MINUTES
LA PUENTE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING OF
September 26, 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 September 26, 2006, at 7:00pm.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Chavez called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Staff Members present: City Manager Ledford, Assistant City Attorney Archuleta, City Clerk Cowley, Community Development Director Yamachika, Community Services Director Adanto, Finance Director Kim, Assistant to the City Manager Lasher, Deputy City Clerk Giron, City Planner Arreola, and Community Services Manager Bistarkey

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Council Member Lujan.

City Manager Ledford introduced Assistant City Attorney Catrina Archuleta who was substituting for City Attorney Casso that evening. Mr. Ledford also introduced Joslyn Blakely the new Community Preservation Supervisor.

PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTATION OF COMMENDATION TO LT. MURAKAMI FOR 27 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

City Council presented the commendation to Lt. Tim Murakami.

Lucy Olmos, Field Representative for Congresswoman Grace Napolitano presented a commendation to Lt. Murakami on behalf of the Congresswoman.

Council Member Solis thanked Lt. Murakami for his service to the City. He also expressed his interest in keeping Lt. Murakami in the City.

Mayor Pro Tem Perez wished Lt. Murakami luck indicating he enjoyed having Lt. Murakami serve the City for the past five years. Mr. Perez did not want to see him leave, but he also did not want to hold Lt. Murakami back from his professional growth.

Council Member Storing thanked Lt. Murakami for his service to the City. She indicated that he was very well known by the kids in the community and churches. Ms. Storing expressed her appreciation for him.

Council Member Lujan indicated that he was not surprised that Lt. Murakami was moving on to a bigger and better career. Mr. Lujan has always noticed Lt. Murakami's service to the City and his professionalism. Lt. Murakami possessed a great deal of integrity and a will to serve society. Mr. Lujan then thanked him for his service to the City.

Mayor Chavez expressed her gratitude for Lt. Murakami's service indicating that he would be missed. She also said that her children were sad to see him leave the City.

Captain Smith advised that if one wanted to move up the ladder in the Sheriff's Department there were certain requirements asked of that person. Lt. Murakami's next position would be an operations lieutenant and after that assignment, he would be promoted to captain. It would be a good move for Lt. Murakami and the cities that he has served. Captain Smith also wished him luck.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Leonard Wayne Rose Jr. informed Council that he had attended the meeting for the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors. The Board would be presenting him with a certificate of appreciation. Mr. Rose indicated that he wrote a letter to the Neighborhood Watch Program and enclosed copies of thank you letters from Sheriff Lee Baca, the Board of Supervisors, and Senator Barbara Boxer. He also submitted copies of the thank you letters to Council.

Ken Medeiros addressed Council regarding the graffiti item on the agenda expressing his concerns regarding the removal of graffiti on private property. He asked why the City was paying an officer overtime instead of hiring another officer and paying a straight hourly pay.

Nancy Medeiros addressed Council regarding the five minute time limit under oral communications for both Council and Redevelopment Agency. She wanted to know when that change occurred and expressed her concerns.

City Manager Ledford responded that the change took place approximately five to six months ago indicating there was an ordinance adopted by Council combining the five minute time limit under oral communications for both City Council and Redevelopment Agency.

Mayor Chavez gave directed the City Manager to provide Mrs. Medeiros with that information.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

A-1 READ AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF MAY 30, 2006 AND THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2006

Lujan moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of May 30, 2006 and the Regular Meeting of September 12, 2006; seconded by Solis.

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL

B-1 ZONE CHANGE NO. 326 - PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER A REQUEST TO CHANGE THE ZONE DESIGNATION FROM R-1 TO R-2 FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 15738 CADWELL STREET (Applicant: Robert Mitchell)

City Planner Arreola presented the agenda report advising that the applicant was requesting a zone change from R-1 to R-2. The General Plan designation for this area was already designated as medium density which was equivalent to R-2 Zone. Approval of this zone change would bring the property into compliance with the General Plan.

Mayor Chavez opened the public hearing at 7:24 p.m.

Ken Medeiros addressed Council indicating that he was opposed to this zone change and expressed his concerns. He also wanted to know why he was allowed to speak during this City Council meeting under the public hearing, but was not allowed to speak during the public hearing at the Planning Commission meeting.

Mayor Chavez closed the public hearing at 6:26 p.m.

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

Council Member Storing asked if the sewer rate fees were going to be referenced each time there was a report for new dwelling units.

