

October 25, 2018

**SPECIAL MEETING**

The special meeting of the Loyalton City Council was called to order by Mayor Mark Marin on October 25, 2018 at 6:00 pm at the Loyalton City Hall Auditorium.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**

N. Rogers, M. Marin, J. Markum

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT**

Kathy LeBlanc-Deputy City Clerk

**GUESTS PRESENT**

Mary Fleming, J. Buck, B. Mitchell, E. Teague, M. Lombardi, L. Horner, J. Vandenberg, B. Harris, J. Berke, M. Spitsyn, J. Beard, A. Herbert, R. DeMartini, P. DeMartini, C. Scott, B. Eisner, A. Gunier

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1. It was move by J. Markum, seconded by N. Rogers to approve the agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote: J. Markum-Aye, N. Rogers-Aye, Mayor Marin-Aye. Motion unanimously carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Jan Buck stated that at the Board of Supervisors meeting Joe Okinski from REA spoke on the Verizon towers. She stated that Loyalton is on track to get a tower on ARP donated land in 2019 after the towers are installed in Clio and Sierraville.
2. B. Mitchell stated the dead trees have been picked up downtown. He also wanted to thank the Council for repairing the roof a City Hall before it rains.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Mayor Marin opened the Public Hearing on the Proposed Water Rate Increase.

**(The City of Loyalton received 25 Protest Letters out of the 377 that went out to customers)**

1. Jan Buck asked the council what they intended to do about the customers who owe money. Council Member N. Rogers stated that most are under contracts and the rest have been cut off.
2. Brooks Mitchell inquired about reading the meters and base rate. Mary Fleming from RCAC Addressed the council and the members of the audience on reading the meters, she would like to see a year's worth of data to see what the usage is. She stated the low end users could see a decrease in the water bills.
3. Jim Beard stated he was against the rate increase stated that many people are low income.
4. Mark Lombardi asked Mary Fleming who she worked for and stated that he felt she was here to raise the rates for the City of Loyalton to boost the revenue. Mary Fleming stated that she worked for RCAC and the goal was to help the City of Loyalton has a sustainable water system and is not here to boost the revenue. She also stated that she was asked to step in to help the City by USDA who holds the loans. Council Member J. Markum stated that the State did not

request the rate increase. Mary Fleming also spoke of grants that could become available for the City of Loyalton.

After several more questions about the rate and usage, the reading of the meters and the fact that some of the meters could be broken. Mayor Marin closed the public hearing.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**

1. Deputy City Clerk Kathy LeBlanc informed the council on the introduction of Ordinance # 422 Stating that the adoption of the Ordinance could only take place at a Regular Meeting of the Loyalton City Council to be held on November 20, 2018. The Ordinance will take effect 30 days after the adoption of the Ordinance; the new rates will not take effect until the January 2019 billing. Mayor Marin introduced Ordinance #422 amending Ordinance #409 requiring the requiring the payment of rates, fees and charges and authorizing the establishment of and changes to rates and fees by Resolution. The Council by consensus accepted the introduction of Ordinance #422

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

**ATTEST:**  \_\_\_\_\_

**Kathy Leblanc-Deputy City Clerk**

**APPROVED:**  \_\_\_\_\_

**Mayor Mark Marin**