



CITY OF ATWATER

CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC SAFETY TRANSACTIONS AND USE TAX

MINUTES

August 14, 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 by the Chairperson Eric Lee

ROLL CALL:

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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Notice to the public was read by Committee Member Lee.

Jim Vineyard requested attendance be noted for the record; no City Council Member was present at the meeting and three Atwater citizens were in attendance.

MINUTES:

None were approved. It should be noted the Citizens' Oversight Committee for Public Safety Transactions and Use Tax minutes were inadvertently left off the Agenda.

BUSINESS:

None.

REPORTS, FOLLOW-UP AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Reports from Police Chief Pietro

Chief Pietro reported Reserve Officer (Ken Lee) will be hired as of 08/13/2014. The Department presently conducting oral boards for 2 full time positions and has scheduled 4 interviews. Pietro further reported the termination of 1 reserve officer and is expected to be hiring another for a total of 4 reserve officers. Chief reported the department employs 32 officers and he would like to have a total of 36. He reported the department can maintain the workload but overtime increases and consumes the budgeted amount of Measure H Dollars. Chief Pietro clarified the use of overtime, such as court appearances, covering shifts for vacations, training, and illness/injury. He explained the reserve officers only are paid when they transport prisoners and they are 832 PC certified with powers. Pietro explained Volunteers an open recruitment however the department has little or no response.

Most of the above comments were responses to the Committee member's questions; if the reserve officers have 832PC with powers, if Measure "H" proceeds are budgeted for overtime and can the Police Department hire more volunteers?

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

None.

Note: *The City Attorney was unable to attend.*

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

Finance Director Zenoni introduced the new Finance Operations Manager, Lakhwinder Deol. Zenoni distributed economic sales tax information for the City of Atwater including the Measure H Sales Tax surcharge payment schedule. He

explained how sales tax and Measure H tax revenue impacts the City. He further reported some of the businesses have not reported their sales tax liability properly. Zenoni shared the City of Atwater has obtained money from the State of California (BOE) and continued to explain how the City is paid by the tax revenue.

Mr. Zenoni reported on the July 1.3 million budget. He specified budget for Police vehicles, Salaries for Police Department and benefits. He mentioned the Police Department should close the books with a surplus of \$178,139 in the Measure H account.

2014-2015 Fiscal Year budget will be 1,310,000. Mr. Zenoni spoke briefly on grant monies allocated for the Police Department and the approved lease by City Council for the new Fire Ladder Truck. Mr. Zenoni reassured the committee money has been set aside for the Fire truck lease payments. He further explained the budget for Measure H allows for a cushion but is operating within the budget.

Based upon questions by the committee members, Mr. Zenoni assured everyone the auditors visited the City of Atwater and BOE will review Measure H. He reported the BOE quarterly charge is 6,000 dollars for administrative cost.

Reports from Fire Chief Pimentel

Fire Chief Pimentel reported the new Fire Ladder Truck is presently being processed. The projection to completion is October and a final inspection will be done on the truck. He reported the truck will be shown as a DEMO unit and then delivered to the City of Atwater in March 2015. He further reported training is underway with CALFIRE to operate the truck. The Truck will be badged with the City of Atwater logo while the truck operates as a Demo. Chief Pimentel reiterated the advantages of a battery operated truck based upon members questions; battery Auxiliary Power Unit system versus fuel driven, smart ladder and other cost savings measures such as purchasing parts of the shelf at Napa Auto parts versus special orders. Chief Pimentel reassured the truck will be ready to be placed into service at time of delivery.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS:

Committee Member Price mentioned he is pleased with the dollar amounts and is hopeful the down turn (closing) of AT&T does not impact the City of Atwater too much.

Committee Member Lee recognized Chief Pietro has hired highly trained persons and has held a high standard. Mr. Lee shared he looks forward in working with the CALFIRE and the Atwater Police Department.

Committee Member Barkman thanked the City of Atwater for all their hard work.

Chief/City Manager Pietro recognized Mr. Zenoni for assisting the City of Atwater for his hard work, his intelligence and wished him the best as he will be going to another city.

ADJOURNMENT:

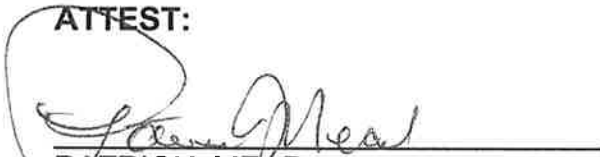
The meeting adjourned the meeting at 6:28 PM.

APPROVED:



CHAIRMAN ERIC LEE

ATTEST:



PATRICIA MEAD
RECORDING SECRETARY