



CITY OF ATWATER

Measure H Citizens Oversight Committee Of the City of Atwater

MINUTES

February 27, 2014

CALL TO ORDER:

The City of Measure H Citizens Oversight Committee met in regular session this date at 5:30 PM in the Council Chambers, 750 Bellevue Road, Atwater, California; Chairperson Lee presiding.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief of Police /City Manager Pietro

ROLL CALL:

Present: Committee Members: Chairperson Lee, Vice Chairperson Bowling, Dash, Maurer, Price
Absent: None
Staff Present: Police Chief /City Manager Pietro, Fire Chief Pimentel
Recording Secretary Mead,
Staff Absent: City Attorney, Finance Consultant Zenoni

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR 2014:

MOTION: Committee Member Dash moved to recommend Committee Member Lee for Chairperson and Committee Member Bowling for Vice-Chairperson. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Lee and the vote was: Ayes: Bowling, Dash, Lee, Maurer, Price; Noes; None. Absent: None. The motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Notice to the public was read by Committee Member Lee.

MINUTES:

None. It should be noted this is the first official meeting of the Measure H Oversight Committee.

BUSINESS:

None

REPORTS, FOLLOW-UP AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Reports from Police Chief Pietro

Chief Pietro thanked the committee members for their service and apologized for the delays incepting the committee. Pietro reported on the Police Department's 4 new Police Interceptors replacing 3 older vehicles. Pietro provided Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Public Safety Expenditure Plan which includes the patrol vehicles, hiring of personnel and the initial set up fees for the State Board of Equalization. Pietro answered any questions committee members had regarding the Budget for the Police Department.

Reports from the City Attorney via Chief of Police /City Manager Pietro

Chief/City Manager Pietro informed the members of two new positions on the Measure H Committee with City Council's approval. The new members will be William Barkman and George Winningham. Pietro reiterated the Measure H bylaws. Pietro asked the members to notify him if they are unable serve on the committee at anytime. Pietro thanked the committee members for their support, patience and participation.

Note: The City Attorney was unable to attend.

Reports from the Financial Consultant Zenoni via Chief of Police/City Manager Pietro

Pietro reported on the proceeds received from the Measure H Tax. He summarized the process of and reasoning behind the Measure H Tax initiative and mentioned the public will be informed through newsletters to be "transparent."

Reports from Fire Chief Pimentel

Fire Chief Pimentel reported on the proposed Ladder Truck lease/purchase agreement and the hiring of additional staff members with Measure H revenue. Pimentel reported the new truck conserves energy by running on auxiliary battery versus running on fuel wasting dollars. He mentioned replacement parts for the new Ladder Truck can be purchased at NAPA Auto parts making the unit cost effective. He further mentioned specialized Firefighter Safety Training is needed to operate the new truck and training will be provided by Cal Fire. Pimentel expressed his concerns with the City's aging equipment and pointed out the limitations the City will encounter combating a fire on large structures. He

provided examples; the new School Gyms, Wal-Mart Shopping Center, and power lines without a new ladder truck. Pimentel mentioned the ladder truck will provide the opportunity for new building permits for larger structures. He provided his telephone number and invited members to the station.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS:

Committee Member Maurer inquired about the projected Police Budget specifically an increase in operations costs. Chief Pietro explained the costs are for vests, ammunition, shields, ballistic helmets and other required safety equipment.

Committee Member Price questioned if the projected Police Budget increase is salary restoration. Chief Pietro explained the department restored a percentage of the pay cut. Price inquired about the projected expenditures for police labor and asked what their job duties are. Chief Pietro provided an overview of each position with prospective duties. Chief Pietro reinitiated the inadequate coverage of personnel at this time due to the shortfall of the City of Atwater's budget.

Committee Member Price shared his concern with the expense of the new ladder truck lease/purchase and maintenance costs. Price questioned if the truck is a want or need. Chief Pimentel clarified lease/purchase agreement of the ladder truck and reiterated the City of Atwater's infrastructure would benefit from having a ladder truck.

Committee Member Lee questioned if the Ladder truck can carry water and operate as regular fire truck. Chief Pimentel responded "yes."

ADJOURNMENT:

Eric Lee adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

APPROVED



Chairman Eric Lee

ATTEST:

Patricia Mead, Recording Secretary