



CITY OF ATWATER

CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC SAFETY TRANSACTIONS AND USE TAX

ACTION MINUTES

March 11, 2025

SPECIAL SESSION: (Council Chambers)

The City of Atwater Citizens' Oversight Committee for Public Safety Transactions and Use Tax met in Special Session this date at 6:00 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 Vice Chairperson Santos.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Committee Members Perez, Price, Vice Chairperson Santos, Chairperson Kindred-Winzer

Absent: Committee Member Ingram

Staff Present: City Manager Hoem, Finance Director Nicholas, Police Sergeant Snyder, CAL FIRE Assistant Chief Pimental, Executive Assistant Peralta

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Notice to the public was read.

Linda Dash asked about the expenditures and the money spent on equipment and Pers.

Keith Pelowski spoke about the minutes, asked about the public safety expenditure plan and where it is located, and asked about the annual reports from the committee for 2023 and 2024.

No one else came forward.

Chairperson Kindred-Winzer closed public comment.

1. Changing the Time for Regular Meetings from 5:30 PM to 6:00 PM

MOTION: Vice Chairperson Santos moved to change the regular meeting time from 5:30 PM to 6:00 PM. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Price and the vote was: Ayes: Perez, Price, Santos, Kindred-Winzer; Noes: None; Absent: Ingram. The motion passed.

MINUTES:

December 10, 2024 – Regular Meeting

MOTION: Vice Chairperson Santos moved to approve the minutes as listed. The motion was seconded by Chairperson Kindred-Winzer and the vote was: Ayes: Perez, Santos, Kindred-Winzer; Noes: Price; Absent: Ingram. The motion passed.

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS FROM STAFF:

Verbal Financial report (Finance Director Nicholas)

Finance Director Nicholas provided the verbal financial report regarding accounts payable transaction reports and the unaudited budget status report.

Vice Chairperson Santos asked about the professional services and the master plan and any updates on the amount paid.

Finance Director Nicholas provided clarification, stating that the total paid is \$182,500.

City Manager Hoem added that a draft master plan was provided to staff.

CAL FIRE Assistant Chief Pimental spoke about the process of looking at plan reviews for station remodels and the possibility of a third and fourth fire station in the city.

City Manager Hoem provided more information.

Committee Member Price asked CAL FIRE Assistant Chief Pimental Station 41 and Station 42's remodels. He expressed concern over the funding for the remodels and the use of Measure B funds.

CAL FIRE Assistant Chief Pimental provided clarification.

City Manager Hoem spoke about the ordinance for Measure B and the purpose of safety services.

Committee Member Price expressed concerns about the \$182,500 cost for the master plan and the lack of results and a draft.

Vice Chairperson Santos also expressed concerns about the lack of a draft.

City Manager Hoem clarified there has been a draft and it will be taken to City Council.

Committee Member Perez would like to know how these issues can be addressed moving forward.

Chairperson Kindred-Winzer asked where the point is drawn between capital improvement as opposed to the "other" category where someone can justify the cost of a \$15,000 expenditure.

City Manager Hoem provided clarification.

Vice Chairperson Santos wanted to remind the committee that staff will answer questions prior to the meeting.

Committee Member Price asked about the line that states: "other police protection service expenses as deemed necessary by the City Council." He asked for clarification about what this means and about the ADA compliant doors being installed. He asked Police Sergeant Snyder about this and about the front entrance being locked after hours unless a dispatcher opens them.

Police Sergeant Snyder provided clarification.

Committee Member Price asked about the line regarding "other fire protection services" and asked whether something else could've fallen under that approval process that shouldn't have. He pointed out items that could be paid under different funds or have more clarification, such as painted doors, professional services, CalPERS, and the fire and police merchandise. He asked for clarification on certain line items regarding these.

Finance Director Nicholas and City Manager Hoem provided clarification.

Verbal Police Department Update (Police Sergeant Snyder)

Police Sergeant Snyder provided the verbal Police Department update regarding the stats for February 2025.

Committee Vice Chair Santos asked about the 2023/2024 staffing levels dropping from 28 to 26, about an officer being assigned to the unhoused, and he asked if all the officers are aware of the City ordinances, specifically about parks.

Police Sergeant Snyder and City Manager Hoem provided clarification.

Committee Vice Chair Santos expressed his concerns over the loss of police officer positions.

Committee Member Price asked about the process with the unhoused.

Police Sergeant Snyder provided clarification.

Verbal Fire Department Update (CAL FIRE Assistant Chief Pimental)

CAL FIRE Assistant Chief Pimental gave the verbal Fire Department update regarding call volumes, promotions, truck academy, equipment, events, and the CAL FIRE agreement.

Committee Vice Chair Santos thanked the Fire staff for wanting to stay and grow within the City.

Verbal update (City Manager Hoem)

City Manager Hoem gave the verbal update on upcoming City events.

Committee Member Price asked if the City Attorney could attend the meetings in the future. He also asked if the committee could make recommendations.

Committee Vice Chair Santos asked if the committee could make a recommendation about whether a certain item is appropriate use of the fund.

City Manager Hoem provided clarification.

Committee Vice Chair Santos thanked the City staff for answering questions and providing answers.

City Manager Hoem thanked the committee for coming to the meeting prepared with questions.

Committee Member Price clarified that the committee should make recommendations that can be sent to the City Council, similar to the Planning Commission.


Committee Chair Kindred-Winzer requested if the responses given to other committee members can be shared with the rest of the committee.

City Manager Hoem stated he will be sharing an FAQ on the committee's page on the City of Atwater's website.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairperson Kindred-Winzer adjourned the meeting at 7:32 PM.

APPROVED:



ROSA KINDRED-WINZER
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:



GISELA PERALTA
RECORDING SECRETARY