

**KINGSBURG CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 21, 2021**

Council Chamber, 1401 Draper Street, Kingsburg, CA 93631 (559) 897-5821 www.cityofkingsburg-ca.gov

PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 ISSUED BY GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM THE COUNCIL CHAMBER WAS OPEN AT 25% CAPACITY (including City Council Members and City Staff) TO THE PUBLIC. PUBLIC ALSO HAD THE OPTION TO CALL 1 (425) 436-6335 PASSCODE 5290024 TO PROVIDE COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS. WRITTEN COMMENTS COULD ALSO HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED BY MAIL OR EMAIL TO APALSGAARD@CITYOFFKINGSBURG-CA.GOV. THE CUT OFF FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS WAS 04/20/2021 at 4:30pm. THEY WILL NOT BE READ OUT LOUD.

Invocation was given by Chaplain Cathleen Lawler, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Laura North.

6 P.M. REGULAR SESSION MEETING:

Call to Order and Roll Call – Mayor Laura North called the regular meeting of the Kingsburg City Council to order at 6:05 P. M.

Council Members present: Jewel Hurtado, Vince Palomar, Brandon Pursell, Jr., Michelle Roman, and Mayor Laura North.

Staff present: City Manager Alexander Henderson, City Attorney Michael Noland, City Clerk Abigail Palsgaard, City Engineer Dave Peters, Administrative Services Director Christina Windover, Community Services Director Adam Castaneda, Fire Chief Dan Perkins, and Police Sgt. Brent Kreoger.

Public Comments: None

Approve Agenda: A motion was made by Council Member Hurtado, seconded by Council Member Roman, to approve the Agenda, as published. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Presentations: None

Consent Calendar: A motion was made by Council Member Pursell, Jr., seconded by Council Member Palomar, to approve the items appearing on the Consent Calendar. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

- 5.1 Approval of City Council Minutes:** Approve the minutes from the April 7, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting as prepared by City Clerk Abigail Palsgaard.
Sponsor: City Clerk's Office
- 5.2 Check Register:** Ratify/approve payment of bills listed on the check register for the period April 1, 2021 through April 14, 2021 as prepared by Accounts Payable Clerk Grace Reyna.
Sponsor: Finance Department
- 5.3 Adopt Resolution No. 2021-015 Approving the final map for Tract 6151, accepting on behalf of the public the streets and easements as offered on the map in accordance with the terms of the dedications, and authorize the City Manager to execute the Subdivision Agreement on behalf of the City, subject to review as to form by the City Attorney**
Sponsor: Engineering Department

- 5.4 Adopt Resolution 2021-016 - To Add to the Master Fee Schedule a Fee for City Video Public Records Requests.** Staff Report Prepared by City Clerk Abigail Palsgaard.
Sponsor: City Clerk's Office
- 5.5 Adopt Resolution 2021-017 - Approving the Final Map for Parcel Map 21-01 and authorize the City Engineer to transmit the map to the Fresno County Recorder's Office upon receipt of developer fees.** - Staff Report by City Engineer Dave Peters.
Sponsor: Engineering Department
- 5.6 Award the Kern Street Parking Lot project to Valley Excavation, Inc. in the amount of \$201,614.90.-** Staff Report by City Engineer Dave Peters.
Sponsor: Engineering Department
- 5.7 Approve the Agreement for Common Use of Easements and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement on behalf of the City of Kingsburg** - Staff Report by City Engineer Dave Peters.
Sponsor: Engineering Department
- 5.8 Approve COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave Policy that complies with SB 95 and extends the voluntary benefits of EFML as allowed in the ARPA.-** Staff Report by Administrative Services Director Christina Windover.
Sponsor: Administrative Services

REGULAR CALENDAR

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Update- Staff Report by City Manager Alexander Henderson.
Sponsor: City Manager's Office

City Manager Alexander Henderson stated that we are officially in the Orange tier and, hopefully, on June 15th the tiers will be gone. To date we have provided over a 1000 vaccinations. We have had problems with people registering online through the My Turn system. We are open for walk up appointments. The demand for doses is low county-wide. We haven't had a lot of news on the American Rescue Plan (ARP). We are still waiting on treasury guidance. The League of Cities recommends using dedicated grants first. The Finance Committee will meet next week and we hope to have more information.

Council Member Hurtado said that she has heard that on the County website there is a spot that shows the percentage of your city that has been vaccinated. Mr. Henderson said that he hasn't seen it, but will look in to it. Council Member Roman asked if MyTurn was getting fixed. Mr. Henderson said that we haven't had a lot of communications. The County released a number for people who do not have access to the internet or are having issues with MyTurn. Council Member Palomar asked if they are turning anyone away if they walk up. Mr. Henderson said usually not, the only reason for a wait is if someone came in when there were already appointments. They only turn people away if they are under 16, or if we do not have enough vaccine.

