



**CITY OF AVENAL  
JOINT MEETING OF THE AVENAL CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2018; 6:00 P.M.  
AVENAL THEATER, 233 E. KINGS ST.; AVENAL, CA 93204**

**MINUTES**

Mayor Preciado called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Council Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Whitten, Ortiz, Davis, Perkins, Stivers.

Legal Counsel: Joseph Beery

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Preciado.**

**ROLL CALL: Councilman Gravelle, Councilmember Woolley, Mayor Pro Tem Ovalle, Mayor Preciado.**

**CITY CLERK:** Government Code Section 54952.3: The members of the City Council, Successor Agency and Housing Authority are entitled to receive a total of \$300.00 per month as a result of being elected to the City Council. They receive no other compensation for sitting as a member of Successor Agency and Housing Authority.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

*All items listed under the consent calendar are considered to be routine and enacted by one motion: (Action)*

- A. City of Avenal/Successor Agency – Approval of Minutes for January 25, 2018:

**A motion to approve the Consent Calendar was made by Councilman/Successor Agency Member Woolley, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem/Successor Agency Member Ovalle and carried.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**AYES:** Woolley, Ovalle, Moreno, Gravelle, Preciado.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** None.

**ABSTAIN:** None.

**MAYOR & COUNCIL MEMBER/ SUCCESSOR AGENCY/HOUSING AUTHORITY MEMBER REPORTS/ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

- A. Public Works Department Introduces New Employee Monica Varajas, Janitor: Scott Davis, (A) Public Works Director.

Scott Davis, (A) Public Works Director introduced new janitor Monica Varajas. She was one of our Proteus Drought Workers. She hit the floor running and is doing a great job. The City Council and Staff welcomed her to the City family.

- B. 2017 Holiday Decorating Awards: Shelia Verdugo, Community Activities Supervisor.

Shelia Verdugo, Community Activities Supervisor announced the Holiday Decorating Awards as follows:

- Armando Soto, Best Nativity Scene
- Martin Uvalle, Best Inflatable Christmas Scene
- Luther Wallis, Overall Christmas Scene
- Maria Flores, Best Christmas Balcony Scene

Melissa Whitten, City Manager, requested to move Item D. Consider Reappointment of Chief Russell Stivers to the Avenal State Prison Citizens' Advisory Committee next in the agenda. The City Council was in consensus to move-up Item D.

- D. Consider Reappointment of Chief Russell Stivers to the Avenal State Prison Citizens' Advisory Committee:

Ms. Whitten reported that Staff was informed that the 2-year term served by Chief of Police Russell Stivers on the Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) as City of Avenal representative has expired. If Council approves his re-appointment, a final appointment and confirmation will be made by Warden Ndoh.

Staff recommends by motion, nomination of Chief Russell Stivers to serve another 2-year term on the CAC at Avenal State Prison; or, further direction from Council.

**A motion was made by Councilman Gravelle to approve reappointment of Chief Russell Stivers to serve another 2-year term on the CAC at Avenal State Prison, seconded by Councilmember Moreno and carried.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**AYES:** Gravelle, Moreno, Ovalle, Woolley, Preciado.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSENT:** None.

**ABSTAIN:** None.

- C. Avenal Police Department Introduction & Swearing-In and of New Police Officer Amy Rodrigues: Chief Russell Stivers.

Chief Russell Stivers introduced & swore in Officer Morton Campbell IV & Officer Amy Rodrigues. He thanked the City Manager & City Council for allowing them to have this special event tonight. They have worked long and hard to get here and it is important to acknowledge them. He also acknowledged their family members and their support throughout their journey.

He introduced and presented a badge to Morton Campbell who is a graduate from the Tulare County Police Academy, previously employed by the Morro Bay Police Department and hired as a Reserve Officer for the Avenal Police Department on October 20, 2017. He became full-time on January 7, 2018 upon Sgt. Stamper's retirement. Officer Campbell was Active Duty in the United States Army. He received the Bronze Star for saving the life of a fellow soldier during enemy fire. His badge was pinned by Jacky, fiancée.

