



# MINUTES

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE HEMET CITY COUNCIL

June 9, 2015

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**6:30 p.m.**

**City of Hemet Council Chambers  
450 E. Latham Avenue**

**[www.cityofhemet.org](http://www.cityofhemet.org)**

*Please silence all cell phones*

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### Call to Order

Mayor Krupa called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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### Roll Call

**PRESENT:** Council Members Milne, Raver and Youssef, Mayor Pro Tem Wright and Mayor Krupa

**ABSENT:** None

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### Work Study

*Discussion regarding this item, with possible direction to staff*

1. Update on Citywide Disaster Preparedness – Fire Chief Brown

**Fire Chief Brown**, thanked the City Council for the opportunity to give them a high level overview of citywide disaster preparedness program. Ms. Marie Davis is a 20+ year veteran of the American Red Cross that joined the Fire EMS Team 4 months ago. Ms. Davis is truly a professional in the emergency management discipline with a lot of focus and energy.

**Marie Davis, Emergency Services Coordinator**, gave the City Council an update on the City's Emergency Operations Plan, Standard Operating Procedures for the Emergency Operations Center and EMS Department. The areas of focus are: capability to provide multi-agency coordination (MAC) for incident management by activating and operating the EOC for a pre-planned or no-notice event; current Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)'s; and community engagement. Ms. Davis has met with IT regarding interoperability and infrastructure of the EOC. The City can utilize the County's WEB EOC platform. Training for staff will be assessed and scheduled collaboratively with HUSD. The mechanics of the EOC is a work in progress. The City's current Standard Operating Procedures were last updated in September 2013 and the current Emergency Operations Plan was updated in January 2015. We have not disseminated the plans, they need to be reviewed and possibly updated. The Fire Department is currently the project manager for the CERT program that is grant funded by the County of Riverside. Over 400 individuals have been CERT trained in the past few years. This is an underutilized group of community members. The EOP lists a number of faith based facilities however there are no formal agreements. The City has a very strong explorer program. The Police Department has a very strong volunteer program and we have realized that the Fire Department does not have volunteer opportunities beyond CERT. We are hoping to engage the community and individuals in the planning and emergency response process. Local amateur radio operators have aligned themselves with

Riverside County and we need to get them on board. We are now starting a “Whole” community re-engagement, which means we are: implementing a Fire Corps Program; cross training CERT Members; conducting a Faith Based & Community Organization Preparedness Summit; convening CERT Leadership meetings with Fire Chief Brown; amateur radio volunteers will be tasked with creating a communication plan, equipment maintenance and inventory control; we have met with HUSD and American Red Cross Leadership; and increased HFD community presence. We have made significant progress, but we have a long way to go. If we assess our level of readiness, facilities, training, community engagement, we would have significant challenges in the event of an emergency.

The City Council and staff discussed the NIMS and SEMS forms. The training requirement for NIMS and SIMS grant funding was also discussed. The City’s Emergency Services Coordinator must complete the Professional Development Series to qualify for grant funding.

**Council Member Milne**, thanked Ms. Davis for the work she has done and encouraged staff to get the Disaster Preparedness Committee together.

**Council Member Youssef**, asked if any mock drills and mock disasters are being planned.

**Ms. Davis**, we do need to plan mock events, but we need to update and train employees on the procedures so we have a process to follow.

**Fire Chief Brown**, the Department’s strengths are: we are local; we are strong city; and our community members. We need to engage on a regional level. We are in the process of rebuilding community relationships. We are taking the ICSC concept and will be dividing the City into divisions so we know what and where our CERT resources are. We will have a command hierarchy established with a communication tree. We’ve trained community members but have not engaged them. I’m very proud of the efforts of the EMS Team and appreciate the continued support from the City Council.

**Mayor Krupa**, thanked Chief Brown and Ms. Davis. In the five years I have been with the City, we have not had any training or mock drills. I have an EOC manual in my office and have attended the FEMA disaster preparedness program. Practical application is different than watching a slide presentation.

