April 5, 2017
6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Madera City Council for 04/05/17 was called to order by Mayor Medellin at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present:
- Mayor Andrew J. Medellin
- Mayor Pro Tem Cece Foley Gallegos, District 1
- Council Member Jose Rodriguez, District 2
- Council Member Donald E. Holley, District 6
- Council Member Derek O. Robinson Sr., District 4
- Council Member William Oliver, District 3
- Council Member Charles F. Rigby, District 5

Others present were City Administrator David Tooley, City Attorney Brent Richardson, City Clerk Sonia Alvarez, City Engineer Keith Helmuth, Director of Human Resources Wendy Silva, Planning Manager Chris Boyle, Director of Financial Services Tim Przybyla, Police Chief Steve Frazier, Parks and Community Services Director Mary Anne Seay, Public Works Operations Director David Randall, Community Development Director David Merchen, Grants Administrator Ivette Iraheta, Commander Dino Lawson, and Successor Agency Director Jim Taubert.

INVOCATION:

Pastor Tim Echevarria, New Harvest Christian Fellowship

The invocation was given by Pastor Tim McGraw, Yosemite Christian Center. Pastor Echevarria was unable to attend.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Medellin led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The first fifteen minutes of the meeting are reserved for members of the public to address the Council on items which are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Council. Speakers shall be limited to three minutes. Speakers will be asked to identify themselves and state the subject of their comment. If the subject is an item on the Agenda, the Mayor has the option of asking the speaker to hold the comment until that item is called. Comments on items listed as a Public Hearing on the Agenda should be held until the hearing is opened. The Council is prohibited by law from taking any action on matters discussed that are not on the Agenda, and no adverse conclusions should be drawn if the Council does not respond to public comment at this time.

No comments were offered.
PRESENTATIONS

Recognition of the Madera High School Girls Varsity Basketball Team Central Section Division Championship

Mayor Medellin stated that this evening they celebrate and congratulate the valley champions of Madera High School Girls Varsity Basketball Team. Mayor Medellin stated it’s truly an honor to do so and he knows that the girls have worked hard more so than just the season. There’s the off season. There’s even years past and he is sure that when they were a lot younger, they probably dreamed of the day they could lift that trophy. It is well deserved.

Mayor Medellin stated there is something they may not know. When they put their jersey on that says Madera High or Madera High Coyotes, they are representing their school but they are really representing the City. Win or lose, they are very proud of them but when they step on a bus or a court out of town, they will continue to represent the City of Madera and they could not be any more proud of what they have accomplished and they hope their future endeavors they will continue to be just as successful.

Mayor Medellin called Jason Smith, Head Coach to the podium to say a few words about the girls and their season.

Coach Smith stated it was an honor to have their kids there and to celebrate their amazing accomplishment. They know that they represent our community everywhere they go. They’ve been told that since they were in 3rd / 4th grade and that is how long this group of young ladies have been involved in the gym with a program that they as coaches have run or been a part of.

Coach Smith stated it’s been a great honor to get to know them as people; to watch them grow up and to serve as their head coach and watch all their dreams come true. It’s just been a great pleasure of his.

Coach Smith stated he is going to have them stand up one at a time and recognize them.

Reet Baathe (Junior), Gracie Costellanos (Sophomore), Madeline McNeil (Sophomore), BriAnn Houghton (Freshman), Mandy Sordi (Junior), Alyssa Fernandez (Junior) and Janessa Fernandez (Junior).

Coach Smith stated the next five are Seniors and were starters throughout the League season, which they won, the Valley title game and the State playoff game. Brianna Rubalcaba, shooting guard and wings; Ashley Hansen, point guard and runner up to the League’s Most Valuable Player; Ximena Escobar, power forward and the game’s most outstanding player for Section finals; Alyssa Burton, League’s Most Valuable Player, starting center, leading scorer and leading rebounder; and Maria Hernandez, starting guard and one of the best defensive players in the Valley.

Coach Smith stated the following were unable to join them tonight as they are currently playing softball at the high school: Camille DeAnda (Freshman), Sofia Perez (Freshman) and Lexi Carmona (Junior).

Coach Smith stated they have several multi-sport athletes. Some of them run track and several of them play volleyball. He stated he is just lucky enough that they all decided to play basketball with him for the last several years. It has been a pleasure.

Coach Smith stated that he was talking to Council Member Holley, who he’s known for years, about how he doesn’t think they really understand what they’ve done for their school and their community and it may not impact them for several years. They are going to look back and say they were the second team ever to accomplish these things in the history of Madera High School. It is an outstanding feat.

Coach Smith stated he could not have done his job without Eddie Murphy Defensive Coordinator and his right hand since he took the job at Madera High, Jason Alexander. He has a couple of others who aren’t here.
Coach Smith addressed the team and informed them it has been a fun ride. Coach Smith advised Council that it’s been a pleasure to serve as their Head Coach. He can’t tell Council how proud he is of them. They fought through injuries during the regular season. Alyssa was hurt. Maria battled through injury all season long in order to continue playing and to see the expressions on their face. They struggled all game long in that championship game and they were not going to be denied. Coach Smith stated their attitudes……if they bring a positive attitude into the gym every day, they can accomplish great things and they are perfect examples of that happening.

Coach Smith congratulated the team on their efforts.

Mayor Medellin stated he would like the girls to come up to the dais in order to take a group photo with the City Council.

INTRODUCTIONS

1. Rob Holt, Assistant Planner
2. Jesus Orozco, Assistant Planner

Chris Boyle, Planning Manager introduced two new Assistant Planners to the City. Rob Holt was not introduced when he was first brought on. He’s had a long relationship with the City. He started out as an intern with the department between his junior and senior year at the University of Northridge and afterwards he started working part-time with the Public Works Department and ultimately joined the Planning Department and completed his one-year probationary period just last week. Mr. Holt is a Madera High graduate now giving back to the community. The second person is in his third day of employment with the City. His name is Jesus Orozco. He recently graduated from Cal State Long Beach and joined the department on Monday. Mr. Boyle stated he is excited to add that staff member to the department. He is also a Madera High graduate.

Mayor Medellin welcomed them to the team.

Council Member Holley stated this is what it is all about. They always talk about their home folks working in Madera. What makes him proud is to see two young men graduate from Madera High School who came back home to work for our City. This is what it is all about. Trying to keep home base and knowing they didn’t know where their future was going to end up but they stuck here in Madera. They’re glad it paid off for them. Council Member Holley stated the Council appreciates their longevity with the City and thanked them.

A. WORKSHOP

A-1 Workshop on Proposition 64 (Report by Steve Frazier)

Steve Frazier, Chief of Police stated they are going to go over the law that was put in place on November 9, 2016. They are going to talk about how that looks from law enforcement perspective and then a land use perspective. He has been given marching orders to speak quickly.

Chief Frazier stated Council has the slides and he hopes they had an opportunity to look at those. They are going to be referring to the Adult Use of Marijuana Act, AUMA and the Medical Cannabis Regulation Safety Act, MCRSA. These became law on November 9th and on that day, six plants became legal in the household of everybody that wanted to grow six plants. Personal possession – small amounts of marijuana.

Chief Frazier stated it took the following sections from the Health & Safety Code that used to be felonies and made them misdemeanors or not a crime at all: 11357 Possession, 11358 Cultivation, 11359 Possession and 11360 Transportation.
Chief Frazier stated the actual penalty imposed depends on whether the dependent is an adult 21 years or older, and adult between 18 to 20 years or a juvenile under 18 years of age.

Chief Frazier stated Prop 64 amended all things seen on the slide. Possession of one ounce or less is now legal. Possession of eight grams of concentrate or less is now legal. Cultivation of six plants is now legal. It used to be a felony. It is the Adult Use of Marijuana Act so if the person is less than 21 years and caught in possession, there is now a fine. Cultivation of greater than six plants was a felony. It is now a misdemeanor. Possession of cannabis for sale used to be a felony and is now a misdemeanor. The law had wide ranging effects on both the law and personal use which is now legal in the State of California.

Chief Frazier stated Prop 64 regards youth under 18 years of age differently than adults for marijuana offenses contained in the Health & Safety Code. Youth may only be charged with non-monetary infractions. An infraction is the lowest offense in the Penal code. It is usually a citation but most infractions come with some monetary penalty. In this case, the State said not in this.

Chief Frazier stated it is alarming from their perspective because the way this reads there are no misdemeanor or felony penalties including for sale or possession with intent to sell marijuana. If he were looking to make money on this and he needed to sell illegally, which it is currently illegal to sell in the City of Madera, he would use a minor to do that because there is no incentive not to do that. There is no penalty for them except for attending Drug Awareness Education. Counseling can be required to complete community service. Chief Frazier stated it is not much of a penalty for a juvenile to be engaged in the sale, possession and all those things which he thinks is sad and a mistake.

Chief Frazier stated Prop 47 reduced all possession charges from felony to misdemeanor and they see all those occurrences going through the roof in a daily occurrence in their police activities.

Chief Frazier stated that Prop 64 immediately legalized personal indoor cultivation of marijuana, however landlords can ban the cultivation and smoking of marijuana on the property so if they are renting and the landlord says not in his house then it becomes illegal. They cannot grow if the landlord forbids that.

Chief Frazier stated that Prop 64 provides that local government can reasonably regulate but cannot ban the personal indoor cultivation of up to six non-medical marijuana plants per private residence. A residence is defined as a house, apartment, mobile home or similar dwelling. Local government can regulate or ban all personal outdoor cultivation unless marijuana becomes lawful under federal law. Federal law still makes it a felony for the possession, cultivation, distribution of marijuana.

Chief Frazier stated the Landlord Rights under Prop 64 state that an individual or private entity may prohibit or restrict possessing, smoking or cultivating of marijuana on the individual’s or entity’s privately owned property. A State or local government agency may also prohibit or restrict such activities on property owned, leased and occupied by the state. The City cannot prohibit personal indoor cultivation of marijuana in leased or multi-unit residences within the City.

Council Member Rodriguez asked if indoors in a residence meant inside the personal residence and not a shed in the back.

Chief Frazier stated that was correct.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that he knows they don’t currently have an ordinance in regards to the regulations. We have one for the medicinal use and asked if that was something that was going to be proposed as well.

Chief Frazier stated they actually do have an ordinance and he asked if Council Member Rodriguez could wait on a response as Chris Boyle, Planning Manager will address that later. Chief Frazier stated they do have an ordinance right now that does regulate all marijuana except for the six plants.
Council Member Rodriguez replied affirmatively.

Council Member Robinson stated he attended the League [of CA Cities'] briefing on this subject and they were talking about them needing an ordinance that covers both the medical and recreational to protect regulatory or executive and explaining in plain English what is allowed otherwise it can come back and bite you. Council Member Robinson stated they also can’t prevent marijuana delivery in the City plan.

Chief Frazier stated that they will talk about land use. He stated that the only thing that is legal in the City of Madera is the growing of six plants in your residence, in possession of less than 26 grams of marijuana, less than eight grams of concentrated marijuana. Anything beyond that is illegal both medical as well as medicinal in the City of Madera.

Council Member Robinson stated those plants can get as big as trees. Chief Frazier concurred.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that if someone wanted to smoke a joint, the fine for that person would be less than $100. He asked Chief Frazier how his department is affected timewise in trying to find someone that might be smoking illegally when the citations might not cover the time that is put into citing a youngster or person who is smoking recreationally in a public place.

Chief Frazier stated there are many crimes where the penalty is far less in monetary value than the time spent enforcing it. He stated it is not something that they will look for. It is something that they will go out and look to enforce if they receive a call for service.

Chief Frazier stated they cannot smoke outside of their house right now. Chief Frazier stated that in the foreseeable future there is no variation for that written into the law. In 2018, it will allow for the sale and manufacture of marijuana but they can only smoke that in their dwelling. If they are out smoking, while the fine is the minimus, it is still a fine and it will be enforced by the Police Department so that people will not be impacted by that when they choose to not to be impacted by that. He believes that was the concession that was granted to those who weren’t in favor of this or who don’t smoke marijuana was that they don’t have to be exposed to that. They smoke in their house and that limits the exposure to those outside that don’t want to do that. Chief Frazier stated the Penal Code lists all the places where it is illegal just like smoking a cigarette within a 1,000 feet of a school but really it is illegal outside of their home. He doesn’t know why they listed all those things. It is just the State throwing things out that they throw out.

Chief Frazier stated if the City were to go down the road of moving into the marijuana business it does require dual licensure. Right now the medical portion requires two licenses and that they have both licenses to present to the State so you have to get a license from the City of Madera to say it is ok to grow or do something with medicinal marijuana and you have to present that license to the State in order to get the State license.

Chief Frazier stated the Adult Use of Marijuana Act also requires dual licensing but they do not require that you prove that you have one from the City. So you will make a license to the State, the State will give you one but the City can still prohibit that. There’s a shortfall in the ordinance that CalChiefs and many other folks have asked the legislature to amend that gap. Folks can go get a license, the State will give them one but they still have to have one from the City but they don’t have to show the State that.

Chief Frazier stated it’s going to add some confusion to that. On January 1, 2018 it becomes legal to do sale, distribution, cultivation and all of that and right now it is illegal in the City. If they go and get a State license, the State may license them to sell in the City of Madera. When they come back, it is still illegal because the City has not authorized a license to do that. They may have something from the State but the City has to approve the joint license so there’s going to be some confusion there and questions may be asked of Council in regards to that. It takes dual licensure on both the adult use and the medicinal side.

Council Member Rodriguez asked that because they don’t have an ordinance for that particular Prop 64, could that be a problem for the City to deal with the legal aspects of it meaning that if he gets a State
license, brings it back here and starts cultivating and then he gets a citation and there is no ordinance for that, does that.....

Chief Frazier stated they do have an ordinance for that.

Council Member Rodriguez asked if that was for medicinal marijuana or for the Prop.

Chief Frazier stated it was for all of marijuana.

Council Member Rodriguez stated it was his understanding that if they didn't have some ordinance in place that can actually come back and bite them.

Chief Frazier stated it could indeed. He stated that last year and he wasn’t sure of the date. He asked the City Attorney if he recalled the date.

Brent Richardson, City Attorney stated he believes it was February 16th.

Chief Frazier stated that at that time, the State put out that if they didn't weigh in as a community and put an ordinance in place then they are saying they were allowing the State to make decisions for them. Council at that time weighed in and banned marijuana use medically at the time because that was all that was legal. Everything in that ordinance remains in play with the exception of the six plants. Their ordinance cannot overrule the State law that allows personal possession of the six plants in the home. Sale and cultivation outside of the six plants and everything else is illegal in the City of Madera.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that no amendments need to be done at this point because this was done in November.

Chief Frazier replied affirmatively.

Chief Frazier stated that regarding suitability for licensure, Council might recall talking about some of this before Prop 64 passed. One of the things that they talked about that seemed a little in conflict with the selling of this was that you can be a convicted felon or a drug dealer and turn around and sell under Prop 64. This just talks about the suitability for licensure; things you can deny an application for. Right now that is a moot point because the City doesn't have that allowance. Chief Frazier stated that it does allow for you to be a felon, a drug dealer in the past and for you to have all these marks against you. You can still go in and sell marijuana.

Chief Frazier stated that local control kind of addresses what Council Member Rodriguez was talking about. If there is no ordinance covering recreational marijuana then the State has the ability to issue that license and you kind of get what you get with the State. The City has enacted ordinances governing medical marijuana only the City would be precluded from arguing that an application to establish recreational marijuana business within the City limits is in violation of local ordinance. Chief Frazier stated the City's ordinance was broad enough that it covered both.

Chief Frazier stated that Business and Professions Code (B&P) Section 26200 allows local governments to completely prohibit the establishment or operation of one or more types of businesses licensed under this division within local jurisdiction and the City’s ordinance does that.

Chief Frazier stated that along with this they also have in the City of Madera that it is illegal to sell, distribute, transport, and all those things. Under Prop 64 it says that as a city, we can't prohibit entities from driving through our city to make a delivery. They can't stop in the city to make that delivery. That would be illegal but the law addressed the fact that if you have a ban you can’t prohibit them from driving through the city. If they are going to Merced from Fresno, they can drive through the city legally, make their delivery in Merced and come back and that's no violation of our ordinance.
Chief Frazier stated smoking or ingesting in a public place is illegal. It can’t be done. That’s under Prop 64. If a person possesses an open container or open package, this is what the law says: Marijuana, Marijuana products while driving, operating or riding in the passenger seat, aircraft….In other words you can’t have an open container. Chief Frazier stated beer laws, remember the alcohol, you can’t have an open can of beer or alcoholic beverage or something like that. That’s illegal. They said the same thing for marijuana. The problem is they didn’t define what open container is. Marijuana doesn’t come packaged in any particular style so there is enough ambiguity in this law that makes it very difficult for law enforcement to be able to take enforcement action on what an open container is.

Chief Frazier stated that Budweiser is looking to create a marijuana beer.

Chief Frazier stated that in the Prop 64 language which was significant it talked about coming back after the passage of that, using the money that they will generate under Prop 64 and then amending the laws to shape and form how Prop 64 looks.

Chief Frazier stated that right now, there is no specific law relative to driving under the influence and what would constitute driving under the influence. Colorado, maybe four or five months ago, came up with a standard of five nanograms of THC [Tetrahydrocannabinol] per milliliter of whole blood but like our .08 in alcohol it is not scientifically substantiated that the .5 nanograms, he has no idea what that is, of THC is truly an intoxicant. They don’t know that you are truly under the influence at that level and scientifically without that fact it makes it very difficult to defend in court.

Chief Frazier stated there is a section in our books now that talks about being under the influence. It’s a non-specific charge. Those are the sections that if they run across someone that is clearly smoking marijuana, they have to give field sobriety tests which they have to fail. They have to demonstrate the objective signs of marijuana ingestion and couple that with their failure of the field sobriety test and then they can file charges for driving under the influence of marijuana and draw blood in order to substantiate what that was but it is going to be very difficult without some predetermined number on how much THC in the blood is truly necessary.

Chief Frazier stated that in 2016, Colorado legislation introduced forty-four legislative bills. Twenty-two bills passed. 104 rules or statute changes in one year. Public Safety issues were 90% of the changes introduced into law. California will experience similar situations as it progresses through the rule making process. Prop 64 is already undermining some the compromises made under the medical cannabis rule.

Chief Frazier stated that just to give them an idea of just how fluid this is, he just got an article from the City Administrator this afternoon that talked about the governor, yesterday, wanting to combine both the recreational use and the medicinal use into one platform. Right now they are separated. The process is separate and he wants to bring them under the same rules. There are a lot of problems with that that he could get into but then they wouldn’t be able to hear Mr. Boyle talk about land use.

Chief Frazier stated this is the future they have to look forward to. This truly exists. Colorado cannabis tours. They’ll drive you around. They’ll get you high. They’ll drive you back home and you’re good to go.

Chief Frazier referred to a presentation slide and stated that marijuana plants can be very large. He stated that he would hate to think that they would grow that in their house but he supposed that is possible.

Chief Frazier asked if there were any questions for him. No comments were made.

Chris Boyle, Planning Manager stated that the second component of this presentation is to look at ordinance of both their current ordinance and where some municipalities have taken their ordinances in response to the recent State law changes.

Mr. Boyle stated that as someone noted, there were concerns that if they didn’t have an ordinance in place in advance of the implementation of the State law that they may lose the opportunity for dual licensure and
in response to that the City adopted an ordinance that became law in February 2016. That ordinance was basic prohibition. There wasn’t an expectation that the new California law would have a six plants for personal consumption grown inside the home component so Council adopted an ordinance which basically prohibited the sale, cultivation, distribution and transport in plain English. Noting that, they came very close but no cigar because of the one surprise the law did allow those six plants. Although the City’s ordinance does provide for prohibition the State law does usurp that in providing for the six plants.

Mr. Boyle stated that many municipalities are entertaining other ordinances that would potentially or hypothetically take advantage of what is arguably a huge industry. Mr. Boyle stated that in researching this presentation, this is a small sample of the various types of businesses that are entertained and practiced in the marijuana states as they’re called.

