MINUTES
LA PUENTE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING OF
MARCH 11, 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 March 11, 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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Council Member Mendoza.

PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION TO HORTENCIA VALLES FOR OUTSTANDING SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD OF THE YEAR FOR THE CITY OF LA PUENTE

This item was delayed pending the arrival of the honoree.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION TO THE LA PUENTE SOFTBALL SOLDIERS 14UN FOR THE WORLD SERIES NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RUNNER-UP 2008

On behalf of the City Council, Mayor Lujan presented the La Puente Softball Soldiers and their coaches with individual Certificates of Recognition regarding their achievements at the World Series National Championship. They were also provided with certificates from Assemblymember Hernandez and Congresswoman Grace Napolitano. Council Member John Solis, the Coach of the team, spoke to the accomplishments of the team.

The City Council briefly recessed at 7:08 p.m. for the purpose of taking congratulatory pictures with the members of the La Puente Softball Soldiers team.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION TO HORTENCIA VALLES FOR OUTSTANDING SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD OF THE YEAR FOR THE CITY OF LA PUENTE

On behalf of the City Council, Mayor Lujan provided a brief introduction regarding the School Crossing Guard Program and Ms. Valles' selection as the Outstanding School Crossing Guard of the Year.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Leonard Wayne Rose, Jr., appeared to speak regarding his attendance at the recent parade and his academic accomplishments.

Freddy Velasquez, appeared to thank the City Manager and Council Member Solis for their assistance with a recent concern.

Evelyn Hernandez, appeared to make an announcement regarding Congresswoman Grace Napolitano's upcoming event related to the foreclosure crisis.

Marty Paz, appeared to speak regarding the success of the recent Little League Parade and expressed his concerns regarding the actions of a Council Member at the parade.

In response to Mayor Lujan, City Manager Cowley indicating that there is no policy prohibiting the throwing of candy at the parade, however, she acknowledged the potential liability issues related to a member of the City Council throwing candy to the parade attendees.

Mayor Pro Tem Holloway clarified the incident at the Little League Parade.

Joe Belcher, appeared to speak requesting an update regarding a Request for Proposals for a franchise tow agreement. In response to the speaker, Mayor Lujan noted that the City is in the process of an internal review of contracts and agreements and will return with a report on a future agenda.

Ken Medeiros, appeared to speak on various topics affecting the City including the trash service, the rising price of gasoline, the cancellation of a public hearing, and concerns regarding the State budget crisis.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

A-1. READ AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 12, 2008

Council Member Solis moved to waive the reading and approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 12, 2008; 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.

PUBLIC HEARINGS BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL

B-1 ZONE CHANGE NO. 328 - PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER A REQUEST TO CHANGE THE ZONE DESIGNATION FROM R-1 TO R-3 FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 15721 HAYLAND STREET

This item was pulled from the agenda in order to be considered on a future agenda.

B-2 PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION 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 (Introduced and title read at the meeting of February 26, 2008)

Mayor Lujan opened the public hearing at 7:34 p.m.

Ken Medeiros appeared to question the specific County Codes the City Council would be adopting.

Noting no further public comment, Mayor Lujan closed the public hearing at 7:36 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Holloway moved to adopt an Ordinance adopting Titles 26 through 29, 2008 Los Angeles County Building Codes and Title 32, 2008 Los Angeles County Fire Code with amendments to building and fire regulations for the City of La Puente; seconded by Council Member Solis. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Holloway, and Mendoza. NOES: None.

B-3 CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED EXCHANGE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS FOR GENERAL FUNDS WITH THE CITY OF LAWNDALE

Mayor Lujan opened the public hearing at 7:37 p.m.

Ken Medeiros appeared to express his concerns regarding the City's use of grant funds.

Nancy Medeiros appeared to speak regarding her concerns about the grant assistance program for home rehabilitation and the campaign practices of a Council candidate.

Noting no further public comment, Mayor Lujan closed the public hearing at 7:40 p.m.

Council Member Solis moved to adopt the resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents necessary to exchange $170,085 in CDBG funds for General Funds with the City of Lawndale at the exchange rate of $.60 of General Funds for each $1.00 of CDBG funds; seconded by Council Member Mendoza.

In response to an inquiry from Mayor Pro Tem Holloway, Assistant City Manager Yamachika provided a brief report to the Council regarding the timely use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and the proposed exchange with the City of Lawndale.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

None.

CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

Council Member Solis moved to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. D-1 through D-4; seconded by Council Member Mendoza. 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. 1222 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007-08

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

D-2 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 $5,000.

D-3 APPOINTMENT OF DAN HOLLOWAY TO THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MOSQUITO & VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council adopt the Resolution appointing Mayor Pro Tem Holloway as the City's representative on the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District Board of Trustees.

D-4 AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE HANDICAPPED SIDEWALKS AND RAMP PROJECT (CDBG 600880-7)

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends that the City Council award the contract in the amount of $166,808.40 to Kormx Inc. for the installation of Handicapped Ramps and Sidewalks.

NEW BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL

E-1 CONSIDERATION OF LOAN TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Assistant City Manager Yamachika provided a report to Council. He noted that the Council had reviewed this item on a previous agenda and tonight's action would formalize transacting the loan for the purpose of Commission acquisition and relocation activities.

Council Member Solis moved to adopt the Resolution approving a loan to the Commission in the amount of $900,000; seconded by Mayor Lujan. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Holloway, and Mendoza. NOES: None.

