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**A G E N D A**  
**MEASURE "G" OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**6:00 P.M.**

**THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2009**

**Meeting Held in the City Hall Council Chambers,  
845 "G" Street, Reedley, California**

City of Reedley's Internet Address is [www.reedley.com](http://www.reedley.com)

Robert Takacs, Chair

Donna Suemoto, Committee Member  
Carlos Gonzalez, Committee Member

Carl Smith, Committee Member  
Chris Zaczek, Committee Member

**ROLL CALL**

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – *Provides an opportunity for members of the public to address the Committee on items of interest to the public within the Committee's jurisdiction and which are not already on the agenda this evening. It is the policy of the Committee not to answer questions impromptu. Concerns or complaints will be referred to the City Manager's office. Speakers should limit their comments to not more than three (3) minutes. No more than ten (10) minutes per issue will be allowed. For items which are on the agenda this evening, members of the public will be provided an opportunity to address the Committee as each item is brought up for discussion.*

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEASURE "G" OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING OF MARCH 19, 2009 – Recommend Committee receive and file.

**NEW BUSINESS**

2. DISCUSSIONS/SUGGESTIONS FOR NEW FIVE YEAR PLAN - Report, Discussion, and/or Committee action to approve, modify, and/or take other action as appropriate.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

4. REQUESTS BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND/OR REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBER ACTIVITIES

**STAFF REPORTS**

5. UPDATES AND/OR REPORTS BY CITY MANAGER AND/OR STAFF MEMBERS

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MEASURE "G" OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING – March 19, 2009**

The first regular meeting of the Reedley Measure "G" Oversight Committee Meeting was called to order by Chairman Takacs at 4:02 p.m. on Thursday, March 19, 2009, in the City Hall Council Chambers, 845 "G" Street, Reedley, California.

**ROLL CALL****Committee  
Members:**

Present: Donna Suemoto, Carlos Gonzalez, Carl Smith, Robert Takacs.

Absent: Chris Zaczek

**City Staff**

Present: Rocky Rogers, City Manager; Steve Wright, Police Chief; Jerry Isaak, Fire Chief; Lori Oken, Finance Director; Kay Pierce, City Clerk.

**Others**

Present: Sean Provost.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Sean Provost, Vice President of the Reedley Police Officer's Association and is present representing this organization. He was also co-chairman of the Citizen's for Measure "G" Committee, which was the committee form to help pass this public safety sales tax. He offered to help answer any questions if needed.

**NEW BUSINESS****1. SELECTION A DAY AND TIME FOR THE MEASURE "G" OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETINGS.**

Chairman Takacs asked the members present if third Thursday of the month at 4:00 p.m. is an acceptable time for them to attend the committee meetings. He also suggested the first or third Tuesdays of the month. It was the consensus of the committee members present to continue meeting on the third Thursday at 4:00 p.m. City Manager Rogers advised of receiving an email regarding Chris Zaczek not being able to meet at this time due to his work schedule. He would prefer a later time. Chairman Takacs advised he is concerned that a later time would require that city staff have to work overtime if it is after 5:00 p.m. City Manager Rogers asked how often the committee intended on meeting? Chairman Takacs advised that he would like the committee to meet again in April and after that date, the committee could meet quarterly. The committee would also be writing a year-end report for City staff. After meeting on April 16, 2009, the committee could then go to quarterly meetings. City Manager Rogers advised that city staff can accommodate whatever time the committee chooses to meet.

Chairman Takacs asked City Manager Rogers to review the Measure "G" ordinance and policies of the Oversight Committee and to give the committee members an idea of what their responsibilities will entail. Chairman Takacs advised it is his understanding that this committee is just an oversight committee to review and evaluate and not part of a policy-setting and/or approval process.

City Manager Rogers directed the committee's attention to Ordinance No. 2007-05, Section 5-11-12, under "Permissible Uses for the Expenditure Plan." This is a ½-cent sales tax that has been levied upon the citizens of Reedley in order to promote public safety, specifically police and fire. Section A states that "the revenues of the tax shall only be used to fund the following uses and purposes. The "Five Year Expenditure Plan" attached as Exhibit "A" illustrates revenues

