

Gridley City Council – Regular City Council Meeting Agenda

Monday, August 5th, 2019; 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 Johnson

ROLL CALL - Recording Secretary

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mayor Johnson

PROCLAMATIONS – None

INTRODUCTION OF NEW OR PROMOTED EMPLOYEES

- New Police Officer Ruben Quihuiz

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION FORUM - *Members of the public may address the City Council on matters not listed on the agenda. The City Council may not discuss nor take action on any community participation item brought forward by a member of the community. Comments are requested to be limited to three (3) minutes.*

CONSENT AGENDA – *Items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and acted upon by one motion. Any Council member may request that an item be removed for separate consideration. The City Council may only make minor comments; otherwise the item should be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed as the first item(s) under “Items for Council Consideration”.*

1. City Council minutes dated July 1, 2019
2. Appointment of two new Planning Commissioners

PUBLIC HEARING – None

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

3. Approval of Letter to Butte County Board of Supervisors Opposing Hemp Farm
4. Presentation of new software program Crime Graphic Citizen RIMS
5. Swearing in and seating of new Council Member Quintin Crye

CITY STAFF AND COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS - *Brief updates from City staff and brief reports on conferences, seminars, and meetings attended by the Mayor and City Council members, if any.*

POTENTIAL FUTURE CITY COUNCIL ITEMS - (Appearing on the Agenda within 30-90 days):

Potential Cessation of Net Metering Program	8/19/2019
Police Department Digital radio system	9/3/2019

CLOSED SESSION

6. Conference with Labor Negotiators pursuant to Government Code 54957.6 to meet and confer with International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and Gridley Police Officers Association

ADJOURNMENT – adjourning to the next regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, August 19th, 2019

NOTE 1: POSTING OF AGENDA- This agenda was posted on the public bulletin board at City Hall at or before 6:00 p.m., August 2nd, 2019, in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2. This agenda along with all attachments is available for public viewing online at www.gridley.ca.us and at the Administration counter in City Hall, 685 Kentucky Street, Gridley, CA.

NOTE 2: REGARDING UNSCHEDULED MATTERS – In accordance with state law, it shall be the policy of this Council that no action shall be taken on any item presented during the public forum or on unscheduled matters unless the Council, by majority vote, determines that an emergency situation exists, or, unless the Council by a two-thirds vote finds that the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of this agenda.

Gridley City Council – DRAFT City Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 1st, 2019; 6:00 pm
Gridley City Hall, 685 Kentucky Street, Gridley, CA 95948

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CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers

Present: Borges, Johnson, Williams, Torre
Absent: None
Arriving after roll call: None

Staff present:

Paul Eckert, City Administrator
Tony Galyean, City Attorney
Al Byers, Police Chief
Daryl Dye, Utilities Director
Danny Howard, Electric Supervisor

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Mayor Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance

INVOCATION

The invocation was provided by Pastor Brad Roberts of the Calvary Chapel of Gridley

PROCLAMATIONS – None

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION FORUM

Mayor Johnson opened the forum and seeing no one present wishing to speak, closed the forum.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. City Council minutes dated June 17, 2019
2. Appointment of Paul Eckert as Finance Director effective April 6, 2019
3. Council Approval of Resolution No. 2019-R-017: A Resolution of The City Council of The City of Gridley Approving Agreement No. 2CA04403 With the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and Authorizing the Mayor to Sign the Agreement for Services from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Councilmember Torres, seconded by Vice Mayor Williams

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Johnson, Borges, Williams, Torres
Motion passed, 4-0

PUBLIC HEARING – None

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

4. Interviews of Candidates to fill Planning Commissioner Vacancies

Applicants Sumran Khan and Rizwan Khan introduced themselves to Council and briefly stated their interest in serving on the Planning Commission. Due to a third applicant being unable to attend due to work, Council will complete the interviews at the next held Council meeting.

5. Council Appointment of Partial Term Councilmember

Motion to appoint Quintin Crye by Councilmember Borges, seconded by Mayor Johnson

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Johnson, Borges, Williams
Noes: Torres
Motion passed, 3-1

CITY STAFF AND COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Vice Mayor Williams reported that he visited the FEMA site with Utilities Director Daryl Dye. He stated the on-site environmentalist noticed a Killdeer egg on a graded portion of the site. Work had to be adjusted to provide the necessary protection to the egg.

Vice Mayor Williams also thanked emergency services and all of City Staff for the collaborative support being provided to the FEMA project as well as to each other as they are stepping in to back each other up in a time of great need.

