUBMITTED BY MAIL OR EMAIL TO [APALSGAARD@CITYOFKINGSBURG-CA.GOV](mailto:APALSGAARD@CITYOFKINGSBURG-CA.GOV). THE CUT OFF FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS WAS 8/04/2020 at 4:30pm. THEY WILL NOT BE READ OUT LOUD.**

Invocation was given by Pastor Jeff Sibley of The Well - Kingsburg.

**6:00 P.M. REGULAR SESSION MEETING:**

**Call to Order and Roll Call** – Mayor Michele Roman called the Regular Meeting of the Kingsburg City Council to order at 6:05 P. M.

**Council Members Present via Teleconference** – Jewel Hurtado, Vince Palomar, Laura North, and Mayor Michelle Roman.

**Council Members Absent:** Sherman Dix

**Staff Present:** City Manager Alexander Henderson and City Clerk Abigail Palsgaard. City Attorney Michael Noland and City Engineer Dave Peters were present via teleconference.

**Public Comments:** Ryan Groft, member of the community, stated that someone hangs a confederate flag on 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue which is upsetting and unwelcoming.

**Approve Agenda:** A motion was made by Council Member Hurtado, seconded by Council Member North, to approve the agenda as published. The motion carried by roll call vote, four in favor, one absent.

**Consent Calendar:** A motion was made by Council Member Palomar, seconded by Council Member North, to approve the items appearing on the Consent Calendar. The motion carried by roll call vote, four in favor, one absent.

- 4.1 Approval of City Council Minutes:** Approve the minutes from the July 15, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting and the June 29, 2020 Special City Council Meeting as prepared by City Clerk Abigail Palsgaard.
- 4.2 Check Register:** Ratify/approve payment of bills listed on the check register for the period July 9, 2020 through July 29, 2020 as prepared by Accounts Payable Clerk Grace Reyna.
- 4.3 Authorize City Manager to execute the Grant Deed for right-of-way dedication and transmit the document to Caltrans for recordation.** - Staff Report by City Engineer Dave Peters.

## **REGULAR CALENDAR**

### **Mid Valley Disposal Presentation**

Marianna Fusich-Waller, Recycling Coordinator for Mid Valley Disposal, presented on Quarters 1 & 2 of 2020. She reviewed service requests, recycling, the free mattress drop off and other community issues.

Council Member Palomar asked if they do load checks on trash, or if it is only recycling and green waste. Marianna said that they check recycle and green waste to make sure the load isn't contaminated. Council discussed the upcoming state law where residents will have to recycle green waste. They asked if we will get more bins. Marianna Fusich-Waller stated that this is scheduled to begin 1/1/2022. We have done outreach and organic waste recycling education. You can combine green waste and organic waste.

Council Member North said that she would like to partner with educating students about recycling organic waste. She stated that she would like to know if they have a plan or they would like to get together to continue to educate the youth. Mid Valley representative said that they have been thinking about a video and would like to work together.

Council Member Hurtado thanked Mid Valley for going the extra mile for our residents.

Informational - No Action Needed

### **Business Improvement District (BID) Resolution of Intent- Staff Report by City Manager Alexander Henderson**

**Presentation** by City Manager Alexander Henderson and BID Consultant Jan Minami. Mr. Henderson presented the history including the CPAT planning team in 2017 that recommended a Downtown Business District. In September 2019, the business owners presented a petition to look into forming a BID. He stated that tonight Council has in front of them a Resolution of Intent to levy the new assessment and hold a public hearing, no sooner than 45 days, which will be October 7<sup>th</sup>.

Jan Minami spoke about the volunteer steering committee which formed the management. The purpose is to bring business to the District and make it a place that people will want to come visit. Five members will be on the Advisory Board.

Council Member Palomar asked who besides the steering committee was present at the community workshops? Jan said that at the open house in December there was 25 people. A call for steering committee members had 5 attend. At the in-person workshop in June we went into great detail. Business owners attended and about 25 people were there. She said that we sent out postcards to notify all businesses within the area of meetings. She also walked up and down the street in January & February 2020. Leslie Carpenter, Berman Flowers, Steering Committee spokesperson, said she has been interested in a BID for years. It is not just dining and shopping but showcasing all businesses in the District. She would like to expand downtown shopping events. She thinks that partnering with the Chamber would be beneficial for all.

All Steering Committee Members' statements or recommendations were read. Council Member Hurtado said that she would like to say thank you to the Steering Committee. As the liaison to the Chamber of Commerce, she has seen how they have bridged the gap between the BID and the Chamber and for helping answering questions.

Public Comment - Reggie Gierke, Chamber President, stated that with good communication, the Chamber now understands and is fully behind it. It is a win, win situation. He also spoke about his application to be on the Advisory Committee.

Council Member North commented about how in the beginning she didn't know how this was going to happen with the Chamber. It was a difficult time and conversation. She said that she wanted to thank Jan and the Chamber for the hard work that has gone into it.

A motion was made by Council Member North to adopt Resolution 2020-044 - A Business Improvement District Resolution of Intent. The motion was seconded Council Member Hurtado and carried by roll call vote, four in favor, one absent.

**BID Advisory Board-** Council Member North stated that she would like to have conversations with the applicants before we decide tonight. City Attorney Michael Noland stated that applicants can make a presentation in front of all the Council Members at the next meeting. Council and staff discussed going from 5 to 7 members on the Board.

Council discussed the recommendations. Council Member North said that she recommends on top of the five listed recommendations Leslie Carpenter, Paula Coelho, Lauren Cooper, Reggie Gierke and Briana Valdez, Steve Safarjian and Jill O'Bannon. Council Member Palomar said that he recommends on top of the 5, Steve Safarjian and Regina Prine. Council Member Hurtado said that she recommends Steve Safarjian and June Hess. Council agreed as a whole to appoint Steve Safarjian. Council Member Hurtado stated that she recommends June Hess as she has been a business owner here in Kingsburg for 30+ years and her knowledge is very important.

