

The City Council met in regular session at the hour of 8:30 a.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, on the day above written.

Present:	Brian Calhoun	Councilmember
	Mike Dages	Councilmember
	Henry Perea	Councilmember
	Cynthia Sterling	Acting Council President
	Larry Westerlund	Councilmember
	Blong Xiong	Council President
Absent:	Jerry Duncan	Councilmember (out of the country)

Andy Souza, City Manager
James Sanchez, City Attorney
Becky Klisch, City Clerk
Yolanda Salazar, Assistant City Clerk

Pastor Natalie Chamberlain of the United Christian Church-Disciples of Christ gave the invocation, and President Xiong led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATION OF THE SPCA PET OF THE MONTH - PRESIDENT XIONG

The pet available for adoption, a rabbit, was presented.

PROCLAMATION OF "LITERACY AWARENESS MONTH" - PRESIDENT XIONG

PROCLAMATION OF THE YMCA'S 120TH ANNIVERSARY - COUNCILMEMBER STERLING

The above proclamations were read and presented.

APPROVE MINUTES OF JANUARY 29, 2008:

On motion of Councilmember Westerlund, seconded by Councilmember Dages, duly carried, RESOLVED, the minutes of January 29, 2008, approved as submitted.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

COUNCILMEMBER CALHOUN: Comments on the growing and costly problem of copper wire thefts, the City's efforts in dealing with the problem, recent criticism by the Fresno Bee, need for a "full court press" to engage and educate the public on how they can assist the city to combat this situation, and intent to schedule the matter on the agenda next week for full discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER WESTERLUND: (1) Unfair shot taken at Public Works Director Weimiller by local newspaper and support for him and his efforts in dealing with copper wire thefts; and (2) commendation to staff, The Steele Corp., and all participants in the successful El Dorado park charette

COUNCILMEMBER DAGES: (1) Request for update on citizen's comments last week that Sherry Smith was denied access to a fire station for medical assistance, with City Manager Souza advising an investigation was on-going; and (2) request the City clear/clean-up burnt building at 4736 E. Kings Canyon and bill the property owner for costs due to uncaring property owner's inaction, with Mr. Souza stating his office would work with staff on the issue.

ACTING PRESIDENT STERLING: Commendation to all involved in the Tower District's Mardi Gras parade last Sunday.

PRESIDENT XIONG: (1) Commendation to all involved in the Mardi Gras parade for making it a success, (2) announcement of the Tower District "Fat Tuesday" event; (3) wishes for safe trip extended to Councilmember Duncan and Brotherhood of the Badge; and (4) announcement of absence from next week's Council meeting due to participation in the "One Voice" trip with COG.

APPROVE AGENDA:

(3:30 P.M. #2) JOINT MEETING WITH THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

("A") CONSIDER ADOPTION OF REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (SEIR) FOR THE OLD ARMENIAN TOWN PROJECT - RELOCATION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES (Continue to February 12, 2008, at 3:00 p.m.)

Continued as noted.

(3:30 P.M. #3) CONTINUED HEARING ON REZONE APPLICATION NO. R-06-39 AND ENVIRONMENTAL FINDINGS FILED BY HARBOUR & ASSOCIATES ON BEHALF OF RIVERFRONT VENTURES, LLC, PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE W. HERNDON AND N. BRYAN AVENUES INTERSECTION (Continue to February 12, 2008, at 11:00 a.m.)

Continued as noted.