Mr. Boyle stated that the upper left corner, shows a farmer’s market for marijuana in Washington State. There are other tours and the like, various components of the industry that are advertised on-line and the slide does a pretty good job of just giving you a small sample set of the types of components of the marijuana industry as it is.

Mr. Boyle stated he decided to look at some of what other agencies in the State of California are doing and he was able to procure some data as it relates to the counties in the State. As they can see, most of those of those counties are in red. Red would indicate prohibition but there are some counties that do have an allowance.

Mr. Boyle stated that just out of curiosity he wanted to check on what one of those counties was doing. In nearby Monterey County their land use ordinance provides……they look at marijuana sales within their use schedules or zoning schedules a lot like a pharmacy, liquor store, or a bar might be perceived and they are allowed generally in heavy commercial zones and the commercial zones in the city. They look at manufacturing or cultivation as an industrial type activity and it’s allowed from their Heavy Commercial up into their Industrial and Heavy Industrial zone districts. Some processes associated with the marijuana industry are highly volatile; extraction of THC oils and the like and that is only allowed in a Heavy Industrial zone because of the potential for accidental explosion and the like.

Mr. Boyle stated that if the Council were to entertain a similar ordinance some of the land use issues, and there is a long list, might be where the City might entertain placing any one of those components within the Use Schedule, the operational characteristics, business constraints, water and waste water as a component of any manufacturing, separation requirements, distance requirements like some of the other sensitive uses in the City, background checks, security plans, screening, visibility, insurance, even indemnification to the City from potential business owners, dual licensure with the State, taxes and fees. Mr. Boyle stated it is a long list that the Council would have to direct staff to vet and then bring a potential ordinance to them.

Mr. Boyle referred to taxation and revenue. The State levies a production tax of 9.25% an ounce on flower plus an additional 15% excise tax on all retail sales of marijuana, so essentially the State taxes the front and the back end of the industry both the production and sale and there’s much discussion of what is left in terms of tax revenue.

Mr. Boyle stated he was reading an article yesterday on-line where he was invited to a seminar where within one of the topics to be covered was the expectation that the industry would be taxed at approximately 30% of total value. One of the topics was, “How to Police the Black Market” because of the tremendous taxation that was anticipated as a component of that land use. Mr. Boyle stated it is questionable what type of revenue is left over after State implements their component.

Mr. Boyle stated that Monterey County does actually have a tax on the actual sale. In terms of cultivation there is a square footage annual fee upon those industries and in Year 4 (2020), a $20 per square foot fee on their warehouses for cultivation and $3.50 per square foot for nurseries and the like plus at 2020 a 7.5% of gross sales. That is pretty aggressive.
Mr. Boyle stated that just yesterday he got information about Sonoma County and they adopted a $38 per square foot manufacturing fee. He just doesn’t know what is left over for any legal business that might entertain opening shop in Sonoma County.

Mr. Boyle stated moving forward or staying put. Hanford was looking at utilizing their Hanford Pirelli Plant as a cultivation site and ultimately their Council decided to shelve that proposal. Many other agencies are looking at what happens after January 1st when dual licensure comes into play.

Mr. Boyle stated that as Chief Frazier noted there is a dual licensure requirement which essentially says that no business can establish any one of those components: the sale, cultivation, transportation or distribution of marijuana in the City of Madera without both a State license and a local license in their possession.

Council Member Holley asked if they had a City license would they still need a State license.

Mr. Boyle stated that was correct.

Council Member Holley asked if the City would offer theirs before the State or how would that……

Mr. Boyle stated that the State as noted by Chief Frazier will issue a license without the applicant having a local license in hand. He doesn’t know if there is any temporal requirement that they must be done concurrently like an alcoholic beverage license is issued by the State where they are done concurrently both local and the State level. He doesn’t know exactly the correct answer to that but he does know that the State can issue a license without a license being issued by the local agency.

Council Member Holley asked if the City can issue a license without getting one by the State.

Mr. Boyle stated the City could issue a license but it would not be valid without State licensure. They need both to actually have a legal business noting that the State has certain requirements in terms of revenue stream and compliance with the State law.

Mr. Boyle asked what are the recommendations and conclusions from their presentation this evening. The first point is that Prop 64 and the sale of marijuana within the City is inconsistent with the City’s values and the citizens’ values and they might note that Prop 64 was not passed here in Madera County or within the City of Madera. In fact it lost by a vote of 57% to 43%. Mr. Boyle stated that many municipalities would echo the sentiment that there are many unknowns at this time.

Mr. Boyle stated that Chief Frazier noted that just today Governor Brown was proposing to merge the licensure or the whole perspective of recreational marijuana and medical marijuana into one component or into one individual license for a perspective buyer and that introduces all kinds of questions as to the purpose and intent of the law itself. There are certainly cases where medicinal marijuana provides relief to patients but that certainly isn’t done within a recreational setting.

Mr. Boyle stated that thirdly, there is questionable funding potential with the State taxing the front end and the back end the real question is how much margin is left wherein they really wouldn’t be creating a black market with the adoption of an ordinance that might provide for a revenue stream.

Mr. Boyle stated that lastly, and this might be the real question, is that this remains a felony under federal law and they don’t know where the Federal Government is going to weigh in at this point with the change in administration.

Mr. Boyle stated that completed the presentation and he would answer any questions.

Council Member Robinson stated it is also per unit. He asked what if there were two people living in that unit that have medical and one recreational.
Mr. Boyle stated it’s based on the actual residence. It wouldn’t be per person. It would be per house. If they had two individuals living in that house and they both wished to cultivate, he supposed they could divide that into three plants each.

Mayor Medellin stated that as was said before, he thinks Prop 64 was obviously the cart before the horse. They threw something out there and it is just so ambiguous there is nothing really defined as to what is or is not. Mayor Medellin asked how does the Police Department enforce a field sobriety test on what is or is not somebody under the influence. Even Colorado kind of threw something up against the wall and let’s see what sticks. They’ve made so many different adjustments and they are still continuing to adjust along the way.

Mayor Medellin stated he appreciates their comments and the workshop.

Council Member Rodriguez thanked Mr. Boyle and Chief Frazier for the information.

Council Member Rodriguez stated he hates to sound like the Devil’s Advocate but he knows there are many unknowns when it comes to industries such as this but he’s sure that at some point when gaming was a big issue there were a lot of unknowns as far as what crime would do and what that would do to the citizens, jobs and economic growth.

Council Member Rodriguez stated they definitely got a perspective of what the law enforcement part of it is and the zoning but asked about the financial perspective.

Council Member Rodriguez stated he has to ask this because they tend to find or tend to look for streams of revenue that are coming to the City and as more and more retail stores, for example, become an issuer on-line it is becoming very trendy and these retailers are probably looking back and asking themselves if that is something they really want to do the next 30 years.

Council Member Rodriguez stated he is just asking because he wants to know what other financial gains the City could get for example, if it allowed a permit for industrial use not so much for dispensary but possibly in a very zoned Industrial, Heavy Industrial, and Light Industrial that could potentially generate a good stream of revenue.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that Mr. Boyle had mentioned that Monterey was very aggressive in its form of generating that revenue for its City but even that square foot deal didn’t sound too bad because that would guarantee the City some form of revenue.

Council Member Rodriguez stated he is not trying to advocate or be a big proponent for the Proposition 64. He is a proponent of trying to bring revenues to the City, economic growth, jobs and he knows that goes against the values of what Madera is going through now but if they see the numbers and the voting obviously these numbers are starting to creep up slowly. Essentially they may not be the City of choice that would prefer something like this but he knows that certain cities in California will continue and those numbers will continue to go up. He just doesn’t want to be outside looking in saying, “What happened? Why couldn’t we have taken advantage of that?”

Council Member Rodriguez stated that is mainly his question and his comment is what can they do at the City to be proactive and possibly gain some revenue not necessarily to promote the smoking but the industrial portion of it possibly to create some jobs and bring in some revenues to the City.

David Tooley, City Administrator stated that based on the available information he is not convinced there is a direct cash flow positive cash flow at this time for the City to be engaged in this kind of activity. He stated that to answer Council Member Rodriguez’ question directly there is always a possibility that there could be some indirect benefits created.
Mr. Tooley stated he read a recent article on Salinas and the market rate for real estate and greenhouses that were going unused have just skyrocketed. He thinks his response would be that if there is an interest in them looking at this from an economic standpoint they should monitor the market and watch the changes taking place and see if they can measure what those impacts look like. Mr. Tooley stated that to Council Member Rodriguez’ point he thinks that there is an economic benefit for a place like Salinas right now but he can’t be more specific in that because this is an emerging kind of issue as Council Member Rodriguez correctly observed.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that again these are the indirect revenues or benefits that he seeks not so much that he seeks and he is for the actual Proposition. He knows that the value here in Madera are a little different than they are in Monterey and different counties and cities but he knows there’s very proactive cities that are starting to jump on these things and he’s not saying that they have to do that. He’s just saying he’d like to have some information. He’s not sure if his fellow Council Members would want to have any information as far as the economic perspective of it.

Mr. Tooley stated that he is not sure that there is a lot that they can objectively quantify for him. He concurs with his thought process that this should be one of those things that they monitor and perhaps over the course of time they should provide Council additional levels of information. In every respect, they want to have good facts.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that going back to Mr. Tooley’s point he knows that Mr. Tooley mentioned that there’s really not much left. It’s a lucrative business. He knows that other states are still holding that, Colorado for example and maybe that’s the information that he’s trying to seek; not necessarily from California. Council Member Rodriguez asked what they have in place after their tax either front/back. He asked what kind of revenues they are gaining or what kind of profits they are making.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that again, he wants to make sure that he makes this clear, he is not a proponent of the actual….. to smoke it here. He is talking about revenues from the industrial side of it; economic growth.

Mr. Boyle thanked Council Member Rodriguez for his comments and stated they would take direction from Council.

Council Member Oliver stated he appreciates the thorough presentation and quite frankly he is a bit surprised by these figures on the last ballot initiative of the 57% opposed. He thought the number may be higher. He thinks they have to pay attention to that and look at the sentiments of their constituents and the voters. He is not sure where he really sits on this. He thinks they are in that wait and see mode but in 2010 California voters voted to make it illegal and then several years later brought it back and passed it so it would be interesting to look at that trajectory or look at that decrease or increase in the City Limits compared to that 2010 ballot initiative.

Council Member Oliver stated that what he might encourage…. Council Member Oliver addressed Mr. Boyle and stated he wasn’t sure if they engaged officials in Coalinga at all. He does know that Undersheriff Michael Salvador now serves as their Chief of Police where they have both approved it at the Council level as well as brought an initiative to residents to legalize the taxation of it and he thinks it is $25 per square foot. In speaking to the market activity as Mr. Tooley had mentioned, they’re seeing industrial land go for $18 a square foot or $300,000 for half acre and they have no land available.

Council Member Oliver asked if there have been any conversations as far as with their immediate neighbors who are looking at this. He knows Hanford is one with their Pirelli Plant and they’ve toyed with it but he asked if there have been any discussions here locally that they’ve had.

Mr. Boyle stated they did not reach out to Coalinga. He thinks that is something they should do. He stated he appreciated that.
Council Member Oliver stated he thinks they have to recognize the sentiments of their community. He stated they need to think out in the long run and ask if they are going to look back 20 to 30 years from now and ask if they missed the boat or they should have seen this coming.

Council Member Oliver stated he thinks they’ll find especially with Chief Salvador that he has a really interesting perspective on it. He’s heard him present to the Five Cities Economic Development JPA in Fresno County about the subject and how they’ve approached it and he wrote an article that’s called, “What happens when you walk in with the band and you walk out with a new industry?” Council Member Oliver stated he thinks he has a little bit interesting perspective in that front.

Council Member Oliver stated he thinks it would be good to have those conversations and see what others are doing. He thinks there’s examples in Calavares County where he has cousins that live there where they’ve taken the opposite approach and pretty much disregard to their community in allowing outdoor grows and they are having a large impact on especially rural residential properties there. He might encourage the conversation to look at other practices and most importantly to look at what some of their neighbors are doing.

Mayor Medellin stated they were all good points. He thanked staff for their presentation.

B. CONSENT CALENDAR

B-1 Minutes – 8/17/16
B-2 Information Only – Warrant Disbursement Report
B-4 Consideration of a Minute Order Accepting the Installation of a New Compressed Gas (CNG) Compressor Federal Project No. CML 5157 (085) City Project No. CNG 11-01 and Authorizing the Recording of a Notice of Completion (Report by Keith Helmuth)
B-5 Consideration of a Minute Order Accepting the Laurel Street Bike Path Sunset Avenue to Fresno River Trail Federal Project No. CML 5157 (097), SJVAPCD Project No. C-28159-A, City of Madera Project No. PK 12 and Authorizing the Recording of the Notice of Completion (Report by Keith Helmuth)
B-6 Consideration of a Resolution Approving Agreement for Outside of City Water Service for Property Located at 28120 Mono Street, Approving Covenant to Annex, Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the Agreement and Covenant on Behalf of the City and Directing Staff to Record the Agreement and Covenant (Report by Keith Helmuth)
B-7 Request to Schedule Public Hearing for an Appeal of a Planning Commission Decision (Report by Chris Boyle)
B-8 Consideration of a Resolution Approving a Facility Use Agreement with Fresno County Office of Education (FCOE) for Use of Scout Island Outdoor Education Center and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the Agreement on Behalf of the City (Report by Mary Anne Seay)
B-9 Proclamation Declaring April 24-28, 2017 as the Week of the Young Child
B-10 Consideration of a Resolution Approving Modifications to the Funding for Projects Under the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program to be Submitted as an Amendment to the 2017 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (Report by Keith Helmuth)
Mayor Medellin asked if any council members would like to pull items from the consent calendar for further discussion or questions. Seeing none, he entertained a motion for action.

**ON MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLEY, AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROBINSON, THE CONSENT CALENDAR WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 7-0.**

**RES. NO. 17-45**  
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE AGREEMENT WITH JHS FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, A CALIFORNIA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, AS AN UNDIVIDED 1/3 INTEREST, DBH FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, A CALIFORNIA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, AS TO AN UNDIVIDED 1/3 INTEREST, AND JCH LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, A CALIFORNIA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, AS TO AN UNDIVIDED 1/3 INTEREST OR ORDER FOR OUTSIDE OF CITY WATER SERVICE FOR 28120 MONO STREET, APPROVING THE COVENANT TO ANNEX, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT AND COVENANT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY AND DIRECTING STAFF TO RECORD THE AGREEMENT AND COVENANT

**RES. NO. 17-46**  
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA APPROVING A FACILITY USE AGREEMENT WITH FRESNO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION (FCOE) FOR USE OF SCOUT ISLAND OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTER AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY

**RES. NO. 17-47**  
RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING MODIFICATIONS TO THE FUNDING FOR PROJECTS UNDER THE CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) PROGRAM TO BE SUBMITTED AS AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2017 FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

**RES. NO. 17-48**  
RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN A LETTER SUPPORTING LEGISLATION ADDRESSING THEFT OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS FROM THE WASTE STREAM

**C. HEARINGS, PETITIONS, BIDS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, AND AGREEMENTS**

**C-1**  
Public Hearing to Consider the Community Development Block Grant Review and Advisory Committee Recommendations and Request for Council to Make Tentative Allocations for the 2017/2018 Action Plan (Report by Ivette Iraheta)

Ivette Iraheta, Grants Administrator stated this is the first Council hearing to produce the 2017/2018 CDBG Action Plan. She stated that as HUD requires, she introduced CDBG Program Manager Jorge Rojas to offer translation services to who may need them.

In Spanish Mr. Rojas informed the audience that they are at this reunion to distribute the Housing and Urban Development funds for the year 2017/2018. He asked if anybody needed assistance with English. In English, he informed Council that there didn’t appear to be any.
Ms. Iraheta stated that the primary purpose of tonight’s hearing is for Council to consider the CDBG Review and Advisory Committee’s [RAC] proposals for 2017/2018 CDBG funds. Ms. Iraheta stated Council will allocate $839,924 this evening.

Ms. Iraheta stated that on March 23, 2017 the Review and Advisory Committee held a public meeting to listen to presentations from every applicant. There were nine applicants and the requests exceed $1.1 million. Council has received the full applications submitted for consideration.

Ms. Iraheta introduced the Review and Advisory Committee’s Chair, Mr. Ken Hutchings to give them an overview of how the committee derived at their recommendation.

Mr. Hutchings stated it was his pleasure along with five others to serve on the Review and Advisory Committee. He thinks most of them were repeat participants this time on the committee and it was a pleasure to serve with them.

Mr. Hutchings stated that when they evaluated these organizations that were applying for funds, he would say from his own personal standpoint and he thinks he would probably be reflective of the way most of the committee members were, is that they were looking at those organizations that really showed a success and what they have accomplished during the previous years.

Mr. Hutchings stated that some of them were quite impressive. One of them talked about the Homeless Coalition and gave them a presentation showing that the amount of homelessness based on the Census that had been done has gone down dramatically over the years since 2010. He believes it went down from the 800s down to the mid-250s just a couple of years ago. That was something, he thinks that impressed them and that guided their decisions in that and it went that way, he thinks for most of them. If they felt it was going to be beneficial to the City, help the City and help the citizens that they made their best decisions and tried to spread the funds the best they could.

Mr. Hutchings stated he would answer any questions.

Council Member Rodriguez thanked them for the presentation and asked what the process was for determining what agencies or what applicants….. He asked how the process goes as far as if he sends an application. He asked if they determine on a board; do they decide. He asked how they come about determining the amount of money that is allocated to these organizations that are asking for these grants.

Mr. Hutchings stated that for example, the first one which he believes is the CDBG Administration, there were two applicants on that. That was the City of Madera and then the Homeless Coalition and because they had a very favorable impression of the Homeless Coalition and their work, in addition to the City not to shortchange the City at all, in that particular one they felt that both of them were worthwhile and as a means of compromising they basically did a pro-rata distribution on that. Neither one of them got the full amount but they both ended up with the proportion of their funding request which he believes in that instance was something like 90%.

Mr. Hutchings stated that was unique in that particular one. He thinks in other cases, he knows that the committee is very favorable towards the Meals on Wheels program that the City of Madera Parks and Community Services puts on so they did allocate a lot of funding for that. At this point he doesn’t remember how they distributed amongst the other ones but they did want to make sure that there was sufficient funds for that because they knew that serving the senior population is a very important thing to do and that was a funding source that would really help that program.

Council Member Rodriguez stated the reason he asked is because when he sees these grants and he saw some of the applicants here and he looked where the money is allocated, big chunks of the money are allocated to salaries and benefits and his question is it allocated to any services that actually reach any other applicants and services they provide. Council Member Rodriguez asked if that was something they consider. He asked if they are just affecting the salaries and benefits of these people that go out and
actually touch in these services or are they also looking at programs and services where they can allocate those funds.

Mr. Hutchings stated that he personally was not looking at the salaries. He was taking a look at the end results. He stated he knows that most of them did have their salaries listed and expenses associated with their organization. He stated that unless it just seems exorbitant to him, which he doesn’t believe any of them appeared to him to be that way, he doesn’t really weigh that at all. He is more concerned with what they’ve done in the past and what kind of results they have been able to show for it. Those are the numbers that he’s been looking at the most.

Ms. Iraheta stated they have invited representatives from every organization that submitted an application here tonight to answer further questions that Council may have of the specific organization.

Mayor Medellin stated they will start at the top and work their way down and they will take each application one by one and if they have any questions at that time they will also have that person from each organization be able to come up and field some questions.

Mayor Medellin asked Mr. Rojas to let him know when they were ready.

Mr. Rojas and Ms. Iraheta stated they are ready.

Mayor Medellin stated they would start with Local Administration where the amount requested is $150,273. RAC’s recommendation from the March 23rd meeting is $135,873. Mayor Medellin asked who would be answering questions for staff and asked his colleagues if they had any questions regarding that particular application.

Brent Richardson, City Attorney indicated that the City Clerk is reminding him that they need to open the public hearing formally.

