

City of Portola
City Council Workshop Minutes
August 13, 2013 5:30 pm

Call to Order

Mayor Larrieu called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Roll Call

Councilmembers Morton, Gault, and Mark and Mayor Pro Tem Oels responded to the roll call. City Manager Ian Kaiser, and City Clerk Tiana Bradley were also present during the meeting.

Public Comment

Resident Larry Douglas provided public comment regarding the state of the City.

Discussion Topics

A. What Does Good Government Look Like?

There was general discussion about how the City is doing. Ask the community how things are going. Economic development is in its beginning stages. Clarity, compassion, character, competency, commitment, connection, contribution, consistency are all key points of a good government.

B. Building Trust

City Manager Ian Kaiser discussed the roles and responsibilities of the City Manager and City Council, and Council Codes of Conduct. He also stressed the importance of “I just need to know”- please let Ian know what is going on so he can take care of it. He discussed that he should hear the complaints, work orders, hearsay, and financial information. Councilmember Morton was concerned about the miscommunication surrounding the resignation of Leslie Tigan as City Clerk.

C. Getting Vision

There was a discussion of agenda items to be presented at the August 14 City Council meeting related to changing City Council meetings to once per month and add a workshop, Sheriff contract, water rate reduction by 5%, Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, and a Brown Act workshop.

Mr. Kaiser discussed the budget and the following items:

- The current budget is accurate; amendments have been made. The proposed water rate reduction is 5%.
- The annual Fire Rate Tax Assessment has been completed and includes a tax bill of \$19,000 per year.
- The water fund/general fund has a \$15,000 increase in funds.

- Expenses- the Sixth Street well is a 500 ft well and it is the deepest.
- The cost would be between \$50,000-\$60,000 to run.
- Arsenic Levels: City of Portola was not fined for arsenic levels. However \$2,000 to \$6,000 dollars have been spent to fix the water treatment plant.
- Restructure of government loan, our goal is to lower the sewer loan rate the current interest rate is at 5%.
- Rebate program./Water Fund \$300,000 in negative cash, however we are up to date in debt service.
- Report of how much water total was used by the City of Portola, for the month of August a total of 26 million gallons was used. Winter months the usage is lower and the City goes onto Willow Springs
- There has been a line item detail for the upcoming audit for October 16th, 17th, and 18th
- Power of Policy and Code of Ordinances, the City Council set the polices of the town.
- Planning Commission is effective and shall be utilized.
- Legal Council Steve Gross will be kept and the City will use his expertise twice a month for City Council meetings.
- It was decided by the City Council that we shall have two meetings a month plus a workshop, possible change of times for workshops.
- Image a perception of the Community
- How to Change the perception of the Community, we wish to organize a Community clean-up.
- Establishment of a Youth Business Summit collaborating with the High School.
- The City has been granted a waste management scholarship, which is a summit that is held in the Bay Area. Councilmember Gault shall attend.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.. All members present voted in favor.

Tiana Bradley
City Clerk