

PORTOLA CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
February 25th, 2015
6:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gault called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Gault led the Council in a moment of silence and the reciting of the pledge of allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Larrieu, Oels, and VanDahlen, Mayor Pro Tem Powers and Mayor Gault responded to the roll call. City Manager Robert Meacher, City Planner Karen Downs, City Clerk Melissa Klundby, City Finance Officer Susan Scarlett and City Attorney Steve Gross were also in attendance.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Terri Woods, identified herself as a citizen of Portola and made comment that she is concerned about an article in the newspaper concerning pollution caused by woodstoves and EPA action. She asked the Council what type of follow-up the Council was taking in response to this action.

Denise Parodi, a community member, read a statement to the Council about numerous concerns she has regarding dogs, road repair, street sweepers, dirt bikes, park benches and reflective address signage. Denise also commented that she would like to see more incentives for people to cleanup in the city including free cleanup and disposal days.

Larry Douglas made comment regarding restoration and cleanup of old town, Portola.

5. CITY COMMUNICATIONS

A. City Council/Committee Reports

Councilmember Larrieu reported that he attended the Transportation Commission meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Powers reported that he had attended the Fire Safe Council meeting and is collaborating with C. Roy Carmichael on a "Pay it Forward" program with funds from a mini grant he had obtained.

Councilmember VanDahlen reported that that she had attended a meeting with a group of citizens who are concerned about lack of communication from the City and that she is working with the City Manager, Robert Meacher to produce a bi-weekly newspaper article about what is happening in the City. She also reported that she had attended a meeting with representatives from Grizzly Creek Ranch regarding the Emergency Operations plan and a GoBiz workshop on business tax credits. Councilmember VanDahlen also noted she would like to work with staff on additional signage on Highway 70 pointing to old town Portola.

Councilmember Oels reported that he has been researching and studying ownership and water production at Malloy and Turner Springs. Councilmember Oels reported he had also attended a meeting with City of Portola staff and the USFS regarding Golden Springs, and completed additional picnic tables for the West End Park.

Mayor Gault reported that she had been the guest speaker at the Plumas County Libertarian Party meeting and had also made a presentation with the City Manager to a fifth grade on City Government and the City of Portola.

B. City Manager Communications

Robert Meacher reported on the meeting he attended, noting that he had also had a meeting with Bruce Ross, from Assemblyman Dahle's office. Mr. Meacher also reminded the Council of the upcoming budget planning workshop on Saturday, March 7th, at 9:00 a.m.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. **Minutes** - Adopt the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting held on February 11, 2015.

B. **Claims** - Adopt Resolution No. 2238 authorizing payment of claims for the period of February 7, 2015 through February 20, 2015.

City Finance Officer, Susan Scarlett requested that the minutes be amended under item 9 b. to read that "...a decrease in the gas tax of about 52% was expected in the upcoming fiscal year". Councilmember Oels made a motion to adopt the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting held on February 11th, 2015 with the recommended correction and to adopt Resolution No. 2238 authorizing payment of claims for the period of February 7, 2015 through February 20, 2015. Councilmember Larrieu seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

9. ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. **Abatement of Public Nuisance**- Review the public nuisance section of the Portola Municipal Code and receive an outline of the abatement process. Review properties that may be declared as public nuisances and provide direction to staff on continuing the abatement process. Discussion, possible action.

Community Service Officer, Leah Turner gave the Council a presentation on the current status of an abatement process at 380 4th Avenue, which began in July of 2014. To date no progress has happened on the property to address the weed abatement concerns and Ms. Turner wanted the Council to review the property in question and provide direction for the continuation of the abatement process, which would include cleanup of the property and a lien process. Ms. Turner also briefly discussed the process for abatements under a third party receivership program, which would be reviewed in further detail at the March 11, 2015 City Council meeting.

Mayor Gault asked for public comment and Larry Douglas made comment regarding the General Plan and its definition of a public nuisance and advised the Council to review those aspects of the general plan.

Mike Matus also commented on the difference in the definition of a public versus a private nuisance.

Denise Parodi also had questions regarding how the City gathers bids for the cleanup of nuisance property.

The Council discussed the issue and Councilmember Larrieu made a motion to authorize City staff to move forward with the abatement process and lien procedures at 380 4th Avenue. Mayor Pro Tem Powers seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

- B. **Water Security**- Discuss the current status of Turner and Malloy Springs and provide staff direction on possible development of the springs and/or disposition of the property. Discussion, possible action.

Councilmember Oels reported that drought conditions are looking worse this year and that he feels securing all available sources of water is an important priority for the City. Councilmember Oels reported that after reviewing the sources of water at Malloy Springs and Turner Springs he would like to propose that City Council and staff research and review selling the property at Malloy Springs and developing the water source at Turner Springs.

Mayor Gault asked for public comment and Larry Douglas asked if CDBG funds could be used to develop Turner Springs as a water source and Bob Morton requested clarification on the location of both springs. After Council discussion, Councilmember Larrieu made a motion requesting that staff prepare a cost estimate and a proposal for the development of Turner Springs as a City water source. Mayor Pro Tem Powers seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

- C. **Golden Springs**- Update on the Golden Springs water line project. Consider approval of a budget amendment. Discussion, possible action.

Susan Scarlett, City Finance Officer, reported that the City Council had previously made a budget amendment in the amount of \$35,000 for materials in order to re-establish water service from Golden Spring. Ms. Scarlett noted that to date, with materials and the contract from the California Conservation Crew the project cost was \$99,868.43. Ms. Scarlett also noted that Public Works estimates that an additional \$39,000 will be needed to complete the project, bringing the total projected project cost to approximately \$140,000.

Ms. Scarlett asked the council to make budget amendments in the amount of \$95,000 to complete the project.

Finding no public comment and after a brief discussion Councilmember Oels made a motion to reallocate \$56,000 from the Joy Way vault project and \$39,000 from the Enterprise fund to the Golden Springs project. Councilmember Larrieu seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

10. CLOSED SESSION

- A. **Existing Litigation** - Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1), City of Portola vs. State of California Department of Fish & Game, Case No. CV09-00065.

There was no reportable action from the closed session.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Klundby, City Clerk