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## Closed Session

### Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no public comments presented at this time.

The City Council recessed to Closed Session at 6:50 pm.

2. Conference with Labor Negotiators  
Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.6  
Agency designated representatives: Interim City Manager Thornhill  
Employee organization:  
*Hemet Mid-Managers Association (HMMA)*
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## REGULAR SESSION

**7:00 p.m.**  
**City of Hemet City Council Chambers**  
**450 E. Latham Avenue**

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### Call to Order

Mayor Krupa called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

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### Roll Call

PRESENT: Council Members Milne, Raver and Youssef, Mayor Pro Tem Wright and Mayor Krupa

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Interim City Manager Thornhill, Assistant City Attorney Jex and City Clerk McComas

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### Invocation

Invocation was given by Meg Owen, Hemet-San Jacinto Interfaith Council

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### Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Pro Tem Wright

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### City Attorney Closed Session Report

3. Conference with Labor Negotiators  
Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.6  
Agency designated representatives: Interim City Manager Thornhill  
Employee organization:  
*Hemet Mid-Managers Association (HMMA)*

**The City Attorney reported that there was no reportable action.**

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### City Council Business Consent Calendar

4. **Approval of Minutes** – May 26, 2015
5. **Receive and File** – Warrant Register
  - a. Warrant register dated May 28, 2015 in the amount of \$799,299.81. Payroll for the period of May 11, 2015 to May 24, 2015 was \$660,261.57.
6. **Recommendation by City Manager** – Memorandum of Understanding with the Hemet City Fire Local No. 2342
  - a. Authorize the City's negotiating team to execute the attached Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City and Hemet Fire Fighters Local No. 2342 (HFFA), which shall be effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018.

7. **Recommendation by Police** – Agreement for School Resources Officers (SRO) for 2015-2016 with Hemet Unified School District (HUSD)
  - a. Authorize the Interim City Manager to enter into an agreement with HUSD for School Resource Officers for the 2015-2016 school year in the amount of \$533,224.69.
  
8. **Recommendation by Police** – 2015 Federal Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Radio Replacement Project
  - a. Accept the 2015 JAG Grant in the amount of \$29,910; and
  - b. Authorize the MOU regarding the Fiscal Agent (FA) Agreement with the County of Riverside; and
  - c. Authorize the finance department to establish an expenditure account and budget in the amount of \$26,919 (amount less the 10% paid to the FA).
  
9. **Recommendation by Finance** – Initiating Proceedings for the Annual Levy of Assessments for Existing Streetlight Maintenance Districts for Fiscal Year 2015-2016
  - a. Adopt the resolution initiating proceedings and ordering the Report of the Engineer in connection with the annual levy of assessments for the existing citywide streetlight maintenance districts and the levy and collection of assessments within such districts for the fiscal year 2015-2016, and designate PSOMAS as the Engineer for the purpose of these proceedings.  
**Resolution No. 4624**
  
10. **Recommendation by Finance** – Existing Streetlight Maintenance Districts for Fiscal Year 2015-2016
  - a. Adopt a resolution of intention to order the annual levy of assessment for the existing citywide streetlight maintenance districts and to levy and collect assessments within such districts for the Fiscal Year 2015-2016, preliminarily approving the engineer’s report and appointing June 23, 2015 for a public hearing. **Resolution No. 4625**
  
11. **Recommendation by Finance** – Initiating Proceedings for the Annual Levy of Assessments for Existing Landscape Maintenance Districts for Fiscal Year 2015-2016
  - a. Adopt the resolution initiating proceedings and ordering the Report of the Engineer in connection with the annual levy of assessments for the existing citywide landscape maintenance districts and the levy and collection of assessments within such districts for the fiscal year 2015-2016, and designate PSOMAS as the Engineer for the purpose of these proceedings.  
**Resolution No. 4626**
  
