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- 1. CALL TO ORDER** - Mayor Soiseth called the meeting to order at approximately 6:01 p.m.
PRESENT: Councilmembers Amy Bublak, Bill DeHart, Matthew Jacob, Steven Nascimento, and Mayor Gary Soiseth.
ABSENT: None

- 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Mayor Soiseth announced public participation would be allowed during and after discussion of the Municipal Services discussion

- 3. MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISCUSSION** – Council will receive an update on the future of Turlock’s water resources including groundwater, recycled water, and surface water. The update will include discussion on various options to address future water and wastewater needs. Further, the Council will consider and discuss the various long-term options for the disposal of Turlock’s solid waste, and any other matter that may fall within the jurisdiction of Municipal Services.

Municipal Services Director Michael Cooke spoke regarding solid waste, including providing information about collection systems, diversion comparisons between Stanislaus County and Merced County, and the value of a viable solid waste system in Stanislaus County.

He also provided information about wastewater, including San Joaquin River discharge requirements, UV disinfection costs, and the Harding Drain Bypass Project.

In addition, Mr. Cooke spoke regarding the North Valley Regional Recycled Water Program, including providing information about state regulations, recycled water being made available for farmland irrigation, anticipated costs, and project status.

Mr. Cooke spoke regarding drinking water, including providing statistical information on water use and production, groundwater levels and concerns, and Turlock’s planned water supply portfolio. He also presented information about plans for the Regional Surface Water Project through the Stanislaus Regional Water Authority, anticipated production, costs/funding, water sales agreement, and policy issues.

Council and staff discussion included the progress being made between regional entities, well status and treatment, economic impacts related to the ability to supply water, state regulations, future increases in water rates, funding mechanisms for future projects, disparity between coastal and valley use of water, and the importance of regional collaboration to retain important water resources and ensure the needs of the valley are met.

Citizen participation included questions and comments by John Miles, Tou Her, Ryan Hollister, Pamela Sweeten, Milt Trieweiler, Anthea Hansen, and Jim Theis regarding issues related to the state’s right to take water and rainwater storage facility requirements, required water sustainability plans, water resource challenges facing both Turlock Irrigation District and Del Puerto Water District, discharge requirements and alternative water treatment possibilities, aquifer withdrawal and recharge, recycled water use, current and future increases in water rates, the possibility of implementing tiered water rates, and taking responsibility for leaving a sustainable future for our children.

Mayor Soiseth announced that the next workshop will be held on February 17, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. and will focus on local roadways.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Soiseth adjourned the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Kellie E. Weaver
City Clerk