Chief Stivers introduced Amy Rodrigues, who graduated last night from the Tulare County Police Academy Class 140. She is an Avenal High School graduate, was hired by the Avenal Police Department in August 2017 as a police cadet while going through the academy. Officer Rodrigues finished Module 1 at the academy with a 92% and was surprised to learn she won the academy report writing award with a score 98.9%. Officer Rodrigues starts patrol tonight with Officer Segura. Her badge was pinned by Janet Rodrigues, mother.

The City Council welcomed them to the family. Mayor Preciado announced a short intermission for pictures at 6:14 p.m. until 6:20 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/ANNOUNCEMENTS & UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCES:**

No comments were offered from the public.

**ACTIVITY REPORTS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Activity Reports:

- 1) Avenal Theater & Event Coordinator Activity Report: Louisa Starne, Avenal Theater & Event Coordinator;

Louisa Starne, Avenal Theater & Event Coordinator, reported the following: 1) Santa's Pictures; 2) Movie night 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month and gave attendance; 3) Meetings, birthday party and P.A.T.Y's Studio Classes; and, 4) she created a survey to keep making improvements to the theater.

2) Community Development/Planning Activity Report: Antony Lopez, Associate Planner;

Antony Lopez, Associate Planner, reported the following: 1) December consisted of concluding several grants and closing loose ends for the year. Reports to the Wonderful Foundation for the 2017 Technology Education Program (Tech Center), and San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District for our three latest Ford Fusion vehicles, were submitted; 2) On December 15<sup>th</sup>, the City was awarded \$16,500 by the Wonderful Foundation for continuation of the Technology Education Program in 2018. Our other two projects for restrooms at Rice Park and P.A.T.Y.'s Studio, were not awarded; 3) On December 13<sup>th</sup>, the final Google Workshop for Businesses was held; 4) Parent Education Tech Classes; 5) Veteran's Hall Insulation upgrades were completed; 6) Bottle filling station has been installed at the Recreation Center; 7) the City website and community event calendar are updated regularly; 8) ongoing work related to the City's Housing Programs, including potential foreclosures, payoffs, reconveyances, and loan subordinations; 9) Rincon Associates will begin the Environmental Assessment Technical Studies for the Recreational Gym project soon. Staff has been answering preliminary questionnaires for Rincon to ensure a speedy assessment which should be completed in February; 10) The December KART citizen committee meeting surveys have been mailed to all city residents; 11) Staff continues to submit paperwork for HOME-funded Arroyo del Camino II project. An RFP for an Administrative Subcontractor for Phase II will be opened soon; and, 12) work continues with the General Plan update.

3) Avenal Police Department Activity Report: Russell Stivers, Chief of Police.

Russell Stivers, Chief of Police, reported the following: 1) Beer run suspect; 2) unreported burglary solved; 3) Dispute leads to brandishing of a firearm; 3) Drugs and weapon charge arrest at the Lodging House; 4) Attempted auto theft suspect arrested; 5) APD teams up with Tulsa, Oklahoma to Arrest Fugitive; 6) Possible vandalism leads to drunk driving arrest; 7) Coats for Kids Giveaway of 355 jackets, he thanked Mr. & Mrs. Casida, Macy's store manager Rachel Jackson and Mid Valley Disposal for their donations; and, 8) CAD Calls.

**B. Special Presentations/Requests:**

1) Mid Valley Disposal Quarterly Report: Isaac Kulikoff.

Isaac Kulikoff reported the following: 1) Avenal residential waste assessments; 2) Site Visits 9/28/17; 3) Operation Gobble; 4) Site Visits 12/26/17; 5) Attended Avenal Annual Christmas Parade; and, 6) Tonnage report.

**PUBLIC HEARING(s):**

A. None.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

A. None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Consider Entering into an Agreement with Central Valley Plumbing and Maintenance for the Ken Brown Public Safety Center Water Line Replacement Project:

Mr. Davis reported that the existing water line under the Ken Brown Public Safety Center needs to be replaced as it is galvanized pipe installed when the building was constructed. Currently, this pipe is corroded and has many repair bands keeping it together. When the remodel of both the east and north wings were done, the contractors installed new PEX lines for the sinks, toilets, etc. but tied into the old existing pipe.