(3:30 P.M. #2) JOINT MEETING WITH THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

("B") SOUTH STADIUM PROJECT - RECEIVE STATUS REPORT AND CONSIDER TAKING THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

1. ESTABLISH THE SOUTH STADIUM PROJECT AS A PRIORITY FOR APPROPRIATE CITY AND AGENCY FUNDING SOURCES SUCH AS CDBG, SECTION108 FUNDS, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUNDS, AND TAX-INCREMENT REVENUES
2. AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, IN COOPERATION WITH THE CITY, TO ESTABLISH A FINANCING TEAM TO DEVELOP FINANCING OPTIONS FOR THE MERGER 1 REDEVELOPMENT AREA'S TAX INCREMENT, CURRENT CONFERENCE CENTER COP FUNDING COMMITMENTS, AND OTHER AGENCY AND CITY FUNDING SOURCES THAT MAY BE APPROPRIATE FOR BRIDGING THE PROJECT'S FINANCIAL FEASIBILITY
3. DIRECT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO APPLY FOR GRANT AND OTHER THIRD-PARTY FUNDING SOURCES THAT MAY BE APPROPRIATE FOR BRIDGING THE PROJECT'S FINANCIAL FEASIBILITY
4. AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO CONSIDER ACQUISITION OF KEY OPPORTUNITY SITES
5. DIRECT THE AGENCY TO CONTINUE WORKING WITH FOREST CITY RELATIVE TO PROJECT COSTS AND FINANCIAL FEASIBILITY

-and-

APPROVE AGENCY MINUTES OF JANUARY 29, 2008

Councilmember/Agency Chair Westerlund, on behalf of the Agency Director, advised the item was being continued to February 26th for a full Council, and during adoption of the Consent Calendar also laid over "Approval of the Minutes" to the next Agency meeting.

On motion of Councilmember Westerlund, seconded by Acting President Sterling, duly carried, RESOLVED, the **AGENDA** hereby approved, as amended, by the following vote:

Ayes : Calhoun, Dages, Perea, Sterling, Westerlund, Xiong
 Noes : None
 Absent : Duncan

CONSIDERATION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR

(1-C) APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH RRM DESIGN GROUP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$179,995 FOR PREPARATION OF PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND COST ESTIMATES FOR THE VAGABOND SKATE PARK, AND AUTHORIZE THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY **(Laid over one week)**

-and-

(1-D) APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH SHANE'S INSPIRATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$79,725 FOR PREPARATION OF PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND COST ESTIMATES FOR PORTIONS OF THE UNIVERSALLY ACCESSIBLE PARK, AND AUTHORIZE THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY **(Laid over one week)**

Councilmember Westerlund pulled the subject items from Consent for separate discussion/action and after adoption of the Consent Calendar it was determined both items were *not* time sensitive whereupon they were laid over one week since all the afternoon items were being continued to another date. At this point Councilmember/Agency Chair Westerlund also laid over "Approval of the Agency Minutes" to the next Agency meeting as noted under "Approve Agenda".

ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR:

(1-A) APPROVE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ELECTRICAL POWER SYSTEMS, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$187,552 FOR INSTALLATION OF TEN EMERGENCY POWER SUPPLY UNITS AT WATER DIVISION PUMP STATIONS, AND AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TO ENTER INTO THE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY

(1-B) APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH CORNERSTONE STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING GROUP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,245 FOR DESIGN SERVICES FOR WIDENING OF THE BRIDGE ON WILLOW AVENUE NORTH OF JENSEN, AND AUTHORIZE THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY

(1-E) RESOLUTION NO. 2008-16 - 69TH AMENDMENT TO THE AAR APPROPRIATING \$1,376,700 IN FEDERAL AND STATE GRANT FUNDS TO REALLOCATE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED CAPITAL FUNDING IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO CONSTRUCT SITE IMPROVEMENTS AT THE SANTA FE DEPOT

(1-F) RESOLUTION NO. 2008-17 - INITIATING A RE-ZONING APPLICATION ON A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED ON THE WEST SIDE OF S. CLOVIS BETWEEN E. JENSEN AND E. CHURCH AVENUES WITHIN THE CITY'S SPHERE OF INFLUENCE (JENSEN-CLOVIS NO. 4 REORGANIZATION)

(1-G) RESOLUTION NO. 2008-18 - INITIATING RE-ZONING (PRE-ZONING) ON EIGHT PARCELS LOCATED ON THE NORTHEAST AND SOUTHEAST CORNERS OF S. FOWLER AND E. CHURCH AVENUES WITHIN THE CITY'S SPHERE OF INFLUENCE (CHURCH-FOWLER NO. 2 REORGANIZATION)

