



**CITY OF CORNING
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2010
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
794 THIRD STREET**

A. CALL TO ORDER: 7:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:

Council:	Vacant
	Ross Turner
	Toni Parkins
	John Leach
Mayor:	Gary Strack

All members of the Council are present with one vacant position remaining on the Council.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: City Manager Kimbrough led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITION'S, APPOINTMENTS:

1. Proclamation: April 2010 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Ms. Tremmal, a representative from the Rape Crisis Intervention and Prevention Program for Tehama, Butte, and Glenn Counties accepted the Proclamation from Mayor Strack and outlined the various activities planned in support of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

2. Proclamation: April 2010 as National Volunteer Month in the City of Corning.

Mayor Strack presented the Proclamation to Corning Senior Center Manager Linda Lima and Volunteers from the Center. Linda recognized and thanked the Center's Volunteers.

E. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

A member of the audience requested that the City find some way to keep the Recreation Supervisor. John Richards, Corning Bike and Skateboard Park Association read a letter in support of Recreation Supervisor Kimberly Beck. The letter also stated their opposition to a reduction of her hours.

On another subject, Mr. Richards stated some concerns in relation to actions of the Building Official.

Councilor Turner addressed a previous quote from the City Manager in relation to the information received from the Gridley on costs paid to CalFire for Fire Department Services.

Councilor Leach announced that he has been working with a couple of CPA's on ideas to assist the City in budget savings.

City Manager Kimbrough announced that budget discussions will begin in April, announcing that the City should have some of the revenue figures at that time.

Dean Cofer acknowledged that the proposals presented tonight by Councilor Leach are in fact the result of a collaborative effort of between Councilors Leach and Turner. He emphasized that the minimal savings would be \$412,103. Mr. Cofer then provided some budgetary saving suggestions from "Concerned Citizens".

3. Red Cross Presentation by Charles McCaul, Emergency Services Manager for the Three Counties for the Red Cross.

Mr. McCaul stated that Red Cross would like to establish a presence in the City of Corning emphasizing that it is a Volunteer Agency providing disaster assistance free of charge. He

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informed the Council that he is the only paid staff for 8 Counties, all other members within this area are Volunteers. He would like to establish a disaster assistance team in Corning. Informational brochures and applications will be available at the Fire Department and the Chamber of Commerce for those interested in joining the Red Cross. The required training courses necessary to become a volunteer are available on CD should anyone be interested. Mr. McCaul stated that he is looking for a volunteer manager for Tehama County (job is without pay) and is willing to train anyone interested.

- F. **CONSENT AGENDA:** It is recommended that items listed on the Consent Agenda be acted on simultaneously unless a Councilmember or members of the audience requests separate discussion and/or action.
4. **Waive reading, except by title, of any Ordinance under consideration at this meeting for either introduction or passage, per Government Code Section 36934.**
 5. **Waive the Reading and Approve the Minutes of the March 9, 2010 City Council Meeting with any necessary corrections:**
 6. **March 17, 2010 Claim Warrant - \$71,594.73.**
 7. **Business License Report – March 17, 2010.**

Councilor Leach moved to approved Consent Agenda Items 4-7. Councilor Parkins seconded the motion. **Ayes: Strack, Turner, Parkins and Leach. Opposed: None. Absent/Abstain: None. Motion was approved by a vote of 4-0 with one vacancy on the Council.**

G. **ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:** None.

H. **PUBLIC HEARINGS AND MEETINGS:** Any person may speak on items scheduled for hearing at the time the Mayor declares the Hearing open. **ALL LEGAL NOTICES PUBLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.**

8. **Adopt Resolution 03-23-10-01 Approving the Community Development Block Grant Program Income Reuse Plan for the City of Corning.**

Mayor Strack introduced this item by title stating that the changes in the Plan allows homes built prior to 1978 (the prior Plan did not) and provides for a First Time Home Buyers Program when funding becomes available. Mayor Strack then opened the public hearing. With no comments he closed the public hearing.

Councilor Turner moved to, having conducted the Public Hearing, adopt Resolution 03-23-10-01 approving the City of Corning CDBG Program Income Reuse Plan. Councilor Leach seconded the motion. **Ayes: Strack, Turner, Parkins and Leach. Opposed: None. Absent/Abstain: None. Motion was approved by a vote of 4-0 with one vacancy on the Council.**

I. **REGULAR AGENDA:**

9. **Resolution No. 03-23-10-02 Authorizing the Imposition of After-Hour “Water Turn-on” Fees to Recover Staff Costs.**

Mayor Strack introduced this item by title and Public Works Director John Brewer clarified that this Resolution relates to fee recovery costs for emergency after hour water turn on service by the City.