Mayor Medellin stated he thought he had when he introduced it. Mayor Medellin opened the public hearing on this item. He thanked staff for not letting him forget and asked that they not let him forget again.

Mr. Richardson addressed Mayor Medellin and stated he wants to open it up to the public.

Mayor Medellin stated this is a noticed public hearing and asked if there was anyone in the audience wishing to speak regarding any of these recommendations and he doesn't want to get out of turn but if there was anyone from the audience wishing to speak regarding any of these recommendations to please come forward and state their name and address for the record.

Mayor Medellin addressed Mr. Richardson and stated he can leave that open. He stated he won’t close the public hearing so it will mean that Mr. Richardson will not have additional time or a chance to speak on some of these issues.

Mayor Medellin stated they will get back to Local Administration and asked if his colleagues had any questions, direction or concerns.

Council Member Rodriguez asked them to explain when it says that we do not duplicate their activities. He asked what it is that we’re looking for year after year when they come back for these grants. Council Member Rodriguez stated this might be a general question for all of them because he saw that question there. He asked if it something that year after year they’re trying to fund the same program doing the same thing or is this something that is kind of different in certain ways or do these grants work differently. He asked if they have to see some type of progress.

Ms. Iraheta stated that generally they see the same organizations apply but they are usually applying for different programs and the requested amounts change from year to year and they do have historical
information if he desires to see that. Ms. Iraheta stated typically they are the same organizations, funding, similar and sometimes different programs.

Council Member Rodriguez asked if it funds the same thing over and over.

Ms. Iraheta stated it does not.

Council Member Rodriguez asked that if he has a set grant that he wants every year for 150 doing the same thing over, is this what these grants do or can they do that.

Ms. Iraheta stated that HUD actually discourages that because they want to see progress on programmatic activity. They want to see that they are expanding their results so they would have to modify their proposal in order to do that.

Council Member Rodriguez asked how they evaluate that progress or how do they look at that and say this is what they did historically the years before and this is what we see.

Ms. Iraheta stated that one way they evaluate is through the Review and Advisory Committee’s considerations, staff also makes recommendations, Council and also they do request that the organizations submit quarterly reports and staff provides feedback at that point if necessary.

Council Member Rodriguez asked if Ms. Iraheta was saying that they were being monitored on a yearly basis.

Ms. Iraheta replied that on a quarterly basis.

Mayor Medellin stated it was a good question. He stated it is not easy. The monies they have been getting from HUD every year have been less and less. Mayor Medellin stated that a few years ago they were close to a million dollars in distribution and now they are at about $840,000. It is a lot of money but when they spread it over a number of people asking . . . . They are all good causes. Mayor Medellin stated as part of that application process it is overhead that the City is asking for so how much is going to salaries and administration and things of that nature. They can certainly appreciate that and take that into consideration when they’re distributing monies. It’s a good question.

Council Member Rodriguez thanked Mayor Medellin and stated that is the reason he asked because since their funds are starting to come down, he doesn’t know if it’s year after year. He asked if they start looking at the programs that make more sense to the community. They want to make sure that the applicants that apply are held accountable as well, what the progresses are and what they are applying these grants to.

Mayor Medellin stated it is an important point which will be brought up here today. If they are giving monies away they want to see some results and sometimes if those results . . . .they could have used more and we could have impacted more people in our community then they will consider that the following year and the reverse, if they feel that it did not have the impact that they thought it would then when they come back the following year they may make those adjustments. Mayor Medellin stated that to have a check and balance and to just see how those monies were disbursed and used is a great question. He thinks that is something they should be on top of and should be part of the criteria when they make these allocations.

Council Member Rodriguez asked if any of the Prop 64 dispensaries apply for these.

Ms. Iraheta replied they hadn’t.

Mayor Medellin stated that what was suggested by the RAC again is what they see before them. They have $150,273. RAC has suggested $14,400 to be given to the Fresno/Madera Continuum of Care and $135,873 to Local Administration and staff is recommending all $150,000 to go to Administration.
Mayor Medellin stated that he would take any other input, questions or concern from his Council starting with Council Member Oliver.

Council Member Oliver stated he definitely has some suggestions but stated that before going into that it would be good to allow for the opportunity for representatives of the Continuum of Care to speak, assuming staff does not want to add anything at all as far as their administration requests. He asked if that would be good for everyone.

Mayor Medellin stated that is a great suggestion and asked that representation from the Fresno/Madera Continuum of Care to come forward.

Mayor Medellin instructed them to state their name and address for the record.

Gabriela Salazar with Community Action Partnership of Madera County located at 1225 Gill Avenue. Ms. Salazar stated CAPMC is part of the Fresno/Madera Continuum of Care. She thinks that is very important to their community. They have become the voice of Madera when it comes to homeless issues. Ms. Salazar stated they are regular attendees of the FMCOC. They spearhead the Madera County Homeless Coalition. They spearhead, plan and implement annually the Homeless Point and Time Count which year after year they’ve come to the Council and spoken to them about what is going on with the implementation, the planning and their annual results. Ms. Salazar stated that is something they feel very proud of because they’ve shown the results. They also have an annual Homeless Awareness Day that also helps to bring awareness to the issue of homelessness.

Mayor Medellin thanked Ms. Salazar.

Council Member Oliver stated that last year during these deliberations he believes they funded the Continuum $16,000 but as part of that they tasked Elizabeth Wisener who is the lead in this regard with CAPMC to go over and beyond the coordination activities and the Point and Time Count but to really interact with the agencies and the departments who interact with their homeless population including Code Enforcement and the Police Department. Council Member Oliver stated they have gone over and beyond to do just that. He is appreciative of that not only with the thorough application and spelling out what they are going to do with “x” dollars but for going over and beyond and showing that added value, investment and the return on the investment for these funds.

Council Member Oliver stated that on a personal note he had the opportunity to see these dollars put to work this past year. He was able to join Ms. Salazar and Mattie Mendez for two of the days during the Point and Time Count and his hat is off for the two of them because of the hard work and time that they put into that. They spend hours….he thinks Gabi probably spent eight hours a day going underneath bridges, meeting with various homeless people, trying to find them and scout them out so that they can provide as much resource and services in the future.

Council Member Oliver stated he just wanted to say he is appreciative of their efforts and most importantly for the follow-up and going over and beyond with this particular source of funds especially last year.

Council Member Oliver stated he has some suggestions but he’d open it up to his colleagues if they’d like to add anything.

Mayor Medellin asked for any other comments regarding the Continuum.

Mayor Medellin stated he would agree. Mayor Medellin stated that Mr. Hutchings had alluded to it earlier. When they are looking results, he thinks homelessness has been decreased in the last four or five years by almost 50%. He asked if that was right and Ms. Salazar replied affirmatively. Mayor Medellin stated that is fantastic and they won’t stop until they have zero homeless. He knows it can be a thankless job but he stated they have done some wonderful things and partnered with a number of people in their community so he concurs with his colleague’s comments.
Mayor Medellin asked Council Member Oliver for his suggestions.

Council Member Oliver stated he would suggest going with the same allocation as last year and awarding the Continuum $16,000 and the remainder to the Local Administration.

Mr. Rojas indicated they are ok with that.

Council Member Holley stated he concurs with that.

Council Member Rodriguez stated he knows they have done this year after year so his question is, is there a reason why staff recommends $150,000, he’s assuming the whole thing. He stated he is assuming that obviously every applicant wants the most that they can get.

Mr. Tooley stated that every dollar they allocate from block grant is a dollar that you don’t have to spend out of their General Fund. They use the administrative side and other grant sources to fully fund their Grant Department. Mr. Tooley stated this is a business decision and there is nothing that limits the Council’s ability to make an allocation to a particular group.

Council Member Rodriguez asked if this was a similar amount that they received last year for administrative purposes.

Mayor Medellin stated it was less.

Mr. Rojas referred to the fiscal year allocations in the pop up comments. Last year it was $150,970.

Mr. Tooley stated that everyone is aware that availability of block grant is going down and the current administration is seeking to eliminate block grant in its entirety so they are all running a bit of risk.

Mayor Medellin asked if there were any other questions. He stated it looked like they were all in agreement with these adjustments. Mayor Medellin thanked Ms. Salazar for their efforts and coming up. They really appreciate it.

Mayor Medellin stated they were moving on to the Madera County Workforce Investment Center. He stated he knows they have representation there and asked them to come up.

Tracy Scott Contreras stated she is with the Madera County Workforce Investment Center located at 2037 W. Cleveland, Madera.

Mayor Medellin asked if she had gotten used to saying the new address and she replied affirmatively.

Mayor Medellin congratulated them on their new building. From his understanding, they have a little bit more room to maneuver.

Ms. Contreras stated they do. It is very exciting.

Mayor Medellin asked if anyone had questions for Ms. Contreras regarding the application.

Council Member Rigby stated that looking at their RAC and understanding completely that the service in which they are saying they provide for the City is much needed. He is curious, he was kind of looking through and she had mentioned that the allotted amount of money would be used for books, testing fees, mileage, etc. He asked her what etc. is.
Ms. Contreras stated she apologized for that. She clarified that over the past several years they’ve been using CDBG funds to provide training scholarships and assistance to the City of Madera residents who are low income to access post-secondary vocational training opportunities mostly in the form of scholarships.

Ms. Contreras stated that if they have to take their personal vehicle to Fresno to a training institution they will usually provide a flat rate reimbursement for their transportation expenses after they’ve attended and typically that is about $8.00 a day; much less than the IRS approved rate for mileage but something to help them put gas in their tank because they are in fact struggling economically.

Ms. Contreras stated that do right now a great deal of focus on high school equivalency preparation. They are co-located with the Madera Adult School at their new facility and they’ve been focusing a great deal on increasing high school credential attainment rate for adults in the community. Approximately 36% of the adults in the City of Madera over the age of 25 do not have a high school equivalency. Many of them are English language learners and immigrants and some of those populations are not eligible for other federal funding sources so they are trying to increase access to offerings at the Adult School by co-sponsoring a class with their organization, the Department of Social Services and Madera Adult School to offer open entry open exit classes during the day and in the evenings, assist with the fees for books and testing for the high school equivalency or high school diploma so these individuals can successfully go on to better employment opportunities or post-secondary education or training opportunities.

Council Member Rigby asked how much exactly they are offsetting. He stated she’d mentioned they can’t afford it and asked what it is they can’t afford.

Ms. Contreras stated that a typical vocational training program that they do a sponsorship for, for the general public can run at a private school anywhere from $6,000 to $18,000. She stated they obviously don’t pay $18,000 because they don’t have that kind of money. They offer around $3,500 to offset the cost of tuition and encourage people to attend at schools that offer financial aid and at the Community College Center.

Council Member Rigby asked how many scholarships were awarded last year through the program.

Ms. Contreras stated this past year they served 17 individuals. Some of those were through the high school equivalency program. They did one Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) certification and they provide books, testing fees and mileage support to six other individuals. So far this year they’ve served 22 individuals primarily in high school equivalency programs with the test fees which are $150 for the high school equivalency exam. Ms. Contreras stated they’ve also assisted some with licensing fees or credential fees for things like security officer licenses. They have an individual who is currently working at the courthouse. He’s one of their young adult participants. They paid for his training and they are paying for the licensing fee with a small amount of the CDBG monies that they have for the current year.

Ms. Contreras stated they are doing things like that trying to connect individuals to careers and opportunities that are available here in the City of Madera so they can work here, be successful here and raise their families here.

Council Member Rigby asked why he is just learning about these stories. He asked why these stories aren’t included in their application process.

Ms. Contreras stated she would apologize for that. She stated she doesn’t have an answer to that question as she didn’t prepare the application.
Council Member Rigby stated 14,000 potential clients are what their organization…..

Ms. Contreras stated it is those that are below the poverty level within the City of Madera.

Council Member Rigby stated she said they reached 20 of them.

Ms. Contreras stated 20 with these funds.

Council Member Rigby stated that is less than 1% with these funds specifically. He asked how many people altogether are coming through their program from City funds and matched funds.

Ms. Contreras stated that using this past month as an example, they moved into the larger location. They had over 3,200 visitors during the month of March at the Workforce Assistance Center on Cleveland Avenue. Last year they had approximately 1,200 to 1,500 visits per month and they assist everyone at some level.

Council Member Rigby asked why those numbers weren't on their application process.

Ms. Contreras stated she would apologize for that. She does not have a response to his question.

Council Member Rigby stated he was ready to give them zero money tonight. He stated these numbers change his game completely. He would strongly recommend that she take that back to whomever is preparing their RACs in the future.

Council Member Rigby asked what their completion rate is.

Ms. Contreras asked if that was as far as the high school equivalency program and Council Member Rigby replied affirmatively.

Ms. Contreras stated she believes their dropout rate is less than 10% overall and that is everyone that they sponsor.

Mayor Medellin stated that Ms. Contreras mentioned that their monthly visits just about doubled.

Ms. Contreras stated that it was less than a full month when they ran those numbers. It was through March 23rd that they ran those numbers.

Mayor Medellin asked what she attributes that to.

Ms. Contreras replied larger location, more visible location, the fact that they are co-located with more partners, and being there with the Adult School allows them to bridge that gap between education services and their employment services to connect people to those occupational opportunities and careers here in town.

Mayor Medellin stated he thinks that was the intention of the Executive Director, Elaine Craig and their ex-superintendent. They had a vision that if they built a one roof Adult School and Madera County Workforce Investment Center they would have the people there. He too wishes that some of those numbers would have been in there and he would have had a better perspective. Just the fact that it’s only been less than a month, they’ve almost doubled the number of visitors and with less than 10% dropout rate they could and should be doing some great things to their unemployment numbers here in the City and County of Madera.

Mayor Medellin stated he also noticed and wants to make a point. He stated that Council Member Rodriguez had brought this up as far as salaries and benefits. They are strictly asking for the $30,000 to just be part of those vague services that they had mentioned that were in the application…..
Ms. Contreras stated not vague. She stated it is specifically for textbooks, test fees, assistance with scholarships for training, on the job training, assisting people to connect to post-secondary opportunities who may not have access to other resources. Ms. Contreras stated that specifically their goal is to get people good jobs in their community and the only way to do that is to advance their skills and their education which is their mission.

Mayor Medellin stated absolutely.

Council Member Rigby stated that with all due respect that was not in their application. It was sort of captured by the word, etc.

Ms. Contreras stated she respectfully acknowledges that and she will certainly share that feedback and she appreciates it.

Mayor Medellin stated it is just to their benefit because the RAC Committee as well as staff and Council, they look at the largest impact and if they had numbers as to those graduating or using these services would certainly help in future applications.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that one of the things that really pops out for him are the numbers that are presented here. He is not sure if the statistics are accurate or not but if they are close to accurate…. He sees that Madera is 8.6 unemployment in comparison to the State and national level which seems to be pretty high. He stated that she went on and there are more statistics there and obviously shows the people that definitely need and probably the most underserved that need a lot of help.

Council Member Rodriguez stated he visited when they first had their grand opening. He was amazed at how many people really showed up from different walks…..different departments to be able to support this.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that as his colleague Council Member Rigby mentioned a little while ago, the fact that those numbers and data is not in the application obviously puts a dent in the amount but he does support for more education for these individuals and it’s just too bad they can’t do any more with what they are requesting. He stated that obviously he doesn’t know how far those $7,500 would even go.

Ms. Contreras stated that $150 each for a high school equivalency exam, it will stretch it. They typically double the number they are proposing to service.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that just listening to that now; how they doubled. Obviously, he would make a suggestion to even increase that a bit more but then they’d have to take from something else. He stated they would have to take from Peter to give to Paul. In this case, who wants to be Peter and who wants to be Paul.

Council Member Oliver asked for confirmation that the client population eligible for services, help whatever it might be with these funds, it would just be based on income and it would not be based on whether they are on cash aid, food stamps or…..

Ms. Contreras stated that from their perspective an individual who is receiving cash aid or food stamps is low income.

Council Member Oliver stated he agreed but his question is that he knows that in the Madera County Workforce Investment Center they all work within a web of government funding, training programs and certification programs and it sounds like this is to bridge that gap for those narrow things like textbooks or mileage that those ordinary programs don’t cover and asked if that was correct.

Ms. Contreras stated that is correct or for an individual who might not qualify for any of those programs for whatever reason. They would still be low income. Perhaps they are missing a piece of documentation that
they need for a federal grant but they can use other sorts of funds and they have other sorts of funding; foundation funding and other resources that they weave together to provide services to these individuals.

Council Member Oliver stated that they don’t necessarily have to be unemployed. They could be underemployed.

Ms. Contreras stated they could be underemployed, absolutely.

Council Member Oliver asked about soft skills training. He asked if there were any and he’s sure there’s some type of training dollars available through the State or whatever it might be but asked if these funds are intended to be applied towards that type of service.

Ms. Contreras stated it is possible but typically those types of services are provided directly by their staff. They have career specialists and business specialists on staff. They are currently researching some essential skill development training programs that go beyond what they typically think of as soft skills but they typically do that in-house with other federal funding because that is part of those programs so they wouldn’t usually pay for something like that out of these funds. Ms. Contreras stated this is really for direct things that a customer needs in order to participate.

Council Member Oliver stated he agrees with his colleagues’ sentiments that they have come before the RAC Committee as well as City Council for allocations many times past and he’s sure they have an unlimited amount of success stories and it would be great to see that tangible difference that those monies have contributed to.

Ms. Contreras stated absolutely and they will certainly make those corrections.

Council Member Rigby stated now he is interested. He asked what assistance if any do they offer in regards to the Dream Act.

Ms. Contreras stated that DACA individuals are eligible for their services if they have gotten authorization for employment from the Immigration Naturalization Services.

Council Member Rigby thanked her and stated that because these are federal monies.

Ms. Contreras responded that they are. She stated that she brought copies of the PowerPoint that she provided to the RAC that she’d be happy to leave with Council Members that have some past performance statistics as well as some plans.

Mayor Medellin thanked Ms. Contreras.

Mayor Medellin stated they would now move on to Retraining the Village and asked if there was a representative there.

Halley Crumb stated she is here on behalf of Retraining the Village of Madera, California.

Mayor Medellin asked if there were any questions for Ms. Crumb regarding the application.

Council Member Holley stated he’d had a chance to go out and look at the housing she is obtaining and trying to get off the ground. He stated that he can see that what she is asking for is well worth it. He wishes they could offer the whole thing. He knows she is trying to make a good start out there for the veterans as well as the homeless and seeing her get $7,500 will be a supportive help to them right now. Council Member Holley stated he sees great things that can happen. They have a lot of land out there that they can add to. The home that they have has be refurnished and it needs a little support in the economy but he thinks she is really working towards that.
Council Member Holley stated he knows it is out in the County but still it is something that they can see is really going to help us especially with their veterans and the homeless. She is offering them a place to stay, well fed, a kitchen and everything looks up to par over there. Council Member Holley stated he thinks that is a good asset.......any kind of help that they can give to them. He sees that it's going to work. He stated there are a lot of veterans out there that need assistance as well as the homeless.

Council Member Oliver stated he knows that some of them had the opportunity to speak with her and take tours but he asked that she elaborate on the program. He stated that obviously they had read the staff report but he appreciates hearing it from actual folks.

Ms. Crumb stated she has a lot of passion and has spent a lot of time on this home to make it official, up to code and fire safe so there wouldn't be anyone if an incident happened...... that they'd be in the Madera County and City codes. Ms. Crumb stated it is very important to her because veterans deserve to have a beautiful home, a beautiful place to stay....even homelessness.

Ms. Crumb stated she has been doing this for four years. She’s been doing it for a mighty long time and what she is seeing here in Madera is that most of our veterans don’t even know the benefits that they have coming to them so she kind of sidelinethem know this is their money. For example, a gentleman here in the City of Madera was getting $133 a month. She drove him to Oakland down to 13th Street and now he'll get $3,000 a month. Those are the little things that she does. She’s a little shy and silent. They call her an angel sometimes but she is here for them and she is here for the people in Madera and the City.

