

0. A. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Bublak called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

B. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

C. ROLL CALL:

Councilmember Arellano	Councilmember Larson	Councilmember Nosrati	Councilmember Esquer	Mayor Bublak
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

PRESENT: Councilmembers Becky Arellano, Nicole Larson, Andrew Nosrati, Gil Esquer, and Mayor Amy Bublak.

ABSENT: None

D. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS: None

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS POSTED OR AMENDED

This is the time for the City Council to remove items from the agenda or to change the order of the agenda. Matters may be taken up out of order of the established agenda by a four-fifths vote of the City Council.

Action: Motion by Councilmember Esquer, seconded by Councilmember Nosrati, Approving the agenda as posted. Motion carried 5/0 by the following vote:

Councilmember Arellano	Councilmember Larson	Councilmember Nosrati	Councilmember Esquer	Mayor Bublak
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Mayor Bublak indicated that public participation would be held at the end of the workshop.

3. WORKSHOP

A. City Manager Toby Well presented the staff report on the request to consider and discuss drinking water supply alternatives and direct City staff to proceed with Council recommendations

- Consider proposal from the City of Modesto and the Modesto Irrigation District to receive treated surface water from the Modesto Regional Water Treatment Plant
- Receive project update and consider moving forward with the Stanislaus Regional Water Authority's (SRWA) Regional Surface Water Supply Project (RSWSP)
- Review and consider interim financing alternatives to meet the financial obligations of the Stanislaus Regional Water Authority's Regional Surface Water Supply Project until the approved State Revolving Funds are received in 2021

City Manager Toby Wells introduced City of Modesto Director of Utilities Will Wong who presented information regarding a potential regional surface water project with the City of Modesto, Modesto Irrigation District, and the City of Turlock, including two options for City participation with estimated cost projections for each.

Council and staff discussed the City of Modesto proposal, including the level of risk associated with the project, obtaining a water rights agreement with the Modesto Irrigation District and the Turlock Irrigation District, rehabilitation costs for capital projects, the growth rate of partner cities, and the project timeline.

City Manager Toby Wells introduced SRWA General Manager Bob Granberg who presented information regarding the City of Modesto/Modesto Irrigation District proposal draft costs as compared to the SRWA project costs, the permitting process timeline and approvals needed from state and regional boards for the City of Modesto/Modesto Irrigation District proposed project. Mr. Granberg further presented a cost update for the SRWA Regional Surface Water Supply Project including grants received and additional savings realized, and the current status of the various project elements such as the wet well construction, the water rights protest, the design-build contract award, the State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan agreement, construction of the RSWSP, and the estimated completion date.

Council and staff discussed the SRWA project, including the status of current and future grants, water quality standards, the cost comparison of the City of Modesto/Modesto Irrigation District proposal and the SRWA project, the SRF loan, the project timeline, the status of Turlock's drinking water wells, and the possible participation of additional agencies in the Project.

City Manager Toby Wells introduced SRWA Finance Director Marie Lorenzi who presented information regarding the interim financing alternatives to meet the financial obligations of the SRWA RSWSP until the approved SRF monies are received in 2021, including the use of a Bond Anticipation Note (BAN), or the issuance of a revenue bond.

Council and staff discussed the interim financial alternatives, including the reserves available in the City's water fund for local improvements and the terminal storage tank, and potential grant opportunities.

Mayor Bublak opened public participation.

The following members of the public spoke:

Bill DeHart
Mike Melendez
Nick Hackler
DJ Fransen
Pam Franco
Michael Camara
WCAMStudios
Mariel Zare
City Manager Wells read a statement on behalf of citizen Mary Jackson
Michael Crowell

Mayor Bublak closed public participation.

Council and staff further discussed this item, including drought concerns, partnership considerations with other agencies, City of Turlock leadership changes, impacts of COVID on construction pricing, establishment of a senior or fixed income rate for water, and the pursuit of additional grants and funding sources for the project.

Action: Motion by Councilmember Arellano, seconded by Councilmember Larson, directing City staff and the Stanislaus Regional Water Authority (SRWA) Board Members to move forward with the Regional Surface Water Supply Project (RSWSP) and secure interim financing for the Project until the State Revolving Fund (SRF) proceeds are received. Motion carried 5/0 by the following vote:

Councilmember Arellano	Councilmember Larson	Councilmember Nosrati	Councilmember Esquer	Mayor Bublak
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

4. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Councilmember Nosrati, seconded by Councilmember Larson, to adjourn the special meeting at 6:39 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Allison Martin, Deputy City Clerk
Jennifer Land, City Clerk