POTENTIAL FUTURE CITY COUNCIL ITEMS - (Appearing on the Agenda within 30-90 days):

Seating of New Councilmember	8/5/2019
Hilbers Residential Development	8/5/2019
Appointment of Planning Commissioners	8/5/2019
Potential Cessation of Net Metering Program	8/19/2019

CLOSED SESSION – None

ADJOURNMENT

With no items for further discussion, Council adjourned until August 5, 2109

Paul Eckert, City Clerk

City Council Agenda Item #2
Staff Report

Date: August 5, 2019
To: Mayor and City Council
From: Paul Eckert, City Administrator

X	Regular
	Special
	Closed
	Emergency

Subject: Council Appointment to fill Planning Commissioner Vacancies

Recommendation

City staff respectfully recommends that the City Council appoint Rukhsana Khan and Sumran Khan to fill the Planning Commissioner seat vacancies.

Background

The recent appointment of Zachary Torres to City Council and the resignation of Bob Wise on June 10th created two partial term vacancies on the Planning Commission. The partial terms will expire on January 1, 2022. The Planning Commission is comprised of the following members:

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Term Expirations</u>
Vacant	2018-2022	1/1/2022
Vacant	2018-2022	1/1/2022
Maria Espino	2016-2020	1/1/2020
Ishrat Khan	2016-2020	1/1/2020
Kenneth Wolfe	2016-2020	1/1/2020

In keeping with the Council’s direction at the May 20th Council meeting, staff advertised the Planning Commission vacancies and utilized an application and letter of interest process. Three applications were received prior to the deadline on June 14, 2019; however, one applicant withdrew on July 1, 2019.

City Council can take action to either appoint two new Commissioners to fill the partial terms or direct staff to re-advertise for a greater pool of applicants. If appointed, the new Commissioner’s terms will start at the next Planning Commission meeting following Council appointment.

Financial Impact - None

Compliance with City Council Strategic Plan or Budget Goals

The City Council and City staff are committed to providing effective leadership while providing quality cost effective local government services.

Attachments – None

City Council Agenda Item #3
Staff Report

Date: August 5, 2019
To: Mayor and City Council
From: Paul Eckert, City Administrator
Subject: Approval of Letter to Butte County Board of Supervisors Opposing Hemp Farm

X	Regular
	Special
	Closed
	Emergency

Recommendation

City staff respectfully recommends that the City Council approve the attached letter to the Butte County Board of Supervisors opposing the Hemp Farm adjacent to Gridley.

Background

The City recently observed a new large Hemp Farm immediately adjacent to the Gridley City limit. We have confirmed that the Butte County Agricultural Commissioner approved the Hemp Farm without any preestablished formal policy and regulation and without notification to the City of Gridley and our area residents. The attached letter to the Board of Supervisors outlines the City's concerns on behalf of our area residents and businesses and requests that the Board halt the Hemp Farm operation. It's very disappointing that with over 1,073,280 acres in Butte County that the Agricultural Commissioner approved a site immediately adjacent to our City.

We have very serious concerns regarding the Butte County Agriculture Commissioner's recent approval of a very large Hemp Growing operation immediately adjacent to nearly one-third of Gridley's residential housing units and at our northerly Highway 99 entrance that welcomes visitors and business prospects to our community. It appears that the Agricultural Commissioner acted with apparent negligence in permitting the Hemp Farm at the Deniz Ranch and in doing so, demonstrated a total disregard of our Gridley residents and business community.

The Agricultural Commissioner's negligence seems abundantly clear as his actions are in stark contrast to the County Board of Supervisors previously developed stringent policies, including provisions to restrict odors as it relates to the growing of marijuana. Having spent hundreds of staff and elected hours and tens of thousands of dollars on the subject, the County is well aware that hemp and marijuana have nearly identical odor characteristics. The Agricultural Commissioner failed to address the odor and other concerns while approving the Hemp Farm immediately adjacent to thousands of Gridley residents, including the large Heron Landing residential community, the Ford Avenue Apartments as well as Orchard Hospital and their senior housing, and less than a half mile away from our High School.

Communities similarly impacted have been forced to take expensive legal action and to adopt costly Odor Control Ordinances to confront the adverse impacts of similar Hemp operations. Making matters worse, almost all of the Hemp operations in the other surveyed communities are in fact much smaller than the nearly 100-acre Hemp operation in Gridley that Butte County approved without any consultation with impacted residents.