Ms. Crumb stated that CAPMC has really embraced her and she is now part of the housing stock for the homeless. The door is open and using low barriers. They plan on having classes for web site development boot camp and construction classes.

Ms. Crumb stated that the $7,500 is her foot in the door but once she gets in they’d best believe she is a force to be reckoned with. The grandiose plan is to not only house and stabilize that veteran or that homeless person in their lives but to get them career oriented, up and working every single day in hopes that they’ll come back here and purchase a home in Madera. She stated she already has two coming down the pipe. They are going to get their acceptance letters and she’s going to help them purchase a home here.

Council Member Oliver stated he absolutely agrees with her vision and as far as the need that is out there, it certainly exists and they have to do more. He asked her who she is currently serving and with what resources. Is it with donations, in kind, other grant funding. He asked her to tell him a little bit more about her business plan.

Ms. Crumb stated it has been a lot of her own money. Her whole retirement went into Retrain the Village. She stated she has a lot of great sponsors. She just spoke to Secretary Jim Nicholson underneath the Bush Administration about Madera and they are excited to know that Retrain the Village is here to help out the Central Valley. She has Sales Force. Home Depot did a magnificent job on the home. She stated it needed electrical, plumbing and everything. Ms. Crumb stated she turned on the garbage disposal and it spit through the laundry room. She stated it was an accumulation of 8-12 months. Every time she went in there was a problem.

Ms. Crumb stated that in regards to stakeholders, she is talking to the Catholic Charities such as St. Francis of Assisi Church in East Palo Alto. Father Goodie backs her ten thousand percent.

Ms. Crumb stated that the ideas and the new technology that is coming to the Central Valley, she can't stress it enough, they have to get ready. Those dollars look good but what they need to do is have their children and adults on the same level so that they don’t have recidivism back into the homelessness where it gets out of control.

Ms. Crumb asked if he understood what she was saying.
Council Member Oliver stated he did understand what she was saying and he agrees.

Council Member Oliver stated that in the budget she had marked $120,000 as the income funding source from the City and that was then changed to $55,000 and it sounds like she is content with the $7,500 that the RAC recommended. He asked if these operations and this vision, can be sustained without City or CDBG subsidy or money. He asked what some plans were.

Ms. Crumb stated she just tackled a huge grant for $457,000.

Council Member Oliver asked if that had been awarded.

Ms. Crumb stated it was pending.

Ms. Crumb stated she is speaking with a variety of excellent people who watch her do this virtually on her own. She stated the $7,500 would keep the door open and help out people in the community as well as…. Ms. Crumb stated she is just appreciative of them for letting her in the door.

Ms. Crumb stated it wasn’t an easy home but with CAPMC, Gabriela Salazar and everybody they just kept pushing her on and saying come here. She drives 2½ hours each way just to make sure that not just that home but what it means to a veteran; what it may mean to a person who is low in education and just want to do hands on and they can do it by hand but they may not be able to read it but they know they can perform it.

Ms. Crumb stated there is a big difference in knowing it book smart and knowing it hands on and that’s what she’s here to do; to create that vision of “I have something to do with my life” and reestablish that fire again and then present it where it can be helped here in Madera by building these 6,600 homes. They don’t want to outsource the people. They don’t want them to go to the Bay Area. They want them to stay at home. The commuting itself is dangerous. They have the skills. They have the “know how”. They can do it here, are hired here and they buy here then they win.

Council Member Oliver thanked Ms. Crumb for sharing her vision and stated he thought that she already learned that here in Madera there is a place for everyone whether it’s small measure or large measure and it does take an “all-hands on deck” approach so he really appreciates her vision and her presentation.

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos thanked Ms. Crumb for all she does and stated she is an angel for taking care of their veterans who have served our country very well.

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos stated that Ms. Crumb has been doing this home for their veterans for two years without funding from the City and the County. Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos asked if the County is giving her any funding at all for her home.

Ms. Crumb replied no. She stated that she presents to them soon. She stated that her main thing was for it to be health and safe. As of December 27th it was passed by fire inspection. It took a while for that. In the meantime, she just helped out the community and participated in the Homeless Counts and the COC and did the busy work around it but she will see if they have something available.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that he wants to commend her on the work that she does. He stated that he did have a question on the participants or the people that she is seeking here. He stated that he noticed it is a majority veterans. He noticed that she had something in there in regards to possibly inmates that are coming back into re-entry facilities. He asked if they have anything that measures, accounts or data that shows that these people are coming in and not using it as a revolving door to go back into the system but actually doing positive with themselves once they reach her organization.
Ms. Crumb stated she’s already touched three to five lives and one young lady who accompanied her who graduated from GL on the 13th of March. She has both certificates. Ms. Crumb stated she spoke to the Probation Department and there is a certificate or licensing that is required but the whole program can help previously incarcerated veterans and community people who are homeless. They call her Mama. It’s a very aggressive program because they have to have school work, church and home, up at 5, 6, 7, 8 and they have to keep all of their commitments to mental health, behavioral health and probation. Ms. Crumb stated that within this one home they still have a lot of different commitments that they have to fulfill in order to stay. Ms. Crumb asked if she’d answered the question.

Council Member Rodriguez stated yes and asked if the majority of the participants were veterans or was it a mix.

Ms. Crumb stated it was a mix. She stated they had five percent veterans here in the City of Madera. Ms. Crumb stated she is not working to be too selfish but it’s for Madera. The County and the Probation Department are welcome. They all came out to the Open House and she doesn’t see any reason why it wouldn’t benefit anyone else that is in the community.

Ms. Crumb stated that at this point she is working with Madera Rescue Mission. She works with CAPMC. She works with people who want to do the same thing and fulfill the same goals so collaboration is always appreciated.

Mayor Medellin asked how many people can be housed there.

Ms. Crumb stated that she stated that technically without hoarding it is 3,441 square feet of living space. She would do a comfortable 12 to 16 but for right now through the Code Department it is six to eight.

Mayor Medellin stated what he is going to hear from her is six to eight since that is what is up to code.

Ms. Crumb replied affirmatively.

Mayor Medellin stated that six to eight people is what she should be by law housing there.

Ms. Crumb replied affirmatively.

Mayor Medellin stated he didn’t hear anything else. Mayor Medellin stated that when he first read it he was getting the sense of homeless veterans and he was really led down the road of veterans which he thinks is very admirable but he’s also seeing people with health issues and people that used to be incarcerated.

Ms. Crumb replied affirmatively.

Mayor Medellin asked if it is healthy to have a mix of different people and asked who does the vetting process. He asked who actually takes applications and vets out who these tenants are and is this actually a safe place them. He asked if she does that or if CAPMC does for her or who does that.

Ms. Crumb stated that they are still in the litigations of the memorandum of understanding, MOU of what CAPMC and she will be responsible for but it would help out if they did the screening and then she interviewed them. Ms. Crumb stated that each person she interviews is something that she sees in them or God shows her in them.

Mayor Medellin stated that she herself decides who is going to live there and who is not.

Ms. Crumb replied affirmatively.

Mayor Medellin stated that it would then be fair to say that it is not a traditional vetting process with an application. It is pretty much who she feels is...
Ms. Crumb stated it is an application process. She goes through Sales Force which is her data information system and the system is a cloud management where she knows if they have been in war time or civilian time, where they came from, who is the probation officer, who is the parole officer and it’s not just her. It’s just a collective of the community. What she has learned is if you feed into a community a positive entity, the community adheres to it.

Mayor Medellin asked if they had a board of directors.

Ms. Crumb replied affirmatively.

Mayor Medellin asked if they are also a part of this.

Ms. Crumb replied affirmatively.

Mayor Medellin stated he sees under her income source that if he removes the City, she has service fees $5,000, fundraising $10,000, donations $56,000 and other $58,000 so approximately $130,000 annually. Mayor Medellin asked if that is what she receives annually.

Ms. Crumb replied affirmatively and stated from Lockhead Martin Aerospace and most of these funds have been coming into the Palo Alto House. She has two units. She has an East Palo Alto site and now the Madera site.

Mayor Medellin stated that the donations and funds that she gets from that site she is using here in Madera County.

Ms. Crumb answered affirmatively.

Mayor Medellin stated that what he is leading to is that he is a little leery because there is not really a business plan in place. He stated that with his heart, he loves what she is doing. She is passionate and she is helping people get off the streets and make a better life and that is certainly commendable. That is a hands down. They applaud her efforts. As far as distribution of CDBG funds, he is only a little leery because there is not a business plan. There is not a vetting process. They had discussed via e-mail that it is in the County and not in the City. Availability by law seems to be six or eight persons and there may be more than that. Mayor Medellin stated he is just a little uncomfortable right now with her business plan and her proposal.

Ms. Crumb stated she understands. She stated her first business plan has been completed. This is her fourth year. Her third year is done.

Mayor Medellin stated that is not there in her application for the money.

Ms. Crumb stated she was going to send it to him. She stated that the business plan for the three to five years here, she’ll be perfectly honest because she is an honest woman, it was iffy on if this house was going to pass. She didn’t know if she just had to take $60,000 and chunk it away and forget it.

Ms. Crumb stated she has been here since 2015 and it was first initiated by Lockhead Martin who is her corporate sponsor. They asked her what she did with $25,000 and she told them she got another house and they were like “huh”. Ms. Crumb stated that twice a year they give her $25,000 to $35,000 as a corporate sponsor so they know she was moving into the Madera area. Ms. Crumb stated when she got here she put $17,000 - $18,000 in the overhead and then Home Depot made her wait a year to even come in and do the Team Depot so the application was way far out and then all of a sudden they pop up in October.
Mayor Medellin stated that is kind of where he is going to be honest with her. He stated they might need to dot a few “I”s and cross a few more “T”s and get something a little more contractual as to what she is actually trying to do before he is comfortable with any kind of monetary donation.

Ms. Crumb stated that with the $7,500 she will be able to do her quarterly reports. She will be able to add more revenue to the program. She asked if he understood where she is at. Ms. Crumb stated it is totally up to them. It wouldn’t make her leave at all.

Mayor Medellin stated he doesn’t want her to and he really wants to stop by and visit and there are other avenues that can help. He knows that CAPMC has been a great help and there are other avenues.

Mayor Medellin stated he thinks they can help her get it off the ground. He just needs to be very honest with her. They are trying to stretch every dollar and he’s just a little on the fence as to something that has not quite been established yet and she has a lot of things in the works. She has almost half a million dollars that’s pending. She has some other things that are pending so he thinks he would feel a little more comfortable at this point to side with caution and let’s have some things a little more official especially her vetting process and who is allowed to come in and out and things of that nature. Mayor Medellin stated he thinks that would make him feel a little more comfortable.

Ms. Crumb stated that she’s given the proposal to Social Services, Probation way before the block funding and they have to prove themselves and she asked how as she didn’t have people to prove herself with. She stated being fair, at least six people knowing the house can take more. Six people from the time of January to right now could have been…..she’s already gotten three success stories. Two veterans are now making more money and one other person just graduated from probation jail here in Madera.

Ms. Crumb stated she proved herself. She brought it Sansaskr New Beginnings which is a resource of a non-profit where they are able to speak about how to do employment etiquettes and what would keep them employed. They were at the Open House. Ms. Crumb stated that once she had the Open House she spoke to WestCare and they said if she did an immediate shelter for veterans then they would come on in and partner with her. Ms. Crumb addressed Mayor Medellin and stated that no disrespect but no one’s come back.

Ms. Crumb stated that Elizabeth from CAPMC said she would be a portion of the housing stock and she wrote that in her proposal. Elizabeth’s husband is sick. Ms. Crumb went by today and asked where are they going to work this out at and she said she’ll be gone for three months so that is another three months delay.

Ms. Crumb stated it is $7,500 and she’s dealt with a lot more.

Mayor Medellin stated she is doing a wonderful thing. That is not what is in question here.

Ms. Crumb stated she just wanted to let them know how the distance within who is going to be there because they can’t very well expect a person who is coming in with no income, limited education, GA or the only penny that they have and give it to her….no.

Council Member Oliver stated he would share some of his colleagues sentiments. He thinks if an amount were to be awarded it would be their intent and their hope that they would see her on an annual basis.

Ms. Crumb stated that they will.

Council Member Oliver stated that she’d mentioned there are many different partners that she’s engaged and she’s done a great job at turning over many rocks and he knows that oftentimes especially when looking at services that are tailored to their homeless sometimes those solutions are hard to come by but he would image that by being recognized as part of the formal housing stock especially with her emphasis towards
their veterans homeless population there may be an opportunity to collect some rent for housing those folks and maybe providing a revenue source in helping improve her performa or business plan.

Council Member Oliver stated he would share Mayor Medellin’s sentiments. He thinks they will want to support her however they can but they also want to make sure that she can grow and she can serve many more people and that she could do it while being compliant and not having to worry about those restrictions. He stated one thing that he might suggest with staff as they do the small business workshops coming up over the next several months is it may be great to sit down with her and with some of those partners that they are going to bring in to talk about the business plan and to talk about her particular proposals.

Council Member Oliver stated they will obviously hear presentations from the rest of the group but he just wants to emphasize that he appreciates her leadership and her vision and for sharing part of that love from Palo Alto and bringing it here to Madera and he thinks they are blessed for her presence and all that she’s doing.

Ms. Crumb thanked him. Ms. Crumb stated it’s been a delight to be out of that arena of the Bay Area and to down home. Ms. Crumb thanked them for having her and accepting her.

Mayor Medellin thanked her and stated they appreciate her coming down here. They appreciate her efforts.

Mayor Medellin stated they were moving on to City of Madera Parks and Community Services.

Mayor Medellin announced Mary Anne Seay, Parks and Community Services Director.

Ms. Seay stated she would answer any questions or go through her presentation quickly whichever they preferred.

Mayor Medellin stated they have all read her presentation and have seen it. He asked if any of his colleagues had any questions or concerns.

Council Member Rodriguez stated this goes back to that question that he asked at the beginning when it comes to salaries and benefits. He asked if aside from the General Funds, do these grants go to supplement these additional salaries and benefits and what have you.

Ms. Seay asked if she is understanding his question correctly. She asked if he was asking what their revenue sources are or is he asking her how much of CDBG funds will go towards salaries.

Council Member Rodriguez stated yes.

Ms. Seay stated that CDBG represents about 23% of their overall budget if they were fully funded at the $100,000 request. The suite of senior programs which represent Bergon Senior Center, Pan Am Senior Center, their Adult Day Care Program as well as homebound meals cost approximately $433,000 on an annual basis. She stated a little over 50% of that is made up by the City’s General Fund and they also have Fresno Madera Area Agency on Aging as the pass through for some federal dollars that they receive and the balance of the revenue is in donations from seniors themselves which as she’s indicated in the past have been on a steady decline since the recession in 2008. Ms. Seay stated those donations come in the form of a recommended donation of $1.75 for each meal. It is only a recommended donation. They cannot and do not ask seniors for those resources. They know it’s a recommended donation. So what once was about in the $20,000 neighborhood for revenues is down hovering around looks like they are trending to hit $2,000 this current year.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that when it comes to the total amount of revenue needed to operate this he’s noticed it’s $433,000 and asked if that was correct.

Ms. Seay replied affirmatively.
Council Member Rodriguez stated of that, of course $100,000 that she’s requesting will be part of that and it covers most of their salaries and benefits and all the other items listed. He stated his only concern is if that being completely applied to the services that she’s requesting.

Ms. Seay stated absolutely.

Council Member Rodriguez asked if they were duplicating these services year after year or were they asking for new things and that is one of the questions that he had earlier as well.

Ms. Seay stated that one of the things that CDBG asks of them is to set goals and objectives every year and they do that. As part of that process they survey their senior population, quantitatively and qualitatively they count numbers, and they ask them how they are impacting their lives. Ms. Seay stated she lost her train of thought and asked that he repeat the question.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that what he’s getting at is when it comes to the services provided are they duplicating that same service. He asked how they are impacting this community. He asked if it is over and over, year after year or if they are looking for gains or are they looking for something to show what the allocated monies are doing for the services they provide.

Ms. Seay stated they are looking for gains and they are looking for them to meet the growing needs of the senior population. When she mentioned the surveys, they are asking seniors that in addition to the meal program what are other activities they want to participate in. For example they have Tai Chi, armchair travels, exercise programs, wellness programs, field trips, etc. at the request of the seniors themselves. Ms. Seay stated they have offered steadily senior programs at Bergon, ADC, Pan Am and the homebound meal program and they do make tweaks and adjustments based on the feedback they are getting from their end users.

Mayor Medellin stated that years ago during the recession they cut back the Meals on Wheels program and from every day to just giving five meals for the week but it turns out it wasn’t even the meal it was interaction with the seniors and the great thing is that the senior population is growing which is a very good thing. So it wasn’t so much how much the meal was or what was even in the dish it was the fact that for some people who get little or no visitors it was that interaction and it is hard to put a price on that.

Mayor Medellin stated he has seen at Bergon Center and Pan Am Center where they’ve gone beyond the dancing and the Tai Chi even into how do they get on Facebook and Twitter and things like that so that they can interact with grandkids and kids.

Mayor Medellin stated that it was unfortunate that when they made cuts years ago that this was an area that they cut severely and it was a detriment to their community. He stated he is sure everybody read the letters that were in the application from the seniors saying thank you for this program. He really thinks what they are saying is not thank you for the food but thank you for being a part of their lives.

Ms. Seay stated that has been their experience. She stated that obviously the meal is an essential part of what they offer and what they provide and more than half of Madera seniors are low income. She stated that is important particularly for their homebound clients but the connection to other people, the connection to the coffee carts and conversation are equally as important to their seniors as the meal.

Council Member Rodriguez thanked Mayor Medellin for clarifying that but that’s kind of what he was alluding to is the gains that they get. These are the actual gains that they see in the seniors is that they are being more active in the community versus back when they had to take those funds back or couldn’t really fund it because of the crisis that they had but that’s what he’s referring to. They continue to see gains in their community especially within their senior population as far as the interaction and Meals on Wheels and what have you.
Ms. Seay stated they do have targeted increase numbers/percentage of 10% annually as well and they recently got approved obviously pending what happens at the federal level to increase their homebound meal delivery from a cap of 85 and they were at 85 and they just got increased to 95 so they are taking in new intakes.

Council Member Oliver stated that one of his favorite classes in college was a Gerontology class and he got to do a service learning component and he was able to volunteer at the Adult Day Care Center and it was just an incredible experience and otherwise he wouldn’t have seen the programs and activities that are able to happen there.

Council Member Oliver stated that personally he is very worried about the Meals on Wheels program. They have heard a lot about it as far as the national headlines and as far as individuals in the current administration who do not think it is effective and that it works and that’s concerning to him. He thinks that it’s just a suggestion and a conversation they should have especially as they approach budget is a kind of what if analysis and that is what if CDBG isn't here next year especially for Meals on Wheels or other programs. Maybe just a comment or recommendation as they move forward into budget discussions and look at those things.

Mayor Medellin stated it was a good idea.

Ms. Seay stated it is well taken. They share his concerns.

Mayor Medellin thanked Ms. Seay.

Mayor Medellin announced Madera Coalition for Community Justice and stated they have a couple of representatives there. He stated he appreciates everybody’s patience. He knows it is getting a little bit late but it is very important work.

Lourdes Herrera, Executive Director of Madera Coalition for Community Justice introduced herself.

Mary Ann Chaves stated she is the Programs Manager for Madera Coalition for Community Justice. Ms. Chaves stated the proposal is very different from past years as maybe some of them have noticed. She stated they are focusing a little bit more on the arts this year and opening it up to the community.

Ms. Chaves stated she was here last year presenting their program that was going to focus specifically with youth and parents and they were going to talk about specifically “La Cultura Cura Cara y Corazon” where they were going to focus a little bit more on culture, values and how parents and teenagers seem to have that disconnect. They were going to be focusing more on how they could get them to start working together a little bit but also they were going to be focusing college going, A through G requirements, SATs and all of that preparation.

Ms. Chaves stated that in this process they’ve come to see that the culture is really missing a lot of those values that the parents feel that they want to instill in their children. Children are not necessarily perceiving them the same way so they went a completely different direction.

