



MINUTES

Finance Administration and Police Subcommittee Meeting

Special Meeting Date: July 24, 2019 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Location: City Hall

124 N. Cloverdale Blvd., Cloverdale, CA

Subcommittee Members

Mayor Melanie Bagby, Chair

City Manager, David Kelley

Councilmember Wolter

Acting Police Chief, Robert Stewart

Finance Manager, Susie Holmes

1. **Call to Order:** present: Mayor Bagby, Vice Mayor Wolter, City Manager Kelley, Assistant City Manager/CDD Thompson, and Acting Police Chief Stewart
2. **Communications:** None
3. **Public Comment:** None.
4. **Minutes Approved:** The June 27, 2019 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.
5. **Current Items for Discussion**

a) Request to ban sales of fireworks within Cloverdale city limits

City Manager Kelley introduced the agenda item noting that currently the sale of safe and sane fireworks is allowed within the City limits of Cloverdale. Illegal fireworks are not allowed or sold in Cloverdale. In Sonoma County, the cities of Petaluma, Rohnert Park, Sebastopol and Cloverdale allow the sale of safe and sane fireworks. In the cities where the sale of fireworks is prohibited, the cities financially support the fireworks displays in some fashion.

Vice Mayor Wolter provided background information on previous discussions and attempts to prohibit the sale of fireworks; which resulted in the adoption of strict regulations on the sale and deployment of fireworks. Vice Mayor Wolter recommended forming an Ad Hoc committee to further study the request to ban the sale and use of fireworks within the City.

In response to Committee Members' inquiries, Interim Chief of Police Stewart stated 12 calls related to fireworks were received on July 4th; the call regarding the incident at Riverpark on July 5th was not logged by the Cloverdale Police Department; most like it was dealt with by the Sheriff's office.

Public Comments:

Lana Fennel presented reasons that supported a ban on the sale of fireworks to the public (attached).

Janet Seaforth stated there are other ways to celebrate the birth of our country instead of setting fire works; such as a community picnic. She expressed concern regarding fire dangers.

Sally Evans spoke in favor of banning the sale of fireworks and opined the service clubs could find other ways to raise funds. She provided a handout (attached) regarding fund raising ideas.

Jim Evans thanked the Subcommittee for considering the issue and volunteered to be part of the ad hoc committee to find ways to fund the work that the Lions Club are doing. He urged the City to take any steps necessary toward fire safety.

Niranjana Parthasarathi urged the City to ban the sale of fireworks stating that the fire danger is very real; and the number of wild fires are increasing in California. She was supportive of keeping the professional fireworks display.

Lavonne Blucher-Nameny stated people from outside the community are bringing in fireworks and using them here in Cloverdale; she expressed concern regarding the fire danger for Cloverdale residents.

Neena Hanchett suggested that representatives from the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Lions Club be included as part of the Ad Hoc Committee.

Discussion ensued regarding: (1) the level of City involvement in assisting the Lions Club in their fund raising efforts if the fireworks sales are banned; (2) the fire danger due to increases in temperature; (3) the suggestion to reschedule the fireworks display to the winter season instead of July; and (4) the composition of the Ad Hoc Committee

It was the Subcommittee's consensus to move forward with establishing an Ad Hoc Committee and include representatives from the Fire District, Service Clubs and interested persons to study the request to ban the sale of fireworks. The Subcommittee also requested additional information regarding the incident at Riverpark on July 5th and the neighborhoods that logged in calls on July 4th.

City Manager Kelley stated the formation of the Ad Hoc Committee would be agendaized for Council action at its August 14th meeting.

Additional public comments were received regarding: the source of fireworks; other means to raise funds, such as placing donation cans throughout the City; the idea to move the fireworks display to the winter; and the public safety being a priority.

Mayor Bagby requested that staff include a resiliency and public safety component in the staff report.

6. Standing Items/Items Continued

- a) Draft Homelessness Strategic Plan – Assistant City Manager/CDD Thompson reported he attended Supervisor Gore's meeting regarding the establishment of a Regional Community Advisory Group. He added that after the meeting, it was determined that a local group was still needed. Staff would be bringing forth to Council for consideration at its August 14th meeting, a list of organizations that should be represented in the local Homeless Community Advisory Group.
- b) Update on Measure P and Cannabis Permits – City Manager Kelley reported that to date revenue generated to date totaled \$85,542.87.

Subcommittee members expressed interest in receiving a detailed report on Measure M revenue that included the collection start date, actual v. projected revenue, and revenue by type of permit.

In response to Vice Mayor Wolter's inquiry, City Manager Kelley stated he would follow up with the City Attorney regarding hemp products regulations.

7. Information Only Memos: None

8. Future Agenda Items (subject to change):

- Ad Hoc Committee on Sane & Safe Fireworks
- Discussion regarding Cloverdale Performing Arts Center's funding needs and building improvements to help generate additional revenue, i.e. improving Wi-Fi and audio and visual equipment

9. Pending Items: None

10. Good of the Order: Nina Hanchett informed the Subcommittee that the "Experience Cloverdale" flags are being vandalized.

Discussion ensued regarding ways to catch the perpetrator(s) and discourage further vandalism.

Interim Chief of Police Stewart stated he would look into doing additional patrol on First Street.

11. Adjournment: Adjourned to the next meeting on Thursday, August 22, 2019 at 4:00 pm. or alternate date as requested at Cloverdale City Hall, 124 N. Cloverdale Blvd., Cloverdale CA 95425

Minutes approved August 22, 2019