Council Member Palomar said that he recommends Regina Prine because she will bring a good perspective for the Advisory Board. Council Member North said that Jill O'Bannon would be her vote regarding her investment in revitalizing the downtown. Mayor Roman said that she leans toward June Hess and all her efforts to bring tourists and commerce downtown.

A motion was made by Council Member Hurtado to create a BID Advisory Board and to appoint Leslie Carpenter, Paula Coelho, Lauren Cooper, Reggie Gierke, Briana Valdez, Steve Safarjian, and June Hess to serve on the Board. The motion was seconded by Council Member Palomar and carried by roll call vote, four in favor, one absent.

**Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Update-** Staff Report by City Manager Alexander Henderson

**Presentation by City Manager Alexander Henderson**

Mr. Henderson stated that Sales Tax is down. City Hall is still closed to the public. We are working with businesses for outdoor dining. We are working with the schools to have childcare for essential workers (teachers). He went over the current numbers in Kingsburg. As of 7/31/2020 there are 242 total cases. 137 cleared/closed cases. 75 cases under investigation. 2 deaths. The Governor is sending a strike team to the Central Valley.

Council Member Hurtado brought up CARES Act funding. She asked if staff has considered what the funds can go for. City Manager Alexander Henderson said that first responders are eligible. Council Member Hurtado asked about the recreation program. Mr. Henderson said that he will look into it. Council Member Palomar asked about childcare for teachers. Mr. Henderson explained the Afterschool Recreation Program and how, with guidelines, it would be possible. There is now a conversation about teachers that have

children but need to teach. We are working on a program that while teachers are working there is potential that we can have our recreation. We are waiting to hear back from the County who is waiting to hear back from the State. Council Member Palomar stated that he feels that the State should also pay for childcare for parents who are essential workers. Mayor Roman stated that the County will be approving childcare vouchers for essential workers. Information is still coming out.

**Public Health Order Enforcement Discussion-** Staff Report by City Manager Alexander Henderson

**Presentation by City Manager Alexander Henderson** – Mr. Henderson stated that Council asked staff to look into enforcement of Public Health Orders, specifically related to businesses. His report states that this information is the best available as of posting on Friday July 10. The rapidly changing nature of this pandemic means that information may not be accurate with current events. Options available for enforcement are:

1. Seek voluntary compliance. If not, staff will contact the State strike teams.
2. Council would pass an ordinance requiring facemasks and have staff cite.

John Fausone, resident, stated that he is for enforcing masks. Michele Mendoza stated that she is too. Written public comments are included in the packet.

Council Member Hurtado stated that she is for having employees of local businesses wear masks to help flatten the curve.

Council Member Palomar stated that he has not been in a business without people wearing a mask.

Council Member North stated that she wants to do what we have to do to get our kids back into school.

Mayor Roman stated that she has been contacted by residents with concerns over certain businesses where the employees do not have to wear a mask.

Council Member Palomar asked if the Back the Blue march pulled a permit and if masks were required. Mr. Henderson said that no permit was pulled. It was supposed to be on the sidewalk, and they were supposed to follow all traffic laws.

Council Member Hurtado asked, if Council goes with Option No. 2, will there be a procedure with local enforcement? She does not want to fine businesses, but we might have to.

Council Member Palomar stated that he is for Option No. 1, it just needs to be enforced. Mr. Henderson stated that agencies have more power. We would issue a citation and the company may not pay it. We would have to talk about how far we would like to escalate it.

Council Member Palomar said that if they are not having their employees wear masks, he is for fining them. Council Member North said citizens need to call the Fresno County Health Department to report the businesses, so they are not just hearing from the City.

Mr. Henderson stated that local enforcement would be under Code Enforcement. It would not be recommended for the contact to be through the Police Department.

Mayor Roman asked how long it would take for a strike team to contact a business after we contacted them? Mr. Henderson said that there is no perfect answer since strike teams are regional. Timeframe is probably based on the information they have been given. He has not heard how it is prioritized. Council and staff discussed how the strike team works and fines.

A motion was made by Council Member North, seconded by Council Member Hurtado, to approve the Option 1 for Enforcement. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote of those Council Members present.

### **Council Reports and Staff Communications**

**Community Services Commission** – Council Member North reported it has not met.

**Public Safety Committee** – Council Member Palomar reported that it has not met.

**Chamber of Commerce** – Council Member Hurtado reported that it will meet next Tuesday.

**Economic Development** – City Manager Alexander Henderson reported that it has not met.

**Finance Committee** – Mayor Roman reported that it has not met.

**Planning Commission**- City Manager Alexander Henderson reported that it is meeting next week.

**South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency Joint Powers Authority (SKGSA)** City Manager Alexander Henderson reported that it has not met.

**City Manager's Report**- Mayor Roman stated that we now have gift cards for City wide Kingsburg Businesses called Dala Dollars. We can do a contest per Council District. Maybe a scavenger hunt where families can win the cards. Council is for a scavenger hunt.

### **Other Business that may come properly before the City Council**

Mayor Roman reported that the Zoo is open.

### **Future Agenda Items**

These items will be added to a future agenda with direction from Council.

City Manager Alexander Henderson said at the next meeting there will be an Economic Development Projects Update.

**Adjourn** – At 8:34 P. M. Mayor Roman adjourned the Regular Kingsburg City Council Meeting.

Submitted by:

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Abigail Palsgaard, City Clerk