Ms. Chaves stated they are looking at proposing something a little bit different, Zocalo Madera. So this is Zocalo representing a public space. They are looking into an area, the youth actually came up with this idea, where they feel that they want to have a connection with Madera. They want to see that what they are doing and what they have been working on with the Madera Coalition for Community Justice and a lot of different projects in their schools is all being connected with adults and with everyone they come into contact with.

Ms. Chaves stated that intially as they got started with this program the youth stated they were looking to get out of Madera. It was really nice to see that they had two young men from Madera come back. Go away to college and come back and give back to the community. It really begins with those connections.
When they feel that they are connected to where they are from. Those roots and those values that are instilled in them.

Ms. Chaves stated they really feel this proposal will be beneficial where the youth are taking center and really planning out those activities that they can bring out to the community but not only engaging other youth but everyone. Bringing everyone downtown to an area where everyone is welcomed. Where different cultures can be exposed, different traditions, different music which is something that they really believe in the Madera Coalition for Community Justice with their Interfaith Interculture yearly event where it keeps growing and growing every year. They would really like to see that in a year round basis. Where there is a place where everyone can come and connect and feel that they are giving something back to the community and they are a part of the community.

Council Member Oliver thanked her for the presentation and wanted to add that he is totally in support of the Madera Coalition for Community Justice and have been for a number of years and really salutes all that they do especially with their work centered around their core principles and ensuring economic equity and social and environmental justice especially in areas of this town that at times have been underserved and underrepresented.

Council Member Oliver stated he was a bit disappointed though because he was really hoping they would have an application that highlighted the good work that they do and that said that with “x” amount of dollars they are going to give them “y” in return and it’s going to allow them to do much more and leverage that money based on what it is that they already do.

Council Member Oliver stated that every year they’ve had a different program and a different idea and it’s difficult to take inventory or stock as to the effect and the tangible impact that these monies have had. He stated his concern is, and he agrees with place making and incorporating the arts especially with their young people and he absolutely agrees and he thinks there is an undercurrent momentum in that area and he thinks they would agree, however how did they come up with a graffiti wall as far as that being the appropriate outlet so to speak for their youth. He thinks he has a kind of a concern with that in allocating money to fund coordinators to assist with that because he thinks that could occur tomorrow with or without those funds.

Ms. Chaves stated that is a great question. She stated she thinks that CRLA and she doesn’t know if that is the wall that he is referring to that they’re building necessarily and what has been done. She does know that their youth were involved in that process however there is an educational aspect and it is important for the youth to understand the difference in graffiti art and contemporary.

Ms. Chaves stated that she knows in the proposal there is bringing in different artists where there is an educational component for it for them to understand that art is not necessarily graffiti and for them to understand the difference between that. The difference between vandalism and taking into appreciation art and other aspects. They want them to incorporate and be involved in something like Art Hop in Fresno to see what that is like; different forms of art and different forms of things. They don’t want to make it be in a wall necessarily. They do want it to be more canvases oriented where they are able to explore with different forms of art. Ms. Chaves stated she didn’t know if that answered the question.

Council Member Oliver stated it partly addresses it and he thinks providing youth a broad canvas to work with and let their creativity and innovation take fold is important. He stated that he and Mayor Medellin sat on a facilities committee for the school district and among the school sites that had very little graffiti where those that had murals and those that had art so he thinks that is a fantastic project for them to get behind. He stated his hesitation and his difficulty is kind of the complexities that are involved with this. As far as site selection, he asked if they had identified the real estate or the building space they are going to utilize. He asked if they are looking at things beyond the graffiti art because it sounds like they are but that’s not what is conveyed in this application. So again, he wants to encourage folks to go back to the basic as to what they do, how they do it so well and the service they are having in the community and he thinks that would allow them to justify those allocations.
Ms. Chaves thanked him and stated they will definitely go back and make sure that their grant writer understands that.

Council Member Rigby thanked the Madera Coalition for Community Justice for coming out tonight. He has been a huge supporter of the things that they have done over the past several years.

Council Member Rigby stated he too was a little taken off guard as mentioned earlier by the request. He was actually really excited to read about Resilient Madera because that program pumped him up last year and awarding monies and the opportunity to hear of all the great testimonies that were going to come back of families that were positively impacted and young people whose lives were changed and altered for a course of success and education is the way they were ready to dive right in and help young people get to college and apply for FAFSAs and get them ready to go. And then he read their proposal for this year.

Council Member Rigby stated that first allow him to say that arguably nobody in this room that has a greater love for the graffiti art movement than himself. He stated that hanging in his living room are two incredible graffiti art pieces that have been done by world renowned graffiti artist who is out of San Francisco. He stated his wife has been a part of the Madera Arts Council. She sat on board for several years. He can understand and appreciate the value of art. His cousin, Pete Valdez is one of the mural artists out of Fresno and has his art gallery on Broadway Zero Artist and does Art Hop every year.

Council Member Rigby stated that the one thing he can tell them about the art community and he studied the Renaissance in college is that art is not a funded movement. He feels like what is being asked of the City Council tonight is fund our movement that will change the course of people’s lives.

Council Member Rigby stated he can get behind funding Resilient Madera. He is just really cautious if they are going to throw money into something that is normally begun organically and what makes art so incredible and beautiful is that it is not staged. It is not commercially prepared, per se. It’s an expression of how they feel, where they’re at, where they’re coming from.

Council Member Rigby stated that to him the frustrations that she’s talking about regarding having disconnectivity between families, he would love to see that. That would be artistic to him. It’s angry, it’s confusing, it’s dark but nevertheless it starts the conversation which is what art does which he thinks could have been a proponent of Resilient Madera. I could have been a piece of Resilient Madera. Council Member Rigby stated here is what they did with last year’s funding, here’s what they plan on doing this year with the funding and as a part of that they’re hoping to birth something along these lines.

Ms. Herrera stated she wanted to add a little bit. She stated maybe they’re a little piece of component for Resilient Madera. She stated the art is helping the brain. She stated if they had more people join things….. Maybe they are not doing at the school. Maybe they can do good at this education. Ms. Herrera stated they know the Madera Coalition for Community Justice is maybe focusing in art but they are doing the extra component. Ms. Herrera stated they’re asking maybe the City support them in art but maybe they have another component to bring this 50 or 100 kids to do art and at the same time they are doing FAFSA with them. They are doing college preparation with them. They are doing many things. For sure the parents are coming with them and they are joined together; the families. It is her vision. Ms. Herrera stated maybe the person who writes the grant is the vision for this person like it’s a component for Resilient Madera for college preparation.

Ms. Chaves stated that what Ms. Herrera is definitely explaining is that this idea came from Resilient Madera and they are utilizing other funds to continue Resilient Madera and continue doing “Cara y Corazon” however they decided to submit this proposal to the City, CDBG. Ms. Chaves stated they can definitely come and give them a presentation about what they found with the parents and the youth which has been definitely very interesting.
Council Member Rigby stated he is fiscally responsible to this money and to constituents and to ultimately the tax payer in the City of Madera and for him it is a lot harder to get behind, because ultimately that is how it is going to come back to him, graffiti wall. That is all they are going to see. They are not going to say a sophisticated movement of art that is a Renaissance type movement in the City of Madera. It is a graffiti wall and it would have been so much more responsible to say they are supporting Resilient Madera. They in return are doing phenomenal things downtown. They've begun an art movement. They have rebirthed the Community Garden which he believes is also……. Council Member Rigby stated there are so many great proponents. He just wishes they had seen that in the application. He knows that when they start talking about allocation that could weigh heavily on his decision.

Council Member Rodriguez stated he thinks this is what CDBG stands for is to fund programs that don’t duplicate and actually they inspire the youth. In this case, with a large population of Hispanic culture that they really want to engage and after seeing what they reported especially with the statistics of unemployment it goes to tell them that they definitely need more programs that actually help that portion of the population. He thinks art, and he’s seen it happen in different cities, where they’ve painted these murals and they’d be surprised how many people really back that.

Council Member Rodriguez stated he was probably more shocked on how they responded to it and how the community respected that mural that was there because the effort that it took for these youngsters to go out there and get that done really inspired them to do something different. So he believes art especially cultural art is seen by different people in different ways but he thinks the impact that it has on these individuals is huge.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that he understands why this didn’t come back again with the same program. He stated if he hears this correctly, is that not what CDBG is about. It’s to try to show gains with new programs and not so much duplicate what they’ve been doing before. He doesn’t know if that is the answer there but from what he understands that is what he gets from it.

Council Member Rodriguez stated he is in support of that. As far as the amount of money allocated to that, he does share some of the sentiments that his colleagues have but he is in support of showing that type of culture art to their community.

Ms. Herrera thanked Council Member Rodriguez and stated that another thing she would like to add is that at the school there are many bright kids. They are doing everything, clubs, activities, sports and everything and they are targeting these youths that didn’t participate in anything. Their parents are coming every week for distribution and say they have a kid like 16 years old all the doing this at home and ask what they can do. They tell them to bring them to them. They offer the service. First like helping them give food to persons and then they invite them to participate with the youth group and they start with ideas of what they’d like to do. They see the faces change. The mom and dad say they appreciate it because now they don’t want him to be there all the time. Lives change.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that one of the components that the program has is that they have a project evaluation which will monitor the success of this program and they hope that they do have success because if they do bring back a program next year they can see that. He is not sure if that was presented to the City this time around especially for last year’s program. Council Member Rodriguez stated that obviously his colleagues shared that was a very successful program or at least in their eyes it seemed there was something very inspiring.

Council Member Rodriguez stated he doesn’t know if those numbers or statistics or data for that evaluation of that program was ever brought here. He stated that would be something he would consider that way when they do come for grants and they’re asking the City to help them fund this then they at least have something that they can see. Council Member Rodriguez stated he is newer to these CDBG funds but the question that is always asked is if they are going to duplicate this.
Mayor Medellin stated it is not necessarily a requirement, that they ask them not to duplicate, the Continuum of Care does a great job every year with the homeless count and really what they come to us to say is they appreciate what the City has given them and they really need more to continue and those numbers statistically of 50% reduction in a handful of years is a great thing. So it is not necessarily a requirement that they don’t duplicate but sometimes they use that in some of those guidelines.

Council Member Holley stated he likes what they do. He stated that mainly he was looking for something that would tell him what they do to inspire kids besides art. He’s watched their program come out to different schools and plant trees in front of kids and teach them how to plant trees and how to be a part of something that is going to grow. That is what he was hoping to see in this asking. That as he watches them go around the different schools and take 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders out there and actually show them how to do something positive is what he was really looking for. He knows art is something but everybody is not into art but a lot of kids like getting their hands into dirt. He saw that and it really inspired him that this is what they are looking to get more trees so they can go to more schools. He knows they have a lot of tree planting and that is what the City likes seeing is a lot of trees so this is why his heart was into seeing something like that in this program. If that is something they can continue to do, he could see money going towards some stuff like that.

Mayor Medellin stated that was a good point.

Mayor Medellin addressed Ms. Chaves and stated that in the beginning she stated they asked the kids and that kind of resonated with him. He stated that sometimes as leaders they tend to lead the way they want to lead and she is actually showing kids to be self sufficient and so they asked the simple question of what they would like, what would they like to see and they give them that responsibility. That, he can really appreciate that that’s how they are starting and that this is something they would like to see.

Council Member Robinson stated he took a tour of the Bitwise. It is like a Silicon building which has high tech businesses there and one of the classes they teach is coding for about $200 for about a six week course. Council Member Robinson stated that would be more to his liking to pay for the transportation there and they can learn a skill for today.

Council Member Robinson stated art is good also but they install that into computers.

Ms. Chaves stated and it turn into art.

Council Member Robison stated that is what he wanted to say. He stated coding, teaching them more math skills and hiring a tutor to come in and help them with that.

Mayor Medellin thanked everyone for their input.

Mayor Medellin stated they had a recommendation from staff and RACs recommendation.

Council Member Oliver stated he wanted to offer a few thoughts. He agreed with their sentiments regarding Retraining the Village and wanting to see a little bit more as to the business plan and some of those things ironing out. He shares the same sentiment towards the Madera Coalition for Community Justice’s application as well. They have a good problem to have in that they do a whole host of work out in the community among the youth.

Council Member Oliver stated he would be hesitent to tentatively allocate money tonight. He stated that obviously they would most likely have to bring something back before taking formal action. So he might ask staff if it would be appropriate, particularly for these two organizations, to maybe come back and provide some supplemental information that might help support the application or address some of the areas of concern.
Council Member Oliver stated that with the Madera Coalition for Community Justice’s application he wrote down hours of mentorship, volunteerism, success of Resilient Madera, how many youth have been impacted as part of their programs year after year. He stated some of those things he thinks would possibly be readily available and he thinks it would help him in that decision making process. He stated he doesn’t know that he’s prepared tonight to agree to a tentative allocation. He would probably say zero as of right now but he’d be open to anyone else’s suggestions or thoughts on that.

Council Member Rigby stated he thinks he hears what Council Member Oliver is saying. He stated if that’s the case two thoughts are racing through his head. Essentially giving each of these organizations a chance to better their application. It feels to him like it’s an extension of a deadline that was given to them and he would hate to see organizations that played by the rules so to speak not sort of be honored for doing so in a timely manner and in a way that they award them properly.

Council Member Rigby stated if that’s the case, Council Member Oliver had mentioned Retraining the Village and the Madera Coalition for Community Justice, with all due respect he feels he was pretty hard on the Madera County Workforce Investment Center and so he thinks he would like to give them that same opportunity if they are handing out do-overs.

Council Member Rigby stated but at the same time he would like to keep it on the minds of his colleagues, if this is a decision they are making that they need to honor and respect those that in a timely manner offered a great presentation and for lack of better words took care of business. The award process he thinks needs to echo that if they are indeed going to give an extension to these other organizations for the opportunity to meet requirements that are being requested.

Council Member Oliver stated he agrees with that and he thinks if he had an overarching justification it would be that these particular organizations are non-profit organizations, don’t have funded grants departments and a well oiled machine so to speak. He stated the remaining agencies are mostly government or quasi government but he does agree with Council Member Rigby’s feelings and he thinks it should be taken into consideration as well.

Mayor Medellin asked if that was do-able.

Ms. Iraheta stated that if they give an opportunity to an applicant to submit additional information, they would have to grant that opportunity to all the applicants. She stated that also by allowing more time, it does postpone their timeline and potentially their submission of the proposed allocations to HUD.

Council Member Rigby asked what that timeline was just so they know what they are working with tonight.

Ms. Iraheta stated they will schedule final approval of the allocations for the May 17th City Council meeting after a required 30 day review period and they intend to submit their proposals to HUD the day after which is May 18th.

Council Member Rigby asked if that is when they are due. He asked if they are due May 18th barring any change from Washington.

Mr. Rojas stated HUD has informed grantees to not submit the application or the plan until final allocations are awarded.

Council Member Rigby stated he would ask the question another way. He asked if the 17th is the last day they have to……

Mr. Rojas stated if they are on track and they provide them with the final allocation. If they don’t, then it’s August 18th.

Council Member Rigby asked really and stated they are rolling the dice.
Mr. Richardson stated he has a concern. It kind of a little bit dovetails into what Ms. Iraheta was talking about and he doesn’t know if there were applicants that didn’t even make the chart such as the extent they are that for whatever reason maybe didn’t even make it that far because their applications were insufficient or didn’t quite describe it in a way that the RAC decided to word anything or it fell out of the screening process. He thinks they run into a problem here if they give anybody kind of a do-over or where the people that kind of fell out at the screening process didn’t get that chance. He thinks they are really throwing a wrench in the works here and running some risks.

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos asked if there were more than four applicants in that area.

Ms. Iraheta stated there was another interested applicant that wanted to submit an application the day after because they didn’t have a fully completed application by their due date.

Council Member Rodriguez stated he is going to rely mainly on their committee. He stated obviously, they brought this up to them and they’ve had the opportunity to vet this out. However he would suggest that the amounts that the Retraining the Village and the Madera Coalition for Community Justice are requesting are but a very small percentage that they agree to allocate. So he would suggest that they allocate $5,000 to both Retraining the Village and Madera Coalition for Community Justice and apply the additional $5,000 there to the Madera County Workforce Investment Center and leave the City of Madera Parks and Community Services the way it is so that they don’t run into time constraints. Council Member Rodriguez stated he doesn’t know how his colleagues feel about that but that is something he is willing to suggest and see how the rest of the Council…..

Mayor Medellin asked Council Member Rodriguez to give him those numbers again. He reiterated that Council Member Rodriguez suggested an additional $5,000 Madera County Workforce Investment Center so $2,500 would be removed from Retraining the Village and $2,500 for the Madera Coalition for Community Justice and leave…..

Council Member Rodriguez stated leave the Madera County Workforce Investment Center with an additional $5,000.

Council Member Holley stated he concurs with that.

Mayor Medellin stated he is concerned about the timeline as well and he is starting to be concerned about the application process which would of course be in the future as to what they are asking. If this is the direction of what the Council is looking for then maybe it needs to be spelled out in the application process and request. Mayor Medellin stated that is then and this is now. He too is concerned about the timeline. They would have to come back, make presentations again and then Mr. Richardson is telling him to be all fair, they would have to open this back up to not only these nine applicants but others that have applied.

Mr. Richardson stated that would seem to be what would have to be equitable.

Mr. Rojas stated that potentially also public noticing.

Mr. Richardson stated that deadlines were obviously provided for a reason.

Mayor Medellin stated those were public notice deadlines and things of that nature too.

Council Member Oliver stated he thinks that the intent was well intended to maybe address some of these concerns that were raised and be pro-active and he certainly wasn’t thinking through those particular timelines.

Council Member Oliver stated that kind of pivoting back to the Madera Coalition for Community Justice, they do have previous experience with these applications. Talking with staff, they have been in
conformance of those obligations and requirements by HUD in years past that gives him a level of comfort to move forward. Council Member Oliver stated he has to pivot back to some of the initial comments that they have regarding Retraining the Village. Again, he agrees 100% with the vision and with all they are intending to do. He just has a little consternation with some of the lack of details or previous record of carrying out these services especially absent additional grant money and a revenue stream that is coming in especially to cover some of those rents. It is still uncomfortable on that application. Council Member Oliver stated he is flexible.

Mayor Medellin stated point taken.

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos stated she would like to change it a little bit and go where City of Madera Parks and Community Services gets their full amount that staff is recommending and pulling the extra amount from Madera County Workforce Investment Center.

[Comment from the audience….Inaudible.]

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos stated pulling what they needed from Madera County Workforce Investment Center to make the City of Madera Parks and Community Services a 100.

Mayor Medellin stated he is going to add his sentiment. He stated that obviously what they can do with the recommendation of $100,000 will go a long way with the City of Madera Parks and Community Services.

Mayor Medellin stated the Madera County Workforce Investment Center has been established. The numbers they brought this evening was not what was in the application although certainly what they are doing for the community is huge in dropping the unemployment number and he thinks each one of them up there when they run for office is one of the first things they say is jobs and job creation so doubling the number of applicants just by a move across town has been huge.

Mayor Medellin stated that although they maybe expected something different from the Madera Coalition for Community Justice what the Coalition has done and what’s been established over the years speaks for itself.

Mayor Medellin stated that personally he has to express his reservation from somebody that is not established. He’s not even sure if it’s a permitable business at this point and he is very very leary of these early stages of the Retraining the Village.

Mayor Medellin stated his recommendation would be not to fund them at this time and give them a chance to come back with a business plan but he would like to fund the Madera County Workforce Investment Center and the Madera Coalition for Community Justice based on their past history and experience. He would not like to see zero allocation for Madera County Workforce Investment Center and for Madera Coalition for Community Justice. Mayor Medellin stated they could do $10,000 for Madera County Workforce Investment Center and the same for Madera Coalition for Community Justice and then the balance to the City of Madera Parks and Community Services.

Council Member Oliver stated he would be agreeable to that.

Council Member Rodriguez asked Mr. Rojas what amount was granted to the Madera Coalition for Community Justice last year.

