Called to Order at 5:15 p.m.
Roll Call

Committee Members: Pete McCracken, Chair
Charles Webber, Member
Maria Bemis, Member
Julia Lew, Member
Brad Dunlap, Member

Staff Members: Luisa Herrera, Committee Secretary

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

• Greg Gillett, Transaction and Use Tax Oversight Committee (TUTOC) Chair, stated that he was available for questions regarding the committee’s findings and interpretation of their duties.
• Greg Shelton, TUTOC Member, stated that he believed problems to be a result of the interpretation of the resolution and the intent of the measure.
• Dick Eckhoff, TUTOC Vice-Chair, read language from the ballot measure, and spoke about the intent of Measure H.
• Shirley Hickman, TUTOC Member, expressed concern with the funds spent on consultant services, and inquired about the powers of oversight committees.

SCHEDULED MATTERS

1. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 24-2006

Audit Committee Chair McCracken stated that a public hearing would be set for a future Council Meeting, during which specific expenditures could be discussed at a future Council Meeting. He explained that the Audit Committee’s purpose for meeting was to review Resolution No. 24-2006, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Porterville Establishing an Independent Citizen’s Oversight Committee Charged to Monitor the Expenditure of General Fund Revenues Derived from the Transactions and Use Tax for Public Safety, Police and Fire Protection; and determine if amendments were needed.

In response to Ms. Hickman’s comments, Member Lew indicated that she had researched various tax and bond measure oversight committees in other cities, and noted that none of the committees were directive or had powers of their own.

Chair McCracken updated the Audit Committee on a meeting that took place between representatives from City Council and TUTOC, and shared his interpretation of the functions of TUTOC. These included: review of the proposed expenditure plan, review of the actual expenditure plan, and making a determination of consistent or non-consistent.

Mr. Gillett and Mr. Shelton criticized staff for not providing documentation requested by the
committee, and contended that staff being present at their meetings should be sufficient notification of requests for information. Mr. Eckhoff disagreed, stating that the committee should be responsible for filing any and all requests with the City Clerk’s office, and notifying the City Council of any issues with staff. A discussion ensued during which procedures for requesting information were explored.

Chair McCracken then presented recommendations for procedures which he felt would address issues raised, such as the reporting of the committees findings, scheduling of meetings, and the defining of Measure “H” literacy expenditures. Each recommendation was read aloud, and discussed for clarification. Mr. Gillett spoke about the need for protocol, and stated that the Chair had presented some good ideas which would be presented to the TUTOC.

Council Member Ward stressed the importance of a timeline for the reviewing and reporting of committee findings, and protocols which could serve as guidance to current and future TUTOC members.

There was a very brief discussion of literacy, during which it was agreed that there were many interpretations of the term and as a result, expenditures relative to literacy would need to be clarified on occasion.

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** MOVED by Member Lew, SECONDED by Member Webber that the Audit Committee authorize the development of a policy for the implementation of the resolution 24-2006, in accordance with the evening’s discussion, to include established protocols for the reporting, findings and conclusions of inconsistency, and information to be provided to the committee. The motion carried unanimously.

**Disposition:** Approved.

**OTHER MATTERS**

The Audit Committee discussed the scheduling of their next meeting on or before March 22, 2010, at 5:15 p.m. It was requested that all TUTOC members receive notice of the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Audit Committee adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

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Luisa Herrera, Committee Secretary

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Pete V. McCracken, Chair