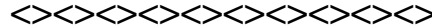


**AVENAL PLANNING COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
AVENAL THEATER: 233 E. KINGS STREET**

**Monday, March 19, 2018
6:00 P.M.**



MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Tillotson opened the regular Planning Commission Meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Tillotson, Hernandez, Elliott, Solorio

Commissioners Absent:

Staff Present: López, Ortiz, Santillan

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 5, 2018 **6:02 p.m.**

- i. March 5, 2018 Minutes motion to approve by Commissioner Elliott, second by Commissioner Hernandez. Motion carried by all 4-0.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT/ ANNOUNCEMENTS/ UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCES: **6:03 p.m.**

A. None

4. PUBLIC HEARING **6:04 p.m. – 6:20 p.m.**

A. Continued Public hearing to consider recommending to the Avenal City Council Adoption of the Avenal General Plan Enhancement Initial Study / Negative Mitigated Declaration and Adoption of the Avenal General Plan Enhancement (Avenal General Plan 2035)

- i. Staff Report
 - a. Director Santillan delivered Staff Report. Public Hearing has been continued, and certain sections amended regarding the IN/MND, and General Plan to reflect new measures for developments concerning endangered species, specifically measures requested by California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). Memo attached with comments received from, Chevron Corporation, California Department of Conservation: Division of Oil, Gas, & Geothermal Resources, and CDFW. The first two letters were informational, and the CDFW letter requested an updated to reflect their recommendation. Staff is asking Planning Commission to recommend all updates to the City Council.
- ii. Public Hearing
 - a. Opened and closed due to no public.
- iii. Discussion/Action
 - a. Planning Commission asked for explanation on impact for future environmental studies, clarification on what the original study was lacking. Staff explained that the 2005 EIR did not adopt entire list of endangered species known to the Avenal area.
 - b. Items being considered are MND, MMRP, General Plan Enhancement.
 - c. Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-01. Commissioner Elliott motioned to adopt one resolution with all three proposed documents. Commissioner Hernandez second the motion. Motion carried, 4-0.

B. Continued Public hearing to consider changes to the Avenal Zoning Ordinance in accordance with Avenal General Plan 2035

- i. Staff Report
 - a. Mr. Santillan delivered Staff Report. Explained how a grant funded the General Plan with the aim at improving sustainability for the City and meeting new state regulations.
 - b. Discussed changes for zoning which include defining Kiosk vendors; certain regulations about trailer parking was removed. Made clearer that multi-family developments are the only ones required to have electric vehicle charging stations.
- ii. Public Hearing at 6:18
 - a. Opened and closed due to no public.
- iii. Discussion/Action
 - a. Planning Commission all agreed that changes seem straight forward.
 - b. Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-02. Commissioner Hernandez motioned to adopt the resolution, second by Commissioner Solorio. Motions passes, 4-0.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

6:20 p.m.

A. Consider writing letter of support for City's Urban Greening Grant Application

- i. Staff Report
 - a. Director Santillan explained the need for better access to the Sports Complex. Lack of access especially under inclement weather, lack of lighting, make utilization of the Sports Complex difficult. Explained how City Staff is pursuing a grant from the California Department of Natural Resources: Urban Greening Grant. This grant is funded by money from Cap and Trade, with taxes funding programs for clean cars and enhancing walkability to mitigate air pollution. \$24 million is being offered this year. Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) are encouraged to apply. This would fund tree planting, bikeable paths and trails, and also acquiring of lands needed to secure access to proposed bike trails or paths under the grant. Staff is working with corresponding property owners, in order to gain more access for a trail. A 1 ¼ mile trail is being proposed. City hopes to enter into an agreement with an engineering firm for technical assistance. Staff anticipates asking for about 1.7 million in funding from the grant. With this project, Staff hopes to increase recreation opportunities, walking, activity, in Avenal and the Sports Complex.
 - b. This grant requires community support, hence the presented letter of support.
- ii. Discussion/Action
 - a. Would likely become a Class I trail.
 - b. Commissioners discussed all signing one letter.
 - c. Motion by Commissioner Solorio to adopt letter as is and have all Commissioners sign. Commissioner Hernandez second the motion. Motion to sign letter passes, 4-0.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

6:28 p.m.

- A. None

7. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE COMMENTS

6:30 p.m.

- A. No updates

9. COMMENTS

6:30 p.m.

A. Planning Commissioners Comment:

- i. Everyone commended Commissioner Tillotson on job presiding over meeting as Planning Commission Chair.
- ii. Next meeting scheduled for April 9th 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fernando Santillan, Secretary