Council Member Rigby responded $10,000.

Mayor Medellin stated he knows they are not finished yet but he thinks if it is permissible he’s not sure if it’s from the Grants Department or direction of the Council as to maybe what they’re looking for in future applications.
Council Member Rodriguez stated he was sorry and asked if he was seeing their numbers correctly. He asked what they were doing there. He asked if the proposed was $10,000 to the Madera County Workforce Investment Center and $10,000 for the Madera Coalition for Community Justice.

Mayor Medellin stated that is correct. That is his suggestion. Mayor Medellin stated based on history and as much as he would like to see them come back he is a little leery of the timeline so based on history that would be his suggestion.

Council Member Rigby stated he concurs. He stated he is forever indebted to any person who is willing to give their life to serving the men and women who have fought and give their lives for us so hats off to Ms. Crumb and Retraining the Village and his hope is that she would partner with the right people in order to ensure that when this application is put in again next year they can give her more money than asked for. He would hope that staff would be open to and willing to work and help in any ways possible when she walks in the door to ensure that what needs to be done in order for her to be in the winner’s circle next year for this.

Council Member Rigby stated he strongly supports Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos’ suggestion of fully funding the City of Madera Parks and Community Services Department with the full ask.

Council Member Rigby stated he just thinks it’s honorable to be able to give back to the Madera County Workforce Investment Center but again what was originally requested is what he is sort of basing his reward of. He’s grateful she was here tonight to sort of clear up some of his questions but it is the application that he is kind of going by as well as for the Madera Coalition for Community Justice.

Council Member Rigby stated it would be his suggestion to fully fund the City of Madera Parks and Community Services for what they are asking and for whatever remaining balance there is be evenly dispersed to the Madera County Workforce Investment Center and the Madera Coalition for Community Justice.

Council Member Oliver stated he would be amenable to that and added that maybe a few months from now obviously this won’t be a requirement of this but he may just encourage the Madera Coalition for Community Justice to maybe come back and do a presentation or workshop as to the great work they are doing especially on Resilient Madera. Again it wouldn't be a requirement to this but just a suggestion moving forward.

Council Member Rodriguez added that he would have hoped that he’d shown a sign of good faith to Retraining the Village if not a considerable amount at least some amount to show them that we do want their continued services in our community. He stated that of course they serve a lot of those veterans that again some of his colleagues had mentioned before have given their lives for our country.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that as far as the Madera County Workforce Investment Center he would have hoped to have seen and agreed with what Mayor Medellin had offered earlier which was a little higher amount there because the numbers that do reflect are very considerable especially in the short period of time.

Council Member Rodriguez stated they can go back and forth here and he knows that time is of the essence so he’s ready to entertain but he would have hoped that the Madera County Workforce Investment Center would have received a bit more and possibly take a bit from the City of Madera Parks and Community Services. Not to say they are trying to take the services but at least offer that opportunity for employment to grow in the City of Madera.

Mayor Medellin asked if Council would be amenable to at least RACs recommendation of the $7,500 per....

Council Member Holley stated they ask folks to come to their City and try to provide homeless and veterans places to try to lay their head to get folks out of the river and off the streets and it kind of bothers him that
they are not looking to help all those that need help. They want to juggle this around. He stated that if he were to sit there and do one thing he would just leave RAC recommendation as it is but he knows they don’t see it that way.

Council Member Holley stated he feels that if they are going to start somebody and showing good faith how they can support an organization that is trying to come in maybe sometimes they need to work with those trying to get these numbers and get these folks off the street. He stated they have to go to this home to really see what it’s doing instead of just looking at the dollar sign. Maybe the figures or addition is not all there but any kind of way they can help someone that’s bringing some support to their City is something he looks at.

Council Member Holley stated sure they can jiggle this around 24 more different times but if they are going to be supportive as a City, as a Council to help folks he doesn’t think if they just gave $5,000 to Retraining the Village and still keep the Madera County Workforce Investment Center with their allotment and give the rest to the City how they want. He stated he believes they can help everybody in their go arounds as they move forward. Maybe next year, they come back, they have a better understanding of what needed to be done.

Council Member Holley stated he knows it’s outside of the City limits, it’s a County but as they move towards that direction it is going to be in the City anyway. They are trying to help everybody.

Council Member Holley stated that as a veteran himself if he was homeless and he heard somebody was trying to help him and the City wasn’t he would be very upset. He stated he is not into the fact of just saying no they won’t do anything because of how we give this. They have some of these here been back here four or five times every year since he’s been here and still they’re allowing them to continue getting money from the CDBG. He can look at a lot of them up here that they continue to help every year but then they get something new in here they don’t want to help out so he is really bitter about that part.

Council Member Holley stated he thinks if they are going to do something right they just leave RACs recommendation as it is because they went through this process of seeing and talking with these folk individually but since they are going to start juggling things, his recommendation is RACs recommendation.

Council Member Robinson stated that as he said last year, the Madera County Workforce Investment Center is established and is offering training and skills to the adults. The adults have children to support.

Council Member Robinson stated they are professional and they just recently moved to a new location and they are attracting more people, more of their citizens and showing them the way to the path to success. He thinks they deserve more also.

Mayor Medellin stated he did mention that last year. He remembers that.

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos asked what if they did $5,000 for the Madera County Workforce Investment Center and $2,710 for Retraining the Village and $5,000 for the Madera Coalition for Community Justice.

Council Member Rodriguez stated this will be his last suggestion. He knows they are going back and forth here. He stated he knows that at least several of them have shared a sentiment about the Madera County Workforce Investment Center. He would like to see that they allocate $95,000 to the City of Madera Parks and Community Services and if they could add the additional $5,000 to the Madera County Workforce Investment Center and leave it as it stands. Council Member Rodriguez stated this is also their City also helping their community; better jobs, employment, helping their young adults.

Mayor Medellin stated he appreciates everybody’s input. Obviously, this is not easy. As he has mentioned before this is a lot of money and it goes a long way for everybody’s needs and obviously it’s very difficult for them because it would be a whole lot easier to just give them what they need and everybody is doing such a wonderful thing.
Mayor Medellin stated that in his opinion he is just setting some guidelines and criteria. He only showed his reservation not for Retraining the Village for their heart it’s just being more fiscally responsible over somebody who is not quite established yet and he would like to see more on that application of being established. Mayor Medellin stated he didn’t ask the question before. As far as the criteria since they are in the County. He asked if that criteria is met as the residence is not in the City.

Ms. Iraheta stated they asked HUD if they would be eligible and because they are serving individuals that are in the City of Madera at one point they do deem them eligible.

Mayor Medellin stated he is certainly open to something to show good faith because he knows that they will come back next year and show them the great strides they have done as he expects that from everybody else. He stated that with what they have on the screen if he can personally just take a minute to digest. He has not heard from the rest of his colleagues. Mayor Medellin stated he is amenable to that. He is ok with that.

Mayor Medellin stated he was willing to entertain any other input.

Council Member Rodriguez asked Mr. Richardson if they can make a motion.

Mayor Medellin stated they are not there yet.

Council Member Oliver stated he would be amenable to that. He stated what he would like to see again, they can’t require this, but he would like to recommend several months from now that hopefully some of these folks will come back and give a report as to what they’re doing with these precious CDBG dollars. He thinks at minimum he would be more comforted to see that. Obviously they cannot require that or mandate that as far as this action or recommendation but he would feel much more comfortable if that were to happen.

Mayor Medellin stated that if their check and balance process is something they keep tabs on quarterly again it is not necessarily something that they would mandate but he thinks it would go a long way in future years to come when applications are submitted with attachment that shows they had past attendance at Council meetings to kind of show where they are and where they’re going.

Ms. Iraheta reminded Council that these are federal funds that have a lot of administrative requirements. In looking at the $2,700 and even the $5,000 she just wants to remind Council that these organizations are going to be tasked with a lot of administrative requirements for that amount of money.

Mayor Medellin asked if she is saying the organizations themselves.

Mr. Rojas stated that on their end as well.

**ON MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ, AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROBINSON, ITEM C-1 PUBLIC SERVICES ALLOCATIONS OF $10,000 TO MADERA COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT CENTER; $2,705 TO RETRAINING THE VILLAGE; $95,000 TO CITY OF MADERA PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE DEPARTMENT; $5,000 TO MADERA COALITION FOR COMMUNITY JUSTICE FAILED WITH A SPLIT VOTE OF 4-3. ROLL CALL: AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS HOLLEY, RODRIGUEZ AND ROBINSON. NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS OLIVER, RIGBY, MAYOR PRO TEM GALLEGOS AND MAYOR MEDELLIN.**

Mayor Medellin stated they can continue discussion and he’s certainly open to any other changes with these particular numbers.

Council Member Oliver stated what he might recommend and again he thinks they’ve all gone back and forth with it, is it’s difficult for him to support any allocation for Retraining the Village at this time. As he
mentioned he would like to see them as a City extend whatever resources they can to support their business development, their organizational development and whether it be through one of their small business workshops or working with whatever partners he thinks they owe it to them to do that as their mission is an admirable one.

Council Member Oliver stated he might recommend proposing the RAC recommendation for the Madera Coalition for Community Justice at $7,500, the RAC recommendation for the City of Madera Parks and Community Services at $90,205 and the remaining balance to Madera County Workforce Investment Center.

Council Member Oliver apologized and stated $7,500 for the RAC for the Madera County Workforce Investment Center and the remaining balance to the City of Madera Parks and Community Services especially since their department and Meals on Wheels has been targeted by the administration.

Mayor Medellin stated the federal administration and stated he can certainly agree with RACs recommendation and the balance to go to the City of Madera Parks and Community Services.

Ms. Iraheta asked if there was nothing for the Madera Coalition for Community Justice.

Council Member Oliver stated he makes a motion for the allocations as he just recommended.

Council Member Holley asked what happens if they disagree.

Mayor Medellin stated he didn't hear any feedback.

Council Member Holley stated they can sit there and change this 100 times.

Mayor Medellin stated he had a motion on the table.

ON MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER OLIVER, AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIGBY, ITEM C-1 TO ACCEPT THE CHANGES OF MADERA COUNTY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT CENTER RECEIVING $7,500, MADERA COALITION FOR COMMUNITY JUSTICE RECEIVING $7,500 AND THE BALANCE OF $97,705 TO THE CITY OF MADERA PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES WAS ADOPTED BY A SPLIT VOTE OF 4-3. ROLL CALL: AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS RODRIGUEZ, OLIVER, RIGBY, AND MAYOR MEDELLIN. NOES: COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLEY, MAYOR PRO TEM FOLEY GALLEGOS, AND COUNCIL MEMBER ROBINSON.

Mayor Medellin stated he appreciated their understanding with what they are trying to do up there and to get this sorted out.

Mayor Medellin stated they are moving on to the next item [Capital Projects] which is the Madera Housing Authority temporary housing for homeless families in Pomona Ranch.

Linda Marie Shaw, Executive Director for the Housing Authority of the City of Madera located at 205 N. G Street introduced herself. Ms. Shaw stated she is also a United States Navy veteran and she will answer any questions they may have.

Mayor Medellin asked if there were any questions or input regarding Ms. Shaw’s application.

Council Member Rodriguez stated the majority of the people they will house here, obviously this is during the off season he’s assuming.

Ms. Shaw stated it is their off season. They house migrant farm workers during the summer and spring and this would be primarily during the winter months. The people they would house would be families because that is what they are equipped to handle. Most of the 50 units have three to five bedrooms so it
makes sense to house families. Ms. Shaw stated that what she finds in her experience and as she’s talking to members both at the County and City level, the homeless people will try to put their children with relatives or with friends while they sleep outside so what they would be doing would be uniting families and bringing them together.

Council Member Rodriguez asked if the targeted group of people they would housing are families or is there specific individuals, veterans or what are they looking ……..

Ms. Shaw stated it would be open to anybody. She stated when they first started this project she had to get clearance from the Office of Migrant Services to do this project at all and at the beginning what they wanted was to house only migrant farm workers. She has since convinced them that they need to open it up so she is not targeting veterans, she is not targeting women or men or …….. Ms. Shaw stated anybody who is eligible for their current program at the Housing Authority will be eligible to be housed.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that his understanding of course, again being new to the CDBG funds and the more that he reads through them is to really help their community and these types of organizations and events and that is what he was alluding to with his question. He asked if they are looking to house families.

Ms. Shaw stated yes they are specifically looking to house families.

Council Member Rodriguez asked how many families they are looking to…..

Ms. Shaw stated they have worked with the Workforce agency and with CAPMC to come up with a number of about 250 homeless people on any given night during the winter and they are looking to house about 123 families.

Council Member Rodriguez stated this might throw her off a bit and asked if any of the applicants that would normally be housed in that last Retraining the Village fit into this program as well.

Ms. Shaw stated what they would not consider is any felons because they have strict guidelines from HUD about people who have committed felonies like rape and child sexual abuse; that kind of thing. She stated they would not house any of those people but they would house most everybody else. Ms. Shaw stated the only other people they would refer to Behavioral Health would be people with severe mental illness.

Council Member Rodriguez stated he is assuming they would go through very intense background screening for the applicants.

Ms. Shaw stated yes they have that in place already at the Housing Authority so they would check things like prior rental experience. They would check their CORI – Criminal Offender Record Information to see if there’s any criminal background. They would check where they last lived to find out how they left; whether they paid rent or not. They would be real interested in housing the working poor so they do an extreme vetting in that regard based on the money they currently get.

Council Member Rodriguez stated the reason he asks is because being that they’re CDBG funds and they are responsible for every dollar, their taxpayers also want to know where exactly these monies are being allocated and to whom. He stated he thinks she brought up a good point that they have really intense background checks that screens out those potential people that could be prior felons and the list goes on.

Ms. Shaw stated she would like to point out to them that they’ve never applied for CDBG before. This is their first time. It’s a unique project in that most of the money will go towards retrofitting and modernizing the units that are not equipped currently to house people in the winter time. Ms. Shaw stated they already have a manager on board that will just be there year round so they don’t have to put in any money into staffing other than a management fee if they use a company and they can get this done prior to next winter so the project itself is comprehensive. They go in. They do it. They house people.
Council Member Rodriguez stated that next year when they do come back for CDBG funds they won’t be asking.....

Ms. Shaw stated it won’t be for this project.

Mayor Medellin stated that obviously this idea was born from having empty units that really just kind of sat there in the winter time and he thinks that for the last two hours they’ve talked about nothing but homeless. Mayor Medellin stated he commends her and the Ad Hoc Committee of Council Members Rigby and Oliver for putting this together. Mayor Medellin stated that the tenants will need to know that it is temporary housing. That when the farm labor community comes back, if they come back....

Ms. Shaw stated they come back every year.

Mayor Medellin stated that at that point nicer weather but they may still have a homeless issue. Mayor Medellin asked her to elaborate a little more on that outreach they have with CAPMC and Madera Workforce Assistance to get them out of that situation.

Ms. Shaw stated it is much more than that. She stated they currently have an enhanced Ad Hoc Committee made up of County and City people and local agencies involved so part of how they’re going to triage these folks and get them ready for the end of that five month or six month period is to refer them to the agencies that can help them become part of the workforce or get trained, get help with whatever health issues they may have. Ms. Shaw stated they want them to become within the mainstream part of the community so it’s really important that they not just stick them in the house and leave them there. That is not her philosophy at all. She always believes if they are going to house somebody then they need to find out if mom is hitting dad or if kids are stealing or doing the bad graffiti. She stated they need to be concerned about the wholeness of the family.

Mayor Medellin stated that the investment is necessarily in just this five month project. This investment is to the Housing Authority units which are already established to make the value of those units greater than what they are already.

Ms. Shaw agreed and stated they can operate year after year off of what this money will help them with.

Mayor Medellin called on Mayor Pro Tem Gallegos who stated Ms. Shaw had just answered her questions.

Council Member Oliver stated that Council Member Rodriguez asked a couple of his questions and he just wanted to quickly summarize. He stated he thinks at minimum they’re looking to put to use building inventory that they have, that they own through the auspices of the Housing Authority and to put it to use to those families particularly and homeless people who are in need of it especially during the cold winter months and that is as evident as they’ll see in the Point in Time counts which is done on an annual basis during the winter time each and every year.

Council Member Oliver stated he would imagine that the need is actually greater than that. That’s just of the people they are able to identify and survey so he thinks they’ve talked about the project several times both at Housing Authority as well as Council. He stated he appreciates Ms. Shaw’s leadership on this and injecting the Housing Authority to be a leader with the Coalition moving forward.

Ms. Shaw stated she would add one more thing. She stated that often she is called about emergency housing. Someone’s house burned down and they have no place to put the family. This could also serve as emergency housing for the City.

Mayor Medellin stated that was a great point.

Council Member Robinson made a motion to approve.
Mayor Medellin stated they still have a couple of others to go.

Ms. Shaw thanked Council Member Robinson.

Mayor Medellin stated they will strike that motion but he appreciates Council Member Robinson’s eagerness.

Mayor Medellin thanked Ms. Shaw and moved on to City of Madera Engineering Department sidewalks for a safe path.

David Tooley, City Administrator asked if they would allow him to cut to the chase on this.

Mayor Medellin stated he would if Keith Helmuth, City Engineer didn’t mind.

Mr. Tooley asked for Mr. Helmuth’s indulgence.

Mr. Helmuth stated definitely.

Mr. Tooley stated there is fair degree of support for his counterpart’s proposal from the Housing Authority. He stated that in addition support of that program is highly valued by HUD and their representative. There is a defined focus on the needs of the homeless and so he thinks the City’s interest would be served in support of a program like that.

Mr. Tooley stated that if they were to give that positive consideration then he would recommend that they maintain their focus on the sidewalks and safe path of travel for $176,000. They would reduce their allocation for the traffic signal at Yosemite Avenue and Elm Street. They have sufficient funds that they can back fill that particular project. They have a series of traffic signals that they want to accomplish. Mr. Tooley stated they will have sufficient funding to do the Yosemite project. They have sufficient funds to do the Howard Road/Granada Drive project in mid-2018 and that simply pushes back other traffic signal projects.

Mr. Tooley stated that if Council’s priority is the focus on the homeless then they are still in the position that they can move successfully forward on two new traffic signals.

Council Member Rigby asked him to repeat the Granada Drive/Howard Road timeline again.

Mr. Tooley stated begin construction mid-2018.

Mr. Helmuth stated it would be about mid-2018. He stated that what the funding for Yosemite Avenue and Elm Street does is provide sufficient additional funding in the DIF accounts to allow Howard Road/Granada Drive to move forward without a delay.

Mr. Helmuth stated other signals are sitting out there. They are delayed. The DIF accounts are stressed to some degree. This gets them those two signals.

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos asked if the signals on Westberry Boulevard/Howard Road are to go in before Granada Drive/Howard Road according to…….

Mr. Helmuth stated that Westberry Boulevard/Howard Road is not funded through DIF. It is funded through CMAQ (Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality) Improvement Program funding.

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos asked if that was actually going in before Granada Drive/Howard Road.
Mr. Helmuth stated it is. It is moving forward with design currently.

Mayor Medellin asked if the $400,000 for Yosemite Avenue/Elm Street also includes Howard Road/Granada Drive.

Mr. Helmuth answered it does not.

Mayor Medellin stated that the numbers he has on the upcoming item does not show $400,000 for one intersection. It shows about two-ish.

Mr. Helmuth stated the way the budget shows things is that some of the funding already occurs in the 16/17 fiscal year but it is funding. The CIP is probably more accurate to go ahead and see where the construction lies rather than the actual funding.

Mayor Medellin stated that threw him for a loop because under the CIP it wasn't $400,000 for one particular intersection.....

Mr. Helmuth stated it was not.

Mayor Medellin stated so he thought it was for both.

Mr. Helmuth stated there was some assumption that Yosemite Avenue/Elm Street will begin immediately following award of CDBG.

Mayor Medellin stated there was a timeline on that also. He thinks he left his notes in the car but he understands that.

Mr. Helmuth stated that depending on approval of CDBG they would advertise immediately after full understanding that they have CDBG funds.

