

ESCALON CITY COUNCIL  
Minutes of September 8, 2009

A regular meeting of the Escalon City Council was called to order at the hour of 7:30 p.m., with Mayor Murken presiding.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Alves, Fox, Haskin, Laugero and Mayor Murken  
ABSENT: None

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

*These items are considered routine in nature and will be approved with one motion*

1. Approval of Minutes from the Meeting of August 17, 2009
2. Approval of Register of Demands for September 8, 2009 in the amount of \$312,020.47
3. Consideration of Awarding the 2009 Arthur Road Rehabilitation Project to Ross F. Carroll, Inc. of Oakdale, CA in the amount of \$37,528
4. Consideration of Final Acceptance of the Reed Manor Water Services Replacement Project
5. Consideration of Additional Appropriation of Funds for the Well No. 6 (Hogan Park) Rehabilitation Project
6. Consideration of Authorizing the City Manager to sign Amendment #2 to the Water Supply Development Agreement with South San Joaquin Irrigation District (SSJID)

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MOTION - It was m/s by Haskin/Laugero that Consent Items 1 thru 6 be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously. MINUTE ORDER NO. 35-09

**STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

7. a. Monthly Treasurer's Report for June 2009

**MATTERS PRESENTED FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Kurt Danziger, 389 Noni inquired about the information request that was in the last water bill.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

8. Consideration of Approving Staff Recommended Revisions to the FY 09/10 City Budget

Greg Greeson, City Manager gave staff report outlining the revisions staff is recommending in light of the State passing their budget, as well as the Well No. 11 project being removed from the original budget.

Councilmember Alves asked when we would know our loan options from SSJID for the Prop 1A monies. He thinks this may be an option, but going to reserve is only a temporary fix and the budget needs to be resolved without using any reserves.

Councilmember Laugero asked when the property tax monies are usually received by the City.

Mayor Murken asked if the rehabilitation of Stanislaus Street was an overlay or a full rehab.

Councilmember Alves noted he has a problem with hiring a part-time Animal Services Assistant because there is no money for it. He thinks they should go to the local services clubs for donations.

Councilmember Fox noted he thinks the City should take care of the community, but is opposed to taking monies from reserve. He feels we should hire an Animal Services Assistant.

Councilmember Haskin noted the reserves are for rainy days, and it is raining. He feels we should continue cutting next year, but contracts were negotiated with employees and he won't go back on them. He favors hiring an Animal Services Assistant.

Councilmember Laugero said he talked to several people regarding the Animal Services Assistant position and supports hiring one. He feels staff should continue working on alternatives for the Prop. 1A monies.

Darleen Newlin, Hall Road is a volunteer at the Animal Shelter. She thanked Mayor Murken and Councilmember Alves for contacting her. She explained the need for a part-time employee at the Shelter and how Officer Storment goes above and beyond, but needs help beyond what volunteers can do.

Lynne Olivieri, 2104 Main Street, thanked Councilmembers Alves and Laugero for their phone calls and Councilmember Fox for stopping by. She indicated that she has volunteered at the Shelter and has seen the animal population grow. She noted Officer Storment does a great job, but that an Animal Services Assistant is essential.

Debbie Lagier, Riverbank started volunteering and understand the money issue, but volunteers can't cover the weekends for much longer.

Councilmember Alves said he would like an opportunity to raise funds from the community to resolve the situation, at least temporarily.

Mayor Murken thanked all of the volunteers for all they have done and making the Council aware of what has to be done at the shelter. He asked the Chief to thank Officer Storment for her hard work.

Councilmember Fox also thanked the volunteers and Officer Storment. He noted he wasn't aware of all the volunteers do.

Councilmember Laugero asked if the \$3,200 for salary can be donated by the community.

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MOTION - It was m/s by Haskin/Laugero Approving Staff Recommended Revisions to the FY 09/10 City Budget with the additional \$3,200 funding for the Animal Services Assistant for the remaining FY 09/10. Motion carried with Councilmember Alves and Councilmember Fox opposed. MINUTE ORDER NO. 36-09.

### **COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

Councilmember Laugero thanked Chief Dunford, Greg Greeson and Officer Storment for taking the time to find solutions and meet with the local veterinarian. He also noted what an outstanding job staff has done with quick responses to graffiti abatement.

Councilmember Haskin explained that the Lions will have free vision screening at the car cruise on Saturday.

Councilmember Fox thanked the volunteers again for their work.

Councilmember Alves reminded everyone about the Lions Car Cruise on Saturday. He also noted a car break-in at the park last weekend.

Mayor Murken thanked staff for the clean-up done at the park for the class reunion. Attendees were very impressed. He asked staff to contact the railroad companies and SSJID for graffiti removal on their property.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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LISA NEBE, City Clerk