

City of Colfax  
City Council Minutes  
Regular Meeting of Wednesday, February 27, 2019  
City Hall Council Chambers  
33 S. Main Street, Colfax CA

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**1 CLOSED SESSION**

**1A. Call to Order**

Mayor Fatula called the meeting to order at 6:32PM.

**1B. Roll Call**

Council members present: Burruss, Douglass, Fatula, Lomen, Mendoza

**1C. Public Comment on Closed Session Item**

There was no public comment on the closed session item.

**1D. Closed Session**

Conference With Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation Pursuant To Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1): People of The State Of California vs Church of Modern Medicine, Placer County Superior Court Case # SCV41724

Closed session ended at 6:40PM.

**2 OPEN SESSION**

**2A. Call to Order**

Mayor Fatula called the open session to order at 7:00PM.

**2B. Report from Closed Session**

City Attorney Cabral reported the City has obtained a judgement against the organization which illegally distributed cannabis within City limits, the so-called "Church of Modern Medicine (COMM)". COMM was ordered to pay the City \$58,000 to cover legal costs associated with obtaining the judgement against the organization and the property owners. Council voted unanimously to accept the judgement.

**2C. Pledge of Allegiance**

Deputy Daniel Jakobs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2D. Roll Call**

Council members present: Burruss, Douglass, Fatula, Lomen, Mendoza

**2E. Approval of Agenda Order**

On a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza, seconded by Councilmember Burruss, the City Council approved the agenda order.

**AYES:** Burruss, Douglass, Fatula, Lomen, Mendoza

**3 PRESENTATION**

**3A. Presentation: Community Wildfire Safety Program Overview**

Brandon Sanders, Sierra Division Public Affairs, Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Mr. Sanders presented a PowerPoint explaining the aggressive stance PG&E is taking to mitigate hazards which could contribute to wildfires. PG&E is increasing monitoring of equipment and weather, improving safety measures with vegetation management, equipment inspection and implementing policies which will allow deactivation of fire areas. In addition, they are replacing some lines with safer wires, especially in high danger zones.

Council asked several questions and thanked Mr. Sanders for presenting to Council.

City Manager Heathcock mentioned Mr. Sanders has been very helpful with facilitating PG&E assistance to developers in the area and as a resource with City issues.

**4 CONSENT CALENDAR****4A. Minutes – Regular Meeting February 13, 2019**

**Recommendation:** Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 13, 2019.

**4B. Cash Summary Report – January 2019**

**Recommendation:** Accept and file.

**4C. Wastewater Treatment Plant Vehicle Purchase**

**Recommendation:** Adopt Resolution 04-2019 approving the purchase of one Wastewater Treatment Plant vehicle from Winner Chevrolet Fleet Sales in an amount not to exceed \$35,000.

**4D. Fire Station 37 Roof Repair**

**Recommendation:** Adopt Resolution 05-2019 authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Five Star Roofing for installation of a new roof on Fire Station 37, in an amount not to exceed \$13,500.

Councilmember Burruss asked to discuss Item 4C and Councilmember Lomen requested pulling Item 4D from the Consent Calendar.

On a motion by Councilmember Lomen, and a second by Councilmember Burruss, the City Council approved Items 4A and 4B.

**AYES:** Burruss, Douglass, Fatula, Lomen, Mendoza

**Item 4C. Wastewater Treatment Plant Vehicle Purchase**

**Recommendation:** Adopt Resolution 04-2019 approving the purchase of one Wastewater Treatment Plant vehicle from Winner Chevrolet Fleet Sales in an amount not to exceed \$35,000.

Councilmember Burruss stated although the overall price of the vehicle purchase proposal was correctly within market value, some of the line items were either inflated or should have been included in the base price.

There was no public discussion.

On a motion by Councilmember Burruss, and a second by Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza, the City Council approved Resolution 04-2019.

**AYES:** Burruss, Douglass, Fatula, Lomen, Mendoza

**Item 4D. Fire Station 37 Roof Repair**

**Recommendation:** Adopt Resolution 05-2019 authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Five Star Roofing for installation of a new roof on Fire Station 37, in an amount not to exceed \$13,500.

Councilmember Lomen explained he prefers the City purchase a metal roof for Fire Station 37 because he feels it is a better product. He stated it would be a better investment to add \$4,000 to the purchase price in order to have extra fire safety, easier maintenance, longer life and better esthetics for the building. With the appropriate contingency the new price would be \$18,500 which is still within the budget for this item.

