

**MARCH 26, 2019 MINUTES
REGULAR WHEATLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING
WHEATLAND COMMUNITY CENTER
101 C STREET, WHEATLAND, CA
6:30 –7:55 P.M.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: R. Coe, J. Henderson, L. McIntosh, J. Pendergraph, R. West

OTHERS PRESENT
J. Goodwin, City Manager
J. Buckman, City Attorney
A. Wightman, Police Chief
A. Paquette, Fire Chief

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor J. Henderson led the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion was made by Council Member J. Pendergraph, Seconded by Council Member R. Coe to **approve minutes of the regular meeting on March 12, 2019**. Vote called -- AYES: All. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

1) City Manager Jim Goodwin presented the staff report for the proposed water and sewer rate adjustment. The City Council approved an agreement with Clearsource Financial for review of both water and sewer rates and to develop recommendations for adjustment of those rates. An Ad-hoc committee including Mayor Joe Henderson and Vice-Mayor Rick West subsequently was appointed to work with the consultants. Ad-hoc Committee meetings were held in November 2017, January 2018, October 2018 and November 2018. The primary objective of these discussions was to develop a rate proposal that meets current legal standards and operational needs while being sensitive to impacts on the rate-payer. Conclusions from discussions include; rates must be structured to cover costs, including operational cost, debt service and maintenance of a prudent reserve. The current rate structure does not accomplish this; the current rate structure does not meet best practices standards and the timeline covered by a rate action should be shortened due to the potential of new homes being built during the rate cycle. The current proposed rate adjustment does not include consideration of future capital investment needs. A final rate proposal was prepared based on these broad parameters. The rate adjustment for water is to adopt a rate proposal with adjustments in April 2019, October 2019, October 2020, October 2021, and October 2022. The rate adjustment for sewer is to adopt a rate proposal with a set adjustment in April 2019, followed by annual adjustments of either 3% or according to the ENR index, whichever is higher, through October 2022. On January 22, 2019 the City Council approved Resolution No. 06-19 accepting the final rate study and directing staff to provide the required minimum 45-day notice to the public of the City Council's intent to adjust rates. The notice was prepared and mailed to all current water and sewer utility customers and/or owners of property served by the utilities informing them of the proposed rates and of their right to protest and providing instruction that all written protests must be received by the close of the Public Hearing tonight. Only one protest per parcel of property served by the utilities can be counted. Council may adopt the proposed rates unless a valid written protest is received from fifty percent plus one of the

affected parcels by close of the public hearing. As of the date of preparation of this staff report, fewer than 30 protests had been received.

Public Comment

The City Clerk was handed 23 protests against the proposed water and sewer rate adjustment at this time.

David Pesenti, 179 Anderson Way, questioned such a large rate increase at one time. Terry Madsen with Clear Source Financial Consulting explained how Prop 218 affects local government agencies and utility services such as water and sewer.

Patrick Rose, 113 Nichols Road, commented on usage allocation, overages and penalties. City Manager J. Goodwin and City Attorney J. Buckman clarified the flat rate structure of the water and sewer fees.

Mayor J. Henderson asked the City Clerk if the City received enough valid protests. The City Clerk stated that the required number of valid protests is approximately 614 and the City only received 52 valid protests.

Motion was made by Council Member R. Coe, Seconded by Council Member J. Pendergraph to **approve Resolution No. 09-19 Establishing Water Service Rates**. Vote called - AYES: All. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Council Member R. West, Seconded by Council Member L. McIntosh to **approve Resolution No. 10-19 Establishing Sewer Service Rates**. Vote called – AYES: All. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Council Member R. West reported of the SACOG workshop.
Mayor J. Henderson reported on a tour of the Enterprise Rancheria Casino.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Council Member J. Henderson adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Minutes approved and adopted this 9th day of April 2019.



Lisa J. Thomason, *City Clerk*



Joseph Henderson, *Mayor*