Mr. Tooley stated they have a variety of revenue sources that are being used for the traffic signals. They were looking for $400,000 from block grant to accelerate that process. If the Council in their collective wisdom decides that they'll only allocate $250,000 then that necessitates that they do a re-shuffling of funds and some change in timelines. That's kind of the quick and dirty answer.

Mayor Medellin stated that Mr. Tooley got to the chase and he really appreciates that. Mayor Medellin stated that what Mr. Tooley is basically saying is that this is their proposal at RACs recommendation. Mayor Medellin asked if there were any other questions or concerns. He asked Mr. Helmuth if he had anything else to add.

Mr. Helmuth stated he did not.

Mayor Medellin asked if Council was ok with RACs recommendations.

ON MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ, AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIGBY, ITEM C-1 CAPITAL PROJECTS/PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS ALLOCATIONS OF $150,000 TO MADERA HOUSING AUTHORITY; $176,946 TO CITY OF MADERA ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT; $250,000 TO PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT YOSEMITE AVENUE AND ELM STREET INTERSECTION WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 7-0.

Mayor Medellin thanked Ms. Iraheta and Mr. Rojas and stated he thinks they have direction and he didn’t know if they had any questions.

Mayor Medellin asked Mr. Tooley if he had something to add.
Mr. Tooley stated he was just making sure that they had a wrap on that so that the Chair might consider a quick break.

Mayor Medellin stated he had just wanted to make sure there was nothing from the Grants Department. Seeing none he call for a five minute recess.

Recess from 9:19 p.m. – 9:27 p.m.

Mayor Medellin thanked everybody for their patience and understanding with the wonderful world of politics here at the City of Madera.

C-2 Noticed Public Hearing and Consideration of a Resolution Adopting the City of Madera 2015 Urban Water Management Plan (Report by Dave Randall)

Dave Randall, Public Works Operations Director stated this Urban Water Management Plan is really something that they do every five years as required by the State to do. They last adopted a plan in 2011 called the 2010 Plan. It always occurs a year after. Mr. Randall stated that this year the update was a little bit later. It didn’t come out until September and that is why they are seeing it in 2017. It’s a little confusing when they see a 2015 plan but that’s the reason why.

Mr. Randall stated the purpose is obviously to look at the efficient way that they deal with water. What the plan has to include is water consumption data, all their various conservation programs and it evaluates what their potential future water supply is and as they know their .......... source in that being ground water. Mr. Randall stated the plan looks at only in the worst case scenario a three year sustained drought and they have more than adequate to deal with that.

Mr. Randall stated there are a lot more variables these days obviously with water. The conservation thing is helping them a lot. In the last 2010 proposal it had projected an at least 25 year supply but the science is changing lots of stuff. It is really not so much if they have water it’s how hard it is to get it.

Mr. Randall stated the other big element is the Water Shortage Contingency Plan which they have always had. They are at Stage 3. They could be at Stage 2. It really wouldn’t matter. What that means is two days a week watering. In addition to that the City has its outdoor water regulations where they are at a Level B which says they can’t do things like car washes and other things that go on like that.

Mr. Randall stated the purpose of the whole plan was back when they drafted it he believes it was 1987 was that the goal was by 2020 to reduce water by 20%. There’s a couple of different methods. They use Method 1. Mr. Randall stated this gives them sort of a shot of what the goals are and where it is. The baseline is a 10 year term; 1995 to 2005. It comes out at 245 gallons per capita per day. Mr. Randall stated that the 2015 goal would be 220. The 2020 goals would be 196 but as they can see that blue line they’ve been beating this up all along. They are already down at 128 so not a problem.

Mr. Randall stated that in conclusion there’s obviously overdraft but they are ok for their current needs. They still have to consider what the long term issue is so they have to continue their current conservation efforts, increase ground water recharge programs which they are doing at their drainage basins, etc. and they need to obviously complete, although they are very close, all the metering of the various user accounts and they’ll be having stills to adjust some of the wells to optimize their use of ground water conditions.

Mr. Randall stated that after they hold the public hearing they ask that Council consider approving a resolution adopting the City of Madera 2015 Urban Water Management Plan. Mr. Randall asked if there were any questions.

Mayor Medellin asked if there were any questions.
Council Member Rodriguez stated he heard Mr. Randall say something about the State mandating that they have an at least three year sustainability.

Mr. Randall responded affirmatively.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that he also heard Mr. Randall mention that they have 25 years. He asked for a ballpark figure of how many years they have.

Mr. Randall stated he would preface it to say that there are a lot of variables and it’s sort of like the weather. If they really want to believe every forecast they might be disappointed now and then. Mr. Randall stated that in general just in looking at the scale of the thing..... Other places particularly if they are relying on surface water or more defined fractures and rock systems unlike their system, these issues are a little more critical. Mr. Randall stated that because they have a large basin of aggregate that they draw from they don’t have the same responsive ground water situation.

Mr. Randall stated the law only requires this study to look at a worst case scenario of a three year drought and there’s a lot of definition in it and they can spend a couple of pages on that but that’s all it looks at. Mr. Randall stated they know as they just went through that there are longer periods but even then when they looked at this issue back in 2010 and they chose to sort of project it out then, they haven’t tried to do that this time, they said at least another 25 years that would be sustainable.

Mr. Randall stated sustainability is a question that changes every day but he would say for the immediate foreseeable future there will be water. The questions are what will be the water quality, how hard is it to get and how expensive is it to get. Mr. Randall stated everyone realizes the best idea is to diversify their sources if they can and to conserve and that is why the City has the policies that they do for conservation and they’re always looking for opportunities to diversify.

Mr. Randall stated that when events do sort of lend themselves, they have in the past taken some surface water from MID and done recharge but obviously the move to the next step of surface water treatment is a pretty big jump and that would require some changes in the game but maybe who knows. Things can change.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that one thing he did hear from Mr. Randall and he liked what he said is diversification of course and in having conversations with both Dave Merchen, Community Development Director and Mr. Tooley obviously that is something that the City is planning to do here in the next couple of years.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that his biggest concern of course is that ground levels of water and that’s what they do; they use a lot of ground water. Council Member Rodriguez stated he knows there’s a conversation of this facility that could potentially help alleviate some of those issues and the means of transporting water from area to the other area by putting some type of surface tank. Council Member Rodriguez asked Mr. Tooley if that was correct and apologized if he misquoted him.

Mr. Tooley stated that is one of his many alternatives.

Council Member Rodriguez stated he is not sure how their history has been with MID as far as the purchasing of surface water. He stated that he knows that during the dry years it is more expensive but asked if during the wet years they are engaging in trying to purchase some water and if they did do they have the capacity to store that in some of their basins and how long would that last them if any.

Mr. Randall stated he thinks it changes from year to year. Mr. Randall stated Council Member Rodriguez is right that the opportune time for them is July but they don’t have any water in July for them not unless they want to pay $2,000 an acre foot.
Mr. Randall stated that what happens is sort of like where they are at this year. The City had a lot of water and MID was looking to get rid of water and so they did put water free of charge into some of the City's basins but they couldn't take too much because they have to maintain the capacity to handle storm runoff.

Mr. Randall stated it is always a dance between when and how much they can take as they move through the year. He stated that in April maybe they can take a little more but if they have a basin that is at 80% capacity he still can't really let it go. He stated that when it gets down to 50% during April then he can take a little water but then it's do they have water for them now.

Mr. Randall asked is it excess water or what class water. He stated they don't typically buy Class 1/Class 2 water. It is way too expensive. It wouldn't be cost effective for them. He stated they get an awful lot of their recharge just when they're flowing down the river. They get huge amounts of recharge. It's the best thing for them and it's free.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that is a good thing. He stated he also read and talking again with Mr. Merchen and Mr. Tooley that obviously there might be a waste water treatment plant than can definitely bring recycled water back into their landscaping. He stated he's shared this concern and he'll say it again. He doesn't know how far they are in even considering and at this point he thinks he's heard it from Mr. Tooley that a surface water treatment plant and kind of modeling what some of their neighboring communities are doing. He knows that might be farfetched because that's a lot of money; millions of dollars but it's always something that concerns him especially with the future of City of Madera especially in the basin that they're in. Council Member Rodriguez stated that is just something that he wanted to share.

He stated that he noticed that in the management plan it talks about that but he doesn't know to what extent. He asked are they really considering or engaged in something like this in the near future.

Mr. Randall stated there are two different things. He stated that in terms of surface water to treatment plants where they are taking raw water/canal water and treating it for domestic consumption, that is a large capital $30 million dollar plant and they have to have a permanent source. They can't just sort of hope they're going to have something on the spot market to buy before they invest in that. Mr. Randall stated that is really going to be shaped by what happens to the water market. If water rights were to become available and if they can afford them and that will be balanced off a number of other factors.

Mr. Randall stated that the other thing he heard him talk about was recycled water where they take water from their waste water treatment plant and it's treated to a tertiary level and reused. He stated that was studied as part of their infrastructure study that was done in about 2014. The problem that they run into there is not unique to a lot of places. The large cost is the distribution system. If they were a brand new City and they were putting pipe in as they went it may be a little more viable but even then like in San Diego where they are sort of known for what they do more and more what the state of the art is, is not to use that as an individual separate source but to blend it into someplace else where they recharge it and it goes back into their ground water and they use it that way. Mr. Randall stated they are already sort of doing that. He stated that if they look at the City as a sort of balanced equation where they take so much out and they put so much back they are already doing that.

Mr. Randall stated they pump in the range of two million gallons a day and they discharge about five million gallons a day at the waste water treatment plant into ponds that percolate back into the ground water. He stated it is a little down gradient from them. He wishes it was up gradient but in terms of the more holistic view of their basins that's a good thing. Mr. Randall stated the farmers around them love it.

Mr. Randall stated that is sort of where they are at. He doesn't think they are going to see recycled water likely real soon but technology changes and opportunities change. They are going to stay abreast of all of those technologies and try to make the best decisions as they go. Mr. Randall stated that when they did the original consideration of recycled water one of the plans was to take Well 27 which has some problems with nitrate buildup on the GAC [granular activated carbon] filters and they thought that would be problematic and because it's already in town just use that for recycled water. Mr. Randall stated they solved
the problem with the GAC filters by putting in some nitrate stuff and creating a flushing system. So now he’s got a well that would cost him $2 million to replace because now he can use it. He stated he doesn’t want to use it for recycled water because it’s a great producing well. It produces about 1,500 gpm. Mr. Randall stated they have sort of set that part of the plan aside.

Council Member Rodriguez stated he had one more question and he doesn’t know if it pertains to the Water Resource Plan that they have there but he’s kind of new to this water deal. He’s kind of like a student that’s just beginning to understand and absorb as much as he can but like in real estate when they buy land. They buy it for future anticipated value and some day it will be used for something. Council Member Rodriguez asked if that could be said for water. He asked if they can buy rights for water from MID for 10 years. He asked if there is a contract they could make when it’s cheaper so that if they ever do run into any issues they have the ability to do that.

Mr. Randall stated Council Member Rodriguez is talking about surface water.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that was correct.

Mr. Randall stated that is what all water rights issues are. As a matter of fact, CDBG which they just went through, a number of years ago when he was still in the Planning Department funded a $40,000 study to look at the City’s surface water rights. They hired a very knowledgeable water legal firm out of he thinks San Francisco to come down and help them out. Mr. Randall stated they got he thinks about $10,000 into the process and realized they are not in the ballpark. It is a long term process. They have to be willing to litigate for 10 to 20 years to get to there.

Mr. Randall stated there are probably other people that have different opinions but his opinion is their most likely chance to get new water rights will be when there are some new water rights developed. Not that he thinks they have a particular foot in the door but let’s say Temperance Dam were to create some new water rights then they might be able to but if they want to go over what’s called County of Origin water they would be litigating for a long, long time. Mr. Randall stated that believe him there’s a lot of other big players that have a lot more money to litigate that they do.

Council Member Rodriguez asked that again agreements that extend for certain years probably is not possible.

Mr. Randall stated it is very unlikely that they would be able to do it in any type of economical fashion. It just doesn't work. He stated that their production cost for water is so much lower than say Los Angeles where they are used to paying and will pay $1,000 an acre foot. That would be horrible for them to pay. They are not going to pay $1,000. They are going to produce it at $60.

Council Member Rodriguez stated he knows they are not there yet but essentially water will be a commodity that he thinks anybody will be willing to pay quite a bit of money. He’s just anticipating for the future. He’s was asking to see if that’s something they would do.

Mr. Randall stated a lot of people have those same questions and its part of what they have to sort of think about and it's well worth keeping on their horizon.

Council Member Rodriguez thanked Mr. Randall for his answers.

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos stated she thinks Mr. Randall answered her question. It was the part that she saw at 6.5.4 about the City does not recycle water. The question again was MID and having their farmers use that recycled water to pump for their vineyards or pastures or whatever it is that they have out there. It could be used that way. Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos stated that he kind of answered that they’re already kind of doing that so in a way they are recycling water…….

Mr. Randall answered affirmatively.
Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos stated…..to a point even though it’s stated in the plan that they don’t.

Mr. Randall stated they have one other feature. He stated that when they have percolation lagoons like they have at the plant if they thought of the water table as a lake, they can get a little mound in there because they have all this water being hydraulically forced down constantly in one area. The mound isn’t big. When the water table is down 100 – 200 feet it’s not like it’s going to bubble out of the ground but it’s raising a little bit. The State Water Board didn’t like that.

Mr. Randall stated when the City permitted the upgrade to the plant the State Water Board had the City put in three wells called extraction wells to pump that water out to give it to MID to give to farmers. Two things happened. First of all, the farmers around the plant said wow, that’s our water and asked why they are using it. Don’t be taking it. They didn’t like that but they still had to do it.

Mr. Randall stated the other thing is that it’s costing a little more and they’re really hung up on the fact that the EPA uffed up a little bit and they want a discharge permit to utilize that water so actually they’ve not done that as yet but at some point they could start doing that.

Mr. Randall stated that right now that water is still getting used. It’s just getting used by individual farmers who use their thing. He stated the City does have the potential to pump water out of that area but it’s not economical. It’s again, they end up paying for the power to give the water to MID and their agreement is that they pay half the pumping cost but the City has everything else to pay for so it’s not a good deal for them.

Council Member Oliver stated he’d answered his question.

Council Member Rigby stated he might take the suggestion and he thinks it might be a great idea if at some point, pending the approval of the action that they have before them….. With all the ground water recharge programs that they’ve been talking about, he knows he brought it up a couple of meetings ago and with the forming of GSA (Groundwater Sustainability Agency), it might be a great idea to maybe do a joint meeting with the MID and to maybe just have a time, if Mr. Tooley could take note of this, if their schedule is lighter than this evening’s that they might be able to get everyone at the table and show the City that they want to partner with their farmers and the process of taking care of their water. Council Member Rigby stated that as Council Member Rodriguez had said they’re concerned about the future but it might be a great idea to see everybody at the table at one, open it to the public and maybe just focus on water issues. It might give Mr. Randall an opportunity to share some of things they are doing in the City and open up great dialogue between MID and build on their relationship with them.

Mr. Tooley stated that in that long ago time they did a meeting like that on a once a year basis. It is an excellent idea to start it again.

Mayor Medellin stated he agrees. He stated MID are innovative and they are actually thinking of new ways to conserve water and he knows that sometimes farmers may get a bad rap so they are being proactive and they have a lot efforts to conserve and educate so he thinks to have them come here is an excellent idea.

Mr. Randall stated they also have the SGMA (Sustainable Groundwater Management Act) association. Mr. Merchen handles that more than he does and he can tell them more than he can. That is the State’s first effort to try to deal with the larger picture. Mr. Randall stated that as they probably know, the overdraft, only 5% of it is municipal and industrial water. The rest is agricultural. He stated that while they have individual authorities such as the City, the County, and etc. they have this collaborative the SGMA that is going to be looking at trying to solve it on a more regional basis.

Council Member Robinson asked if he’d heard about the technology like in Israel where they take water out of the air.
Mr. Randall answered affirmatively.

Council Member Robinson asked if that was really expensive or …

Mr. Randall replied that it is. He stated someone offered that to them but he’s not willing to pay the price. He stated they have to have real cheap energy.

Mayor Medellin stated they just had that discussion a few meetings ago about how energy costs are in the San Joaquin Valley and in California.

Mr. Randall stated they need to be run on a condenser that sucks the moisture out of the air.

Council Member Rodriguez stated there were subsidence that struck him when he read the report and he knows that in the City of Madera currently they don’t face that but there are certain areas in the northwestern part of the County and he’s not sure if the City ever plans to expand. He stated they haven’t seen any erosion for that matter because of the ground pumping that they’ve done the last couple of decades/years.

Mr. Randall asked if he was referring to the subsidence.

Council Member Rodriguez replied affirmatively and stated the erosion.

Mr. Randall stated he would refer that to Mr. Helmuth as he knows more about that than he does.

Mr. Helmuth from the audience stated there was an article in the newspaper on Sunday.

Mayor Medellin stated they had that through LAFCO. They talked about subsidence quite a bit and it’s really in the Chowchilla area very far west and even butting up against Merced County in that area where there’s some serious subsidence.

Mr. Helmuth stated that at the last quarterly meeting between the City, County and MID he believes the County did note that they have some other areas that they’ve seen subsidence on but the article in Sunday’s newspaper showed that it’s dramatically worse than anybody anticipated and it’s showed up in at least one more area on large scale.

Mayor Medellin asked if it was about three feet or so of subsidence in…..

Mr. Helmuth stated some areas are showing six feet in the last five to 10 years.

Council Member Rodriguez stated he didn’t mean to interrupt and asked if that’s near their area.

Mr. Helmuth stated much of the subsidence within Madera County has been occurring closer to the 5. He doesn’t keep track. He’s just spouting things he’s heard.

Council Member Rodriguez stated he will have to go look at that article and thanked Mr. Helmuth.

Mayor Medellin thanked Mr. Randall and announced that this is a noticed public hearing and asked if there was anybody in the audience wishing to speak about this item, 2015 Urban Water Management Plan. Seeing none, he closed the public hearing.

ON MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIGBY, AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM FOLEY GALLEGOS ITEM C-2 WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF 7-0.
RES. NO. 17-49  RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA ADOPTING THE 2015 CITY OF MADERA URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

D. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

There are no items for this section.

E. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

E-1 Consideration of a Minute Order Accepting a Report on the Status of the Proposed Projects in the Capital Improvement Program for FY 2017/18 to FY 2021/22 and Authorizing Submission of the Proposed Capital Improvement Program for FY 2017/18 to FY 2021/22 to the Planning Commission for Determination of Conformity to the City General Plan (Report by Keith Helmuth)

Mr. Helmuth stated this item serves two purposes. The first is to allow the opportunity to review and comment on the list of projects. He stated they have a list of projects that is in excess of about 110. That list of projects goes to the Planning Commission for conformity basically to go ahead and say it is in conformity with the General Plan. Mr. Helmuth stated many of the projects have already been to Planning Commission in past years but there are several new projects that need that to happen on.

Mr. Helmuth stated the other part of this is to go ahead and allow Council to review those projects and give staff their comments whether they feel ok with them. Whether they see any changes that are necessary. That's basically number two.

Mr. Helmuth stated he does have three points within the staff report that he focused on and he'll just go ahead and do that again real quick.

Mr. Helmuth stated that the CIP projects come from basically all the departments. They come from Engineering, Community Development, Public Works, Parks, Fire, the Successor Agency and the Transit Department. They come from everywhere within the City. Mr. Helmuth stated that the vast majority of them are listed under the Engineering Department.

Mr. Helmuth stated there are three key points with this.

Mr. Helmuth referenced a slide and stated as was known last year Lake Street between Cleveland Avenue and Riverside Drive was delayed in favor of moving Olive Avenue up in priority. The underlying reason for that continues. The environmental study that moved forward on that recommended that they move the alignment to the east. That pushed them closer to houses. It wasn't necessarily better than staying to the west but what it shows is at least nine houses that would need to come out. That comes with a cost both financially and socially so he sees that moving forward a little bit slower pace though they do have it coming up for construction in a few years. Mr. Helmuth stated he won't guarantee it's moving forward. Environmentally, he does see issues with that.

