MINUTES
City Council Meeting of the
La Puente City Council
December 13, 2005

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of La Puente was held in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 15900 East Main Street, La Puente, California, onDecember 13, 2005, at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Members: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, Storing

Staff Members present: Acting City Manager Yamachika, City Attorney Casso, City Clerk Cowley, Deputy City Clerk Giron, Community Services Director Adanto, Finance Director Kim, City Planner Arreola, Assistant to the City Manager Lasher

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Council Member Perez.

Acting City Manager Yamachika explained that there was a request to place an item on the agenda as an item of immediate concern. The item was regarding a street dedication at 738 Tonapah. Mr. Yamachika explained that the dedication document that was previously provided to Council contained an error. Staff was requesting that Council place this item as an item of immediate concern, to correct the error. City Attorney Casso explained that this item came to the attention of the City yesterday after the posting of the agenda. This item would qualify for consideration at this meeting.

Mayor Lujan moved to add the street dedication at 738 Tonopah as Item No. E-7; seconded by Solis. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez. NOES: None.

Mayor Lujan acknowledged Assemblyman Ed Chavez, Bassett Unified School District President Paul Solano, and Charlie Aguirre from the La Puente County Water District.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Leonard Rose Jr. informed Council that he was attending Mt. San Antonio College. His goal was to become a recreation leader for the City. Mr. Rose also announced that he would be attending the Los Angeles School Board meeting.

Mercedes Garcia with the Girl Scouts Spanish Trails Council provided a brief background history about the organization. She asked Council for financial assistance so the Girl Scouts could localize in the City. She also informed Council they had an office at the United Methodist Church in La Puente. Ms. Garcia explained the various programs the Girl Scouts offered to girls ranging in age from 5 to 18.

Council Member Storing asked Ms. Garcia if they had staff working at the office that was set up at the church. Ms. Garcia responded that she would be the only staff person working at the office.

Amado Castellanos addressed Council stating it was an appropriate time to reflect on our blessings and recited a prayer.

Clayton Boutin congratulated the newly elected Council Members and expressed his concerns about various neighborhood issues he felt were code violations. Mayor Lujan directed Staff to follow up on Mr. Clayton's concerns.

Frank Sanchez, Sr. addressed Council expressing his appreciation of the parade and raised various issues regarding the businesses in the downtown area, the motorcycle officers issuing citations and his sons assuming responsibility for the judo club. He noted his sons were teaching judo classes three times a week free of charge.

Frank Sanchez, Jr. head instructor for Guerrero's Judo Club presented a history of the judo club indicating that they have been at the community center for eight years and have a membership of approximately 40 kids. All the instructors were volunteers and enjoyed coaching. Mr. Sanchez and his brother also compete in judo. He reported that one of their students was their first triple crown winner, who qualified for the Pan American games in Costa Rica where he won third place.

Erick Sanchez provided Council with a synopsis of the strides the judo club has made, and the opportunities available to the students who have competed nationally and internationally.

Ken Medeiros addressed Council regarding the comprehensive financial report and expressed his concerns about city officers also being Redevelopment Agency officers. Mr. Medeiros then addressed the issue of the backload of applicants for the housing rehabilitation grant program indicating no one knew if the list was accurate.

ELECTION RESULTS AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

1. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION RECITINGTHE FACTS OF THE GENRAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2005 AND DECLARING THE RESULTS THEREOF

Mayor Lujan moved to adopt the Resolution Reciting the Facts of the General Municipal Election held on November 8, 2005, Declaring the Result and Such Other Matters as May Be Provided by Law; seconded by Council Member Chavez. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez. NOES: None.

2. INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS AND OATHS OF OFFICE

Mayor Lujan and Council Member Storing stepped down from the dais and were presented with Certificates of Election from City Clerk Cowley.

Assemblyman Chavez administered the Oath of Office to Council Member Lujan and City Clerk Cowley administered the Oath of Office to Council Member Storing.

CITY COUNCIL REORGANIZATION

Mayor Lujan stated that it was a great pleasure serving the community for the past year. During his term as Mayor he learned a lot about the community and himself. He thanked his colleagues for having faith and belief in him and allowing him to serve in the capacity as Mayor. He thanked his family, especially his wife Christina, for always standing by his side and gave special thanks to his parents and friends during the election campaign. He also acknowledged his friend Paul Solano for all his advice and help during the election. Mr. Lujan felt the community was moving forward with various projects and Council was making progress. He then indicated the City had a very talented Staff who had their hearts and souls in the community because they wanted to see La Puente become a better place. Mr. Lujan then thanked everyone for allowing him to serve as Mayor.

