



City of Corning

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THE CORNING FRIDAY NOTES

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL
FROM: CITY MANAGER JOHN L. BREWER, AICP JD
DATE: MAY 15, 2015

CITY MANAGER:

Water Conservation-Groundwater Management:

Dawn Grine and I attended a meeting at the Tehama County Flood Control Office at Public Works in Gerber. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss and explain the County's Flood Control District's desire to become the Groundwater Management Agency (GMA) for the entire County. The Flood Control District Board is the Board of Supervisors, with no City representation. Groundwater Management Agencies are agencies formed for the purpose of managing sustainable groundwater resources within groundwater basins. Representatives of the City of Red Bluff and Tehama were also on hand. In the end we asked that the County provide each City membership/representation in the GSA. County Public Works Director Gary Antone agreed to present that message to the Flood Control District Board when they meet on Tuesday June 2nd.

Meeting with Hinderliter de Llamas (HdL):

Roy Seiler and I met with Mr. Bobby Young of HdL on Tuesday. Mr. Young provided 4th Quarter Sales Tax Revenue information and updated projections for the remainder of this and next fiscal years. The information for the 4th Quarter was pretty much as expected; fuel sales are down, but some of that reduction is moderated by an increase in auto sales over the same quarter in 2013. Mr. Young expects the current sales tax conditions to continue into next fiscal year. We will include that data in our 2015-2016 budget projections.

Water Conservation Ordinance:

We've asked City Attorney Jody Burgess to compile an Ordinance to implement the emergency Water Conservation Standards adopted by the Water Resources Control Board. It will include a limit of two watering days/week for landscaping, and perhaps limit the time that water is applied to between 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. on those watering days. We plan to present the draft of that Ordinance for Council consideration on May 26th.

2015-2016 Budget Preparation:

Roy Seiler was in on Tuesday to meet with HdL (see above) and Brandis Tallman representatives. In between those meetings Roy and I worked on budgeting for next fiscal year. Roy was in again on Thursday. It appears that our General Fund Revenues will be considerably short of our projected expenditures next year. We'll continue refining those numbers as we approach the preliminary budget hearing scheduled for June 9th. Unfortunately, the "cushion" of \$200,000 of extra sales tax revenue that we had last year will not be available this year. That means we will face the tough choices that come with reducing General Fund Expenditures, and/or utilizing Operating Reserves to balance our budget in the short term.

Dispatch Costs:

One alternative that the Mayor mentioned at the May 12th City Council meeting is consideration of the consolidation of our two separate (Police and Fire) Dispatch Centers to improve efficiency. Our 2014-2015 budget includes expenditures totaling \$820,950 to operate the two Dispatch Centers. That amounts to over 18% of our General Fund Revenues for this year. See the attached spreadsheet that I've made available to Mayor Strack and Councilmember Linnet.

In comparison, The City of Orland contracts out their Fire and Police Dispatch, and has budgeted \$112,000 this year for those services. That's about 3.6% of their General Fund Revenues for 2014-2015.

The City of Red Bluff operates their own Police Dispatch, but contracts with CalFire for Fire Dispatch services. The Police Dispatch costs are built into the Police Department's Budget and is estimated to be about \$371,790 this year. The CalFire Dispatch Contract is for \$100,600. So, their total dispatch costs for 2014-2015 are about \$472,390, or 6.0% of their General Fund Revenues this year.

The City of Willows contracts with Glenn County Sheriff's Department for Police Dispatch at an annual cost of about \$93,000. They have a mix of a Professional and Volunteer Fire Department that does its own fire dispatching, so it's difficult to break out the specific dispatch cost. When an emergency occurs the on-duty staff responds and calls in another staff member to take over the Dispatch duties. Their Finance Director relays they spend about \$12,000 annually on overtime costs related to the fire dispatch services. Though it's not a true "apples to apples" comparison with our circumstances, they spend a total of about \$105,000 annually or 3.0% of their General Fund Revenues on dispatch services.

Since I prepared the spreadsheet, I have researched two other communities; Chico and Anderson.

I looked on the City of Chico website for Dispatch information. I could not find specifics about dispatch costs and assume the costs are built into the greater Police or Fire Department Budgets.