Council discussed the item, noting that Chief Eagan recommended the lower priced roof and asserting this building is essentially a garage. The Council also noted the cost is an 18% increase but a minimal amount of City funds for a longer lasting product.

City Manager Heathcock stated staff had recommended the composition roof to stretch the budget to include paint and other cosmetic improvements.

Councilmember Lomen moved the City Council adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Five Star Roofing for installation of a metal roof on Fire Station 37 in an amount not to exceed \$18,500.

Councilmember Douglass seconded the motion.

Tim Ryan, S. Main Street, spoke in favor of the less expensive composition roof.

Tom Parnham, West Oak Street, spoke in favor of the longer lasting metal roof.

Having heard a motion and a second, City Council voted to approve the Resolution as stated:

**AYES:** Burruss, Douglass, Fatula, Lomen

**NOES:** Mendoza

**5 PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Nancy Hagman, area resident*

- Ms. Hagman stated the historical society would like to update the monument on Highway 174 to be more politically correct. She requested a City staff member remove the old plaque so the new one could be placed.
- Ms. Hagman suggested the local volunteer agencies could contribute to a monument fund for use whenever new monuments are erected or if one of the current 50-plus monuments needs repair.
- Ms. Hagman stated the name for the newsletter is very similar to a book published by the Historical Society. The Society is in favor of using the title “Colfax Connection” but would like to have a column included in the newsletter.

*Tom Parnham, W. Oak Street*

- Mr. Parnham stated he built the monument on Highway 174 and dislikes the idea of it being changed.
- He asked if there was any opportunity to have the Chinese Railroad Workers monument installed in Colfax. Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza stated there is some possibility of locating it here and the promoters are scheduled to address Council in April.
- He applauded Council for purchasing the truck for the Wastewater Treatment Plant and reminded Council to continue to support the Plant’s success.

**6 COUNCIL, STAFF, AND OTHER REPORTS**

**6A. Committee Reports and Colfax Informational Items – All Councilmembers**

*Councilmember Lomen*

- Councilmember Lomen attended a meeting of the Consumnes, American, Bear, Yuba (CABY) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) group which met at the Sierra Vista Community Center to discuss the community capacity for long term planning and implementation of projects to manage the watershed.
- He met with the Fire Safety Committee and attended the High School Local Control Planning meeting.

*Councilmember Douglass*

- Councilmember Douglass helped conduct a survey of the neighbors regarding the proposed skatepark at the Sierra Vista Community Center.
- He represented the City on the SACOG and Project Go Boards.
- He met with the Website Committee which now includes three students from Colfax High School.

*Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza*

- Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza toured the firebreak and emergency protocols with Chief Eagan.
- She applauded the Colfax High School Girls Basketball Team for ranking 4<sup>th</sup> in the State
- Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza encouraged everyone to attend the discussion about I-80 road closures in Alta.
- She also recommended the Green Machine Crab Feed on March 23, 2019.

*Councilmember Burruss*

- Councilmember Burruss represented the City on the Air Pollution Control Board.
- She participated in the discussion with the Fire Safety Committee and toured the area with Chief Eagan.
- She did some research regarding gating Highway I-80 instead of having an officer stationed on the highway to close the road.

*Mayor Fatula*

- Mayor Fatula also researched the physical gate concept.
- He attended the CABY IRWM meeting.
- He has written an article for the Colfax Connections Newsletter pertaining to options if fire insurance is denied.

**6B. City Operations – City Staff***City Manager Heathcock*

- City Manager Heathcock reported the City and Emergency personnel are working with Caltrans to alleviate the problems associated with Highway I-80 closures. Several improvements are already in place and the City is preparing signs which will direct folks downtown to restroom facilities and hopefully away from congested areas.
- He mentioned the City will pursue funding resources for the sewer system which were mentioned at the CABY workshop and the City's application for the Water Board Grant is still under review.
- SACOG has contacted the City Planner to discuss grant funding to purchase the historic hotel for economic development.
- He stated staff is hoping to roll out a portion of the new website soon and the students will help make it a user-friendly platform for all age groups.
- Staff has been contacted regarding an internship for High School students to shadow City Hall staff and Wastewater Treatment Plant operators.

**6C. Additional Reports – Agency Partners***City Manager Heathcock reported on behalf of Chief Eagan*

- Placer Fire Crews will begin working on Fuel Reduction at the Wastewater Treatment Plant soon.
- Chief Eagan plans to take other members of Council on tours of the Firebreak area when he returns.