Residents from those other communities' report that the subsequent negative impact of the Hemp operations have factually reduced their property values and significantly diminished their quality of life. While "dead skunk" is the most common term used when describing the smell, the strong odor permeates clothing, buildings, and vehicles and can travel great distances. Imagine 100,000 skunks spraying next to your home. Reportedly, the smell becomes so obnoxious that many residents can't go outside.

Worse yet, school officials in other communities have shared that "Many staff, students, and families have significant concerns about noxious odor during the harvest season and its adverse impact on the health of the students and the staff." Other community residents have indicated that "for months, the intense, skunk-like, eye-watering stench prevented us from opening our windows and doors to cool our houses on summer nights, raising nighttime temperatures to unhealthy levels and causing sleep deprivation and anxiety."

Financial Impact - None

Compliance with City Council Strategic Plan or Budget Goals

The City Council and City staff are committed to providing the highest possible quality of life to our residents as well as effective leadership while providing quality cost effective local government services.

Attachments – Letter to Butte County Board of Supervisors opposing the Hemp Farm



Administration 530.846.3631
Finance / Utilities 530.846.5695
Public Works / Electric 530.846.3631
Fax 530.846.3229

August 6, 2019

Butte County Board of Supervisors
25 County Center Drive, Suite 200
Oroville, CA 95965

We are looking to you for your help. We have very serious concerns regarding the Butte County Agriculture Commissioner's recent approval of a very large Hemp Growing operation immediately adjacent to nearly one-third of Gridley's residential housing units and at our northerly Highway 99 entrance that welcomes visitors and business prospects to our community. It appears that the Agricultural Commissioner acted with apparent negligence in permitting the Hemp Farm at the Deniz Ranch and in doing so, demonstrated a total disregard of our Gridley residents and business community.

On behalf of our residents and business community, the City of Gridley respectfully requests that the Butte County Board of Supervisors take action to halt the Hemp Farm operation with the potential of 100,000 plants immediately adjacent to the Gridley community.

The Agricultural Commissioner's negligence seems abundantly clear as his actions are in stark contrast to the County Board of Supervisors previously developed stringent policies, including provisions to restrict odors as it relates to the growing of marijuana. Having spent hundreds of staff and elected hours and tens of thousands of dollars on the subject, the County is well aware that hemp and marijuana have nearly identical odor characteristics. The Agricultural Commissioner failed to address the odor and other concerns while approving the Hemp Farm immediately adjacent to thousands of Gridley residents, including the large Heron Landing residential community, the Ford Avenue Apartments as well as Orchard Hospital and their senior housing.

Communities similarly impacted have been forced to take expensive legal action and to adopt costly Odor Control Ordinances to confront the adverse impacts of similar Hemp operations. Making matters worse, almost all of the Hemp operations in the other surveyed communities are in fact much smaller than the nearly 100-acre Hemp operation in Gridley that Butte County approved without any consultation with impacted residents.

Residents from those other communities report that the subsequent negative impact of the Hemp operations have factually reduced their property values and significantly diminished their quality of life. While "dead skunk" is the most common term used when describing the smell, the strong odor permeates clothing, buildings, and vehicles and can travel great distances. Imagine 100,000 skunks spraying next to your home. Reportedly, the smell becomes so obnoxious that many residents can't go outside.

Worse yet, school officials in other communities have shared that "Many staff, students, and families have significant concerns about noxious odor during the harvest season and its adverse impact on the

health of the students and the staff.” Other community residents have indicated that “for months, the intense, skunk-like, eye-watering stench prevented us from opening our windows and doors to cool our houses on summer nights, raising nighttime temperatures to unhealthy levels and causing sleep deprivation and anxiety.” Regrettably, the City has received indication that our residents may pursue legal action against Butte County.

On behalf of our Gridley residents and business community, the Gridley City Council respectfully appeal to you for help. We ask that the Board halt the Hemp operation at the Deniz Ranch site. We also respectfully request that the Board of Supervisors agendaize the Gridley Hemp Farm and formally notify all Gridley residents regarding the date and time of the Board of Supervisors’ Meeting.

Thank you for your leadership in resolving this matter on behalf of our shared constituents in the Gridley area.