Councilor Parkins moved to adopt Resolution 03-23-10-02 authorizing imposition and collection of an “After Hours Water Service Turn-On Fee” in the City of Corning. Councilor Leach seconded the motion. **Ayes: Strack, Turner, Parkins and Leach. Opposed: None. Absent/Abstain: None. Motion was approved by a vote of 4-0 with one vacancy on the Council.**

10. Request Council Direction: To Reschedule, or Cancel the June 8, 2010 City Council Meeting to Allow Use of the City's Council Chambers as an Established Polling Place for the Primary Election.

Councilor Turner moved to reschedule the Meeting to Monday, June 18, 2010. Councilor Leach seconded the motion. **Ayes: Strack, Turner and Leach. Opposed: Parkins. Absent/Abstain: None. Motion was approved by a vote of 3-1 with Parkins opposing and one vacancy on the Council.**

Dean Cofer asked if the previous item, the "After Hour Water Turn-on Fee" required a public hearing; City Attorney Michael Fitzpatrick responded stating no it did not.

11. Policy Statement Regarding Public Works Department Removal of Curbside Prunings, Clippings and Bulky Items.

Mayor Strack introduced this item by title and Public Works Director John Brewer explained that the curbside is becoming a depository for everything, and with reduction in staffing and employee furloughs it is becoming a problem. To deal with this, Staff is asking approval of the proposed policy statement. Councilor Leach asked how the City would police this proposed policy; Mr. Brewer responded stating that when oak clippings are noticed on the street and there is no oak tree along the street, only ash trees, you know the clippings came from private property. A member of the audience suggested the City charging a fee and was informed that there are private contractors for this; the City just doesn't have the staffing resources to provide this service. Dean Cofer asked if the City would continue to pick up tree limbs blown down during storms within City right-of-way; he was informed yes.

Councilor Parkins requested education, via website, water bills, possibly mailers, to inform the public of the policies and clarification of City services. Councilor Turner asked that the mailer language be brought back for Council approval and suggested that it should be bilingual. At that time a cost can be reported prior to Council approval. **No Action at this time.**

12. Report Regarding Annual Municipal Swimming Pool Operations and Maintenance Costs.

Mayor Strack introduced this item by title stating that he doesn't want to close the pool because it provides a place for the children to go. Councilor Leach asked if there are any cost savings that could be utilized, such as cost for chemicals, etc. Public Works Assistant Director Carl Crain responded stating that over the years many things have been tried such as letting the pool go green during the winter to reduce the chemical cost. This in turn increased the maintenance costs in dealing with damages from algae. He stated that the filters must run 24-7 in order to reduce the algae. Councilor Leach asked if the City currently bids out the Chemicals; he was informed no, that the City utilizes one company which delivers on an as needed basis. Councilor Turner asked if the City has investigated using a pool cover and was informed that the City had used this in the past, however it increases maintenance for keeping debris (leaves, etc.) off the pool cover.

Councilor Turner stated that had the City not committed the \$46,000 + for the City Attorney retirement, it could have made up part of the \$50,000 cost of the pool. Mayor Strack stated he did not want to go there, noting that the Council had already acted on this.

An audience member asked if the fees could be raised to help reduce the cost or if the number of Lifeguards could be reduced. Mayor Strack stated that possibly the Lifeguards could be reduced by one. Three members of the Council stated that they are opposed to closing the pool. Councilor Parkins stated that of course she is opposed to closing the pool, however she emphasized that during a budget crisis everything needs to be considered.

Mayor Strack stated that he has been discussing the possibility of the Recreation Director taking over the pool responsibilities and running the pool program. Councilor Turner stated that the residents of the City are subsidizing the pool and the residents of the County only pay the gate fees.

A member of the audience questioned the Recreation Supervisor taking over the pool, citing isn't that her busiest time of the year? Mayor Strack confirmed with John Brewer that this would be placed on the April 13th City Council Agenda along with a report addressing the questions asked tonight.

J. ITEMS PLACED ON THE AGENDA FROM THE FLOOR:

Joe DeScala asked about the set backs for the wall on Toomes and Fig Lane. City Manager Kimbrough explained the reasoning for this wall noting that it was part of a planned development. Mayor Strack stated that he would get the name of the property owner and talk to him.

K. COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION: None

L. REPORTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

13. **Turner:** Announced that he brought in a check for the County's State Fair Booth.
14. **Parkins:** None.
15. **Leach:** Announced that he also brought in his check for the County's State Fair Booth. He also announced that he served as "Chair" at the last Tripartite Board Meeting.
16. **Strack:** Announced that he gave the City Clerk his donation for the County's State Fair booth the morning after the last meeting. Mayor Strack announced that he and Councilor Turner would be scheduling a meeting with City Attorney Michael Fitzpatrick to discuss his contract.

M. ADJOURNMENT!: 9:05 p.m

Lisa M. Linnet, City Clerk