12. **Recommendation by Finance** – Existing Landscape Maintenance Districts for Fiscal Year 2015-2016
  - a. Adopt a resolution of intention to order the annual levy of assessment for the existing citywide landscape maintenance districts and to levy and collect assessments within such districts for the Fiscal Year 2015-2016, preliminarily approving the engineer’s report and appointing June 23, 2015 for a public hearing. **Resolution No. 4627**

13. **Recommendation by Fire** – Authorizing the Removal of Weeds, Rubbish and Refuse upon Parkway or Private Property and Setting Public Hearing for Protests and Objections
  - a. Adopt a resolution which declares that weeds, rubbish, and refuse upon parkways or private property within the City as a hazardous condition and requires the abatement of weeds, rubbish and refuse on properties identified in "Exhibit A" hereto. At the next regular City Council meeting scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on June 23, 2015 a Public Hearing will be set to hear protest and objections to the proposed removal of weeds, rubbish and refuse.  
**Resolution No. 4628**
  
14. **Recommendation by Fire** – Award of Bid for Citywide Weed Abatement Mitigation Services
  - a. Award and authorize the Interim City Manager to sign the contract to the lowest, responsive bidder, ACE Weed Abatement, Inc. as part of the annual citywide weed abatement mitigation program in the amount not to exceed forty-two thousand three hundred dollars (\$42,300) and to reject all other bids.
  
15. **Recommendation by Public Works** – Award of Bid for LED Safety Lighting Retrofit Project – City Project No. 5614
  - a. Approve award of bid to the lowest, responsive bidder, M. Brey Electric, Incorporated, of Beaumont, California, in the amount of \$87,579.00 to perform work for the LED Safety Lighting Retrofit; and
  - b. Authorize the Interim City Manager to execute a contract with M. Brey Electric, Inc., to perform the work in same amount; and
  - c. Reject all other bids

Item Nos. 6, 13, 14 and 15 were removed from the Consent Calendar. **Council Member Youssef moved and Council Member Raver seconded a motion to approve the remaining Consent Calendar Items as presented. Motion carried 5-0.**

Item No. 6

**Jessica Hurst, Deputy City Manager/Administrative Services**, the version of the MOU that was included with the agenda had an error on Page 15, C. The Tier III Formula should be 2% at 62.

**Mayor Pro Tem Wright moved and Council Member Milne seconded a motion to approve this item as amended. Motion carried 5-0.**

Item No. 13

**Fire Chief Brown**, distributed an amended Exhibit A. Over 1600 parcels were not completed by the posting of the agenda.

**Mayor Pro Tem Wright moved and Council Member Milne seconded a motion to approve this item as amended. Motion carried 5-0.**

Item No. 14

**Mayor Pro Tem Wright**, clarified for the public that previously the same person doing the inspection was the same person doing the abatement. The two tasks have been separated. **Council Member Milne moved and Mayor Pro Tem Wright seconded a motion to approve this item as presented. Motion carried.**

Item No. 15

**Mayor Krupa**, asked for a potential start date.

**Kris Jensen, Public Works Director**, explained that the work has to be completed by July 2015 and staff is working with Ray Hicks, SCE to schedule the removal of their poles.

**Mayor Krupa**, asked if the City can do the pole removal and bill SCE for the work.

**Tom Jex, Assistant City Attorney**, will work with staff on that option.

**Mayor Pro Tem Wright**, confirmed that the lighting will go in Gibbel and Weston Parks. Mayor Pro Tem Wright asked if Solar lighting is being considered.

**Ms. Jensen**, confirmed the location for the lighting. The lights will be energized. The solar lighting lessens through the night as they use their available power. Staff is trying get a dimmable system.

**Council Member Youssef moved and Council Member Milne seconded a motion to approve this item as presented. Motion carried 5-0.**

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## Communications from the Public

There were no communications from the public presented at this time.

