

MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL, 291 N. MAIN STREET
PORTERVILLE, CALIFORNIA
JUNE 12, 2017, 5:30 PM

Called to Order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Council Member Reyes, Council Member Hamilton, Council Member Flores, Vice Mayor Hamilton, Mayor Stowe

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Stowe.

Invocation – A moment of silence was observed.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

- Brock Neeley, Porterville, submitted via e-mail a letter in support of reducing the size of the Giant Sequoia National Monument in the hopes that it might improve land management.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- Barry Caplan, Porterville, questioned the urgency of the item; asked for clarification regarding the need for the special meeting; and requested that the Council either vote against the item or postpone it to the next meeting. Also spoke about the safety of Success Dam.
- Wildplaces media consultant, inquired about the Council's dissemination of information to the public; asked the Council to take the children's health into consideration; and stated that she was looking forward to media attention on the issue to ensure that there was no reduction.
- Sophie Mulholland, Sequoia Riverlands Trust President, spoke of the importance of preserving the giant sequoia range and watersheds to ensure their viability; and requested that the Council oppose the proposed reduction of the Giant Sequoias National Monument.
- Mehment McMillan, Springville resident, Wildplaces, stated that he could not believe the item was being considered and spoke in opposition to the reduction of the monument.
- Renee Curtley, Porterville, asked the Council who gave them the right to rip the trees out.
- Fernando Serrano, Porterville, requested additional time to consider the item and to educate the public on why reduction of the monument was necessary.
- Allison Sheiky, Sequoia Forest Keeper, master naturalist, stated that a reduction of the monument was irresponsible and detrimental to the ecosystem and tourism.
- Terri Galleon, Keepers of the Kern Vice President, spoke of the Giant Sequoias National Monument as an attraction for its beauty and stated that it should not be reduced.
- Art Rodriguez, Porterville, asked which of the Council members initiated consideration of the item; and stated that he did not see a benefit to the Council taking a stance on the issue.

a letter to legislative representatives communicating same.

AYES: Reyes, Ward, Flores
NOES: Hamilton, Stowe
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Documentation: Resolution No. 28-2017; and M.O. 01-061217

Disposition: Approved.

ADJOURNMENT

The City Council adjourned at 6:17 p.m. to the meeting of June 20, 2017.


Luisa M. Zavala, Deputy City Clerk

SEAL


Milt Stowe, Mayor