MINUTES
LA PUENTE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING OF
FEBRUARY 26, 2008

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 26, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lujan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Members present: Mendoza, Solis, Storing, Holloway, Lujan

Staff Members present: City Manager Cowley, Assistant City Manager Yamachika, City Attorney Casso, Acting City Clerk Giron, Finance Director Kim, Public Works Director Salas, City Planner Arreola, Recreation Director Bistarkey

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Council Member Solis.

PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION IN HONOR OF ARBOR DAY ON MARCH 5, 2008

Mayor Lujan read the Proclamation on behalf of the City Council and presented the Proclamation to Rita Armijo, Recreation Coordinator.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION TO THE LA PUENTE MONTESSORI PRE-SCHOOL ON ITS GRAND OPENING IN THE CITY OF LA PUENTE

Mayor Lujan presented a Certificate of Recognition to Zafira Firdosy, a representative of the La Puente Montessori Pre-School.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION TO RITA ARMIJO, CITY OF LA PUENTE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Mayor Lujan noted a brief biography of Rita Armijo, Recreation Coordinator. The Council presented the Certificate of Recognition to Ms. Armijo and offered their congratulations.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Leonard Rose Jr. appeared to speak regarding his recent academic accomplishments.

Ken Medeiros appeared to speak regarding median home prices in La Puente.

Michael Armijo, a representative of Armijo Newspapers, appeared to introduce himself to the City Council.

Jorge Urias, appeared to speak requesting assistance in reclaiming a portion of their property, 425 S. Fifth Avenue. Mayor Lujan noted that the property in question was not within the La Puente City boundaries and requested staff to assist Mr. Urias in contacting Supervisor Molina's office for assistance.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

C-1 CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING A POLICY REQUIRING DISCLOSURE OF COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS WITH CONSULTANTS

City Manager Cowley noted that pursuant to previous City Council direction, staff researched this matter and clarified that an existing Ordinance may affect the new proposed policy. Ms. Cowley noted that the appropriate wording would be added to the policy for compliance with the "confidentiality" provision of the existing Ordinance.

Mayor Pro Tem Holloway commented that the City Attorney would brief all members of Council equally regarding any communications with consultants.

In response to Council Member Solis, City Attorney Casso noted that this item only pertains to consultants who are already under contract with the City.

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Holloway, City Attorney Casso noted that he would inform the City Manager of any inquiries from companies desiring to conduct business with the City.

In response to Council Member Storing, the City Manager and City Attorney clarified that only consultants being paid by the City, who are actually doing business with the City, would be covered under the proposed policy. Ms. Cowley reiterated the specific notification requirements required of the parties covered in the policy.

Mayor Pro Tem Holloway moved to adopt the policy requiring disclosure of City Council and Community Development Commission communications with consultants; seconded by Council Member Storing. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Holloway, and Mendoza. NOES: None.

CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

Council Member Solis moved to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. D-1 through D-4; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Holloway. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Holloway, and Mendoza. NOES: None.

D-1 APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION APPROVING WARRANT REGISTER NO. 1221 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007-08

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

D-2 APPROVAL OF PROGRAM SUMMARY MONTHLY REPORT FOR CALHOME HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM REUSE ACCOUNT AND ROUND 2

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

D-3 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-4 APPROVAL OF PROGRAM SUMMARY MONTHLY REPORT FOR CDBG HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM FY 2007-08

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

NEW BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL

E-1 COMMUNITY CENTER AND YOUTH LEARNING ACTIVITY CENTER SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Recreation Director Bistarkey provided council with a brief staff report related to a proposed sponsorship opportunities program that would allow the City to purchase items for the Community Center and Youth Learning Activity Center.

In response to Council Member Solis, City Manager Cowley noted that the "donation tree" was mentioned as a recognition program by previous Council. Mr. Solis and Mayor Lujan suggested that the donation tree be researched and brought back to Council for consideration.

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Holloway, Mr. Bistarkey provided clarification related to recognition for those organizations that provide in-kind sponsorship.

Mayor Pro Tem Holloway moved to approve the "Sponsorship Opportunities" program and instruct staff to begin the mailing; seconded by Council Member Solis.
The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Holloway, and Mendoza. NOES: None.

E-2 AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AT LA PUENTE PARK

Recreation Director Bistarkey provided Council with a brief report related to the upgrade of playground equipment at La Puente Park, including information related to the quality of the equipment and the firm selected to provide and install the equipment.

In response to Council Member Storing and Mayor Pro Tem Holloway, Ms. Cowley and Mr. Bistarkey provided additional clarification related to the replacement of the rubberized flooring and the entire installation process.

Council Member Solis moved to approve the purchase and installation of playground equipment from Landscape Structures Inc. under the piggy back clause of the bid awarded to Landscape Structures by the County of Mecklenburg; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Holloway. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Holloway, and Mendoza. NOES: None.

E-3 CONSIDERATION OF AWARDING A CONTRACT TO ARMIJO NEWS & PUBLIC RELATIONS, LLC FOR PUBLICATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE SPOTLIGHT LA PUENTE NEWSPAPER

Lillian Ayala, Management Analyst, provided Council with a brief report related to the request for proposals process and the proposed performance requirements related to the award of the contract. She further noted the cost of services and information related to potential extensions of the contract.

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Holloway, City Attorney Casso provided clarification related to conflict of interest provisions in the agreement and distribution of Armijo newspapers within the boundaries of La Puente.

In response to Mayor Lujan, Mr. Casso clarified the requirements related to news racks.

Mayor Pro Tem Holloway expressed his desire for multiple news resources to be distributed within the City of La Puente.

Council Member Solis moved to approve the awarding contract to Armijo Newspapers & Public Relations, LLC for the publication and distribution of the Spotlight La Puente Newspaper; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Holloway. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Holloway, and Mendoza. NOES: None.

E-4 INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING - CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE 2008 LOS ANGELES COUNTY BUILDING AND FIRE CODES, TITLES 26 THROUGH 29 AND 32, BASED UPON THE 2007 TITLE 24 CALIFORNIA BUILDING AND FIRE CODES WITH LOCAL AMENDMENTS

Assistant City Manager Yamachika provided a brief report to the Council. He noted that the State of California mandates which Codes must stand as state-wide regulations.

Holloway moved to introduce and read the ordinance by title only, waive further reading; seconded by Mendoza.

City Manager Cowley read the title of the ordinance into the record.

> AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PUENTE ADOPTING BY REFERENCE TITLE 26 OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CODE, INCORPORATING THE CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE, 2007 EDITION; TITLE 27 OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CODE, INCORPORATING THE CALIFORNIA ELECTRICAL CODE, 2007 EDITION; TITLE 28 OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CODE, INCORPORATING THE CALIFORNIA PLUMBING CODE, 2007 EDITION; TITLE 29 OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CODE, INCORPORATING THE CALIFORNIA MECHANICAL CODE, 2007 EDITION; AND TITLE 32 OF THE FIRE CODE OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CODE, MAKING AMENDMENTS TO SAID CODES AND AMENDING SECTIONS 8.05.010, 8.09.010, 8.13.010, 8.17.010 AND 9.04.010 OF THE LA PUENTE MUNICIPAL CODE

Mayor Lujan moved to introduce the attached ordinance to adopt Title 26 through 29, 2008 Los Angeles County Building Codes and Title 32, 2008 Los Angeles County Building Codes and Title 32, 2008 Los Angeles Fire Code with amendments as building and fire regulations for the City of La Puente by title only. A public hearing will be held on March 11, 2008, after which the introduced Ordinance may be adopted; seconded by Council Member Mendoza. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Holloway, and Mendoza. NOES: None.

E-5 CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST TO REVIEW EXISTING COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS (Requested by Mayor Lujan and Mayor Pro Tem Holloway)

Mayor Lujan and Mayor Pro Tem Holloway clarified their request for a review of the existing Boards and Commissions in order to ensure that there were no vacancies, as well as allow the current Council an opportunity to make their individual Commission appointments.

Mayor Lujan moved to request that staff return to the City Council with 1) a list of the City's existing Commission and Committee's, their respective appointed members (including which Council Member appointed them); 2) whether the existing compliment of Committees and Commission are all necessary and active, and 3) the method by which each Commission and Committee appointments were made by the City Council; seconded by Council Member Solis. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Holloway, and Mendoza. NOES: None.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Cowley reported that the AD HOC Professional Services Committee reviewed three (3) proposals received for the purpose of analyzing all City contracts. The direction was given to the City Manager to schedule interviews for the firms.

COUNCIL AB1234 REPORTS

None.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

In response to Council Member Mendoza, City Manager Cowley provided information related to code enforcement that can take place to ticket individuals who leave cars parked "for sale" on City streets.

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Holloway, Ms. Cowley noted that the area near Bassett High School within the City limits will be included for additional code enforcement activities related to cars parked "for sale."

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Holloway, the City Council agreed to adjourn the meeting in memory of La Puente resident Moises De La Cerda.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM STAFF

City Manager Cowley announced the upcoming Youth Coalition Carnival and the Annual Little League Parade. She also invited the City Council to attend the upcoming Arbor Day event at Hurley School.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Lujan adjourned the meeting in honor of Moises De La Cerda at 8:04 p.m.

Diana Giron, Acting City Clerk

Louie A. Lujan, Mayor