(1-H) RESOLUTION NO. 2008-19 - AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT IN THE FUTURE TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ISSUING BUILDING PERMITS FOR MODEL HOMES FOR DEVELOPMENTS SUBJECT TO ANNEXATION PROCEEDINGS FOR ANY PROPERTY THAT MEETS COUNTY ORDINANCE STANDARDS

On motion of Councilmember Dages, seconded by Councilmember Westerlund, duly carried, RESOLVED, the above entitled **CONSENT CALENDAR** hereby adopted, by the following vote:

Ayes : Calhoun, Dages, Perea, Sterling, Westerlund, Xiong
 Noes : None
 Absent : Duncan

(9:00 A.M.) PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

(“A”) SCHEDULED COMMUNICATION:

APPEARANCE BY KEVIN FOSTER OF LIFEBRIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH REQUESTING COUNCIL CONSIDER AN EXEMPTION FOR THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY DURING WEEKEND HOURS FROM THE CITY ORDINANCE PROHIBITING TEMPORARY SIGNAGE

Appearance/request made. Numerous citizens spoke in support, and one in opposition, to this request under "Unscheduled Communication", along with Council/staff discussion.

(“B”) UNSCHEDULED COMMUNICATION:

Jose Castillo, Jeff Harrington, businessman Rob Hutton with Lifebridge Community Church, Downtown Church Pastor Doug Lanier, and John Doshier all spoke in support of Mr. Foster's request for an exemption to the temporary sign ordinance.

Sheila Krebs spoke to various fire station locations and their importance/service to the area **(2 - 0)** and expressed concern with them being turned into ambulance/ambulance repair stations.

Charlie Waters spoke to the Veterans Home stating it was alive and well and would be constructed at the original location; spoke to Veteran's Boulevard stating he hoped the City would move forward on it; and advised he was approached by a group of Marines and would be in Berkeley in two weeks to speak to their City Council relative to insults to Marines and to any other person who has served their county.

Charles Krugman, "P" Street, expressed concerns with granting exemptions from the temporary sign ordinance for religious organizations citing favoritism and precedence-setting and explained.

Christopher Johnson, N. Cornelia Ave., and Greg Thomas, N. Wheeler Ave., both spoke in support of Mr. Foster's request.

Councilmembers Westerlund and Dages both spoke in support of looking into Mr. Foster's request stating maybe it was time to see what could/could not be done and elaborated. Councilmember Calhoun noted Lifebridge Church had a huge sign posted at Rio Vista School and he was unclear as to what exactly was being requested since they already had a sign posted; added there were other issues to consider such as signs all over the city on Sundays, groups meeting on days other than Sundays, and singling out just one group; and stated this could open up a Pandora's box and he felt needs could be met within the current ordinance. City Manager Souza stated he and the city attorney would take this matter under advisement and return to Council with options.

(9:30 A.M.) GENERAL ADMINISTRATION:

(‘A’) UPDATE ON THE KERN STREET SPORTS TOWN PROJECT

1. RESOLUTION NO. 2008-20 - 70TH AMENDMENT TO THE AAR APPROPRIATING \$50,000 TO FUND SPORTS TOWN PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS

Assistant City Manager Rudd reviewed the issue, all as contained in the staff report as submitted, along with a PowerPoint presentation that consisted of the background, planned improvements, project costs, a depiction of the project area, the bidding process, recommended funding, and project rationale, and recommended the AAR be adopted.

Mayor Autry, Al Smith, President/CEO of the Greater Area Chamber of Commerce, and Pete Mehas, President of the Athletic Hall of Fame, all spoke in support of the project and urged Council's support.