Tri-County Health Care District Grant Application Discussion
Sponsor: Community Service Department and Fire Department

Community Service Director Adam Castaneda stated that grant applications are due May 1st. The Health Care District has funded many requests including new ambulances, and Athwal Park. We have received

over \$2million in grants. He stated that staff is proposing three potential projects to submit for the 2021 Grant Application Cycle: (1) Athwal Park Phase 2, \$1,689,563 including adding to the skate park, bathrooms, shade structures, picnic tables, and splash pads. If approved, the City can use the Prop 68 per capita entitlement of \$185,526. Council Member Hurtado asked if he is worried that they will deny if it is so big? Mr. Castaneda said that he thinks they may pull parts out if they deem them not health related. (2) Kingsburg Senior Center Kitchen Remodel that will address fire safety, ADA compliance, and health department regulations. He explained that before covid meals were not made at the senior center, they would come cooked from FMAAA. That contract was suspended due to COVID and now all meals are cooked out of the kitchen. The kitchen is unsafe, out of date, and out of compliance.

Council Member Pursell, Jr. said that it is hard to support this without a dollar amount. Mayor North wanted to know if we are asking or if the non-profit is applying for the grant. Mr. Castaneda said that it is the non-profit that will be applying. City Manager Alexander Henderson said that there has been a discussion between Senior Inc. and the Health Care District. Council Member Pursell, Jr. asked City Engineer Dave Peters what we are looking at loosely. Mr. Peters said \$500-\$750,000. One option is to move the kitchen to a different part of the building. Council Member Roman said that it is something that must get done. FMAAA will not restart the contract until summer of 2022 or 2023. Mayor North stated that she feels this is the largest need. She asked if we could use ARP funds for this? Mr. Henderson said that if Council sees value in the project, Council can authorize an application to a certain amount. If it goes over, it can be covered by ARP funds. Putting in an application does not bind you. Council Member Pursell, Jr. asked if we have the option of backing out? Mr. Henderson said that it is our property so we will be managing the property, but it will be the Senior Inc.'s application. If we get it and Council doesn't feel comfortable, we can decline the grant. Council Member Hurtado said that she doesn't want to miss the window of opportunity. Mayor North asked, what is a reasonable dollar amount? Council Member Pursell, Jr. asked if we need a dollar amount? Mr. Henderson said that for the application, we would base it off the architecture estimate. We can have a special meeting next week if need be. Council Member Roman said that she is ok with saying to a certain dollar amount. City Engineer Dave Peters said that cost estimates have been \$500-\$750,000. Council agreed to a \$750,000 cap.

Third Potential Project: (3) Kingsburg Fire Department - Paramedic Staff Funding for Ambulance 2 - \$366,654

Fire Chief Dan Perkins stated that 85% of the Fire Department's responses are to an area of 165 sq. miles. We have enough ambulances but not enough people to staff the ambulances. 428 calls were missed (15%). Selma answers 60% of the calls and takes 15 minutes on average to respond. When KFD responds in town it is 4 minutes. We are asking to share the cost 50/50 for 6 Firefighter/EMT's to run the additional ambulance. He talked about the revenue that will be generated from missed calls and increased calls.

Council Member Pursell, Jr. asked about the cost difference between staffing just EMTs compared to Firefighter/EMTs? Chief Perkins said about \$100,000 difference for total personnel costs. Council Member Pursell, Jr. spoke about how their training is less too. They can be on more calls for the ambulance. Chief Perkins explained the rescue issue of staffing and motor vehicle accidents. EMTs cannot help with a rescue. They can only help once the person is out of the vehicle. Firefighter/EMTs will be a higher benefit for our community. They can do multiple duties with the switch of a hat. Council Member Pursell, Jr. asked about the Park Kingsburg fire and how many responded and how long did it take? Chief Perkins said 5 departments, and he was there in 12 minutes and they were all there. He explained that fire needs 2 in 2 out. We are at the mercy of outside agencies and the first one to respond comes with only 1 firefighter which is not enough. He stated that it is absolutely worth it.

