APRIL 30, 2013 6:00 p.m. Dutcher Junior High School, Multi-Purpose Room 1441 Colorado Avenue, Turlock, California

1. CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Lazar called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Bill DeHart, Steven Nascimento, Forrest White, and Mayor John S.

Lazar.

ABSENT: Councilmember Amy Bublak

2. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND DISQUALIFICATIONS: None

4. COMMUNITY FORUM

Mayor Lazar opened the community forum and each of the following Department Heads/Managers presented information on the following topics:

Funding of City Services

City Manager Roy Wasden provided information regarding the funding of City Services, including essential City services, General Fund vs. Non-General Fund dollars, and funding received through sales tax, property tax, and state income tax.

Parks, Recreation & Community Facilities

Parks, Recreation & Community Facilities Manager Allison Van Guilder provided information about the organizational structure of the department, including services/programs offered in the areas of parks & storm basins, streets, buildings, assessment district maintenance, pools and spray parks, aquatics, youth and afterschool programs, community events, sports programs, and funding.

Police

Police Captain/Acting Police Chief Steve Williams presented information about the organizational structure of the Police Department, including services provided by the Field Operations, Special Operations, and Support Operations Divisions, departmental personnel statistics, crime statistics and crime trends in Turlock, accomplishments and successes, and future concerns.

Water

Municipal Services Director Dan Madden presented information about the City's drinking water system, challenges associated with quantity/quality of drinking water, source of water, water production statistics, declining water levels, the future of groundwater, and the Regional Surface Water Project.

Fire

Fire Chief Tim Lohman presented an overview of fire operations, including department facts, services provided to the community, department statistics, station locations, their vision as public servants, examples of various calls for service, and future challenges.

Wastewater/Storm System

Municipal Services Director Dan Madden presented information about the wastewater/storm system, including the North Valley Recycled Water Project, discharge information, long-term water quality considerations, existing operations, and future plans.

Transportation/Roadways

Development Services Director Mike Pitcock presented information about transportation and roadways, including the Pavement Management System, PCI ratings, condition and funding required to improve/maintain the existing street network, gas tax funding information, alternative funding options such as the General Fund, a parcel tax, a citywide assessment district, and a half-cent sales tax.

Mayor Lazar asked for public comment.

Dewey Row spoke in favor of a half-cent sales tax for reasons including that if you use streets you should pay for them and that people are spending as much on car repairs as they would on a sales tax.

Kurt Spycher spoke against new taxes for reasons including that people are already paying taxes on fuel and tires, there is no revenue problem, there is a problem holding elected officials at all levels fiscally accountable, a tax could put Turlock at a competitive disadvantage by customers choosing to shop elsewhere, a property tax would be unfair to property owners that do not live within city limits, difficulty charging the elderly on fixed incomes, costs to put this on a ballot while the City is running in a deficit, and a lack of interest.

Bruce Abenathy spoke in favor of a half-cent sales tax for reasons including the last tax attempt only missed by about 200 votes, the benefits of being a self-help community, and the benefit of tax staying in Turlock,

Council discussion included constituent concerns over unacceptable roadways within the city, a tax being a way for people who shop in Turlock from other communities to pay a portion for using Turlock roads, benefits of becoming a self-help city, and the importance of soliciting input from the community.

5. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Lazar adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Kellie E. Weaver
City Clerk