3. **SELECTION OF MAYOR AND MAYOR PRO TEM – CITY CLERK ENTERTAINS NOMINATIONS FOR MAYOR. CITY CLERK YIELDS GAVEL TO THE NEWLY APPOINTED MAY – MAYOR ENTERAINS NOMINATIONS FOR MAYOR PRO TEM**

Mayor Lujan relinquished the Chair to City Clerk Cowley who opened nominations for the election of a Mayor.

Council Member Perez nominated Council Member Chavez for Mayor. There being no further nominations, City Clerk Cowley closed nominations for Mayor and called for the vote. The nomination of Renee Chavez for Mayor was approved by the following vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, Perez.

Mayor Chavez opened nominations for Mayor Pro Tem

Council Member Lujan nominated Council Member Perez for Mayor Pro Tem.

Council Member Storing nominated Council Member Solis for Mayor Pro Tem.

There being no further nominations, Mayor Chavez closed the nominations. Lou Perez was selected Mayor Pro Tem by the following vote: AYES: Perez, Lujan, Chavez; NOES: Solis, Storing.

INCOMING MAYOR'S REMARKS

Mayor Chavez thanked Council for appointing her as Mayor. She said that she would continue to do her best for the City and would continue to move forward.

Mayor Chavez recessed the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 7:28 p.m.

A. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A-1 READ AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 22, 2005

Mayor Pro Tem Perez moved to waive the reading and approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 22, 2005; seconded by Council Member Storing. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez. NOES: None.

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

C. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

D CONSENT CALENDAR

Council Member Storing moved to adopt Items D-1 through D-9 on the Consent Calendar; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Perez. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez. NOES: None.

D-1 ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION APPROVING WARRANT REGISTER NO. 1168 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005-06

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council adopt the resolution.

D-2 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2005

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council receive and file the monthly Financial Report for the month ended October 31, 2005.

D-3 SINGLE AUDIT REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council receive and file the City's Single Audit Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005.

D-4 APPROVAL OF CITY'S COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT (CAFR) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2005

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council receive and file the City's Annual Financial Reports for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005.

D-5 REPORT ON PUBLIC NUISANCE ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 15863-15869 MAIN STREET (French American Bakery Building)

Staff Recommendation: Receive and file the report.

D-6 ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE CONTINUED NEED TO MAKE EMERGENCY REPAIRS OF AN IMMINENT HAZARD ON THE HILLSIDE BEHIND 133 AND 139 ROUNDABOUT DRIVE AND 140 AND 148 HILLCREST DRIVE.

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council adopt the Resolution confirming the necessity to make emergency hillside repairs behind 133 and 139 Roundabout Drive and 140 Hillcrest and 148 Hillcrest Drive.

D-7 APPROVE THE PROGRAM SUMMARY MONTHLY (PSM) REPORT FOR CALHOME HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM ROUND 1 AND ROUND 2

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council approve the agenda report of the Community Development Director and authorize that it be filed for audit.

D-8 APPROVE THE PROGRAM SUMMARY MONTHLY (PSM) REPORT FOR CDBG HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM FY 2004-05 AND 2005-06

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council approve the agenda report of the Community Development Director and authorize that it be filed for audit.

D-9 APPROVAL OF NEW PARTICIPANT(S) FOR CDBG HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM (D97301-06)-FISCAL YEAR 2005-06

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council approve the allocations and authorize the Community Development Director to execute the necessary documents to implement the Housing Rehabilitation Program in the amount of $28,000.

E. NEW BUSINESS

E-1 CONSIDERATION OF QUARTERLY CRIME REPORT BY CAPTAIN MICHAEL SMITH, CITY OF INDUSTRY STATION

Captain Smith presented the Council with a brief overview of the quarterly crime statistics. He explained that as a result of a dramatic increase in arrests, the crime rate should decrease. There was an increase in burglaries in residential areas surrounding two high schools; 66% of the burglaries were connected to students in transit to school. The sheriff's department was working together in a burglary suppression effort aimed at truancy.

Thereafter followed a discussion regarding a spike in shootings as a result of parolees returning to the community and surrounding areas, and trying to regain territorial supremacy. The need for the City to authorize overtime hours to hire probation and parole officers to conduct sweeps along with the deputies was also discussed.

Mayor Pro Tem Perez moved to receive and file the report; seconded by Council Member Storing. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez. NOES: None.

E-2 CONSIDERATION TO INCLUDE IMPROVEMENTS AT THE INTERSECTIONS OF ELLIOT AVENUE AND HACIENDA BOULEVARD AND ELLIOT AVENUE AND AMAR ROAD PROJECT AS PART OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mayor Pro Tem Perez moved to authorize Staff to include the improvements at the intersections of Elliot Avenue and Hacienda Boulevard and Elliot Avenue and Amar Road project in the Fiscal Year 2005-2006 Capital Improvement Program and authorize AAE to proceed with preparation of the plans and specifications; seconded by Council Member Lujan.