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## Discussion/Action Item

16. **Adopt a Five Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for Fiscal Years 2016-2020** – Interim City Manager Thornhill
  - a. Adopt a resolution adopting a Five Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for Fiscal Years 2016-202; and
  - b. Authorize the Deputy City Manager/Administrative Services Director to include appropriations for CIP projects in the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget.

**Resolution No. 4629**

**Gary Thornhill, Interim City Manager**, as we discussed previously we are concerned with the projects that have a financial impact on the FY 2015/16 general fund. We will hold workshops to focus in on Five Year CIP so the City Council can make policy decisions and prioritize projects. This is a planning tool for long term capital projects even if a funding source has not been identified.

**Kris Jensen, Public Works Director**, after much discussion, four public works projects were removed from the 2015-16 budget. The draft CIP included with the agenda has been revised to reflect the changes. Ms. Jensen went over the list of the remaining projects. Staff will seek other funding sources for the projects that were removed. The one remaining Public Works item is \$40,000 for the turf replacement project. Staff is recommending adoption of the CIP to be included in the FY 15/16 budget.

**Council Member Youssef**, asked Chief Brown about the climate with law enforcement. What projects do you see moving forward given the concerns and challenges with community and body cameras.

**Police Chief Brown**, that is hard to answer due to the amount of activity. There are a number of bills working their way through the state legislature regarding the collection, the use of and the public's access to the video files and data. We recognize that the video collected is subject to the Public Records Act. There are government code exemptions giving law enforcement the ability to restrict access to files that might compromise safety to the public or an ongoing criminal investigation. We were already in a test phase before this was a nationwide trend. Proud to be on the front end, it is important to be using this data. The community cameras are a part of the effort to fill the gap between the staff we need and the staffing we have. The ability to effectively run these programs is very labor intensive most agencies have a full time analyst. The time and ongoing cost involved is a concern.

**Mr. Thornhill**, thanked staff, Nancy Beltran from Engineering and Kris Jensen, for their efforts.

**Mayor Pro Tem Wright**, while going through this report I identified 18 projects that have funding sources available. I understand the City's staffing issues and would like to recommend that a committee be established to help.

**Lori VanArsale, Hemet**, my question was addressed by Mayor Pro Tem Wright and the need to identify grant funding. Ms. VanArsdale expressed concern including any of the items listed in the CIP in this budget given the deficit. I understand that some of the safety items might be necessary. Maybe the others should only be adopted if other funding sources can be found.

The remaining items are necessary to public safety or required under ADA which is required for continued grant funding.

**Council Member Raver**, expressed concern and recommended that only the ADA assessment be funded given the City's financial situation. All other items can be considered if alternative funding is found.

**Mayor Pro Tem Wright**, even if we funding is available and applied for the City would not receive the money for 18 to 24 months.

**Council Member Raver made a motion to table this item until additional cuts can be made to the budget. Motion failed due to lack of second.**

**Mr. Thornhill**, staff has requested funding for a contract person to assist with grants.

**Council Member Raver made a motion to re-considered this item after the adoption of the budget. Motion failed due to lack of a second.**

**Council Member Youssef made a motion to approve this item as presented.**

**Council Member Milne made a substitute motion to approve this item without the \$40,000 for turf replacement.**

The City Council and staff discussed the \$40,000 that is being set aside for general fund areas that are not covered by a maintenance district. It is a pot of money for those areas that will be reimbursed if rebates are received. There are no park projects scheduled. The Library is the first project, after completion staff will know more about the rebate program and the timing for reimbursement.

**Mayor Pro Tem Wright**, explained that the rebates are paid in a reasonable amount of time. This effort shows an example to the community and recommended that other landscape districts be re-evaluated for drought tolerant landscaping. Mayor Pro Tem Wright reminded the City Council about the water reduction mandate.