E-2 CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING AN ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 5.56 OF TITLE 5 (BUSINESS REGULATION AND LICENSES) OF THE LA PUENTE MUNICIPAL CODE, RELATING TO REGULATIONS FOR THE PROVISION OF VIDEO SERVICE BY STATE FRANCHISE HOLDERS AND ADOPTING A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A SCHEDULE OF PENALTIES FOR THE MATERIAL BREACH BY A STATE FRANCHISE HOLDER OF SERVICE STANDARDS AND OTHER STANDARDS SPECIFIED IN PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE SECTION 5900

Mayor Lujan moved to waive the reading and read the ordinance by title only; seconded by Council Member Solis. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Holloway, and Mendoza. NOES: None.

City Manager Cowley read the title of the Ordinance into the record:

> AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LA PUENTE ADDING CHAPTER 5.56 OF TITLE 5 (BUSINESS REGULATION AND LICENSES) OF THE LA PUENTE MUNICIPAL CODE, RELATING TO REGULATIONS FOR THE PROVISION OF VIDEO SERVICE BY STATE FRANCHISE HOLDERS

Council Member Solis moved to introduce the Ordinance adding Chapter 5.56 to Title 5 of the La Puente Municipal Code; 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.

Council Member Solis moved to adopt a Resolution adopting a schedule of penalties for the material breach by a state franchise holder of service standards and other standards specified in Public Utilities Code section 5900; 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 AUTHORIZATION TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR THE SEWER SYSTEM IN HACIENDA BOULEVARD BETWEEN NELSON AVENUE AND GLENDORA AVENUE

Sid Mousavi provided a brief update report noting that plans and specifications for the project are now ready to go out for bids for construction.

Council Member Solis moved to (1) approve the plans and specifications for the Hacienda Boulevard Sewer System between Nelson Avenue and Glendora Avenue; and (2) authorize Staff to solicit bids for the Hacienda Boulevard portion between Glendora Avenue and

Nelson Avenue segment of the Sewer System Capital Improvement Program; 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 CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING A PAPERLESS AGENDA AND PAPER REDUCTION POLICY

City Manager Cowley provided a brief report to Council. Staff will bring back a policy for Council's consideration of a processing a paperless legislative agenda and the overall reduction of paper usage at City Hall.

Council Member Solis moved to direct staff to return with a policy regarding processing a paperless agenda and the overall reduction of paper usage at City Hall; 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-5 REQUEST TO CONSIDER REVISING THE COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS WITH CONSULTANTS POLICY OR TO ADOPT ANOTHER POLICY PROHIBITING THE SOLICITATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM CONSULTANTS AND/OR DEVELOPERS (Requested by Councilwoman Storing)

Council Member Storing noted that the Council previously adopted a policy requiring appropriate documentation of contact between consultants, staff, and/or Council Members. She requested that there should be an additional policy that prohibits and/or limits campaign contributions from consultants to individual Council Members.

Council Member Storing moved to adopt a policy that limits campaign contributions from consultants to individual Council Members.

Due to lack of a second, the motion died.

E-6 CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST TO REVIEW EXISTING COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS (Requested by Mayor Lujan and Mayor Pro Tem Holloway)

Mayor Lujan placed this item on the agenda in order to allow the two new members of the Council to have an opportunity to either appoint or retain Commission Members that are tied to their Council terms.

In response to reviewing committees and commissions a discussion raised the following points: Council should work toward a standardized appointment process for all committee and commissions; staff should bring back a resolution to disband the Business Development Commission; a new policy should standardize the number of commissions on which a person can serve, elected officials should be restricted from serving on commissions, and incompatible offices should be addressed; the role of the Education Commission could be expanded.

City Manager Cowley clarified that staff would be returning to the City Council with three (3) items for consideration: 1) a standardized policy regarding the procedures for all Commission and Committees, 2) a policy outlining the expanded role of the Education Commission, and 3) a Resolution disbanding the Business Development Commission.

E-7 REQUEST TO REVISIT 9/80 WORK SCHEDULE (Requested by Mayor Pro Tem Holloway)

Mayor Pro Holloway indicated that during his election campaign, residents expressed to him that they were not in favor of City Hall being closed every other Friday. He supported the 9/80 work schedule, with the exception of City Hall being closed every other Friday.

Council Member Storing noted that although City Hall is closed every other Friday, other City services and facilities remain open five (5) days per week. She felt it was unfair to the community to have City Hall closed during a regular work week.

City Manager Cowley noted overtime issues to be considered and that this is a "meet and confer" item with the existing bargaining units.

Council Member Mendoza noted the effectiveness of the 9/80 work schedule.

In response to an inquiry from Council Member Solis, Ms. Cowley noted that this is a "meet and confer" matter with the City's bargaining units.

City Manager Cowley noted that staff will discuss the work schedule and overtime issues internally and with the union and advise Council of alternative suggestions.

E-8 REQUEST TO CONSIDER THE PRACTICE OF PROVIDING MEALS FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS WHEN COUNCIL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 6:30 P.M. OR EARLIER (Requested by Councilwoman Storing)

Council Member Storing expressed her disagreement with the City's policy regarding the provision of meals for City Council prior to regular meetings.

Storing moved to discontinue meals for City Council Members prior to their meetings.

Due to lack of a second, the motion died.

COUNCIL AB1234 REPORTS

Mayor Lujan reported on his recent attendance at the National League of Cities Conference, the themes discussed, and his service on a variety of subcommittees.

Council Member Mendoza noted her attendance at the Los Angeles County Chapter of the League of California Cities meeting and the themes discussed.

Council Member Storing noted her attendance at the recent Foothill Transit meeting and the themes that were discussed.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Mayor Lujan requested consideration of a policy regarding the provision of tours of City Hall.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM STAFF

City Manager Cowley noted the upcoming City Egg Hunt at La Puente Park.

Mayor Pro Tem Holloway noted the success of the City's recent Arbor Day Celebration.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Lujan adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

Diana Giron, Acting City Clerk

Louie Lujan, Mayor