

Gridley City Council – Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 5, 2025; 6:00 pm

Gridley City Hall, 685 Kentucky Street, Gridley, CA 95948

"Our purpose is to continuously enhance our community's vitality and overall quality of life. We are committed to providing high quality, cost-effective municipal services and forming productive partnerships with our residents and regional organizations. We collectively develop, share, and are guided by a clear vision, values, and meaningful objectives."

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Farr called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

ROLL CALL

Present: Johnson, Roberts, Calderon, Sanchez, Farr

Absent: None

Arriving after roll call: None

Staff Present: Elisa Arteaga, City Administrator
Todd Farr, Police Chief
Anthony Galyean, City Attorney
Martin Pineda, Finance Director
Patricia Taverner, Assistant Finance Director
Chip Fowler, Fire Chief
Ross Pippitt, Utility Director
Dave Harden, City Engineer
Carmen Santana, Deputy City Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Mayor Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATION – None

INTRODUCTION OF NEW OR PROMOTED EMPLOYEES - None

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION FORUM

Julian Ramirez, 1083 Sage St., addressed council to inform them of a business potentially operating without proper business licensing.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. City Council Minutes

City Council review and approval of special meeting minutes for the April 21, 2025

Recommended Action(s):

- a. Approve special Council meeting minutes: April 21, 2025

ROLL CALL

Motion: Sanchez

Second: Johnson

Action: to approve special meeting minutes dated April 21, 2025 with the amendment to reflect the date April 21, 2025 (correct date).

Ayes: Roberts, Calderon, Farr, Sanchez, Johnson

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion passed, 5-0

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

2. Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Audit

The City Council to review and approve the FY 23/24 financial statements and independent auditors report.

Recommended Action(s):

- a. Accept and approve the FY 23/24 Financial Statements.
- b. Accept and approve the FY 23/24 independent auditors report.

Finance Director Martin Pineda introduced the City's independent auditor, Sheldon Chavan of Chavan and Associates LLP, who provided a verbal overview of the FY 2023-24 audit reports. Mr. Chavan briefly reviewed the audit findings and stated that the City received an "unmodified" opinion—the highest rating a municipality can receive. While there were a few minor findings and recommendations, he noted that Finance staff have already begun implementing corrective measures.

Councilmember Sanchez inquired about how revenue from FEMA's rental of the industrial park was allocated, as well as the reasons behind the increase in the salary line item and whether further increases should be expected. Finance Director Pineda addressed her questions.

Councilmember Calderon emphasized that his primary concerns were ensuring sufficient funding for Public Safety and protecting City staff salaries.

City Administrator Arteaga reminded the Council that the wage study will serve as a valuable resource during upcoming labor negotiations.

After brief discussion, motion was made to accept the FY 23/24 Financial Statements and Independent Auditors Report.

ROLL CALL

Motion: Roberts

Second: Calderon

Action: to accept and approve the FY 23/24 Financial Statements and Independent Auditors Report.

Ayes: Roberts, Calderon, Farr, Sanchez, Johnson

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion passed, 5-0

3. State Route 99 – Waterline Relocation Project

City Council to consider authorizing City Administrator to accept the construction contract 24-01 for the construction of Gridley State Route 99 Waterline Relocation project and issue the notice of completion.

Recommended Action(s):

- a. Authorize the City Administrator to accept the construction contract for the Waterline Relocation Project
- b. Authorize City Administrator to issue the notice of completion and record at the Butte County Records office

City Engineer Dave Harden presented the staff report and requested that the Council authorize the City Administrator to accept the contract for the Waterline Relocation Project and to issue the Notice of Completion for recording with the Butte County Recorder's Office.

Harden reported that the project proceeded as planned. Although a 10% contingency was included in the total project budget, only a small portion of that contingency was utilized, as there were minimal unforeseen issues during construction.

ROLL CALL

Motion: Calderon

Second: Roberts

Action: to authorize the City Administrator to accept the contract for the Waterline Relocation Project and to issue the Notice of Completion for recording with the Butte County Recorder's Office.

Ayes: Roberts, Calderon, Farr, Sanchez, Johnson

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion passed, 5-0

4. 2025 Butte County Community Wildfire Protection Plan

City Council to receive presentation explaining the document and consider adoption of the 2025 Butte County Community Wildfire

Recommended Action(s):

- a. Adopt the 2025 Butte County Community Wildfire Protection Plan and authorize the Mayor to sign the signatory page

Fire Chief Chip Fowler presented a PowerPoint highlighting key elements of the 2025 Butte County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). He explained that the CWPP is a collaborative, countywide effort aimed at identifying and prioritizing hazardous fuel treatments, as well as outlining strategies to reduce structure ignitability and enhance wildfire resilience across the region.

ROLL CALL

Motion: Johnson

Second: Sanchez

Action: to adopt the Butte County Community Wildfire Protection Plan and authorize the Mayor to sign the signatory page.

Ayes: Roberts, Calderon, Farr, Sanchez, Johnson

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Motion passed, 5-0

5. Washington Street Parking Spaces Painting

City Council to consider authorizing Public Works Department to convert parking on the south side of Washington Street to diagonal parking to increase overall number of available parking

Recommended Action(s):

- a. Provide direction to Public Works Department regarding the painting of parking spaces on Washington Street, between Norman Street and the southern end leading into the baseball field parking area

Utility Director Ross Pippitt presented the staff report requesting Council direction on converting parallel parking to diagonal parking on the south side of Washington Street in order to increase available parking spaces.

Pippitt explained that he had reviewed the proposal with Police Chief Todd Farr and City Engineer Dave Harden, and all agreed that the change was feasible. The request originated from Lions Club member Mike Dahl, who approached Pippitt with the suggestion.

Direction: Following brief discussion, the Council unanimously agreed to move forward with the proposed change and directed staff to proceed with painting the new parking spaces.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Calderon reported on his attendance at the BCAG meeting. He also informed Council that the annual Day of the Dead celebration that takes place in November will focus on suicide prevention education.

Mayor Farr reported on his attendance at the NCPA Policy Conference that was held in Washington D.C.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

City Administrator Arteaga reported on several productive meetings held recently with department heads in preparation for the upcoming budget and expressed appreciation for their continued hard work and dedication. She also provided updates on recent meetings related to various development projects currently underway.

DEPARTMENT UPDATE REPORTS

Fire Chief Chip Folwer reported on the fire department activity for April.

Utility Director Ross Pippitt informed the Council that Public Works crews are actively working in the downtown area to ensure it is prepared for the upcoming Red Suspenders Day event.

City Engineer Dave Harden reported that he has recently been engaged in multiple discussions with various developers and noted that a few development projects are preparing to break ground soon.

Principal Planner Christopher Smith reported on his upcoming kick-off meeting with Orchard View Phase II and also reported on his attendance at the BCAG Planning Directors meeting.

POTENTIAL FUTURE CITY COUNCIL ITEMS - (Appearing on the Agenda within 30 days):

Travel Policy	5/19/2025
Energy Efficiency Contract Review	5/19/2025
Hazel Hotel – CHIP Homes	5/19/2025

CLOSED SESSION – None

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:36 pm, with no further items left to discuss, Mayor Farr adjourned to the next regular meeting on May 19, 2025.

Approved:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Elisa Arteaga", is written over a horizontal line. Below the line, the text "Elisa Arteaga, City Clerk" is printed.

Elisa Arteaga, City Clerk