**Mayor Krupa**, concurred given the mandated to cut back and the City should be setting an example.

The City Council and staff discussed the ERPS and the need to fund a portion of it in the 2015/16 fiscal year. This is a set aside for the future purchase of a citywide financial accounting system that may include other components such as permitting. An RFP will be issued and a price and product will be known at that time, \$1.5 million is being anticipated at this time. We are hoping to purchase in approximately 3 years and anticipate an 18 to 24 month implementation period. Grant funding is not typically available for software.

**Council Member Youssef moved and Council Member Milne seconded a motion to approve this item as presented. Motion carried 4-1. Council Member Raver voted No.**

17. **Continuation of Discussion of Fiscal Year 2015-16 Proposed Budget** – Deputy City Manager/Administrative Services Hurst

- a. Continue to invite public comment, engage in discussion and provide direction to staff on additions, deletions, changes and clarifications regarding the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Proposed Budget.

**Gary Thornhill, Interim City Manager,** at a community meeting last night Police Chief Brown said that everyone is looking for someone to blame for all of the City's issues. We have a perfect storm after the 2007 down turn in the economy where property values dropped by 50%, a significant drop in retail sales, we lost RDA, state take backs, loss of VLF, and retiree medical issues. These aren't excuses this is reality, we have not recovered 100%. There are good signs out there. Retail sales tax figures are looking good, but not as good as we would like. Riverside County Realtors report today showed that Hemet had the highest number of transaction which will start higher property taxes on those transfers. Unemployment rate has dropped to 9% from a high of 19%. There are hopeful signs out there. However, the fact is that we have a severe budget shortfall a deficit of \$5.5 million dollars for the next fiscal year. This is not sustainable after next year we will have \$14 million in the bank. I think if we can figure out how to get through the next 3 to 5 years we'll be ok. In the meantime you have to make some tough decisions. We are trying to run this City as lean as possible. The City Council did make the decision several months ago to add additional positions in the Police Department and we all agree that Public Safety is the priority in the community. External events have pushed the City down this path and it will take a while to climb out of it.

**Jessica Hurst, Deputy City Manager/Administrative Services,** gave the City Council an overview of the Fiscal Year 2015/2016 proposed budget. Ms. Hurst explained the accounting changes that were made this year. General Fund overhead is no longer being charged to General Fund departments within this budget. We split out Mutual Aid OT from regular Fire OT and added an offsetting revenue in the General Fund to better track expenses and reimbursement for strike teams. Development deposits are being tracked as an expenditure with an offsetting revenue. In order to better capture the costs to the General Fund for the water utility we will show the cost to water the parks with an offsetting transfer from the water department. Paramedic services have been split out from the general fire department budget to better track those costs. The City Attorney has a standalone fund to better track those charges. The projected FY 15/16 deficit is \$5,363,637 which includes the 5-Year CIP that was just approved. The expenditure changes for this fiscal year are: salary and benefits had an overall increase of \$1,951,915; Maintenance and Operations had an overall decrease of \$604,235; and Internal Service Funds had an overall decrease of \$1,080,900. The General Fund revenue had an overall increase of \$1,414,015. Major categories are: Sales Tax – 11.3% increase; Property Tax – 4.1% increase; and Development Fees – 3.7% increase. The water fund had an increase of \$2,376,100 due to the inclusion of the estimated water rate

increase. The CIP that was approved included a projected cost of \$808,800 to the general fund and a projected total cost of \$18,577,849. The majority of the projects are funded through special revenue funds, grants, impact fees, etc. Any direction from the City Council will be included in the proposed budget and be brought back for consideration on June 23, 2015.