Respectfully,

Bruce Johnson
Mayor

Chris Williams
Vice Mayor

Ray Borges
Councilmember

Zachary Torres
Councilmember

Quintin Crye
Councilmember

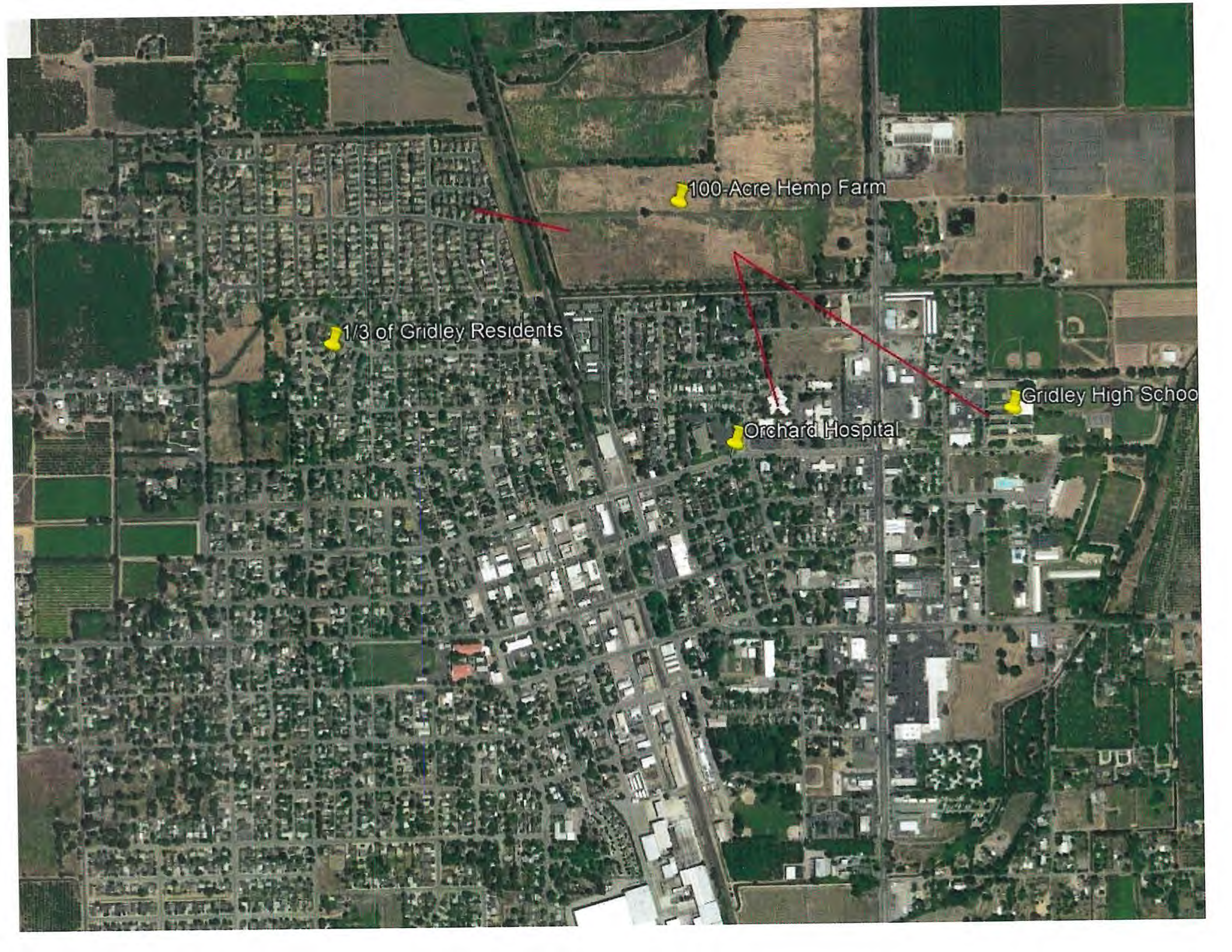
Copy: City Attorney
City Administrator
City Planner
City Planning Commissioners

100-Acre Hemp Farm

1/3 of Gridley Residents

Orchard Hospital

Gridley High School



City Council Agenda Item #4
Staff Report

Date: August 5, 2019
To: Mayor and City Council
From: Paul Eckert, City Administrator

X	Regular
	Special
	Closed
	Emergency

Subject: Presentation of new software Crime Graphics Citizen RIMS

Recommendation

Receive a presentation from Chief Al Byers on the new software program Crime Graphics Citizen RIMS.

Background

The Police Department recently purchased and installed Crime Graphics Citizen RIMS, a live incident/crime mapping program for use by citizens to obtain real time data on incidents happening in our Community. Chief Byers will be providing a review of the program and its benefits.

Financial Impact

This item was included in the FY 18/19 budget.

Compliance with City Council Strategic Plan or Budget Goals

The City Council and City staff are committed to providing effective leadership, while keeping the public informed and providing quality, cost effective, local government services.

Attachments – None