Staff contacted three (3) plumbing contractors who were willing to give proposals to replace the existing pipe that supplies the entire building. The scope of the project would be to reduce the size of the existing 4"

galvanized pipe to 2" copper pipe; install the pipe on top of the roof and back down to the areas that have been replaced, tying back into the portion of the building where the ambulance service is located. The pipe size can be reduced as the old A/C cooling and boiler system are no longer in service. By installing the pipe on the roof, it is considerably less time consuming than installing it under the building, thus, saving a large amount of cost for labor as the job requires prevailing wage pay. The copper pipe will not be as prone to corrosion as galvanized and it will be insulated to prevent freezing.

Staff received the following proposals:

1. Central Valley Plumbing & Maintenance	\$31,119.00
2. Mendes Plumbing	\$42,050.00
3. Pierotte's Plumbing, Inc.	\$48,652.00

Staff recommends the following: 1) by Resolution, authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Central Valley Plumbing & Maintenance for the replacement of the water line at the Ken Brown Public Safety Center in the amount of \$31,119.00 with a contingency of 10% (\$3,112) for any unforeseen issues. The project cost to be a total of \$34,231.00.

After a brief discussion, the following action was taken:

**RESOLUTION 2018-02: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AVENAL AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CENTRAL VALLEY PLUMBING & MAINTENANCE TO REPLACE WATER LINE AT THE KEN BROWN PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER. A motion was made by Councilman Gravelle, seconded by Councilmember Moreno and carried.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**AYES:** Gravelle, Moreno, Ovalle, Woolley, Preciado.  
**NOES:** None.  
**ABSENT:** None.  
**ABSTAIN:** None.

**B. Consider Approval of Resolution to Accept State of California Surplus Property:**

Chief Stivers reported that recently, the Avenal Police Department was presented with an opportunity to receive State of California surplus property from the Department of State Hospitals - Coalinga. Upon researching the possibility, it was noted by State staff that the City of Avenal is not registered with the Department of General Services, the state entity which controls much of the State's equipment. The attached application requires a resolution from the City Council (page 2 of the application) in order to be on the approved list and therefore, receive surplus property. I would recommend that the City Manager, Public Works Director, Public Works Supervisor, Police Chief and Assistant Police Chief be designated as representatives who can accept surplus property (Section A).

Staff recommends by resolution, approve the City to complete the State of California's Application for Eligibility for the State Surplus Program.

After a brief discussion, the following action was taken:

**RESOLUTION 2018-03: "BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Board, and hereby ordered that the official(s) and/or employee(s) whose name(s), title(s), and signature(s) are listed below shall be and is (are) hereby authorized as our representative(s) to acquire surplus property through the auspices of the California State Agency for Surplus Property and accept responsibility for payment of incidental fees by the surplus property agency under the Terms and Conditions accompanying this form or listed on the reverse side of this form." A motion was made by Councilmember Woolley to approve the City to complete the State of California's Application for Eligibility for the State Surplus Program, seconded by Councilmember Moreno and carried.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**AYES:** Woolley, Moreno Gravelle, Ovalle, Preciado.  
**NOES:** None.  
**ABSENT:** None.  
**ABSTAIN:** None.

C. Consider Approval to Purchase Mobile Terminals (MDT) for Patrol Cars:

Chief Stivers reported that the Avenal Police Department began utilizing mobile data terminals (MDT's) in patrol cars in September 2011. The MDT's allow the officers to have access to our Spillman records management system while in the field, thus making them more efficient. In 2011, APD purchased eight (8) MDT's along with the stands and docking stations. The original purchase of Dell computers have reached their end of life. Over the last year, we have been short on MDT's in the field due to computer failures. They are out-of warranty and Dell will no longer support the current model.