**Mayor Krupa**, recommended the following adjustments be made to the FY 15/16 proposed budget:

- Reduce funding for the Assistant City Manager to 6 months since that position would not be hired until at least January 2016.
- Reduce the City Manager's salary to the \$200,000 to \$210,000 range
- Eliminate the line item for TWC Playback
- Consider adding \$40,000 funding for a contract Grant Manager and \$40,000 for Revenue Enhancement Services
- Eliminate the funding for Federal and State Lobbyists
- Reduce the City Council Conference budget for attendance at League Committees by \$4,000 and League Conferences by \$5,200. If necessary we can re-consider adding funding back in the future.
- Eliminate \$95,000 recommendation for Branding Consultant

The City Council and staff discussed the lobbying efforts. Mayor Krupa does not feel that it has been a benefit the last couple of years having professional paid lobbyist in Sacramento and Washington DC. The City gets reports from Turch and Associates but that has not been beneficial, the same information is provided by the League of California Cities. Mr. Thornhill suggested that the City Council add \$10,000 to the budget for Council Members or staff to go to Washington if necessary. The representatives have been very accessible to staff and the Council Members when in California. Council Member Raver reminded the City Council that the participation and rubbing elbows with the representatives paid off in the past. Hemet received a lot of money for senior housing efforts. Mayor Krupa agreed but noted that it was for a targeted issue and money was more readily available then. This City Council hasn't even decided what issues are important to us. The representatives would rather have relationships with the Council Members than their lobbyists.

**Ms. Hurst**, confirmed that the following recommendations by Mayor Krupa will be made and \$15,000 will be added to the City Council budget for travel efforts.

**Council Member Raver**, recommended that a Code Enforcement Officer be added to the budget.

**Council Member Milne**, appreciates the reduction to the Assistant City Manager position but still expressed opposition to the position being added to the budget at this time. Council Member Milne suggested that the salary be reduced or the position be contract so no benefits will be paid. Council Member Milne concurred with the reduction in pay for the City Manager. The City Council and staff discussed the funding for the Housing Specialist position. It was suggested that the Housing Specialist be the point person on grants in the future to more effectively utilize that position.

**Lori VanArsdale, Hemet**, in 2007, we requested a dollar amount that the City received by Council Members creating relationships with not only the congressional members but the agencies. \$7 million dollars in two years was the added value. Ms. VanArsdale asked for more information on the new accounting method for Internal Service charges. Ms. VanArsdale asked about property taxes and if the updated projections are included in the budget. Ms. Hurst will schedule a meeting with Ms. VanArsdale.

**Mayor Pro Tem Wright**, thanked staff for the time spent on this budget and the individual meetings with Council Members.

**Ms. Hurst**, thanked Lorena Rocha, Donna Rowley and Tiffany Barnett for their team effort.

**Council Member Raver**, asked Police Chief Brown about the Sworn Reserve Officer positions and the volunteers. Council Member Raver asked about the request for additional positions given the staffing needs in other departments and the budget shortfall. Council Member Raver expressed concern with the staffing in dispatch. Council Member Raver asked about recent legislation and its impact on the Department.

**Police Chief Brown**, the Department has one Sworn Reserve Officer and has actively tried to recruit more. They are required to work 20 hours per month unpaid. The Department currently has 85 volunteers. After serving as the City's Acting City Manager I have a profound appreciation for the lack of funds city wide and feel that the Department has done everything possible to make ends meet before asking for additional positions. Chief Brown explained the duties that will be assigned to the Media and Intelligence Analyst. That position will run the number of labor intensive programs that have been approved by the City Council such as the community cameras. The State feels that there should be 5 dispatchers on duty at all times. Currently the Department has 2 and at some times during the week 3. The State 911 fees help fund these positions. Chief Brown explained that Proposition 47 has had a huge impact on the Department, the reduction in crimes from felony to misdemeanors means more of the booking procedures are done by Hemet Police instead of the county. Chief Brown explained that the Riverside County jail system is full. 10,000 prisoners have been released that is truly an impact for law enforcement.

**Council Member Youssef**, requested a quarterly update on the budget.

**The City Council gave direction to staff to make the recommended adjustments to the FY 2015-16 proposed budget.**

18. **Agreement with the Lew Edwards Group** – Interim City Manager Thornhill
  - a. Direct the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Lew Edwards Group to assist the Revenue Options Ad Hoc in soliciting community input regarding various revenue options and to develop a comprehensive review and recommendation for community review.