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and expenditures for the initial five year period after the effective date of the tax." The uses under Police are for police patrol services, which Police Chief Wright can elaborate on in detail. There is also police traffic control services; gang enforcement, school resource services, and bicycle patrol; police support services, including facilities and equipment and the financing thereof; competitive salary, retention and benefit compensation for police personnel; and funding new Police Department personnel. Under Fire, construction and relocation (including, but not limited to, land acquisition, facilities design, and use of temporary facilities) of fire stations and the financing thereof; purchase of specialized equipment for Fire Department; competitive salary, retention and benefit compensation for Fire personnel; comprehensive Fire Prevention Program; and funding new Fire Department personnel. 70% of the money received shall be expended for the police department and 30% for fire purposes. This will be reviewed and changed annually following the recommendations of this Citizen's Oversight Committee and be approved by the Council. This will be following a fiscal calendar which begins July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>. The recommendations should be given to staff by April of each year so this information can be included in the next fiscal year budget. Staff is working off the first year of the five-year plan and next year will adhere to the expenditure plan for police and fire. Staff feels that the 70/30 split should remain for the next fiscal year as well. With regard to the time each members serves on the Oversight Committee, each Council Member appoints one committee member. That committee member's term coincides with that Council member who has appointed them. If the Council Member is not re-elected, the committee member appointed by that Council Member will also be replaced by the newly elected Council Member.

Police Chief Wright advised on January 27, 2009, that he went to Council with a request to expend a portion of the revenues that had already been received from the Public Safety Sales Tax. For the remainder of this fiscal year, beginning January 28, 2009, staff anticipates expending \$89,000 in personnel costs for two new police officers that were hired January 28, 2009 and are currently in training. This amount is approximately six months of the cost of two full time entry level police officers. The hiring process has been started for one new Community Service Officer that will supplement the community programs and the gang prevention and intervention efforts. The amount of \$5,000 was requested for equipment for these new employees and an additional \$5,000 for maintenance and operation, which are supplies, publications, advertising and other things of this nature that will need to be expended for any community events. This also includes materials needed for public distribution and supplies for educational needs. The discretionary part time salary request is \$20,000, which is for the part time support personnel needed to help in most of the after school programs and in most of the intervention programs for the community projects. It requires a lot of man hours and staff time to get these events planned and completed. Police staff felt this could be better served by using some part time personnel rather than committing full time staff members who are already committed to other projects. From the first year of the expenditure plan, the Police Department requested to commit \$100,000 to purchase two new police vehicles. However, this has been removed from the expenditure plan. The two new police officers that have been hired won't need a police vehicle until the end of this fiscal year. The Police Department has \$100,000 in COPS funding that has been received this budget year. At the time this expenditure plan was formulated, it was unknown whether or not the COPS funding would be received due to the State budget, however, it was received by the city. The \$100,000 in the expenditure plan will now be rolled over into funds that can be set aside. Staff does not want to ever commit 100% of the funds each, but would rather have a decent buffer in the fund. Chief Wright advised of having a long term plan, possibly 10 to 12 years down the road, for a new facility. The current police department was built in 1973 and has been outgrown and expansion will be needed in the future. For the first year of the public safety sales tax, the police department anticipates receiving approximately \$856,500, but will only be spending approximately \$151,500. The hope is to save quite a large sum of the revenues towards future facilities.

City Manager Rogers advised that one of things we cannot predict is whether sales tax will increase or decrease. The hope is for an increase and staff is working towards economic development in the hope to build up the sales tax and create a situation for growth. This is reason staff believes a buffer should be maintained so in case the taxes received decrease, the general fund will not be burdened.

Chief Wright advised that from a fiscal perspective, he hopes to not only come to the committee in a meeting towards budget time with the expenditures from the prior year for approval and to

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be included in the committee's report to City Council, but to also have a plan for the following fiscal year so that the committee can at least have prior notice on what the Police Chief is planning for the upcoming fiscal year. That way there are no surprises for the committee.

Chairman Takacs advised this is a good plan. He wants to make sure that everything is above board so that the citizens can see that this tax was not just another way for the city to make more revenue and it is good to explain why there will be carryover funds and the purpose for these funds.

Committee Member Suemoto asked that future packets include the breakdown as presented by the Police Chief and any other breakdowns showing where the funds are being spent or projected.