According to Jeff Kiser, the City Manager at Anderson, they contract for Police Services with an agency called "SHASCOM". They pay about \$500,000 annually for Police dispatch services and \$86,000 for records management. That amounts to about 10.1% of their \$5,819,478 General Fund Revenues. Their Fire Services are provided by a District with a separate, "non-City" Budget that uses CalFire for dispatch services.

Now, to provide details for where the other 82% of General Fund Revenues is spent, please refer to the attached copy of the 2013-2014 Audit

Requested League of CA Cities letter of opposition to AB-718 (Removal of Regulatory Authority – Vehicles Used for Human Habitation):

See the attached letter of opposition that was sent.

Reimbursement for 2014 Storm Damage Expenses:

On May 4th the City received notification from Cal OES of approval for the City's Project Application for the California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) Program for damage caused by the December 2014 Storms. The total amount of qualifying expenses incurred by the City was \$5,559.95; of that amount the City should recover 75% or \$4,169.96.

These funds when received will reimburse the City for funds spent during the December storm event to provide such items as:

- Sand and decomposed granite,
- Contract services with CALFIRE-Salt Creek Conservation Crews for Corning Community Park clean-up assistance
- Qualifying equipment & overtime for associated Equipment Operators
- Materials such as sand

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

Corning Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvement Plan:

John Stoufer, working with Greg Behrens, Adrian Engel and Josh Meyer of Echelon Transportation Group hosted a Community Design Workshop on Wednesday evening at Corning City Hall. The event was successful in that the 35-40 community members in attendance provided valuable and useful feedback concerning bike and pedestrian pathways within the streets and sidewalk areas of the city. The objective of the workshop is to offer community members the opportunity to share their concerns and ideas with Echelon who will then provide a plan to improve on safety and mobility within the City of Corning.

City Pool:

Last week I was informed that one of our lifeguards has decided not to return for the 2015 season. Notice was sent to all of the local High Schools and to CSU, Chico advertising the available position. Eight applications were received by our May 13th deadline and five of the applicants will be interviewed on Monday, May 18th.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Patrol:

In addition to responding to 183 calls for service, a total of 43 officer reports were taken and there were 87 officer-initiated incidents, including 27 traffic stops. Officers made 17 misdemeanor arrests and 4 felony arrests, and issued 21 citations of which 1 was a felony, 15 were misdemeanors, 4 were infractions, and 1 was animal-related during the period of May 6, 2015 through May 13, 2015.

Dispatch Costs/Jurisdiction

Coming Dispatch Costs		Actual				Budget		GF Reserve: \$910,000	
Overall Costs	Exp.	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	Average	
Dept.	Fire (1)	\$ 307,720	\$ 316,229	\$ 326,384	\$ 310,961	353069	in house	322872.6	
	Police	\$ 452,775	\$ 467,580	\$ 441,385	\$ 426,642	467881	in house	451252.6	
	Total	\$ 760,495	\$ 783,809	\$ 767,769	\$ 737,603	\$ 820,950		\$ 774,125	Population
	Gen. Fund Rev. Total	\$ 4,163,543	\$ 4,677,920	\$ 4,654,551	\$ 4,751,443	\$ 4,547,410		\$ 4,558,973	
	Fire Dispatch %					7.76%			
	Police Dispatch %					10.29%			
	Total Dispatch %	18.3%	16.8%	16.5%	15.5%	18.05%		17.0%	7598

Dispatch Personnel Cost		Actual		Budget		GF Reserve: \$606,000	
Other	Personnel Cost	2014-2015	2015-2016	Average			
Other	Fire	\$ 305,889	\$ 311,877	\$ 319,682	\$ 305,941	345569	
	Percent	99.4%	98.6%	97.9%	98.4%	97.9%	
	Police	\$ 400,370	\$ 402,984	\$ 362,174	\$ 368,074	386881	
	Percent	88.4%	86.2%	82.1%	86.3%	82.7%	

Other Cities		Actual		Budget		GF Reserve: \$1,104,245	
Other	Personnel Cost	2014-2015	2015-2016	Average			
Orland	Fire Dispatch (2)	\$ 16,474	\$ 19,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 19,000	19,119	
	Police Dispatch (3)	\$ 88,375	\$ 93,778	\$ 93,778	\$ 93,000	92,233	
	Dispatch Total	\$ 104,849	\$ 112,778	\$ 115,778	\$ 112,000	111,351	
	Gen Fund Rev. Total	\$ 3,107,420	\$ 3,016,773	\$ 3,130,186	\$ 3,130,186	3,084,793	Population 7683
	Dispatch %	3.6%	3.8%	3.6%	3.58%	3.7%	