*Chris Nave, Public Information Officer, Gold Run Area California Highway Patrol*

- Officer Nave, along with Lieutenant Frank Newman gave a report regarding snow conditions and CHP efforts to discourage drivers from amassing in Colfax during road closures. Their efforts seem to be working.

- CHP will meet with City staff and Placer County Sheriff representatives to continue to coordinate solutions.

*Daniel Jakobs, Deputy Sheriff, Placer County Sheriff's Office*

- Deputy Jakobs stated the CHP efforts appear to be working.
- He mentioned the Placer Alert notifications and Search and Rescue teams have successfully helped Colfax residents in the last few weeks.

*Fred Abbott, Colfax Event Liaison*

- Mr. Abbott updated Council on the progress of the newsletter and handed out a new prototype. He encouraged everyone to attend the March 6, 2019 Council Workshop to provide input.
- He gave a report on progress for the Railroad Days event.

*Tim Ryan, President, Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce*

- Mr. Ryan reported the Chamber elected new officers and he is excited to step into the role of President.
- The Chamber is working on several projects to improve economic growth in the City.
- The First Chamber mixer will be held March 12, 2019 at the Methodist Church.

*Sharon Conners, Board member, Sierra Vista Community Center.*

- Ms. Conners stated that volunteers are needed for the Chocolate, Wine and Art event.

Mayor Fatula recessed the meeting at 9:20PM.

Mayor Fatula called the meeting back to order at 9:31PM.

## **7 COUNCIL BUSINESS**

### **7A. Mid-year Budget Review – Fiscal Year 2018-2019**

**Staff Presentation:** Laurie Van Groningen, Finance Director

**Recommendation:** Receive and accept the Mid-Year Budget Report Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

Finance Director Van Groningen informed Council staff has completed a very thorough review of the budget compared to actual expenses and revenues. The mid-year review is a summarized report of their findings. The City budget-to-actuals reflect a higher revenue than expected with lower expenses overall. In May the City will begin the budget process for the new fiscal year. Any necessary recommendations for budget amendments will reflect the data from this report.

There was no public comment on this item.

On a motion from Councilmember Burruss and a second from Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza, Council unanimously voted to receive and accept the Mid-Year Budget Report.

**AYES:** Burruss, Douglass, Fatula, Lomen, Mendoza

### **7B. Commercial Cannabis Consulting Services**

**Staff Presentation:** Wes Heathcock, City Manager

**Recommendation:** Discuss and consider adopting Resolution 06-2019 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a consultant services agreement with SCI Consulting Group to provide subject matter expertise and technical support, conduct compliance and financial audits, and on-going non-compliant mitigation services for the City of Colfax for a three-year term up to \$61,616.

City Manager Heathcock stated Council has tasked staff with finding an alternative consultant to provide support for the cannabis licensing process. Staff contacted two firms and received a competitive proposal from SCI Consulting. He introduced John Bliss, President of the company.

Council confirmed the company has experience with small businesses and expressed concern about the three-year term of the contract which allows for more services in years two and three. City Manager Heathcock explained the contract does not require expanded services but does allow the flexibility and stability council requested.

Mayor Fatula stated this contract does not compensate the City for past expenditures related to Cannabis.

City Attorney Cabral explained the fee structure applied to the permitting process for the cannabis retailer must be revenue neutral for the City.

Councilmember Burruss suggested the City lock in the services of SCI Consulting now, knowing the contract can be terminated at any time with 30 days' notice.

Councilmember Burruss made a motion and Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza seconded the motion to approve Resolution 06-2019.

Jim Dion, business owner of Golden State Patient Care stated he feels the fees are too high.

Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza left the meeting at 10:30PM.

Council approved Resolution 06-2019.

**AYES:** Burruss, Douglass, Fatula, Lomen

**ABSENT:** Mendoza

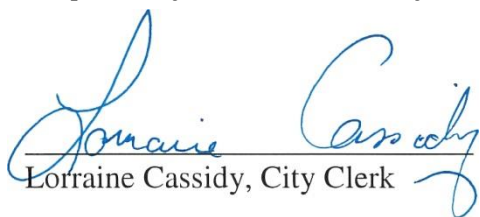
**8 GOOD OF THE ORDER – INFORMAL COUNCIL STATEMENTS REGARDING THE BUSINESS OF THE CITY**

Councilmember Douglass suggested the City get drones to help with firefighting. Everyone needs to think of creative ways to help the community.

**9 ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Fatula adjourned the meeting at 10:37PM.

Respectfully submitted to City Council this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2019.

  
Lorraine Cassidy, City Clerk