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**WILLITS CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2019**

Mayor Gonzalez called a regular meeting of the City Council to order at 4:37 p.m., in Council Chambers. The meeting was preceded by the pledge to the flag.

Roll Call: Councilmembers Greta Kanne, Saprina Rodriguez, Madge Strong, Larry Stranske (ABSENT), and Mayor Gerardo (Gerry) Gonzalez were present.

Also present were staff members: Stephanie Garrabrant-Sierra City Manager; Jim Lance, City Attorney; Scott Warnock, Police Chief; Yujun Du, Finance Manager; Karen Stevenson, Human Resources Analyst; and Cathy Moorhead, Deputy City Manager/City Clerk.

It was announced that the Cannabis item that was originally to be placed on this agenda was moved to the February 27th meeting, where other Cannabis related items would be presented.

2. DISCUSSION REGARDING COUNCIL-MANAGER FORM OF GOVERNMENT

City Attorney Lance addressed a discussion that was brought forward at the January 23, 2019 meeting concerning the confidentiality of the City Attorney communications; application of Public Records Act (PRA) to a council member's inspection of such City Attorney communication; and the need for council members to have sufficient information in order to establish City policy and otherwise fulfill their obligations as council members. The council agreed that this matter should be discussed a special meeting.

City Council felt they should receive information regarding police matters in town without having to read them on Facebook.

Therefore, after a lengthy discussion with Councilmembers, City Manager, and City Attorney the following items were agreed upon:

- City Council requested to receive all forms of press releases pertaining to the Police Department.
- Councilmember Rodriguez expressed the desire to meet with the City Manager to discuss agenda items; it was agreed upon that Mayor Gonzalez would attend these meetings.

Item also discussed was the need to diligently work on the new website to make it more user friendly to the public.

Public Comment: Jennifer Poole, owner of the Willits Weekly commented that she was disconcerted about this agenda item and that the agenda was received on a short notice; knowing that this meeting was scheduled some time back. Also, commented that she has not been receiving the press releases from the Police Department. Ms. Poole was informed that with a special meeting, they are noticed 24 hours before that meeting takes place; and Police Chief Warnock commented that he does send press releases to the newspapers, and

encouraged the Council to sign up for the Nixle Service and directed them where to locate the sign up on the Police Departments website.

Linda Burns, Councilmember Rodriguez's mother commented that she had the same concerns as Ms. Pool and expressed what she feels was a lack of respect to Councilmember Rodriguez at today's meeting. Also felt that this meeting should have been held at the normal time when the public could attend.

Moved by Strong/seconded by Kanne and carried 4/0 (Stranske absent) to adjourn the meeting at 5:37 p.m.



GERARDO (GERRY) GONZALEZ
Mayor, City Council for the City of
Willits

ATTEST:



CATHY MOORHEAD
Deputy City Manager/City Clerk