Willows		Actual		Budget		GF Reserve: \$516,801	
Other	Personnel Cost	2014-2015	2015-2016	Average			
Willows	Fire Dispatch (4)	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	12,000	
	Police Dispatch (5)	\$ 88,375	\$ 88,375	\$ 88,375	\$ 93,000	89,531	
	Total Dispatch	\$ 100,375	\$ 100,375	\$ 100,375	\$ 105,000	101,531	
	Gen Fund Rev. Total	\$ 3,529,573	\$ 3,496,970	\$ 3,496,970	\$ 3,513,272	3,513,272	Population 6154
	Dispatch %	2.8%	3.0%	2.8%	3.0%	2.9%	

Red Bluff		Actual		Budget		GF Reserve: \$516,801	
Other	Personnel Cost	2014-2015	2015-2016	Average			
Red Bluff	Fire Dispatch (6)	\$ 84,409	\$ 89,356	\$ 100,600	\$ 100,600	93,741	
	Police Dispatch	\$ 371,790	\$ 371,790	\$ 371,790	\$ 371,790	371,790 (7)	
	Total Dispatch	\$ 456,200	\$ 461,146	\$ 472,390	\$ 472,390	465,531	
	Gen Fund Rev. Total	\$ 7,067,888	\$ 7,394,992	\$ 7,649,516	\$ 7,865,769	7,494,541	Population 14131
	Dispatch %	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	6.2%	

Note: red type means estimate

- (1) Corning Dispatch Costs shown here do not account for revenue received from contracts with other agencies. For 2014-2015 this is budgetted at \$30,000
- (2) Orland Contracts with City of Corning for Fire Dispatch Services
- (3) Orland Police Dispatch via contract with Glenn County Sheriff's Dept.
- (4) Willows Fire Dispatch is done by paid Fire Dept. Staff. If an emergency event occurs another another paid FireFighter is called back or a volunteer takes on dispatch duties. City typically pays about \$12,000/yr. for callbacks for this purpose.
- (5) Willows Police Dispatch via contract with Glenn County Sheriff's Dept.
- (6) Red Bluff Fire Dispatch via contract with CalFire.
- (7) Red Bluff Police Dispatch Costs are a component of Police Dept. -costs estimated by RBPD email date 4/29/2015. No prior year projection:

Print Page



Assembly Member Kansen Chu
State Capitol, Room 2179
Sacramento, CA 95814

May 13, 2015

RE: Notice of Opposition: AB 718 (Chu) - Removal of Regulatory Authority: Vehicles Used For Human Habitation

Dear Assembly Member Chu,

On behalf of the City of Corning, I write to inform of our opposition to AB 718, which would prohibit local agencies from enforcing laws and ordinances, or otherwise subject to civil or criminal penalties, the act of people sleeping or resting in a lawfully parked motor vehicle.

While a vehicle may be "lawfully parked" in a residential neighborhood or in the parking lot of a business, that does not mean that it is acceptable to have people live there. The issues raised by AB 718 are less about parking, and more about the use of vehicles for human habitation, including sleeping and "resting" in front of existing homes and businesses.

City parking locations whether on public or private property -other than campgrounds-were never intended or designed for residential occupancy. Such uses raise major issues of sanitation as well as the ability of residents

to feel secure in their homes and enable the conduct of business activity.

This measure should be rejected. Cities work hard to balance all of the needs of their communities. It is simply not appropriate for the Legislature to attempt to remove local government authority to appropriately protect the public health, safety and welfare of their residents from issues that arise when people live outside of campgrounds in cars and trucks parked on public and private property. These are not easy issues to deal with, but they cannot responsibly be ignored.

What is most needed to combat homelessness is funding for affordable housing and emergency shelters. There are several major pending measures that can help restore funds for affordable housing; we encourage legislators to support additional funding for affordable housing and homeless solutions

Because this measure would undermine local authority to appropriately protect the public health, safety and welfare of our residents, we must oppose AB 718.

Sincerely,
John L. Brewer
City Manager
City of Corning

CC: William Weber, Principal Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus,
Misa Lennox, Consultant, Assembly Local Government Committee, Senator
Jim Nielsen, Assembly Member James Gallagher