**Gary Thornhill, City Manager**, given the budget situation if we don't do something we are going to be facing a severe budget crisis. To that end I was ready to execute a contract with Lew Edwards Group to help us facilitate options with respect to funding. That will include examination of possible ballot measures to raise revenues. The question of why a consultant if necessary has been raised. If you look at the track record for agencies that try to do this alone is poor. Lew Edwards have done this at least 100 times successfully, they have the specialized expertise. They will do community surveys to determine the concerns, issues and help the residents understand the fiscal situation. The sense of urgency is that there is a lag time before we start receiving increased revenues. The City has a window of approximately a year and a half. Previously we had the ability to sell the refuse division to bail us out, we don't have that luxury now. We need to find a funding option that will help us survive until our economic situation looks better hopefully in the next 3 to 5 years if the country doesn't have another economic downturn. I feel that this is absolutely necessary.

**Council Member Milne**, expressed concern with the process. Council Member Milne agreed with the creation of the Ad Hoc Committee that was formed with transparency in mind and with the intent of provide information to the public. Council Member Milne is familiar with the

work of the Lew Edwards Group and does not approve of their ballot measures. Council Member Milne's concern is that approval of this agreement did not come before the public. If this is a true transparent ad-hoc committee everything should be discussed by the City Council. If this is what the public wants the public should pay for it

**Mayor Krupa**, agrees however, what became clear to the Ad Hoc Committee was the time and the expertise that is necessary to survey the community to look at options that are available and acceptable. The City does not have the expertise or the staff to do this. There are community members that will help and understand the needs of the City and the fact that we don't have the revenues we need, they are ready to step up to the plate. We hope to get reimbursed for these services.

The City Council discussed the need to reach out to community members for financial assistance.

**Council Member Youssef**, expressed concern that the Ad Hoc is not really looking at options only a tax measure and the decision was predetermined. The City previously used Lew Edwards Group.

**Mr. Thornhill**, confirmed that the City did use the Lew Edwards Group however, the City Council at the time did not follow their recommendations.

**Mayor Pro Tem Wright**, respects the concerns expressed. I agree that the Ad Hoc Committee should bring their recommendations to the full City Council for discussion. The City Manager does have the authority and the discretion to approve agreements. Mayor Pro Tem Wright agrees that the expertise is necessary given the challenges especially if it is a specific use tax measure that would require a 2/3rds vote. Public Safety is a priority to our citizens and the community.

**Council Member Raver**, explained the reasons behind his recommendation as a member of the Ad Hoc Committee. Mayor Krupa made it clear to me that this city is not going to propose a tax. As an elected official I feel it is my responsibility to identify the options that the community should consider when advising the City Council on what you want to do with your future, that is why I recommended engaging the services of a consultant. It is the responsibility of the City Council to make as much information available so you can make a recommendation. The City has cut staff from more than 400 to a little over 200 personnel. They have cut wages which have resulted in a loss of employees. Employees pay more of their own benefits than ever. We are continually faced with the State taking revenues sources. We are faced with a financial situation that the City Council does not have the authority to correct. It is unlikely that the City's finances will turn around in the next 3 to 5 years. The Judge's ruling in the San Bernardino Bankruptcy case said not to count on the economy turning around to save your city. This Council is united in turning this City around. There is a limit by law in what we can do. Residents, churches, clubs, and associations need to review the information the consultant will make available to you. Invite Council Members or City staff to come explain the facts to you. Attend meetings and advise the City Council on what you feel is the best option for this community. For this purpose it is my recommendation that we engage the services of a competent consultant. I support the hiring of the consultant and am glad the City Manager took the initiative to do it.

**Council Member Milne**, the Lew Edwards Group passes tax measures. They do not look at options such as pension reform. Lew Edwards Group will just provide a charrette style effort of presenting options for a tax measure. This is just throwing money at a problem, not solving the problem.

