MINUTES
LA PUENTE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING OF
February 28, 2006

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, on February 28, 2006, at 07:00 pm.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez.

Staff Members present: City Manager Ledford, City Attorney Casso, Diana Giron, City Clerk Cowley, Community Services Director Yamachika, Community Services Director Adanto, City Planner Arreola, and Assistant to City Manager Lasher.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Solis led the pledge of allegiance.

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION IN HONOR OF ARBOR DAY ON MARCH 9, 2006

The City Council presented a proclamation honoring the 138th anniversary of Arbor Day to Community Services Director Adanto. Ms. Adanto invited the audience to an Arbor Day celebration on Thursday, March 9, 2006 at 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Chavez announced that the following proclamations would be mailed to each of the organizations being recognized.

PRESENTATION OF COMMENDATION TO NIKE CORPORATION IN GRATITUDE FOR A GRANT OF 445 CLEATS FOR YOUTH SOFTBALL AND BASEBALL

PRESENTATION OF COMMENDATION TO MERCI ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

PRESENTATION OF COMMENDATION TO THE WESLAYAN CHURCH OF LA PUENTE IN CELEBRATION OF ITS NEW EDUCATION BUILDING

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Leonard Wayne Rose Jr. addressed Council regarding various issues in the community.

Mr. Salvador Reyes addressed the Council regarding the landslide that occurred on Roundabout last year. He expressed his concerns that the area has not yet been cleaned up and that he has not been kept advised of what the City planned to do.

The Mayor asked City Manager Ledford to address the issue. Mr. Ledford provided a brief background of the landslide and advised that Staff was preparing plans and specifications to solicit informal bids on an urgency basis. Mr. Ledford advised that the plans and specifications were almost complete and Staff anticipated requesting bids very soon. He noted that he would have Community Development Director Yamachika contact Mr. Reyes regarding the status of the project.

Mr. Maldonado expressed his concerns regarding the fee increase for the waste collection service with Valley Vista. He suggested the City Council hold a town hall meeting to discuss the fee increase with the citizens and get their comments.

After being requested to respond to Mr. Maldonado, the City Manager advised that Valley Vista was proposing a rate increase of 4.7%. He indicated that over the last year the tipping fees at the landfill rose by approximately 8%, the cost of diesel fuel and natural gas went up by 25% to 32% respectively and the cost of living adjustment rose by 4.5%, all of which contributed to the overall rate increase.

A MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A-1. READ AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 14, 2006

Solis moved to waive the reading and approve the Minutes of the regular Meeting of February 14, 2006; seconded by Storing.

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

B PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were none.

C UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

D CONSENT CALENDAR

Solis moved to approve Items D-1 through D-7 of the Consent Calendar; seconded by Storing.

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

D-1 CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION APPROVING WARRANT REGISTER NO. 1173 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005-06

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

D-2 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MONTH ENDED JANUARY 31, 2006

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council receive and file the Monthly Financial Report for the month ended January 31, 2006.

D-3 CONSIDERATION OF NEW PARTICIPANT(S) FOR CALHOME HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM FOR ROUND TWO FUNDING

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council authorize the Community Development Director to execute the necessary documents to implement the Housing Rehabilitation Program in the amount of $20,000.

D-4 CONSIDERATION OF NEW PARTICIPANT(S) FOR CDBG HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM (D97301-06) FISCAL YEAR 2005-06

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that 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 $5,000.

D-5 CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATION FOR EDWARD BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT FUNDS (JAG)

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council authorize Staff to apply for the available FY 2006 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Funds (JAG).

D-6 RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A REWARD FOR PEOPLE WHO PROVIDE INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARREST AND CONVICTION OF GRAFFITI VANDALS

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council adopt a resolution increasing the graffiti reward program to $500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of graffiti vandals.

D-7 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FOR REMAINING BALANCE OWED TO BELFOR, USA CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council approve the budget adjustment in the amount of $71,947.36 for Belfor, USA Construction, Inc.

E NEW BUSINESS

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

Captain Michael Smith provided Council with a brief report regarding the quarterly crime statistics and responded to questions posed by Council.

Perez moved to receive and file the Sheriff's quarterly crime report; seconded by Lujan.

