Roll Call: Council Member McCracken, Council Member P. Martinez, Mayor Pro Tem F. Martinez, and Mayor Hamilton

Pledge of Allegiance Led by Council Member Eddie Hernandez

Invocation: A Moment of Silence was observed

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

• Nicki Edwards, 13096 Road 208, spoke in opposition to sending the letter regarding a medical hospital due to water, contagious disease, and toxic waste issues, and insufficient public meetings.
• Jim Oakley, 29053 Avenue 176, came forward and spoke in favor of sending the letter due to economic issues.
• Ryan Nicks, 552 N. Walch, came forward and spoke against sending the letter until further study was done.
• Larry Stoneburner, 1616 North Newcomb, came forward and spoke on the educational opportunities presented by such a facility.

SCHEDULED MATTER

1. Consideration of Submitting a Letter to the California Prison Health Care Receivership Corporation Regarding the Placement of a Department of Corrections and Rehabilitations Health Facility.

The City Manager stated that this was a discovery process, and sending the letter would be a show of interest and would allow the City to have a dialog with the entities involved. The City Manager read the letter:

Mr. Steve Weston
Assistant to John Hagar, Chief of Staff
California Prison Health Care Receivership Corporation
501 J Street, Suite 605
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Weston:

Thank you for meeting with Mayor Pro Tempore Felipe Martinez and City Manager John Longley in Sacramento on January 11th. We deeply appreciate the opportunity to discuss with you Porterville's ability to meet the requirements of a large health facility serving the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitations.
Porterville is a community of more than 50,000 residents. Its location is on State Highways 65 and 190 on the east side of the San Joaquin Valley. It is generally proximate to a number of California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation sites including Delano, Corcoran, Pleasant Valley and Avenal. Importantly, the City is the site of the Porterville Developmental Center under the California Department of Developmental Services.

We request the California Prison Health Care Receivership Corporation to consider Porterville as a site for a future medical facility. We believe the site will serve your needs well and will permit a rapid development of the facility. Because of the numerous medical organizations in the area and the continuing importance of training for health care skill sets, the City has created a Health Care Task Force, which is a partnership with other agencies including Porterville College, to develop opportunities for medical vocational education. This along with potential sites could facilitate the development of the new correctional medical facility.

If additional information would be beneficial, please contact Porterville City Manager John Longley at (559) 782-7466, or by email at jlongley@ci.porterville.ca.us.

Sincerely,
Cameron Hamilton
Mayor

The Council clarified that the letter did not commit the City to anything, just expressed an interest in exploring the concept further.

COUNCIL ACTION: MOVED by Council Member Hernandez, SECONDED by Council Member McCracken that the City Council approve the letter for signature and direct that it be send to the California Prison Health Care Receivership Corporation. The motion carried unanimously.

Disposition: Approved.

ADJOURNMENT
The Council adjourned at 3:50 to the Adjourned Meeting scheduled for January 19, 2007 at 3:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

Georgia Hawley, Chief Deputy City Clerk

Cameron Hamilton, Mayor