

City of Patterson
City Council Special Meeting
(Mayor's State of the City Address)
Monday, February 29, 2016
Minutes

1. Call to Order

The special meeting of the City Council of the City of Patterson was called to order in the Hammon Senior Center, 1033 W. Las Palmas Avenue, Patterson at 6:33 p.m. by Mayor Molina.

Present: Councilmembers McCord, Novelli, Farinha and Mayor Molina (4)

Staff: City Manager Irwin, City Attorney Hallinan, City Planner Andrews, City Engineer Ulloa, Recreation & Community Services Director Flanders, Interim Human Resources Manager Smith, Public Works Director Willett, Public Works Management Analyst Basalusalu, Interim Fire Chief Gregory, Police Chief Dirkse and City Clerk Vela (11)

Excused: Councilmember Lustgarten, Finance Director Ryan (2)

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Statements of Conflict – none.

4. Items from the Public – none.

5. Mayor's State of the City of Address

Good Evening and I appreciate you coming and joining us tonight. It is an honor and a privilege to stand here as your Mayor and deliver the State of the City Address. This is my sixth and final Address as your Mayor, and as I have mentioned before, my commitment to all of you is that this is one of many opportunities to have a conversation about how we can work together for our community. It continues to be a great pleasure to have served as Mayor for the City of Patterson since 2010. I have GOD, wife, Graciela Molina, and familia to Thank! All have been there, but Graciela has been by side to also serve our community. We have gained a richness in our lives, because of the people in our community, the relationships of which we have been blessed, the community improvement projects, and tragedies we have had to endured together as a community.

Before I continue, let me acknowledge some individuals in attendance. My colleagues and City Council members: Farinha, Lustgarten, McCord and Mayor Pro Tempe Novelli, Our City Manager, Mr. Ken Irwin, Department Heads, and various members of our City Staff. I would like to Thank Mr. Irwin, Department Heads, and City Staff for preparing information that I will share with you tonight. To the City Staff, I appreciate your service to our community, and in the manner which you provide it. I am proud to be associated with you individually, and as a team. Based on the information provided, I will share with all of you some highlights and projects to

look forward to in Patterson. I will finally share with you some ideas to engage more residents, continue to build on a focus of youth leadership development, and ask you to get involved, to contribute your energy and your time. As a community, we must decide what legacy we leave our next and future generations.

Mr. Irwin has done a great job, along with City Staff, to navigate the new challenges, projects and opportunities that have been on the front burner from day one. Thank you to Mr. Irwin for your hard work and dedication to ongoing challenges from the State, Governor's Office, and unfunded mandates that we must address as a team. As a team, City Staff, legal team and Council, we have provided our residents with responsible and responsive representation at the local, county, state and national levels. Although we have faced, and will continue to face changes in laws, policies and mandates, I am confident that we have a city-wide team that will provide the best approach to the solutions in addressing them now and in the future. The City of Patterson has been the beneficiary of good planning, collaboration and providing an environment that invites innovation, protection of our history, and cultivation of our natural resources. We must carefully plan for current and future economic growth opportunities that foster prosperity for all in our community. We do face challenges in our city, as does every California City: water, crime, economic development, workforce development and being prepared for future business opportunities.

During this past year, we have supported and teamed up with our Patterson Joint Unified School District, as they launched UP, United Patterson, where Dreams become Reality! It is imperative that we support our youth in achieving their goals. This will only bring success to them, their families and our community! Another collaborative effort has been the success of our business logistic distribution warehouse hub. Although, Mr. Phil Alfano, his School District Staff and students have taken full advantage of the business relationships to build a business-model pipeline from our High School to logistic distribution warehouse hub. There is an on-site smaller replica warehouse that exists in most of the logistic distribution warehouse. This gives students and opportunity to learn and apply a skill set that provides them with a stronger resume and application for meaningful employment.

As a community, we do face challenges, but are not unique to our city. We must work together, communicate and find solutions for us to remain safe, productive, friendly neighbors, who look out for one another, especially in times of great need.

I would like to list for you some of the accomplishments and goals for different areas of our city, then share with you additional thoughts about us as a community. In the interest of time, I will share the complete version with the community on our web site.

Recreation & Community Services Department – 2015 Highlights

Department Goal:

- Work towards additional space for the Recreation Department and Continue plans for the development of the Community Recreation Wellness Center / Teen lounge, located at the Community Complex. (provide needed office space for the Recreation Department's full time staff and offer a location for Community Recreation Registrations)

Accomplishment

Lease and Placement of two portable office spaces to house Recreation & Community Services Department and Staff, and return Hammon Senior Center back to a senior community activity center atmosphere.