Councilmember Calhoun stated his support, expressed concern with the brick circles on streets (with Mr. Rudd clarifying there would be no street improvements and improvements would be limited to sidewalks and pedestrian areas), and made a motion to approve staff's recommendation. Councilmember Sterling seconded the motion and thanked staff for explaining the project to her and addressing her concerns, and stated downtown growing pains were now being faced head-on and explained and thanked the Mayor and his administration for hanging in there. Councilmembers Dages **(3 - 0)** and Perea also expressed their support with Councilmember Perea adding basic infrastructure and improvements should not stop here but continue throughout streets around the downtown area. President Xiong spoke to the importance of public/private partnerships stating the City can't be responsible for everything and urged staff to look at those partnerships in the future. Mr. Rudd responded briefly to questions and comments of Councilmember Westerlund relative to whether there was any private investment coupled with this \$900,000 or as a result of this project, funding and leveraging dollars, and the limited resources and concerns with "hurricane Sacramento" and funding for the South Stadium project.

On motion of Councilmember Calhoun, seconded by Acting President Sterling, duly carried, RESOLVED, staff's recommendations to proceed with the Kern Street Sports Town project by utilizing additional FY 2008 appropriated funding resources to supplement the existing funding available for the project approved, and the above entitled Resolution No. 2008-20 hereby adopted, by the following vote:

Ayes : Calhoun, Dages, Perea, Sterling, Westerlund, Xiong
 Noes : None
 Absent : Duncan

(B) APPROVE ACTIONS REQUIRED TO ACCOMMODATE MEXICANA AIRLINES' INCREASE FROM FIVE TO SEVEN DAILY INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS PER WEEK AT THE FRESNO YOSEMITE INTERNATIONAL (FYI) AIRPORT

1. APPROVE THE 12/28/07, LETTER AGREEMENT WITH MEXICANA AIRLINES COVERING THEIR PROPOSED YEAR-ROUND SCHEDULE INCREASE FROM FIVE TO SEVEN INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS PER WEEK EFFECTIVE 3/18/08
2. **RESOLUTION NO. 2008-21** - 68TH AMENDMENT TO THE AAR APPROPRIATING \$122,900 TO PAY FOR EXTRA U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION SERVICE AGENCY PERSONNEL COSTS AND ADDITIONAL FEDERAL INSPECTION STATION (FIS) OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SCHEDULE INCREASE
3. AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF AVIATION TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY ALL AGREEMENTS OR MODIFICATIONS TO CURRENT AGREEMENTS REQUIRED TO ACCOMMODATE THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE INCREASE INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY NEW OR AMENDED AGREEMENTS WITH THE CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION AGENCY
4. AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF AVIATION TO TAKE SUCH ADDITIONAL ACTIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY AND PRUDENT TO ACCOMMODATE THE SCHEDULE INCREASE

Aviation Director Widmar reviewed the issue, all as contained in the staff report as submitted, recommended approval, and upon question of Councilmember Westerlund confirmed supervision of the ag station would continue. Councilmember Westerlund made a motion to approve staff's recommendations, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Perea.

Mr. Widmar responded to numerous questions/comments/concerns of Councilmember Calhoun relative to the \$56,000 gap/increase in City subsidy, why Mexicana Airlines was not contributing to the gap, if the subsidy would eventually go away, status of the Port of Entry designation, if Mexicana was asked to split the cost, what factors were considered/calculated into the proposal, if losses would continue until a Port of Entry status is achieved, concern with the subsidy and need for Mexicana to know the City will not "roll over" every time, need for Mexicana to know a win-win is desired for both sides, and concern with reserves being used for just one airline when there are other uses for those funds. Councilmember Perea spoke briefly in support stating this was a very sound investment, and Councilmember Westerlund clarified issues relative to Councilmember Calhoun's concerns with the losses/subsidy and the agreement.