City Manager Ledford explained this item would allow development of two or three units, which could potentially increase the effluent flow to the sewer system, thereby impacting the City's sewer system. The agenda report mentions the sewer fee to indicate that the environmental impact has been mitigated by the approval of the sewer fee. Mr. Ledford also explained that anytime there was a development proposal an Environmental Impact Review was necessary.

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

City Manager Ledford read the ordinance title into the record.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LA PUENTE, CALIFORNIA AMENDING CHAPTER 10.12, TITLE 10 OF THE LA PUENTE MUNICIPAL CODE TO CHANGE THE ZONE DESIGNATION OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 15738 CADWELL STREET FROM R-1 (ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO R-2 (MULTIPLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) - ZONE CHANGE NO. 326

Perez moved to introduce the Ordinance approving Zone Change 326 for subsequent adoption ; seconded by Lujan.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

C-1 CONSIDERATION OF VARIOUS OPTIONS TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF ILLEGAL GRAFFITI

Assistant to the City Manager Lasher provided a report to Council indicating that Staff consulted with other cities to look at options to combat graffiti. He explained the various options available and the costs involved. Mr. Lasher then reviewed the recommendations made by the Sheriff's Department. He also answered Council Member Solis' question indicating the City did own cameras, but they only took still photographs.

Thereafter ensued a discussion regarding the graffiti tracking system and what type of graffiti program would be best suited for this City. City Manager Ledford clarified that any information regarding the identity of people who were eligible to receive the reward under the Graffiti Reward Program would be kept confidential.

Lujan moved to receive and file this report; seconded by Perez.

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

CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

Perez moved to approve Consent Calendar Items D-1 through D-6; 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. 1187 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006-07

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

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

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

D-3 APPROVAL OF PROGRAM SUMMARY MONTHLY (PSM) REPORT FOR CDBG HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM FY 2006-07

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council approve the agenda report of the City Manager and authorize that it be file for audit.

D-4 CONSIDERATION OF PROGRAM SUMMARY MONTHLY (PSM) REPORT FOR CALHOME HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM ROUND 2

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

D-5 CONSIDERATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council support the resolution adopting NIMS as the standard for incident management in the City of La Puente.

D-6 APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council (1) approve appropriation adjustments of $190,640 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006; and (2) authorize the City Manager to move appropriations from one department to another within the same fund.

NEW BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL

E-1 CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT TO PLANNING COMMISSION BYLAWS PERTAINING TO EXCEPTIONS TO REGULAR MEETING DAYS AND MEETING VENUES

City Manager Ledford provided a report to Council explaining that the municipal code provided that the Planning Commission meetings fall on the first Tuesday of each month, which could conflict with election days and holidays. The Planning Commission would like to amend the bylaws so that when a meeting conflicted with a holiday or special event the meeting would be held on the next business day.

Lujan moved to approve the amendments to the Planning Commission bylaws; seconded by Solis.

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

E-2 CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING CHAPTER 3.44 OF THE LA PUENTE MUNICIPAL CODE DEALING WITH GRAFFITI REGULATIONS

Solis moved to introduce by title only and waive further reading of an ordinance amending 3.44 of the La Puente Municipal Code; seconded by Perez.

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

City Manager Ledford read the ordinance title into the record.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PUENTE AMENDING SECTION 3.44.030 OF TITLE 3 (PUBLIC SAFETY AND MORALS) OF LA PUENTE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO DEFINITIONS RELATING TO GRAFFITI REGULATIONS

RECESS THE CITY COUNCIL AND CONVENE THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

The City Council recessed to the Redevelopment Agency at 7:42 p.m. to conduct business. At 7:44 p.m. the City Council reconvened.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Lujan reported that he attended the National League of Cities Leadership Summit with 150 participants from all over the country. This year's themes were democratic governance, citizen engagement, and resolution of the community. Mr. Lujan indicated that he was getting more involved with the National League of Cities. As part of the Leadership Summit there were representatives from the Center of Creative Leadership that worked a great deal with the air force academy. Other topics discussed at the summit were redevelopment, creating a new culture of leadership, adoptive leadership, leadership and commitment, and restoring communities through civic engagement. Mr. Lujan participated in discussion and spoke about this City's redevelopment projects. He also brought with him an information binder to share with Council and encouraged council members to attend the Annual Conference for the National League in December. Mr. Lujan then announced that he planned to run for a position on the board of the National League of Cities.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Mayor Chavez complimented Staff on the appearance of First Street.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM STAFF

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Carol Cowley
Carol Cowley, City Clerk

Renee Chavez
Renee Chavez, Mayor