Mayor Pro Tem Perez informed Council that a grant would pay for this project and general funds would not have to be used.

The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez. NOES: None.

E-3 CONSIDERATION OF RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PUENTE PRIDE COMMITTEE AND APPOINTMENTS TO THE COMMITTEE

Acting City Manager Yamachika presented the report explaining that the committee was composed of six members. Five members were selected by individual Council Members and the sixth member was selected by the Council as a whole. Mr. Yamachika then reviewed Staff's recommendation for Council.

Council Member Storing moved to reappoint the existing committee in total, given the stated desire and intent of the six current members to remain on the 2005-2006 Puente Pride Committee; second by Mayor Pro Tem Perez. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez. NOES: None.

E-4 CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSAL FROM THE LA PUENTE YOUTH COALITION FOR THE USE OF LA PUENTE PARK FOR A COMMUNITY CARNIVAL AND WAIVER OF FEES

Council Member Solis moved to approve the proposal from the La Puente Youth Coalition for the use of the La Puente Park for a community carnival and to waive fees; seconded by Council Member Storing. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez. NOES: None.

E-5 REQUEST OF SPANISH TRAILS GIRL SCOUT COUNCIL FOR FUNDING (Requested by Council Member Storing)

Council Member Storing requested that this item be considered during the mid-year budget study session. Council Concurred.

E-6 CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING COUNCIL ATTENDANCE AT THE LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES MAYORS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS ACADEMY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (Requested by Council Member Solis)

Council Member Solis informed Council that this conference was in conjunction with another conference he would be attending in Sacramento. Mr. Solis noted that this conference would give Council Members the opportunity to meet and network with legislators.

Council Member Solis moved to authorize Council attendance at the League of California Cities Mayors, and Council Members Academy Leadership Institute; second by Council Member Storing. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez. NOES: None.

E-7 ACCEPTANCE OF STREET DEDICATION AT 738 TONOPAH AVENUE

Acting City Manager Yamachika presented the report indicating this item was originally on the November 22nd Council agenda. At that time Council approved the acceptance of a street dedication located in front of 738 Tonopah Avenue. Subsequent to that meeting Staff learned the document did not correctly identify the property owner. It was Staff's recommendation that this item be acted on again by Council to reflect the correct property owner.

Council Member Lujan moved to accept the corrected Street Dedication, with Javier Gonzalez as the Grantor, so that the street may be realigned with the existing roadway, curb, gutter and parkway; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Perez. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez. NOES: None.

RECESS CITY COUNCIL AND CONVENE THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

The City Council recessed and convened the Redevelopment Agency at 8:45 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Agency Board the meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m. and reconvened to the City Council. City Attorney Casso asked Mayor Chavez if she would like to conduct the oral comments from Council and Staff before the closed session item. Mayor Chavez concurred.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Council Member Lujan congratulated Mayor Chavez on her appointment as Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem Perez on his appointment as Mayor Pro Tem.

Council Member Solis wished everyone happy holidays and thanked everyone who supported Council Member Storing. Mr. Solis announced that he would be holding a press conference on Monday to announce his candidacy for the State Assembly.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM STAFF

Acting City Manager Yamachika wished everyone a happy holiday season on behalf of Staff. He announced that City Manager Ledford was on vacation in Ireland attending his son's graduation from Trinity College in Dublin.

F. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

At 8:49 p.m., the City Attorney announced that the City Council would adjourn to closed session to discus Items F-1 and F-2, consisting of one case respectively.

F-1 CITY COUNCIL WILL RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION BEING HELD PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(b) - TO CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

F-2 CITY COUNCIL WILL RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION BEING HELD PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(a) - TO CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION – Case name unspecified - disclosure would jeopardize existing settlement negotiations

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

The City Council reconvened to open session at 8:50 p.m., at which time the City Attorney announced that the City Council had recessed to closed session. As to Item No. F-1, the City Council gave direction to the City Attorney's office. No final action was taken. No votes were taken. There was nothing further to report.

As to Item No. F-2 the matter related to an existing litigation involving employee Melanie McCleave regarding two complaints. One was filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the other complaint was filed with the Fair Employment and Housing. The City agreed to a settlement agreement on those claims and other claims Ms. McCleave may have had with payment of $8,000 in lieu of her continuing dental and optical care and for other purposes. Ms. McCleave would remain on unpaid status until she was eligible for retirement on December 13, 2008. She would also be eligible to receive health benefits during that unpaid status. Both claims would be dismissed and withdrawn from any consideration and litigation would also be withdrawn under the terms of this agreement. On this matter Council voted to adopt and approve the settlement agreement and to authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute the agreement on behalf of the City. The vote was 5 Council Members in favor and 0 against.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Carol Cowley

Carol Cowley, City Clerk

Renee Chavez

Renee Chavez, Mayor