

Minutes of the Blythe City Council August 30, 2016

The August 30, 2016 Special Meeting of the Blythe City Council was called to order at 6:00pm in the Council Chambers by Mayor DeConinck. Also in attendance were Vice Mayor Wade and Council Members Galvan, Reynolds and Egan. Staff in attendance included: City Manager Cosentini, City Clerk and Deputy Administrative Services Director Crecelius, City Treasurer and Interim Finance Director Elms, Police Chief Wade, Public Works Director Baldizzone, Planner Burrow and City Attorney Bettenhausen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor DeConinck. The invocation was offered by Councilman Galvan.

CONSENT CALENDAR: *Items on the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted with one motion of the Council. If any item requires individual consideration, it will be removed from the consent calendar and acted upon separately.*

1. Posting of the Agenda.

The summary of agenda items were posted on the bulletin boards on the outside of the public entrance to the Council Chamber and near the inside entrance of the Council Chamber on Friday, August 26, 2016.

No public comment. Vice Mayor Wade moved approval of the Consent Calendar. The motion was seconded by Councilman Egan with a unanimous aye vote.

CONTINUED BUSINESS:

Council Goals. City Manager Cosentini reported tonight we will go through the Goals process agreed upon by Council at the August 9th meeting. The first step is to give Council the benefit of my experience and my initial review of the City is we should focus on new revenue stems, economic development and prepare for growth. In addition we need personnel rules and regulations. The second step is selection of the goals. We will go around the Council a few times until we get 15-20 goals. The third step is to have Council rank the goals individually. If a goal gets three or more votes it remains on the list. From that list Council will rank the goals from most to least important. The goals will then be assigned a weighted average. After the goals are prioritized, staff will do a funding evaluation. Staff will bring the final list back to Council for adoption.

Mayor DeConinck asked for public comment prior to Council selecting goals.

Charles Bush of 2637 Colorado River Rd. introduced himself as the new PVUSD Superintendent. He would like Council to keep in mind that the school and city have a lot of really good reasons to work together here. We need to prepare for growth just as much as the City does. My hope is we can build a good partnership.

Steve Dir of 631 Seville Ln. stated you want people to come to Blythe; but look around its terrible. We need clean up along the freeway. Quechan Park is a mess; we are blowing it with river traffic. I am still mad about the trash situation. Look at all of the trash cans in front of houses where we used to have alley access. The trash should go in the alley.

Mayor DeConinck stated we are working on a permit to do some dredging at Quechan Park. We are working on these property issues, but for the City to clean it up, we need money to do so. Caltrans has been working on the freeway, it's not 100% yet, but they are working on it.

Charles Hull of 431 Alice Ln. stated we need to clean up for the Centennial and Homecoming festivities. The infrastructure is crumbling. The freeway right of way is horrible but it's a slow process. It's time for us to take pride in our community and we should entice homeowners to clean up their properties. We had a Keep Blythe Beautiful Campaign and its time to resurrect that.

Rosie Gonzales of 24801 Neighbors Blvd. stated all you hear from travelers is how filthy the town is. We need more manpower to clean the City. What do we need to do to get a few more people to clean the City? Could the town work with the court to get community service workers or with the prison for labor crews?

Council selected the following goals:

Goal:	Selected By:
1. Grant Writer	Councilman Galvan
2. Additional Staff	Councilman Galvan
3. Quechan Cleaning and Dredging	Councilman Egan
4. Prison Worker Program	Mayor DeConinck
5. Freeway Clean up/beautification	Vice Mayor Wade
6. TOT Tax Increase	Councilman Reynolds
7. Adopt a Park Program	Councilman Egan
8. Work with State on Water Conservation Mandates	Mayor DeConinck
9. Resources to address Transient Problems	Vice Mayor Wade
10. Economic Development/Direct Prospecting	Councilman Reynolds
11. Cap and Trade Funding	Councilman Galvan
12. Master Plans for Water/Sewer/Parks/Drainage	Councilman Egan
13. New Equipment for Public Works	Mayor DeConinck
14. Abatement Money for blighted buildings	Vice Mayor Wade
15. Street Improvement	Councilman Reynolds
16. Development Impact Fees	Councilman Galvan
17. Inducements to replace RDA	Councilman Egan
18. Get MWD to participate	Mayor DeConinck
19. Clean up Day prior to Centennial	Councilman Reynolds
20. Streamline Development Process	Councilman Egan
21. CIF Grants	Councilman Galvan
22. General Plan Amendment	Councilman Egan
23. Prison retention Bonus	Mayor DeConinck
24. Fee for Service Study	Councilman Reynolds
25. Lighting and Landscape Districts	Councilman Reynolds
26. Sales Tax Ballot Measure	Councilman Reynolds

Council was given 20 stickers each and asked to individually rank the goals. The goals with three or more votes from Council would move on to the next round. Goals that do not receive three or more votes will not move forward in the process.

Councils Top 20 Goals:

1. Grant Writer
2. Additional Staff
3. Quechan Cleaning and Dredging
4. Prison Worker Program
5. Freeway Clean up/Beautification
6. TOT Tax
7. Work with State on Water Conservation targets
8. Resources to address Transient Problems
9. Economic Development/Direct Prospecting
10. Cap and Trade Funding
11. Master Plan for Water/Sewer/Parks/Drainage
12. Abatement Money
13. Street Improvement
14. Development Impact Fees
15. Clean up Day prior to Centennial
16. Streamline Development Process
17. CIF Grants
18. Prison Retention Bonus
19. Fee for Service Study
20. Lighting and Landscape District

The list was read into the record by the City Clerk. Council was given the list of 20 goals and asked to rank them from 1-20, with 1 being the most important and 20 being the least important. Once the scoring sheets are returned the goals will be given a weighted average and presented at the next meeting along with a scope of work for each goal.

ORAL REPORTS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MEMBER COMMENT: None

ADJOURN:

The City Council meeting was adjourned at 7:42pm.

Joseph DeConinck, Mayor

ATTEST:

Mallory Crecelius, City Clerk