Mayor North stated that we have 9 days till this grant application is due. Why is this just coming to us today if it opened in January? Chief Perkins said that we were very busy trying to get our vaccine event going. She asked, if we approved the peak hour times, do you have the information to show what their capturing? Chief Perkins said 225 calls. The problem is staffing part time jobs. No one wants a part time job. Council Member Hurtado wanted clarification that we get paid, no matter what city our ambulance responds to. Chief Perkins said, yes. Mayor North asked, will entering this grant change our response area? Chief Perkins said, no. He said that we have gone 7 years without a fee increase. Mayor North asked where the funding is coming from for the City's part? Chief Perkins said that we will make savings by not having a large reserve program. The other part is as an investment. Mayor North asked where we stand with staffing compared to neighboring communities? Chief Perkins said that we are with national average, 1 per 1,000. We do not have adequate staffing because a lot of our Firefighter/EMTs live out of town. Council Member Hurtado thanked Chief Perkins and said that she has no issue and Measure E is 60% -40%. Council Member Palomar asked if Chief is going to bring updated rates? Chief Perkins said yes, he will bring it forward. He wants to keep it affordable. Council Member Pursell, Jr. asked, if it is \$1,410 billable per ambulance call, what are you making out of it? Chief Perkins said that you only get 80%, about \$971. Council Member Pursell, Jr. asked if we get the same amount whether they are a firefighter or an EMT? Chief Perkins said yes, once they are on the ambulance, they are Paramedics (EMT). Council Member Pursell, Jr. said the total cost to the City isn't just paramedic personnel costs, also training costs. Council Member Pursell, Jr. said that he is not against fire, he just knows that medical is the biggest need.

A motion was made by Council Member Roman, seconded by Council Member Hurtado, to approve submittal of the applications. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Summer Recreation Program Fee Discussion

Sponsor: Community Service Department

Community Service Director Adam Castaneda discussed increase of the minimum wage and extra fees for covid precautions. We try to have the program break even. We are proposing \$24 a month more to break even - 9 hours a day. There was a deficit in 2020 due to staff costs by having different rules for covid. We can use ARP funds to cover the shortfall last year and this year. Council Member Hurtado asked if we have looked into free childcare? Mr. Castaneda said that we do not qualify. Council Member Hurtado said, if families ask for assistance, can they utilize this to help pay for it? Mr. Castaneda said that we accept any type of payment. Mayor North asked about the summer school hours in the morning. Council Member Hurtado asked about FCRTA covering the cost of transporting the kids. Mayor North asked where the lunch will be. Mr. Castaneda said, Washington School. A motion was made by Council Member Pursell, Jr., seconded by Council Member Hurtado, to approve the increase in fees. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Crime Statistics Report for the Month of March 2021 and General Police Department Update- Crime Statistics Report prepared by Kingsburg Police Department Records Supervisor Corina Padilla.

Sponsor: Police Department

Police Sergeant Kroeger reviewed the reports commenting on an upturn of DUIs, training (narcotics in particular), and motorcycle patrol on 18th Avenue, trying to address issues. He spoke about a child endangerment case where they found fentanyl within the children's reach. They are looking into the case for other abuse. He commented on bitcoin fraud and working hand in hand with KFD for an arson investigation at Park Kingsburg. He also spoke about a shooting.

Council thanked the Police Department for a lot of good work.

Council Reports and Staff Communications

Community Services Commission – Mayor North reported that it will meet next Wednesday.

Public Safety Committee – Council Member Palomar reported that they meet in May.

Chamber of Commerce – Council Member Pursell, Jr. reported on the big car show and cruise night. They are now ramping up for Swedish Days.

Economic Development – Mayor North reported that they have not met.

Finance Committee – Council Member Pursell, Jr. reported that it meets next Tuesday.

Planning Commission – Mayor North reported that it met on the 8th and the Public Hearing was continued to May.

South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency Joint Powers Authority (SKGSA) – Council Member Hurtado reported that it was awarded a \$1.6 million grant in Sanger. The operating budget was presented. \$200,000 is Kingsburg's fee.

Downtown Business Improvement District- Council Member Hurtado reported that they will meet next month.

Council of Governments – Mayor North reported that you need to make a reservation if you go into Yosemite.

Council Member Reports – Council Member Hurtado stated that she met with Administrative Director Christina Windover regarding social media. She recognized staff for doing what they do with what we have. She did a ride-along with the Police Department and found it interesting to see things from their perspective. She commented on the Pancake Breakfast and participating in the 50/50 raffle. She will be meeting with Congressman Valadao's office this Friday, along with Council Member Roman. Council Member Palomar reported that he visited Kingsburg Fire and got a vaccination.

City Manager's Report- City Manager Alexander Henderson reported on budget preparations and said that if there are specific areas that Council wants discussed, please let me know. Council Member Roman thanked Mr. Henderson and the Lions Club for making pancakes.

Future Agenda Items:

Council Recognition of Kingsburg Elementary Charter School District and Kingsburg Joint Union High School District for their efforts during COVID 19.

Sponsor: Mayor Laura North

Mayor North stated that she would like to recognize both superintendents. They were trailblazers for bringing the kids back into the schools. Council Member Roman said staff, parents as well as caregivers all deserve praise. Council agreed to present certificates at the next meeting to the two school districts, representing all employees.

Adjourn Regular Kingsburg City Council Meeting – Mayor North adjourned the meeting at 8:20 P. M.

Submitted by:

Abigail Palsgaard, City Clerk