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

E-2 CONSIDERATION OF RATE INCREASE REQUEST OF VALLEY VISTA SERVICES FOR SOLID WASTE REMOVAL SERVICES

City Manager Ledford in response to Council query advised that out of the 13 local jurisdictions served by Valley Vista the City's fee was the 10th lowest, with nine jurisdictions charging a higher fee and three charging a lower fee. However, the City included additional services than those cities that charged a lower fee.

Solis moved to approve Valley Vista Services' request for a rate increase for solid waste collection services based on the documented increases in the cost to provide solid waste services to the City of La Puente; seconded by Perez.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez. NOES: Storing.

E-3 CONSIDERATION OF INTRODUCING AN ORDINANCE FOR SUBSEQUENT ADOPTION AMENDING TITLE 2, CHAPTER 2.04 SECTION 2.02 (a) THROUGH 2.04 (a) OF THE LA PUENTE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO CITY COUNCIL MEETING CONDUCT AND PROCEDURES

Administrative Services Director Cowley provided the City Council with a brief report explaining what changes would be made to Title 2, Chapter 2.04 of the Municipal Code by adoption of this ordinance.

Perez moved to read by title only and waive further reading of the ordinance; seconded by Lujan.

The City Manager read the title of the ordinance into the record:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PUENTE, CALIFORNIA AMENDING TITLE 2, CHAPTER 2.04 SECTIONS 2.04.020(a) through 2.04.090(a) OF THE LA PUENTE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO CITY COUNCIL MEETING CONDUCT AND PROCEDURES

Perez moved to introduce by title only; seconded by Solis.

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

E-4 CONSIDERATION OF SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS TO LA PUENTE RESIDENTS

City Manager Ledford advised Council that the City received 24 applications that actually qualified for scholarships.

Solis moved to award 24 scholarships and include $12,000 in the fiscal year 2006-07 budget for that purpose; seconded by Storing.

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

E-5 CONSIDERATION OF OPPOSITION TO SB 1206 (KEHOE) AMENDING COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT LAW

City Manager Ledford advised Council that SB 1206 would significantly restrict redevelopment agencies relative to findings of blight, the ability to fund projects, sell bonds and would substantially expose redevelopment agencies to litigation. He indicated that Staff, at the request of California Contract Cities Association and the League of California Cities, was taking the position that the City Council oppose this legislation and authorize the Mayor to sign letters in opposition.

Lujan moved to that the City Council authorize the Mayor to send a letter to the Senate Local Government Committee opposing SB 1206.; seconded by Solis.

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

E-6 CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR A SEWER RATE STUDY

Perez moved to approve the Request for Proposals and authorize its distribution to the five recommended firms; seconded by Solis.

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 Mayor recessed the City Council meeting at 7:52 p.m. and convened the Redevelopment Agency to conduct business.

ADJOURN THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND RECONVENE TO CITY COUNCIL

There being no further business to come before the Agency, Chairwoman Chavez, adjourned the redevelopment agency meeting and reconvened to City Council at 7:55 p.m.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

There were none.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM STAFF

There were none.

F RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

At 7:55 p.m. City Attorney Casso announced that the City Council would recess to closed session to conference with legal counsel regarding existing litigation, item F-1 on the agenda, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a).

F-1 THE CITY COUNCIL WILL RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(a) TO CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL -- EXISTING LITIGATION TERRENO CONSTRUCTION v. PERT CONSTRUCTION CO., INC., CITY OF LA PUENTE, FIRST NATIONAL INSURANCE CO. OF AMERICA, ET AL., -- LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CASE NO. KC046208 L.A. COMMERCIAL GROUP, INC. (DBA CONTINENTAL COMMERCIAL GROUP) v. SANG H. JEONG, CITY OF LA PUENTE, ET AL. - LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CASE NO. 05C00674 SANG JEONG v. PERT CONSTRUCTION CO., INC., CITY OF LA PUENTE, ET AL. - LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CASE NO. BC334223

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

At 8:12 p.m. the City Council reconvened to open session, at which time the City Attorney announced that the City Council had adjourned to closed session to conference with legal counsel regarding Item F-1 on the agenda. The City Council gave direction to the City manager's office and the City Attorney's office. No further action was taken and no votes were taken.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Carol Cowley

Carol Cowley, City Clerk

Renee Chavez

Renee Chavez, Mayor