**Melissa Diaz Hernandez, Hemet**, our only option really is a tax but there are other things that we need to look at and it might require a combination. Ms. Hernandez feels that the pulse of the community can be obtained by the internet or by knocking on doors. She also expressed concern that the consultant will only give the people what you want them to have. Ms. Hernandez asked about a Scope of Work and an actual amount, the staff report only says not to exceed \$40,000.

**Mayor Krupa moved and Council Member Raver seconded to approve the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee and contract with the Lew Edwards Group to determine the options available and acceptable to our citizens. Motion carried. Motion carried 3-2. Council Members Milne and Youssef voted No.**

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## City Council Reports

### 19. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMENTS

#### A. Council Member Milne

1. Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency (RCHCA)
2. Riverside Conservation Authority (RCA)
3. Disaster Planning Commission

#### B. Council Member Raver

1. Planning Commission

The Planning Commission's recommendations regarding the keeping of chickens will come before the City Council next.

2. Traffic and Parking Commission
3. Riverside Transit Agency (RTA)
4. Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC)
5. Watermaster Board

#### C. Council Member Youssef

Council Member Youssef toured CR&R's Anerobic Digester. It is multi-million dollar facility that is the first of its type in the Nation that will take all of the trash and turn it into fuel.

#### D. Mayor Pro Tem Wright

1. Park Commission
2. Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency (RCHCA)
3. Ramona Bowl Association
4. League of California Cities
5. Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG)

The City will be getting back \$200,000 which is a reimbursement payment on Pre 2004 agency mandate claims.

TUMF Reimbursement Agreement for \$1.5 million for Sanderson Widening, Acacia and Railroad Tracks widening.

Mayor Pro Tem Wright is the Alternate for the County Supervisor on Riverside Conservation Authority.

Mayor Pro Tem Wright was at the new Sizzler on their opening day.

EMWD is offering a free Drought Landscape Workshop at their facility on June 13<sup>th</sup> 8:30 to 12:00 p.m.

E. Mayor Krupa

1. Riverside Conservation Authority (RCA)
2. Ramona Bowl Association
3. Riverside Transit Agency (RTA)

RTA approved using \$23,000,000 from the reserve account to fund the 2015-16 budget. DOL has filed a lawsuit against the State of California over PEBRA and as a result is holding up transit funding. Salinas Valley has to reduce their services by 50%. RTA is able to continue full operation.

4. Watermaster Board
5. Library Board

Circulation at the Library through April exceeded the entire 13/14 FY total with less staff. Annual summer reading program starts on June 10<sup>th</sup>, "Every Hero has a Story".

The Library and HUSD are offering a free lunch program to children under 18, Wednesday through Friday June 10 to July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

6. League of California Cities
7. Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC)
8. Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG)

Mayor Krupa received a phone call from Daniel Gryczman of Regent Properties complimenting Deanna Elliano saying that she is the best Community Development Director they have ever worked with.

F. Ad-Hoc Committee Reports

1. West Hemet MSHCP Ad-Hoc Committee
2. Regent Development Agreement Ad-Hoc Committee
3. Diamond Valley Lake Recreation Ad-Hoc Committee

Mayor Krupa announced that the Ad Hoc Committee had its first and very productive and well attended meeting.

4. Public Safety Ballot Measure Ad-Hoc Committee
5. Ad-Hoc Committee to Explore Revenue Options

G. Interim City Manager Thornhill

1. Manager's Reports
2. Follow-up on previous Communications from the Public

Gary Thornhill announced that the 2015 Economic Forecast will be on June 10<sup>th</sup> at the South Coast Winery in Temecula.

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## **Future Agenda Items**

Code Enforcement Update  
Grant Ad-Hoc Committee

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## **Adjournment**

Adjourned at 9:50 p.m. to Tuesday, June 23, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.