



4/7/2020
City Council Meeting

**Handouts received after
agenda posted**

Thomas Reed

1060 Par Avenue, Lemoore

817-7234

Mayor Neal, Council Members

I stand before you this evening, oh, wait. I cannot stand before you since this Council in its infinite wisdom has issued a directive that this meeting is not open to the public.

I can understand your concerns and effort to not spread the Covid-19 Corona Virus, but this: according to the CDC there has been between 29,000 and 61,000 that have died each year because of the flu. The 2017-2018 flu season caused the deaths of approximately 61,000. Where was the concern for public safety?

You cannot have a public meeting and the public not be allowed to attend. While you have “given” us the opportunity to submit printed statements to be read during the appropriate time of the meeting, that is not the same. There will be no opportunity during the meeting for the public to agree with or refute what is said during the meeting.

I fear that by making this meeting to be without the public, can make it easier, in the future, to proclaim some other reason, “for public safety”, that the public shall not be able to attend.

As I said at the previous Council Meeting, there is a building next door with ample room for attendees to spread out and maintain proper distancing.

Thomas R. Reed

02/07/2020

April 2, 2020

As engaged citizens, we are concerned with the actions of City Administration (City Manager Olson and Assistant City Manager Speer) with approval by City Council regarding the laying off of two senior employees (one with over twenty years of experience and the other with over ten years of experience) on March 23, 2020 due to “budgetary constraints”.

The actions of the City Council and City Administration (City Manager Olson and Assistant City Manager Speer) during this historic pandemic is questionable. These two employees held mission essential positions within the City and they have a significant amount of professional knowledge, history and displayed amazing loyalty to the City! It is our perception that these facts were not taken into consideration before walking them off without any prior notice or record of performance or disciplinary issues.

Were other options before layoff not explored and implemented? During the Recession in 2008, past City Manager Jeff Brilltz and Executive staff decreased their salaries for a period of time to AVOID layoffs. Furloughs were also done in order to AVOID layoffs. Leave without pay was also authorized without penalty to the employee to AVOID layoffs. All of these options were put in place to AVOID layoffs and city employees WERE NOT LAID OFF.

City Council and Administration knew going into the 2019/20 fiscal year the budget was in the red, yet they chose to bring before you Resolution 2019-20 in March 2019, which Council approved, adopting salary ranges for three positions which included SALARY INCREASES. The staff report claimed there was a potential of \$100,000 salary savings in the next fiscal year which is correct because these two people were laid off prior to the end of the fiscal year.

Administration also brought before you Resolution 2019-52 in December 2019, which Council approved, approving the Reorganization of the Lemoore Police Department This Resolution also INCREASED salaries and benefits. The staff report claimed the reorganization “may result in an increase to the Lemoore Police Department salaries and benefits of not more than \$8,000 for FY20.”

Did the City Manager and Assistant City Manager consider taking a reduction in pay or temporarily eliminating the Assistant Manager position during this crisis to “save” jobs amongst their Team during these trying times? Leadership and the actions of Leaders in difficult times will define and shape the culture of your Organization going forward. Did the City do the right thing?

Respectfully submitted (signatures not obtained due to social distancing restrictions and all are approved endorsements)

Jeffrey Garcia
Gina Arcino
Kristi Lee
Ed Martin
Jeff Laws
Mimi Laws
Tammy Beck
Shawn Beck
Ray Etchegoin
Martin Latrorilla
Sandy Salyer

Lou Bartolome
Mimi Superales
Angie McDaniel
Eric McDaneil
Gabe Venegas
Eva Pimental
Erik Anonas
Kimberly Zayas
Robert Santos
Venus Latorilla
Sunny Law

Yvonne Flores
Crystian Flores
Linda Cronan
Roskin Metra
Massie Cruz
Chris Datu
Jonathan Cruz
Joy Anonas
Sylvia Rocha
Cathy Superales
Lulu Flores

Rian Superales
Arman Santos
Anna Santos
Mieldred Prospero
Richard Zialcita
Adrian Zialcita
Bill Munoz
Jen Bartolome
Pini Etchegoin
Jayvenyl Superales

Mayor Neal and Members of the Council,

Good Evening and thank you for the opportunity to be heard-

My name is Zach Drivon and I am speaking on behalf of the McCann Family and their proposed zone change application. We are pleased to present to you this evening with both the recommendation of staff as well as the unanimous recommendation of approval from the Planning Commission. I'd also like to take the opportunity to thank City staff for their courtesy and diligence in bringing this request forward, especially in light of recent exigent and challenging circumstances through which we must persevere.

As indicated in our application, the relevant area consists of several Light Industrial zoned parcels, and in our view, the subject property as well as the interests of the City would be far better served by uses which can be undertaken under the proposed light industrial zoning. This proposed change would be consistent with the City's general plan, the municipal code, as well as its zoning ordinance, and potential industrial uses being considered would not disturb or disrupt the general character of the surrounding community nor City at large.

We are working closely with a prospective buyer who is intent upon developing the facility in collaboration qualified prospective tenants and with whom plan development is already being coordinated. The existing facility structure is also more suitable for industrial uses than commercial, is compatible with the character of buildings on adjacent and nearby parcels, and is engineered in such a way that will allow interior improvements to be made in an efficient and cost effective manner. Moreover, at over 4 acres there is ample room for expansion of facilities and a greater productive activity on the property itself.

Ultimately, this zone change will allow future business operators to put the property to its best and highest use, and thereby generate a significant volume of revenue for the City. Participants in this collaboration include professionals from the Agricultural Industry, Building Trades, as well as former Public Safety officials. Although tentative, improvements to the site will include perimeter fencing, as well as security infrastructure and personnel that will provide an added benefit for neighboring businesses and their constituents. We are extremely excited for the opportunity to do business in the City of Lemoore, and would ask that you please adopt the Planning Commission's recommendation with a vote to approve the requested change in zoning. I thank you for your time and would be happy to answer any questions you may have.