



CITY OF ATWATER

CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC SAFETY TRANSACTIONS AND USE TAX

ACTION MINUTES

December 10, 2024

REGULAR SESSION: (Council Chambers)

The City of Atwater Citizens' Oversight Committee for Public Safety Transactions and Use Tax met in Regular Session this date at 5:30 PM in the City Council Chambers located at the Atwater Civic Center, 750 Bellevue Road, Atwater, California; Chairperson Kindred-Winzer presiding.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Committee Member Eduardo Perez.

ROLL CALL:

Present:	<i>Committee Members Ingram, Perez, Price, Vice Chairperson Santos, Chairperson Kindred-Winzer</i>
Absent:	<i>None</i>
Staff Present:	<i>City Manager Hoem, Police Chief Salvador, CAL FIRE Battalion Chief Ayuso, Administrative Assistant Peralta</i>

SUBSEQUENT NEED ITEMS: *None.*

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS POSTED OR AS AMENDED:

MOTION: Committee Member Price moved to approve the agenda as posted. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairperson Santos and the vote was: Ayes: Ingram,

Perez, Price, Santos, Kindred-Winzer; Noes: None; Absent: None. The motion passed.

MINUTES:

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Committee Member Price expressed concerns about the minutes.

MOTION: Committee Member Ingram moved to approve the minutes as listed. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairperson Santos and the vote was: Ayes: Ingram, Perez, Santos, Kindred-Winzer; Noes: Price; Absent: None. The motion passed.

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS FROM STAFF:

Verbal Financial report (Finance Director Nicholas)

City Manager Hoem presented the verbal financial report in Finance Director Nicholas' absence.

Committee Member Price inquired about the Griffin Structures \$50k check for the public safety masterplan.

Police Chief Salvador provided clarification, stating the contract is long term and will define the needs of the City going forward over the next 5-10 years.

Committee Member Price agrees a masterplan is important, but he worries about the expenditure coming out of Measure B and believes it should come out of the general fund instead.

Vice Chairperson Santos asked if there are any current work products from Griffin Structures that can be provided.

Police Chief Salvador provided clarification and stated there has been draft work and there are upcoming meetings with the consultant to finalize these drafts.

Verbal Police Department Update (Police Chief Salvador)

Police Chief Salvador provided the verbal Police Department update regarding the patrol and general statistics. He thanked the Committee for their participation and attention to detail during his time as Chief of Police.

Committee Member Ingram inquired about the number of Code Enforcement officers.

Vice Chairperson Santos asked about the recruits in the academy and asked about how many vacant positions there are.

Police Chief Salvador provided clarification, explaining that all funded positions are filled, and recruits are doing well.

Committee Member Price asked about the line item regarding the unhoused.

Police Chief Salvador elaborated on pedestrian checks, abandoned vehicles, and encampments. He offered to give the committee a more detailed report. He also specified that Code Enforcement oversees the unhoused.

Committee Member Ingram requested a better understanding of the strategies.

Verbal Fire Department Update (CAL FIRE Battalion Chief Ayuso)

CAL FIRE Battalion Chief Ayuso gave a verbal Fire Department update regarding calls, administration, personnel, equipment, and stated that the Atwater Fire Tri-Tip Dinner fundraiser made \$5,400 in profit.

Committee Member Ingram asked about fire menace standby.

CAL FIRE Battalion Chief Ayuso provided clarification.

Committee Member Price asked about a fire that occurred recently at a house.

CAL FIRE Battalion Chief Ayuso clarified about the abandoned structure.

Committee Member Price expressed concerns over battery powered machinery and the potential unreliability.

Vice Chairperson Santos clarified about firescope outlines.

Verbal update (City Manager Hoem)

City Manager Hoem reminded the committee that he is happy to take any questions.

Vice Chairperson Santos asked how the Oversight funds are looking.

City Manager Hoem assured the Measure B funds are in good standing.

Committee Member Price added onto this and stated there is 3.4 million dollars in the Measure B fund.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Notice to the public was read.

Linda Dash inquired about the library fire in Merced, asked if officers patrol residential areas, and spoke about the unhoused situation.

Keith Pelowski spoke about expenses and urged the Committee to have training before their first meeting, and if there was training, what did it entail to prepare to be on the committee. He also expressed concern about the disagreements over expenses and how information is given to the City Council.

Chairperson Kindred-Winzer closed the Public Comment.

COMMITTEE MATTERS:

Committee member comments

Committee Member Price spoke regarding purchases, work-out equipment for the Fire department, Measure B funds, suggested a Measure B incentive program for potential incoming officers, and wished everyone Happy Holidays. He also requested to change the meeting time from 5:30pm to 6:00pm.

Committee Member Ingram thanked Police Chief Salvador for his service.

Committee Member Perez thanked Police Chief Salvador for his service and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Vice Chairperson Santos thanked Police Chief Salvador, hopes a police officer can be assigned to the unhoused, hopes for a future speed enforcement throughout the City, thanked CAL FIRE Battalion Chief Ayuso, and clarified that he did receive training.

Chairperson Kindred-Winzer thanked Police Chief Salvador and informed the Committee that she has met with the City Manager and Finance Director about making the meetings much more informational.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairperson Kindred-Winzer adjourned the meeting at 6:34 PM.

APPROVED:

Rosa Kindred-Winzer
ROSA KINDRED-WINZER
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

Gisela Peralta
GISELA PERALTA
RECORDING SECRETARY