Department Goal:

- Increase in new Programs, Classes and Program Attendance

Accomplishments

Special Events

Trunk or Treat Special Event: We expanded from 9 trunks in 2014 to 31 trunks in 2015! All participants loved it and were excited to come back next year to make it an even bigger event.

Turkey Trot: Patterson's 1st Annual Turkey Trot 5k and Health fair served 53 runners. Winners received turkey's and pumpkin pies. Everyone had a great time outdoors exercising.

Aquatics

Saturday Swim Lessons: Swim Lessons catered to the commuter family made their debut in 2015 at the Patterson Aquatic Center this summer. Classes were held every Saturday for 8 weeks.

Dive in Movie: Families came to the Patterson Aquatic Center to enjoy Lilo & Stitch while swimming in the pool! Approximately 150 participants enjoyed this event.

Adult sports

Recreation started an adult softball program - 3 successful seasons of softball leagues – 16 teams in all. We developed a partnership with PHS sports coaches to run adult basketball: Currently 12 teams are participating in the winter league

Teens

YAC members are working with Veronica Plaughter, Nutrition Education & Obesity Prevention, and Stanislaus County Health Services Agency on Youth Capacity Building. They have invited adult, youth advocates from the area to join in the viewing of the film "Fed UP", in hopes to gain awareness of the youth & health concerns in our community.

Youth Sports

The Jr. Giants youth Baseball Program went from 150 participants 2 years ago to 350 in the summer 2015.

Seniors

Implemented 2 excursion trips out of town, each month and partnering with other senior facilities in the region on trips and tours. Most of the trips sell out immediately with waiting lists.

Annual Boutique Sale brought in 25 new vendors and successfully raised funds for senior Programs.

Expanded senior events and craft classes have brought in new seniors: computer instruction, painting, crafts, exercise programs, Turkey Bowling event, Holiday sing a long, and our new “Coffee in the Lounge” programs have expanded senior attendance.

Planning Department Highlights

- Completed a Downtown Visioning Process that included a high level of participation from the community. This document will assist in focusing the city’s efforts to improve the downtown.
- Made Progress on the City’s Master Plans:
 - Adoption of the Public Safety Master Plan to provide direction to the growth of police and fire services during the long term growth of the City
 - Progress on the Water, Sewer, Storm Drain, Transportation, and Parks and Recreation Master Plans, which will be presented for adoption this year.
- The State Department of Housing and Community Development certified the 2010 Housing Element of the General Plan.
- Made progress on streamlining the application review process to make these processes more understandable and transparent.
- The City continues to receive a large amount of interest from potential developers and businesses for housing, industry, and commerce. We welcome Restoration Hardware as the most recent member of our business park community

Public Safety (Fire Department)

- Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T)
 - With another class completed, we currently have approx. 35 active members throughout the Westside area. Some members assisted Red Cross helping the victims of the Butte Fire in Amador and Calaveras County.
- Advanced Life Support (Fire Fighter/Paramedic)
 - Approved moving forward with an advanced life support program utilizing paramedics on our fire engines which would allow them to perform a higher level of care at medical aid calls.

Public Safety (Sheriff Department)

- Rotation of new Chief of Police (Chief Dirkse)
- See attached crime stats. Almost all stats were down across the Part I and Part II crimes.

Engineering, Building, and Capital Projects

- Worked with project builders to streamline the permitting process to keep up with their very aggressive timelines.
- Expanded the Engineering Department, adding 2 new engineers and filling the vacant Director’s Position.

- Finished Phase III non-potable pipeline connecting numerous parks. This saved millions of gallons of potable water and helped with our state mandated conservation requirements.
- Finished numerous CIP projects that enhanced the dependability of the City's Sewer and Water systems.
- In the Building Department 13 new Single Family Homes were built, 78 solar installations were completed, 170 home remodels and 12 pools were constructed. It was a very busy year for our plan checkers and inspectors
- Restoration Hardware is up and running under and plans a grand opening in the near future.

