

TRACY CITY COUNCIL - SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

March 3, 2015, 5:30 p.m.

Council Chambers, 333 Civic Center Plaza, Tracy

1. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Maciel called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a workshop to discuss Legacy Fields.
2. ROLL CALL – Roll call found Council Members Mitracos, Vargas, Young, Mayor Pro Tem Rickman and Mayor Maciel present.
3. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE – None
4. CONDUCT WORKSHOP TO OBTAIN HISTORY AND UPDATE LEGACY FIELDS AND DISCUSS OPTIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SPORTS FIELDS

David Ferguson, Public Works Director and Brian McDonald, Management Analyst, presented the staff report and PowerPoint presentation.

Council comments and questions followed.

The following comments are from the public on this item:

Peter Holtz stated that he works with travel softball teams affiliated with the All American Sports Academy, they run 24 travel softball teams, 11 which are based in the Tracy area. Because they accept players from other towns they are low on the priority system and have a hard time getting field usage time for practice. Currently, the teams are practicing in Ripon; the rent for the month of March was \$4,000 to rent a field. Mr. Holtz urged the Council to consider a bond measure for Phase 1 and 2 and get it all done.

Steve Nicolaou stated that if the community wants nice things in this town then the community needs to step up to the plate and pay for it. He agreed with Mr. Holtz suggestion of a bond measure. In addition Mr. Nicolaou suggested enacting a local property tax that way everybody participates: industrial, commercial and residential.

Dianna Silva stated that she lives next to the field on Chrisman and 11th Street and commented that it is not safe for children to walk or ride their bikes over the overpass. Ms. Silva inquired why the City doesn't sell the Chrisman property to fund Legacy Fields. Ms. Silva commented that her two grandsons play ball in Manteca which is sad when they should be able to play in their own home town. Ms. Silva commented that amenities like bleachers are important for grandparents to sit and support the players. Ms. Silva expressed her concern regarding no sidewalks going to Legacy Fields for kids to get to the ball park.

Chris Hewitt stated that he would compartmentalize the challenges Council has moving forward, in the following three compartments: 1) find funding and a path to make this successful; 2) formulate an ad hoc committee with representatives from different leagues, staff and have them spend the next 30 days hashing out the details; 3) how to include other sports.

Stewart Wilson provided a brief overview on lacrosse and the costs associated with tournaments. Mr. Wilson stated that lacrosse would bring a lot of good revenue to Tracy. Mr. Wilson added the he would like lacrosse to be included as part of the Council's vision.

Mayor Maciel asked the following questions to be considered next during the regular Council's agenda item: Is there a mechanism by which City funds could be channeled through leagues to help them, and how does it manifest itself. Currently, is staff working with existing MOU's and is a pathway established to accomplish that.

5. ADJOURNMENT - Mayor Pro Tem Rickman motioned to adjourn. Council Member Vargas seconded the motion. Voice vote found all in favor; passed and so ordered. Time: 6:59 p.m.

The agenda was posted at City Hall on February 26, 2015. The above are action minutes.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk