MINUTES
LA PUENTE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING OF
AUGUST 14, 2007

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 August 14, 2007, at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Council Members present: Solis, Chavez, Storing, Perez
Council Members absent: Lujan (arrived at 7:20 p.m.)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Solis led the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Perez acknowledged staff from Assemblyman Ed Hernandez's office as well as Rick Mesa, District Manager for Southern California Edison.

PRESENTATIONS

City Manager Cowley introduced new Public Works Director, Rene Salas. She provided a brief background on Mr. Salas.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF AWARD TO PUENTE PRIDE AWARD WINNERS: RAYMOND AND JOANN GUEVARA, STEVE AND MARIA LANDIN, AND TOM AND JOY GRUETER

Mayor Perez presented Puente Pride awards to Raymond and Joann Guevara, Steve and Maria Landin, and Tom and Joy Grueter.

MAYOR'S RECOGNITION AWARD - PRESENTATION OF COMMENDATION RECOGNIZING CARMEN AND LILLIAN GARCIA FOR THEIR VOLUNTEERISM IN COORDINATING EXCURSIONS AT THE LA PUENTE SENIOR CENTER

Mayor Perez presented a Mayor's Recognition Award to Carmen and Lillian Garcia for their volunteerism in coordinating excursions at the La Puente Senior Center and thanked them for everything they do.

City Manager Cowley read the award.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Leonard Wayne Rose Jr. discussed recent arrests in his neighborhood. He discussed dieting and health information.

Neil C. Evans stated he was speaking on Item No. E-5. He stated he was a representative for Bob's Towing and they were interested in forming a franchise agreement with the City to provide towing services. He requested that Council approve a request for proposals for towing services.

Barbara "BJ" Moore introduced herself as a candidate for the Hacienda La Puente Unified School District Board. She discussed her qualifications and reasons for running in the election.

Mando Rosalez discussed the traffic danger in the areas of the Del Haven Community Center on Fairgrove Avenue and La Solet on Orange Avenue. He stated there was excessive speeding in the area which increased danger for the children visiting the facilities.

Mariela Zetina, representing Mid Valley Yellow Cab, stated the company was under new management and had all new staff and requested the City consider the company for the taxi cab franchise agreement. She stated the company chosen for the franchise agreement was not large enough to cover the City's needs.

Mesfin Shawel, AAA Cab, stated the company did not submit a bid because they were not aware the bid process had began. He expressed dissatisfaction with the company who was chosen for the proposed franchise agreement.

Celeste Manderville introduced herself as a candidate for the La Puente City Council.

Rick Alfaro, President of La Puente Girls Softball League, questioned how much control the recently formed Parks and Recreation Commission would have over the league.

Dan Holloway discussed the oral comment regarding the need for speed bumps to be installed on Fairgrove Avenue and Orange Avenue. As Chairman of the Puente Pride Committee, Mr. Holloway acknowledged those who take the time to go around the City and nominate homes deserving of the award.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A-1 READ AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF JULY 13, 2007 AND THE ADJOURNED SPECIAL MEETING OF JULY 14, 2007

Council Member Solis moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of July 13, 2007 and the Adjourned Special Meeting of July 14, 2007; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Storing. The motion carried unanimously by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez. NOES: None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

C-1 CONSIDERATION OF AN AWARD OF AN EXCLUSIVE FRANCHISE TO YELLOW CAB COMPANY OF SAN GABRIEL VALLEY TO PROVIDE TAXICAB SERVICE WITHIN THE CITY OF LA PUENTE

Assistant City Manager Yamachika presented the staff report.

In response to Council Member Solis, Assistant City Manager Yamachika stated the request for proposals was published in the local newspaper.

Council Member Lujan moved to authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement with Yellow Cab Company of San Gabriel Valley; seconded by Mayor Perez. The motion carried unanimously by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez. NOES: None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Council Member Chavez moved to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. D-1 through D-6; seconded by Council Member Solis. The motion carried unanimously by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez. NOES: None.

D-1 ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION APPROVING WARRANT REGISTER NO. 1208 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007-08

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

D-2 AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR INVESTMENT ADVISORY SERVICES

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council (1) award the contracts for investment advisory services to Cantella & Co. Inc. and Citigroup Global Market Inc., and (2) authorize the City Manager to sign the contract with Cantella & Co. Inc.

D-3 AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR INVESTMENT CUSTODIAL SERVICES

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council extend the contract with Union Bank of California for investment custodial services.

D-4 APPROVAL OF NEW PARTICIPANT(S) FOR CALHOME HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM FOR REUSE ACCOUNT FUNDING

Staff Recommendation: The Screening Committee Recommends that the City Council authorize the Assistant City Manager to execute the necessary documents to implement the Housing Rehabilitation Program in the amount of $20,000.

D-5 APPROVAL OF NEW PARTICIPANT(S) FOR CDBG FOR HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM (D97301-08)-FISCAL YEAR 2007-08

Staff Recommendation: The Screening Committee recommends that the City Council approve the allocations and authorize the Assistant City Manager to execute the necessary documents to implement the Housing Rehabilitation Program in the amount of $34,000.

D-6 ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING STPL ADMINISTERING AGENCY-FEDERAL MASTER AGREEMENT NO. 07-5331R AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council adopt the resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute the Master Agreement Administering Agency-State Agreement for Federal Aid Project, Agreement No. 07-5331R.

NEW BUSINESS

E-1 CONSIDERATION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH URBAN FUTURES, INC., TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ADVISORY SERVICES TO THE CITY WITH REGARDS TO PROPOSED SEWER REVENUE ISSUE

Finance Director Kim presented the staff report.

Marshall Linn, President of Urban Futures, Inc., provided additional information on the services to be provided.

Council Member Solis moved to approve a professional services contract for financial advisory services with Urban Futures, Inc., and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement; seconded by Mayor Perez. The motion carried unanimously by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez. NOES: None.

E-2 CONSIDERATION OF AWARDING THE BID FOR THE ABATEMENT OF ASBESTOS AND LEAD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER

Council Member Solis moved to award the contract for asbestos abatement / lead based material removal at the La Puente Community Center to ATE Environmental, Inc. in the amount of $74,795 plus a 10% contingency; and authorize the City Manager to execute change orders, if needed, in the amount not to exceed $25,000; seconded by Council Member

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

E-3 CONSIDERATION OF AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR FEDERALLY-FUNDED PROJECTS

Council Member Solis moved to award the contract for engineering and public works services for federally-funded projects to Advanced Applied Engineering, Inc. and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement on its behalf; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Storing. The motion carried unanimously by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez. NOES: None.

E-4 CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF MISSION STATEMENT, VISION STATEMENT, COUNCIL/COMMISSION VALUES AND NORMS

City Manager Cowley presented the staff report.

Mayor Perez moved to: (1) adopt the Mission Statement and Vision Statement as developed by consensus during the Team Building Session; and (2) adopt the Values and Norms for City Council, Staff and Commissioner/Committee/Board Members ; seconded by Storing. The motion carried unanimously by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Chavez, and Perez. NOES: None.

E-5 CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING COMMUNITY PRESERVATION TO TOW VEHICLES AND SOLICIT REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR A TOWING COMPANY TO PROVIDE TOW SERVICES

Assistant City Manager Yamachika presented the staff report.

In response to Council Member Solis, City Attorney Casso stated that a City could charge a fee for a towing franchise agreement but it could not be for an amount higher than what was reasonably necessary to reimburse itself for costs incurred in connection with the towing program.

In response to Mayor Perez, Assistant City Manager Yamachika discussed the types of towing that occur within the City.

In response to Mayor Perez, City Manager Cowley stated the City received $168 per vehicle that is stored or impounded upon the release of the vehicle to the owner. She stated the latest report from the Sheriff's Department indicated that 104 cars had been towed.

Mayor Pro Tem Storing moved to direct staff to begin the legislative process in order for Council to approve the solicitation of a Request for Qualifications for an exclusive franchise tow contract for tow service providers; seconded by Council Member Solis.

City Attorney Casso clarified the steps that would need to be taken if the City Council decided it would prefer an exclusive franchise agreement rather than a non-franchise agreement.

In response to Mayor Perez, City Attorney Casso clarified the type of towing a towing services agreement would provide to the City, such as towing generated by the Community Preservation Officers or the Sheriff's Department.

In response to Council Member Lujan, Assistant City Manager Yamachika provided examples of the types of towing which would be generated by the Community Preservation Officers. He stated the Council would need to decide whether it wanted an exclusive or non-exclusive franchise agreement in order to establish how many operators were within the City. He explained that the City would need to coordinate with the Sheriff's Department in order to establish a better estimate of how much money the City receives from tows.

Lieutenant Sotelo stated the Sheriff's Department had a reporting division which could easily list the tows which occurred within the City. He stated the Sheriff's Department could research tows to find out how the tow was generated. He reiterated City Attorney Casso's statement regarding the Sheriff's Department having very high restrictions on tow companies regarding certain issues. He requested that Council keep those thoughts in mind when deciding whether to issue an exclusive or non-exclusive franchise agreement for tow services.

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

Mayor Perez moved to: (1) approve the solicitation of Request for Qualifications for a non-franchise tow contract for tow service providers; (2) approve the signing of an interagency agreement between the City and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department for California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System access; and (3) approve the purchase of a Multiple Data Computer for use by City parking control staff; seconded by Council Member Lujan.

In response to Mayor Perez, Assistant City Manager Yamachika stated additional staff would not be necessary to operate this program.

In response to Council Member Chavez, City Manager Cowley stated the request for proposals would be issued to all tow services in the area.

Council Member Chavez expressed concern with a long time La Puente towing company not being allowed to tow in the City if an exclusive franchise agreement was awarded to another tow company.

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Storing, City Manager Cowley stated the figure of how much money the City receives from tows is not known because the City was never responsible for towing in the past.

City Attorney Casso clarified the difference between an exclusive franchise agreement and a non-franchise agreement. He suggested it be added to the agreement that the City have audit rights of the tow company records.

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Storing, City Manager Cowley stated she was unaware if tows within the City were monitored before she was hired as City Manager.

Mayor Perez withdrew his motion.

Mayor Perez moved to receive and file the report; seconded by Council Member Chavez.

In response to Mayor Perez, City Attorney Casso clarified that Council could direct staff to conduct more research and return to Council with additional information regarding towing services and fees received within the City.

Mayor Perez requested staff conduct more research and return to Council with additional information regarding towing services and fees received within the City.

In response to Council Member Solis, Assistant City Manager Yamachika explained that the towing system already in place would continue until a point when Council decided otherwise.

Council Member Lujan stated he would like the issue brought back to Council at some point in the near future with the issues clarified.

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

RECESS CITY COUNCIL AND CONVENE THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The City Council recessed at 8:21 p.m.

The City Council reconvened at 8:28 p.m.

COUNCIL AB1234 REPORTS

Council Member Chavez reported that she attended the League of California Cities Conference held July 25-27, 2007, in Monterey, California.

Council Member Lujan reported that he attended the League of California Cities Conference as well.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

None.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM STAFF

City Manager Cowley announced upcoming Concerts in the Park.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Perez adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Diana Giron, Acting City Clerk

Louis R. Perez, Mayor