Staff has explored the new option which is a Dell Rugged Latitude 7212 and this much smaller but still has all the necessary features and operating system to meet our needs. The Dell Corporation loaned APD and the Kings County Sheriff's Office a demo unit which has been in use for a few months. There has been nothing but positive feedback from Staff, who have used the product. The new docking station, which will be needed, is lower profile and will attach to our current stand mounted to the vehicle. The new docking station will reduce or prevent any obstructions caused by our current setup and the new MDT creates more room for front passengers. The Dell Corporation has provided a quote of \$30,867.38 for eight MDT's, docking stations, and monitor mounts and two desktop docks. The amount of \$30,867.38 will be expended from 10.12500.655.15 which is the Supplemental Law Enforcement Fund for fiscal years 15/16. There will be no impact to the general fund.

Staff respectfully requests the Council's authorization for the purchase of items on the attached quote from the Dell Corporation in the amount of \$30,867.38.

After a brief discussion the following action was taken.

**A motion made by Councilmember Woolley to approve purchase of items from Dell Corporation in the amount not to exceed \$30,867.38, seconded by Councilmember Moreno and carried.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**AYES:** Woolley, Moreno, Gravelle, Ovalle, Preciado.  
**NOES:** None.  
**ABSENT:** None.  
**ABSTAIN:** None.

**CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CLOSING COMMENTS:**

Councilmember Woolley commented on the following: 1) attended KCAPTA meeting in which the board has tabled the Transit Hub due to lack of funds but it will be revisited at a future date, funds to make routes more efficient and \$1-million dollars electric buses which the State has mandated by 2023; and have an electric ready plan, 2) KCAG/AVA.

Melissa Whitten, City Manager, commented on the following: 1) the new water bill format is almost complete and new water bills will go out in a month; 2) use the flyer for movies and pleased with attendance; 3) the City has suffered a great loss in an educator & Planning Commissioner, Michael Beil. He will be sadly missed and our thoughts go out to the family. Also, our understanding is there will only be a private service for family and possibly something later for the community.

Councilmember Woolley announced that she wanted to commend the Public Works Department for fixing the water leak. Mr. Davis mentioned that is was a service lateral coming off the 2" transmission line and the guys did good work. Councilman Gravelle mentioned that the landscapers are doing a great job.

Mayor Preciado commented on the following: 1) attended the January 18<sup>th</sup> JPA meeting regarding some of the requirements for the application for Proposition 1A which didn't satisfy the Water Commission Board. Those requirements affect everyone and they were given an extension to modify and give more detail regarding recreational and public benefits; and, 2) he received an invitation and participated via conference call regarding applications for grants to fund tree plantings which could benefit Rice Park and the Sports Complex. If granted, the community would need to take part in planting trees.

**The City Council went into Closed Session at 7:35 p.m.**

**CLOSED SESSION: (City/Successor Agency/Housing Authority):**

**A. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR(S) (Government Code § 54956.8).**

*It is the intent of this governing body to meet in Closed Session to confer with its real property negotiator(s) concerning the purchase, sale, exchange or lease of real property by or for this local agency as follows:*

Property Description: APN: APN: 040-165-007  
Negotiator(s): City Manager/City Attorney/CrisCom.  
Party with whom negotiating: State of California, Judicial Council.  
Instructions to negotiator concerning: Terms

Property Description: APN: APN: 040-254-010  
Negotiator(s): City Manager and City Attorney.  
Party with whom negotiating: City/Wynne.  
Instructions to negotiator concerning: Terms

Property Description: APN: APN: 040-311-001  
Negotiator(s): City Manager and City Attorney.  
Party with whom negotiating: Avenal Hospital District.  
Instructions to negotiator concerning: Terms

**B. THREAT TO PUBLIC SERVICES OR FACILITIES (Government Code § 54957(a)).**

*It is the intention of this governing body to meet in Closed Session concerning the following:*

Consultation with Avenal Police Department: Russell Stivers, Chief of Police.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting reopened at 8:05 p.m. with no action to report. There being no further business, the City Council meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maria Ortiz, City Clerk