On motion of Councilmember Westerlund, seconded by Councilmember Perea, duly carried, RESOLVED, Items #1 through #4 as outlined above hereby approved/adopted/authorized, by the following vote:

Ayes : Calhoun, Dages, Perea, Sterling, Westerlund, Xiong
 Noes : None
 Absent : Duncan

(C) AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT TO ROEBBELEN CONTRACTING, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,192,000 FOR THE FYI AIRPORT EXPANSION AND REMODEL PROJECT

1. **RESOLUTION NO. 2008-22** - 67TH AMENDMENT TO THE AAR APPROPRIATING \$1,762,400 TO FUND THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

Aviation Director Widmar gave an in-depth review of the issue which included a PowerPoint presentation consisting of a virtual tour of the existing facilities, proposed improvements to the baggage claims, ticketing lobby **(4 - 0)** and central lobby, and concluded with "Fresno's New Gateway".

A visiting class from Centennial School was recognized and welcomed.

Councilmember Westerlund thanked Mr. Widmar for his leadership, upon his request Mr. Widmar explained issues relative to project bids that were previously rejected, the restructuring/re-tooling of one project, check-point operation, and financing/funding for the project, and upon his question Mr. Widmar advised there would be a Notice to Proceed in 30 days with completion 16months later. A motion and second was made to approve staff’s recommendation. Councilmember Calhoun spoke to the benefits of the improvements, stated he was excited about the “Sense of Place” stating it would add a lot the airport, and presented questions relative to the vestibules, doors and entry-ways, with Mr. Widmar responding

On motion of Councilmember Westerlund, seconded by Councilmember Perea, duly carried, RESOLVED, the construction contract as outlined above awarded as recommended and the above entitled Resolution No. 2008-22 hereby adopted, by the following vote:

Ayes : Calhoun, Dages, Perea, Sterling, Westerlund, Xiong
Noes : None
Absent : Duncan

(9:15 A.M.) CITY COUNCIL:

(“A”) RESOLUTION NO. 2008-23 - SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE IN THE VALLEY WITH A MISSION TO ADVANCE THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF THE PUBLIC, WITH A FOCUS ON THE VALLEY - COUNCILMEMBER PEREA

Councilmember Perea gave a brief overview noting although Council has been supportive of the school in the past there has been no official resolution, and made a motion to adopt the resolution as requested by other cities, seconded by Councilmember Westerlund.

Councilmember Calhoun spoke to a program he (and Acting President Sterling) attended on UC Merced and to his meeting with Chancellor King, advised upon asking the Chancellor if there was anything Council needed to do as a city he was told ‘no’ and that they were moving forward, and questioned if adoption of this resolution was getting ahead of the curve, if it would cause any problems with the process, if it would be welcome by State legislators, if there was anything else the city needed to be doing, if staff has been in the loop on the process, if staff has weighed in on the issue/contacted the Chancellor, and request that staff continue to monitor the process, with Councilmember Perea and City Manager Souza responding throughout.

On motion of Councilmember Perea, seconded by Councilmember Westerlund, duly carried, RESOLVED, the above entitled Resolution No. 2008-23 hereby adopted, by the following vote:

Ayes : Calhoun, Dages, Perea, Sterling, Westerlund, Xiong
Noes : None
Absent : Duncan

(“B”) RESOLUTION NO. 2008-24 - SUPPORTING AN INCREASE IN THE DISTRICT’S SHARE OF PROPOSITION 1B AIR QUALITY MITIGATION FUNDING - COUNCILMEMBER PEREA

Councilmember Perea advised this was critical in terms of timing as the California Air Resources Board at the end of this month would be making a determination on where a significant amount of Proposition 1B funds will be allocated throughout the state, stated every region in the state was doing a ‘full court press’ both in front and behind the scenes, advised the current proposal for the funds was presented at the last Air District meeting and it showed once again that the central valley was being cut short, and stressed the city needed to be aggressive on this and get its’ fair share back for clean air projects and made a motion to adopt the resolution. President Xiong spoke briefly in support.