Fire Chief Isaak advised that the Fire Department came before the City Council on February 24, 2009, with their proposed expenditure list. He advised that he projected 30% of the total taxes received to be \$206,700 for this fiscal year. Of this amount, the fire department plans to spend approximately \$155,000 leaving approximately \$52,000 in reserve. A copy of the staff report will be given to the Committee in their next packet. The fire department's main priority is a new light rescue vehicle to serve Reedley. Along with this are equipment needs, some medical training, the acquisition of automatic external defibrillators, and some related training equipment, radio equipment upgrades within the fire department and a new full time battalion chief position. This individual is currently in the latter stages of his pre-employment screening process. There will be some equipment costs that go along with hiring this new battalion chief such as furniture and computer. This is all included in the expenditure list that was presented to the City Council. There is a five-year plan that the fire department has put together and this will also be included in the next packet. The amount shown in the five-year plan which is included in the public safety sale tax ordinance might not match what is currently needed since this plan was put together in 2007. The plan is a work in progress and will be changing slightly and will have more carryover than what is currently listed in the five-year plan. The light rescue vehicle to be purchased for the fire department is based on a Ford F550 chassis. Fresno County recently purchased a similar unit. It will have a large service body installed and will have suppression capability which includes a 200-gallon water tank and phone capability. This vehicle will also be used along the river bottom area where the fire trucks have to go off the road as the big engines have trouble maneuvering these narrow roads and trails. It will also be used to put out trash can fires, vegetation fires and respond to medical aids along the Rail Trail corridor. The cost of this vehicle will be incorporated into a yearly debt service over a period of five years so there isn't a big one-time cost coming out of this budget. The yearly cost will be approximately \$50,000.

City Manager Rogers advised that a five year plan will be presented to the Committee each year. Staff waited six months before presenting a breakdown to the Committee was to allow the first two quarters of the sales tax to be received so that there would be a better idea to determine whether or not staff would be able to meet the expenditure budget that was set forth in the first five year plan. Staff will be formulating a plan to set aside funding for future facilities. Under Community Needs in the original five year plan, it related the needs for each department and some were the same needs, but it talked about anti-gang units, anti-drug units, additional officers, life saving equipment, training, maintaining and retaining police officers, replace outdated radio equipment, after school programs and fire prevention programs. Under the permissible uses, it is the Committee Member's duties as an audit committee, to look at the expenditures used by each department and determine whether it fits within what was represented in the Resolution and under what the community felt the needs were. Any recommendations made by the committee will be forwarded onto the City Council.

Chairman Takacs advised that the committee will be looking forward to receiving information in paragraph form from both the Police Chief and Fire Chief on what was spent by each department and it should be specific similar to what was reported to this committee today. This way the committee members can answer questions of the community when asked.

City Manager Rogers advised that staff will present to the committee in June a new five year plan. The Committee Members can also attend any of the budget workshops which begin in April or May.

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Chairman Takacs advised that the committee will draft a letter after reviewing the new five year plan and reviewing what has already been spent this year. The letter will be ready in May for the budget workshop. The next meeting of the Oversight Committee will be May 21, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Sean Provost, Vice President of the Reedley Police Officer's Association, advised that once Measure G was placed on the ballot, the city could no longer be involved. Therefore, the Citizen's for Measure "G" was formed and made up of citizens of Reedley, members of the Reedley Police Officer's Association and members of the Reedley Firefighters Association. These individuals took their own time and efforts to help get Measure "G" passed with the intent of the citizens of Reedley getting everything they were promised in the five year plan. The intent is to make sure this happens and to help in any possible way. Under the PERMISSIBLE USES, 5-11-12, under the subsection e. that indicates "competitive salary retention and benefit compensation for police personnel." Mr. Provost advised that it is his understanding that part of the Public Safety Sales Tax money can be used for competitive salaries for police personnel. The Police Officer's Association has a contract with the City, which will expire on June 30, 2009. The intentions of the POA are begin new negotiations with the City before this date. The focus of the POA is on the money that will be left over after each year and what that money will be used for. The POA would like to see some of this money used for competitive salaries due to the fact that many of Reedley's positions have been surpassed by surrounding agencies of the same size or smaller agencies. Eventually the economy will turn around and jobs will open up at other agencies in other departments. The RPOA would like to do everything possible to keep Reedley's current police personnel working for Reedley so the citizens of Reedley can benefit from the time and experience of the current officers and hopefully not lose them to surrounding agencies.

Committee Member Gonzalez asked Officer Provost if the RPOA has a current salary survey and if so, can the Committee get a copy of it for their next meeting. Officer Provost advised the RPOA does have a current salary survey and he will make this available to the Committee Members. Officer Provost advised that the RPOA wants the citizens of Reedley to receive what was promised in the five year plan. The RPOA is asking only for any monies left over be considered for the current police department personnel.

**COMMISSION COMMENTS AND REPORTS – None.****ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Takacs adjourned the meeting at 4:37 p.m.

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Robert Takacs, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Kay L. Pierce, Secretary