Human Resources

- Negotiated and implemented a cost saving successor MOU for AFSCME
- Negotiated a cost saving new MOU for Management and Mid-Management
- Successfully recruited a new Director of Engineering and Capital Projects
- Successfully recruited a new Director of Finance
- Updated and streamlined Human Resources recruitment processes and procedures
- Conducted an effective Executive Team Building Training
- Revised City Employee Merit System Rules and Regulations
- Re-organization of computer HR documents/file folders

Public Works

- Completed the Sewer Rate Analysis & Prop 218 & adopted 5 Years of Sewer Rates
- Secured a Cal-Fire UFFRG Grant for \$166,000 for the creation & implementation of an Urban Forestry Master Plan. 1,000 trees will be planted throughout the City.
- Carried out the City's the Drought Contingency Plan in response to the State's mandatory emergency water reduction Executive Orders on April 2015 and implemented the Cash-for-Grass, Toilet Rebate, and Free Fixtures Programs as well as new outdoor watering restrictions. Water Conservation Patrolling has been in place and the community has saved over 280.2 million gallons of water!
- City secured funding through Prop 84 Grant/IRWM and was able to convert eight (8) parks to the non-potable water system and will be saving 33 million gallons of potable water per year.
- Applied for Community Service Rating System (CRS) and received rating to allow residents to receive flood insurance discounts.
- Coordinated with the Planning and Engineering Divisions towards the completion of the City's various master plans (water, storm, parks & recreation, public safety, transportation, and sewer).
- Completed the State's Storm water MS4 Phase II Permit requirements, which included the completions and adoption of a Post Construction Low Impact Development (LID) Standards Manual, implemented the Erosion & Sediment Control Plan requirements, and revisions to the City's Storm water Ordinance.
- Completed a Garbage Rate Analysis & Prop 218 and adopted 5 years of Garbage Rates. The City was able to maintain competitive garbage rates by securing a seven year franchise agreement for garbage services.
- Completed the WQCF improvements project which consisted of installing variable frequency drives on the RAS/WAS pumps at the North Ditch, installing improved

aerators at the AIPS systems, replacing the flow splitter structure at the south ditch, and finally replacing the screener/washer/compactor at the IPS.

- Completed and implemented Construction and Demotion (C&D) Ordinance as required by the State.
- Implemented all State Mandated Recycling requirements (AB 939), including Commercial Recycling requirements for businesses and multi-family homes generating 4 cubic yards of waste per week.
- Entered into a contract with RMC, Water Master Plan Consultants, to develop a Chromium 6 Corrective Action Plan as required by the State. This is the first step to satisfy the new MCLs standards. Identifying the best option and funding will be critical in this process.
- Revised Ordinance for merger of Parks & Recreation Commission and Beautification Committee to be able to have consistent meetings that were not held due to lack of quorum.
- Worked with Stanislaus County Regional Transit to improve transportation services for the community.

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

- Completed Water Meter Replacement Program
- Completed the Parks Capital Improvement Program Plan (CIP)
- Implemented the Public Outreach Program for Water Conservation and Recycling with all Elementary School (Reached out to over 800 kids)
- Implemented the City's Water Conservation Programs to Include Rebate Pilot Programs for Toilet Retrofits, Cash for Grass, and Water Conservation Fixtures
- Held Arbor Week in March at the Felipe Garza Park.
- Secured additional funding with the Air District to install additional electric charging stations within City facilities that will also be available for public use.
- Completed the Patterson Estates Entryway Improvements
- Completed the 2nd Phase of the City's Striping Program.
- Held the City's 1st Public Information Officer (PIO) Training
- Implemented a New Environmentally Friendly Vegetation Management Program
- Held mobile National Public Works Week at Apricot Valley School, Walnut Grove School, and Las Palmas Avenue.

We have been faced with different city-wide issues, such as homelessness, crime, in general, vandalism and drug-related incidents to name a few. Residents and business owners have complained, we have listened, and have addressed these issues to the best of our ability. The safety, cleanliness and attitude of our city, depends on all of us. We all contribute to the quality of our city, or we slowly help with its lack luster appearance, the decision is ours as individuals, families, businesses and community overall. Our city is one which we should be proud! Challenges and complaints will always be there, but how we respond is incumbent upon us. Do we just observe? Or do we get involved? The answer lies within you. I choose to respond, and I hope you will too. May GOD bless you, your families and the City of Patterson! Thank you and Good Night!

6. Public Comments - Questions from the Public

Gentleman - Citizen in the Audience – addressed the City Council on the item of the ending of the housing crises around 2012 and if the City had realized any benefits from the raising of property taxes/property tax revenues and if it was helping the City in their budget.

City Manager Irwin addressed the questions stating that the City of Patterson for the last two quarters was up by 18% in sales tax and that it was about 14% higher than any other City in Stanislaus County.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, the special meeting of the City Council of the City of Patterson of February 29, 2016 was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Approved by the Patterson City Council on April 19, 2016.