On motion of Councilmember Perea, seconded by Acting President Sterling, duly carried, RESOLVED, the above entitled Resolution No. 2008-24 hereby adopted, by the following vote:

Ayes : Calhoun, Dages, Perea, Sterling, Westerlund, Xiong
Noes : None
Absent : Duncan

(10:30 A.M. #1) CONTINUED HEARING ON REZONE APPLICATION NO. R-07-70 AND RELATED APPEAL OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION'S ACTION APPROVING VESTING TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 5911/UGM, AND ENVIRONMENTAL FINDINGS, FILED BY ENVISION HOMES ON BEHALF OF FCF-BUILT LLC, PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF N. MARKS BETWEEN W. FLORADORA AND W. MCKINLEY AVENUES

- 1. CONSIDER AND ADOPT E.A. NO. R-07-70/T-5911/C-07-342, DETERMINATION OF INITIAL STUDY TO FILE A FINDING OF CONFORMITY TO THE GENERAL PLAN MEIR
- 2. **RESOLUTION NO. 2008-25** - APPROVING VESTING T.T. MAP NO. 5911/UGM SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL DATED 1/16/08
- 3. **BILL NO. B-5 - ORDINANCE NO. 2008-5** - AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONE MAP TO REZONE FROM R-1/UGM TO R-2/UGM

President Xiong announced the time had arrived to consider the issue and opened the hearing.

Planner Rodriguez gave a brief overview of the rezone and appeal filed, advised late yesterday staff received a letter from the applicant withdrawing their appeal and clarified only the rezone was before Council, and submitted the letter into the record and recommended the rezone be approved.

Upon call, no one wished to be heard and President Xiong closed the hearing.

Acting President Sterling thanked Envision Homes and staff for all their efforts and addressing issues and made a motion to approve staff's recommendation.

On motion of Acting President Sterling, seconded by Councilmember Westerlund, duly carried, RESOLVED, the environmental finding for the subject E.A. hereby approved, the above entitled Resolution No. 2008-25 hereby adopted, and the above entitled Bill No. B-5 adopted as Ordinance No. 2008-5, by the following vote:

Ayes : Calhoun, Dages, Perea, Sterling, Westerlund, Xiong
 Noes : None
 Absent : Duncan

(10:30 A.M. #2) WORKSHOP ON FUNDING FOR SEWER ENTERPRISE CAPITAL PROJECTS

Public Utilities Director Ramirez introduced the item and spoke briefly to the planned improvements clarifying they were part of last year's rate discussions and there would be no new rates associated with this, and advised the reimbursement resolution would be brought forth next week which would allow staff start the process on some of the projects and put together the funding mechanism. Assistant Director/Wastewater Treatment Plant Manager Hogg gave a PowerPoint presentation on the issue which consisted of Uses of Budgeted Funds, Current Update on Capital Bonded Projects, Sewer Collection System Capital Projects to be Financed, Wastewater Treatment Facility Capital Projects to be Financed, and Next Steps.

Councilmember Calhoun commended ACM Ruiz on his promotion stating his move to Eugene, Oregon was Fresno's loss and their gain; spoke in support of the projects/improvements stating these were the kind of things taken for granted yet are so critical for our city and spoke briefly to the trust in staff to make prudent decisions; and presented questions relative to debt payments/pay-as-you-go/selling bonds/bonding capacity and if staff anticipated any higher risk than normal with the market being in turmoil, with Mr. Hogg responding throughout.

Councilmember Westerlund thanked staff for the presentation and for pre-planning stating that precluded poor performance in the future; stated this was exactly what the utility rate increases were for and further explained; spoke in support of the use of the reimbursement resolution stating bringing it forth this month and then going to market in April was the way it was supposed to work unlike the parks projects and elaborated; presented questions relative to the reserve capital account and policy and the organic upgrade project including status and if it was on schedule and on budget (with Mr. Hogg responding); and spoke to his concern with contract change orders coming to Council after the work is done and requested change orders be submitted for approval in a timely manner. There was no further discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before the City Council, the hour of 11:54 a.m. having arrived and hearing no objections, President Xiong declared the meeting adjourned.

Approved on the ____ 12th _____ day of _____ February _____, 2008.

_____/s/_____
Blong Xiong, Council President

ATTEST: _____/s/_____
Yolanda Salazar, Assistant City Clerk

