



EMPIRE MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

P.O. BOX 1841

Empire, CA 95319

TheEmpireMAC@gmail.com

Members:

Christopher Nunes, Chair

Dorothy Roberts, Vice-Chair

Cheyenne Sanders, Secretary

MINUTES

Wednesday, April 26, 2023 @ 6 PM

Empire Community Library, 98 I street, Empire, CA 95319 - Community Room

Present (identified by a checked box):

Christopher Nunes

Cheyenne Sanders

Dorothy Roberts

1. Call Meeting to Order – Meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM by Chair Nunes.
2. Pledge of Allegiance - Pledge of allegiance was recited by all in attendance.
3. Introduction and Roll Call – Chair Nunes welcomed the public and the members introduced themselves. Community Relations Manager Erica Inacio offered interpretation for non-English speakers.
4. Approve Meeting Minutes from February 22, 2023. – A motion was made to approve the minutes. Moved Roberts, Seconded Nunes. Unanimously approved.
5. Public Comment* - None.
6. Community Reports
 - a. Public Safety
 - i. Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office – none.
 - ii. California Highway Patrol - Officer Moore reported
 - Reported 3 non injury and 2 minor injury collisions, along with 1 abandoned vehicle that was towed, 2 DUI arrests, 13 reckless driving calls, and 2 stolen vehicles that were recovered in Empire.
 - iii. Stanislaus Consolidated Fire
 - Captain Tony Anderson introduced himself and his team. He stated the house received 310 emergency calls last month with 46 of them being fires while the rest were miscellaneous calls such as rescues and medical calls.
 - He reminded the public that it is grass fire season and gave precautionary tips such as mowing early in the morning and clearing dry weeds on and around your property and gave the public a phone number to call, (209)869-7470, to report overgrowth in the area.
 - Captain Anderson also stated that they are doing water rescue training due to the water levels rising. He also gave a staffing update stating that there are 4 cadets in the academy that will graduate in June, as well as current openings for captain and entry level firefighters.

iv. Public Works

- Bill Martins stated that they placed speed readers for a period of one week to pull date on speed down Church Street. The data will be shared with traffic engineers for future steps. The community was encouraged to call Public Works if there is any damage by calling 209.525.4130 and asking for Bill. Public Works will consider relocating the speed readers further out on Church Street.

b. Local Government

i. Board of Supervisors – Channce Condit

- Supervisor Condit was not in attendance due to conflicting schedule.

ii. Chief Executive Office

- Erica Inacio, Community Relations Manager encourage MAC members to take the online Ethics Training (AB 1234) and to send her a copy of the completed training.

c. Assemblyman Juan Alanis, District 22, Michelle Finch was present and provided legislative updates, including stricter enforcement on Fentanyl dealers. Michelle is at Lulus on the 2nd Thursday of the Month at 2 p.m. in case anyone wants to reach out with any concerns.

d. Congressman John Duarte, 13th District, Gavin Cline was present and shared that Congressman Duarte is current on three important committees that represent the Valley: Agriculture, Transportation, and Natural Resources. The office sends out a weekly newsletter but can always visit the local office at 98 First Street, Turlock.

e. Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil, Jacob Faulder was present and shared that there are three bills they are currently working on which include SB268 which makes of an unconscious person a violent crime; SB226 which makes it illegal to carry a firearm when you are in possession of Fentanyl, and SB357 which is a COVID-19 tax credit for small and large businesses.

f. School District

- Not in attendance.

g. Library

- Diane Ramirez, Library Assistant, informed the public that on Saturday they will be celebrating International Children's Love of Books and will have crafts along with Storytime from 2-3:30 and every child will receive a free book. She also stated that the library paired up with head start to come to the library, on the same day three 3rd grade classes from Hughes Elementary which equaled about 150 visitors for the library.

7. Informational Items

a. The Department of Transportation presented a project that proposes to install/upgrade curb ramps, level pads, sidewalks, walkways, accessible pedestrian signals, and detectable warning surfaces on Yosemite Blvd on the intersection of McClure and from E to H street that will comply with Americans with Disabilities Act standards. This will also include more drainages. See attached power point for more details.

8. Action Items:

- a. The MAC accepted a red line copy of the MAC bylaws with revisions to include changing the MAC membership from elected to appointed. The MAC will review and consider adopting the revisions at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

Motion made Nunes to accept the red line copy, Seconded by Roberts. Unanimously approved.

- b. Nominations and Appointment of Officers for 2023 - Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary – this item was held until the March meeting.
 - A motion was made by Roberts and seconded by Sanders for Nunes to remain Chair. Unanimously approved.
 - A motion was made by Nunes and seconded by Sanders for Roberts to be appointed as Vice- Chair. Unanimously approved.
 - A motion was made by Roberts and seconded by Nunes for Sanders to be appointed as Secretary. Unanimously approved.

9. Council Comments & Recommendations for Future Agenda Items. – None.

10. Adjournment: 7:28 PM

Next Regular Meeting – May 24, 2023, at 6:00 PM.