Mr. Helmuth stated that in regards to traffic signals, based upon the CDBG he did make an assumption based upon the $250,000 funding that was shown by the RAC to go ahead and move Howard Road/Granada Drive up on the list for construction in 2018. That was one of the things that they did proactively in anticipation of that. Without that CDBG funding that particular signal would have fallen behind by about two years from what they show it. There are probably about seven signals that he sees moving forward within the next five years or so.

Mr. Helmuth stated that also while staff is not prepared for detailed discussions at this time, staff does plan on conferring with Council at a later date to discuss whether and how two Fresno River projects will proceed following the cancellation of two other segments. Mr. Helmuth stated that until Council has had an
Mr. Helmuth stated they would answer any questions. He stated he, Les Jorgensen and Jose Aguilar are there tonight and they can answer any questions Council might have.

Council Member Oliver asked that for projects that were previously awarded CDBG monies but the construction of which or completion of those projects doesn't necessarily occur within that for example 16/17 budget year are they memorializing those projects in the 17/18 year if they're not 100% completed.

Mr. Helmuth stated the CIP attempts to go ahead and present things a little bit differently than they might see in the budget. For instance, some funding has been received already and booked for he believes Yosemite Avenue/Elm Street. They'll see about $200,000 on Yosemite Avenue/Elm Street for this year but they've booked about $400,000 worth of revenue for this current year so it will look different between 16/17 and 17/18 but all of the money has been generally assumed.

Council Member Oliver stated he's speaking more in reference to street light pilot project that they funded last year and he didn't see it necessarily in the CIP budget or the plan and he thought it might be good to at least identify that and then of course pay close attention as to once it's constructed, evaluating its effect and then looking at future years and maybe looking at that project as far as future CIP projects.

Mr. Randall stated that particular project is in the 16/17 budget. It's got a PO (Purchase Order) cut so it is appropriated and encumbered.

Council Member Oliver stated he got it.

Mr. Randall stated that if for some reason they weren't able to finish it by the end of the year, but they will, it would roll over automatically because the purchase order has already encumbered the money.

Council Member Oliver stated he would just maybe advise to maybe circle back at that and just look to see what the effect was and maybe have a larger discussion as to the CIP moving forward and whether that's something to look at in a larger service delivery plan.

Council Member Oliver stated he'd kick the question over to Ms. Seay and stated they spoke earlier about the Fresno River Trail and the connection underneath the UPRR railroad. He stated obviously that would be one of the integral pieces to really connecting their City from the east side to the west side. He asked if she wanted to give a brief update or just report based on what had been shared with him.

Ms. Seay stated that she and Council Member Oliver had a conversation earlier today and he asked about the status of the project. Ms. Seay stated that conferring with the Engineering Department they have requested an extension of ATP (Active Transportation Program) for $379,000. They will be meeting mid-May and they will have their answer. It feels optimistic based on the circumstances that they will get that extension. Ms. Seay stated it is also programmed in 17/18 for them to move forward with the project. She stated one of the funding sources is, she hoped she said ATP for the first one, because it is BTA (Bicycle Transportation Program) for the other one that they can't push out any further than next May. Ms. Seay stated they're optimistic that the railroad will engage with them and approve the plans as designed and that they'll go out to bid sometime before the holidays.

Council Member Oliver thanked her.

Council Member Rigby stated that listening to Council Member Oliver he just wants to echo what he was saying. He too is curious in the service delivery of their lighting project and he thinks that is something that pending the success of the project, he knows he would be interested in something similar to that on several of the neighborhoods that are in the east side that are part of his district. He stated he thinks that being
able to light up those sidewalks especially with the new school coming in, in the next couple of years he thinks that would be a program that he’s really interested in so he’d appreciate them coming back around and kind of monitoring and reviewing that project. Council Member Rigby thanked Council Member Oliver for bringing it up.

Mayor Medellin stated it was a great point.

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos stated she had three questions for Mr. Helmuth.

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos stated the first one is the traffic light for Granada Drive/Howard Road. She stated it’s slotted on the CIP for 18/19 for completion, but asked if he is saying that it’s now going to be 17/18.

Mr. Helmuth stated that when they say 17/18 it is basically July 2017 through June 2018 so when he says mid-2018 it’s about the end of the 17/18 fiscal year.

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos stated that in the CIP last year it said it would be in completion 16/17.

Mr. Helmuth replied affirmatively.

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos asked if they ran into construction problem.

Mr. Helmuth stated not so much. He stated it became aware that the intersection of Yosemite Avenue/Elm Street was going to go ahead and make claims to that money whereas they hadn’t anticipated that before at least not to that degree so it caused it to push out.

Mr. Helmuth stated that with regard to Granada Drive and Elm Street, he thinks they are about done with a request for proposal to send out for design engineers. He looked at that a little bit earlier today. He anticipates that will be going out in the next few days.

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos asked if they are going to put in Howard Road/Granada Drive and Westberry Boulevard/Howard Road at the same time in the same year.

Mr. Helmuth stated they’ve already had a survey completed on Westberry Boulevard/Howard Road. They will be doing that in-house. He’s designed probably 100 plus signals in his career so he’s going to go ahead and train somebody else in-house to do that.

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos stated the second question is that they are restoring the water tower and Frank Bergon Center.

Mr. Helmuth stated that is going to come forward to Council in the near future. It was visited with Council in 2011 with regards to does it stay or does it get dismantled. He stated they have a substantially new Council here today and they thought it would be best if Council had a chance to weigh in on that before they move forward with the original decision which was basically to take it down.

Mr. Helmuth stated the Water Fund has about $300,000 scheduled for the purpose of taking the tank down. He stated that based on the original estimates from that time, if they kept it up it might run as much as a million dollars to make it structurally sound and make certain it’s encapsulated because it probably has lead paint on it. Mr. Helmuth stated it is leaning about 10-15 inches off center.

Mr. Helmuth stated they visited with the Historical Society about three weeks ago to see where they are at. He stated they got the sense that they felt strongly about it but the same question was posed from 2011; funds. If it’s decided to go ahead and save the tank, can they assist with funding? Mr. Helmuth stated it’s difficult to say that the Water Fund would pay for these additional funds so another $700,000 to save a tank, the Water Fund probably might not be the source.
Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos asked how their other tank is looking.

Mr. Helmuth stated the other tank is fine although it is shown for painting. He believes that is showing at about a million dollars for painting. It’s a big tank and it’s a bit of a chore.

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos stated her third thing is just to say thank you to all the departments that worked on the Safe Route for Sunset Avenue for John Adams Elementary School and TJ Middle School. Mayor Pro Tem Foley stated she’s heard koodles from their community and her constituents in her area that it was just amazing how fast they got in there and took care of business.

Mr. Helmuth stated they were shocked by how fast the contractor moved as well.

Council Member Holley asked if there was any water in the tank at the Bergon Senior Center.

Mr. Helmuth stated it is empty.

Council Member Holley asked if it was just a sentimental well.

Mr. Helmuth stated it is empty.

Council Member Holley asked if it is just a sentimental value.

Mr. Helmuth stated that is quite possible.

Council Member Holley stated that it’s leaning.

Mr. Helmuth stated that it is leaning.

Council Member Holley stated that it could fall.

Mr. Tooley stated that they assessed its stability and danger to public safety. At the current time, they do not believe that a danger exists but the longer it goes on the greater the risk grows and so it does become timely for the Council to make a decision. He asked do they keep it as an iconic landmark or do they take it down.

Mayor Medellin stated that he did remember that conversation in 2011 and of course still in the recession. $300,000 or a million it was really a kick the can down the road on that particular project.

Mayor Medellin stated he is curious about the traffic signal at Yosemite Avenue/Elm Avenue. He asked if that was part of the development project there at Rancho San Miguel and that whole development.

Mr. Helmuth stated it originally was part of the project. As the project was moving forward it was discovered that there was an environmental concern on the southwest corner of that intersection. Mr. Helmuth stated that RDA, Redevelopment Agency moved forward with cleaning up the site but that took several years. He stated that in the process the Crossroads Shopping Center was completed. A median was installed on Yosemite Avenue and it became fix and then the recession took hold. He stated that as they started to come out of the recession they started working with Caltrans and that isn’t always easy. Mr. Helmuth stated they may actually have a permit in the next few weeks. They may actually not.

Mayor Medellin stated that is a Caltrans answer and Mr. Helmuth has been hanging out with them too much.

Mr. Helmuth stated he’s been told that most of the staff that are reviewing it are probably good to go but one person still has comments but they are minor.
Mayor Medellin thanked him for that answer.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that just to piggyback on that, Mr. Helmuth stated that they installed a median and asked that when they install these lights will that go out too.

Mr. Helmuth asked him to repeat the question.

Council Member Rodriguez stated they installed a median at that Elm Avenue/Yosemite Avenue.

Mr. Helmuth answered affirmatively.

Council Member Rodriguez asked if that will then come out when they put.....

Mr. Helmuth stated the median will come out. Mr. Helmuth stated they see a left turn lane there. He stated the left turn lane will remain but the bulk of the median at the intersection will be torn out and replaced with asphalt.

Council Member Rodriguez thanked him.

Council Member Holley stated so he could finish his question before he was..... He asked if they were going to talk about this tank again.

Mr. Helmuth stated if he liked.

Council Member Holley asked if it was coming up that they make a decision on what they want to do with it or.....

Mr. Helmuth stated they are going to bring a separate staff report to Council for review.

Council Member Holley asked if it would be soon before it falls.

Mr. Helmuth answered affirmatively.

Mr. Tooley stated that was the preferred approach.

Council Member Foley Gallegos asked if the Historical Society is looking to help restore it or maybe move it to a different location. She asked if they have any say in that.

Mr. Helmuth stated they've indicated that they have an attachment to it and that they feel strongly but when it came to funding.....

Council Member Holley stated they lost their front.

Mr. Helmuth stated they didn't quite jump forward and say.... He stated they did agree that they might very well be the organization that might lead the effort to go ahead and secure funding.

Mayor Medellin thanked Mr. Helmuth and stated this is a minute order and asked Mr. Richardson if they were looking for a motion.

Mr. Richardson replied affirmatively.

**ON MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER RIGBY, AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROBINSON ITEM E-1 WAS ADOPTED BY A VOTE OF 6-0. ABSTENTION: COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ.**
Council Member Rodriguez stepped out of the room from 10:05 p.m. – 10:09 p.m. and was not in the room to vote. It was not a conflict of interest.

E-2 Presentation of the Preliminary City of Madera Capital Budgets for Fiscal Year 2017/2018
(Report by Tim Przybyla)

Tim Przybyla, Director of Financial Services stated this will be the first of four preliminary budget presentations then they will have a workshop before the final budget presentation in the second meeting in June.

Mr. Przybyla stated he will be as brief as they like and in fact he could end now if they prefer.

Mr. Przybyla stated there is no action taken on this item. He stated it is a rather well written report; self-explanatory or he can go very quickly through a short slideshow.

Mayor Medellin asked that he do that.

Mr. Przybyla stated they are talking about Capital Budgets. Capital Budgets include infrastructure, property, plant and equipment. He stated that was a picture of infrastructure. Mr. Przybyla stated a capital project is a project that helps maintain or improve the City’s asset. Assets with a useful life of more than one year and a cost of over $5,000 usually well over $5,000 as seen in the Five Year CIP that they just went over. The Capital Budgets are funded from reserves, annual allocations of transportation funds, State and federal grants and other one-time sources such as donations and development impact fees often referred to as DIFs around here.

Mr. Przybyla stated that compared to the Operational Budgets which are funded by current year revenue not from reserves except for emergencies and the largest portion of cost for the Operational Budgets are the personnel costs and operational costs are on-going.

Mr. Przybyla stated capital projects are considered one time and only take place when funds are available.

Mr. Przybyla stated operational costs are more consistent in nature; steady. They can expect to pay at least as much as they're paying this year in salaries and wages next year especially with CalPERS and everything else that is going on.

Mr. Przybyla stated that for a summary of capital projects they’ve got sewer, water, storm drain, parks, fire, streets, grants and transit. He stated that all that together comes to $15.7 million.

Mr. Przybyla stated that in regards to the move to Tyler Munis. In the report he stated they would discuss this a little bit. He stated they are in the middle of the move from MAIS which is their legacy system. The budget formats will change slightly. They are no longer creating new accounts for projects and in fact he thinks that going from MAIS to Munis they went from over 13,000 accounts down to about 5,000 accounts. Mr. Przybyla stated a lot of that is because every time they created a new project they would give it a new account number and new object account.

Mr. Przybyla stated that with the Tyler Munis system they have what is called the Project Ledger system which tracks the projects without creating a new general ledger new chart of account, account for it which is a very cool thing and somewhat complicated to master but the Engineering Department is tackling that challenge and they should be ready with that by the Final Budget.

Mr. Przybyla stated that for this budget they’ve just used Excel without having them put in the project strings and they’ve used the presentation. He stated that an example is the Parks Development Fund. In the past each one of those line items would have had an account number by it so they would have had to create a new account number. Mr. Przybyla stated now they will all be under the same account number which is in this case Org Code 41090000 and Object 7030 which is Facility Improvements. He stated then they'll be
tracked separately under Project Ledger with the project screen that tracks those. Mr. Przybyla stated this is the Parks Development Fund and they can see that it’s $926,000 in total and they can see that amount actually matches up to the Summary by Fund which is built into their staff report and the total of all the funds together is $15.7 million.

Mr. Przybyla stated there are no actions tonight and would answer any questions.

Mayor Medellin thanked him for his report and asked if anyone had questions for Mr. Przybyla. Mayor Medellin stated Mr. Przybyla’s office is always open so if not tonight there is always tomorrow.

F. COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Robinson stated that on March 23rd he attended the Wells Water Education for Latino Leaders. He is a Latino leader.

Council Member Robinson stated he took a tour of the San Diego Recycling Plant. They have a five step water purification process that starts with recycled water. The first step is ozonation. The second step is biological activity for carbon filters. The third step is membrane filtration. The fourth step is reverse osmosis and the fifth step is ultraviolet disinfection advance oxidation. He stated they are planning to double the output. He tasted the water. It was excellent. From tap to toilet.

Council Member Robinson stated he attended the League of California Cities. He distributed a handout to Council and stated it talked about the budget, repairing the roads and Governor Brown.

Mayor Medellin stated that was a big issue, a big topic right now.

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos stated she had two things. She stated she goes on Facebook quite often to see good things that people post about Madera and kudos to Chief Frazier and Commander Lawson. Officer Bravo went into a car to save a puppy who was in the engine area. Not only is he protecting them from vicious ones, he’s also saving those that are in need. She thanked him for that.

Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos stated that on March 30th at the Senior Farmer Event she had the honor to proclaim March 30, 2017 as the Mitch Lasgoity day of his celebration for being their Senior Farmer as Mayor Medellin could not make it. She stated that was a total honor. Council Member Oliver was by her side. She thanked Mayor Medellin for the opportunity. She stated it was wonderful.

Mayor Medellin thanked her for being there and stated he really appreciated that.

Council Member Rigby stated he recently returned from Washington D.C. He was out there for a week advocating for affordable housing as well as matters affecting the City of Madera. He stated that due to their time constraint he’ll give a fuller report at their Housing Authority meeting if that was ok with the Mayor.

Mayor Medellin stated it was.

Council Member Rigby stated he was happy to report that he was able to sit down with each of their elects including senators as well as Congressman Costa’s office. Congressman Costa’s office has agreed to come back here next Tuesday to tour several of their campuses for affordable housing including the program that CDBG just awarded at Pomona Ranch. He is really excited to host Congressman Costa and his staff next Tuesday.

Mayor Medellin thanked him.

Council Member Holley stated that as they know the City is putting on an Easter Egg Hunt this weekend. He stated he just wanted them to know. He stated he’s all about the kids and invited them to come on out.
Council Member Holley stated he is still advocating for the Big Brother Big Sister program. They are still trying to get mentors. He stated that as they look around there are a lot of kids out there that need 40 minutes of their time a week. He stated they are opening up a new school in August which is going to be the Virginia Rose School so they are going to be needing more kids.

Council Member Holley stated that as they as City officials are sitting around and have nothing to do for lunch one day out of the week…… He knows they have kids but if they could see the joy that they can add to a kid’s heart just by sitting down and talking with them, sharing a lunch or even playing a little sports with them it’s really something well worthwhile.

Council Member Holley stated he just wanted to shout that out to them to keep them up to date that he will continue advocating Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Council Member Holley stated that as he mentors to kids every day, they have a lot of kids that really need some mentor as well as being talked to.

Council Member Holley asked them to look at the homeless situation and stated they are going to start helping their kids today and talking to them and educating them about the values of their elders and how they can support….. Council Member Holley stated they should have a kid go talk to an older adult so they can know where their values are. He stated they are losing a lot of that. Parents don’t do that anymore and sit down and educate a kid on where they came from and how they started. Council Member Holley stated they think they just walked into these jobs but that isn’t what happened. They had to earn them and the only way a kid is going to know that is somebody talking to them and showing them what the value education is.

Council Member Holley stated those two men that came back to Madera that was proving the fact of what they can do if they start their kids off early. He stated he didn’t mean to say all that but he just wants them to know how important kids are to them and how they’re losing a lot of them on foolishness and with what the Chief of Police just told them about this marijuana they are going to lose a lot more real soon if they don’t grab a hold of them right now.

Mayor Medellin thanked him.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that he thinks he said enough at this time so he is going to pass.

Council Member Oliver stated he had the opportunity to join Mayor Pro Tem Foley Gallegos at the Senior Farmer of the Year dinner. He stated that Mr. Lasgoity is actually a second cousin twice removed. He thinks Mr. Lasgoity’s grandmother and his great grandfather were both born in the same home in St. Jean Pied de Port in the French Basque country and came to this country and to Madera so it was a great honor to be there with family to celebrate his accomplishments.

Council Member Oliver stated he’d just like to thank staff, members of the Grand Jury and the press for sticking around and being patient this evening. He thinks the discussion was healthy and very well spirited and he really appreciates his colleagues for the great deliberation and ideas and back and forth. He thinks it was a good conversation to be had.

Mayor Medellin stated he couldn’t have said it better himself. That is exactly what he was going to say. He thanked staff and everybody else.

G. CLOSED SESSION

G-1 Closed Session Announcement – City Attorney

Brent Richardson, City Attorney announced that Council will adjourn to closed session in three items first being Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation. Initiation of litigation pursuant to Government
Code §54956.9(d)(4) in one matter. Council will also adjourn in two more items. Those are Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9 Subdivision (d)(1). Both of them are Junaid Lateef v. City of Madera. One is a State matter and one’s a federal court as listed on the agenda.

Council adjourned to closed session at 10:19 p.m.

G-2 Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation. Initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(4): 1 case

G-3 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation. Subdivision (d)(1) of Government Code §54956.9

One case: Junaid Lateef v. City of Madera
MCV 072672

G-4 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation. Subdivision (d)(1) of Government Code §54956.9

One case: Junaid Lateef v. City of Madera et al
1:16-at-00828

G-5 Closed Session Report – City Attorney

Council returned from closed session at 10:30 p.m. with all members present.

City Attorney Brent Richardson announced that Council met in closed session in three items the first Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation. Initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(4) in one matter. Mr. Richardson stated Council voted unanimously to accept a short sale to resolve that matter.

Mr. Richardson stated the other two items were Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9 Subdivision (d)(1). Both of them are Junaid Lateef v. City of Madera. One is a State matter and one federal matter and reported that no reportable action was taken in either one.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Medellin at 10:39 p.m.

CONSISTENCY WITH THE VISION MADERA 2025 PLAN

Approval of the minutes is not addressed in the vision or action plans; the requested action is also not in conflict with any of the actions or goals contained in that plan.

SONIA ALVAREZ, City Clerk

ANDREW J. MEDELLIN, Mayor

Prepared by:
ZELDA LEON, Deputy City Clerk