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MINUTES
LA PUENTE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING OF
APRIL 8, 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 April 8, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lujan called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Members present: Mendoza, Solis, Storing, Holloway, Lujan
Council Members absent: None

Staff Members present: City Manager Cowley, Assistant City Manager Yamachika, City Attorney Casso, City Clerk Turner, Deputy 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 Mayor Pro Tem Holloway.

City Manager Cowley introduced City Clerk Turner and thanked Deputy City Clerk Giron for her services as Acting City Clerk. Mayor Pro Tem Holloway also thanked Deputy City Clerk Giron.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF AWARD TO PUENTE PRIDE AWARD WINNERS: NICOLAS ARIAS, ARTURO & HERMILIA TEJADA, AND LOUIS SPRINGER

Mayor Lujan recognized the Puente Pride Committee Members.

Council presented a Certificate of Recognition to Arturo and Hermilia Tejada, and recognized the other Puente Pride winners not present: Nicolas Arias and Louis Springer.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION TO MIKE GONZALEZ, SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT OFFICER FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CITY OF LA PUENTE

Mayor Lujan noted that Special Assignment Officer Gonzalez could not be present to receive his certificate of recognition; he thanked him for his commitment and dedication.

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION FOR WEST NILE VIRUS AND MOSQUITO AND

VECTOR CONTROL AWARENESS WEEK - APRIL 21 THROUGH APRIL 25, 2008

Mayor Lujan read and presented the proclamation to Mayor Pro Tem Holloway on behalf of the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito District.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION TO DANIEL RODRIQUEZ, CITY OF LA PUENTE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Daniel Rodriguez was not present to receive his certificate.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Leonard Rose Jr. addressed council regarding dieting, lowering cholesterol, exercising, and his medical program.

Glynn Johnson of the Los Angeles County Fire Department introduced himself as the new Fire Chief for La Puente.

Marty Paz suggested that the disabled receive the same discount as the senior citizens receive on wastewater rates. He also thanked Deputy City Clerk Giron for a job well done as Acting City Clerk.

Mayor Lujan asked City Manager Cowley to outline the discounts offered relating to wastewater rates.

City Manager Cowley deferred to City Attorney Casso who informed Council that the qualifications to receive discounts are the person must be at least 62 years of age, must be low or extremely low income as defined by the Department of Housing and Community Development, and their annual average water use must not exceed 200 gallons per day.

Major Lujan encouraged Mr. Paz to raise his concerns at the next Community Forum scheduled later this month.

Anthony Nazareno suggested that a traffic light be installed at the intersection of Evanwood and Amar. It was determined by staff that this intersection is outside of the City's boundaries. Mayor Lujan asked staff to give Mr. Nazareno the name and phone number of the person he should contact regarding the installation of a traffic light.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL

B-1 CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AN APPEAL OF PLANNING

COMMISSION AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD DECISIONS TO APPROVE UNCLASSIFIED USE PERMIT NO. 239 AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN APPLICATION NO. 1048, APPLICATIONS RELATED TO A PROPOSAL TO DEMOLISH AN EXISTING 324 SQUARE FOOT STORAGE ROOM/RESTROOM, AND CONSTRUCT AN AUTOMATED CAR WASH FACILITY AT AN EXISTING SHELL GASOLINE STATION LOCATED AT 1009 HACIENDA BOULEVARD

Mayor Lujan continued the Public Hearing to the City Council meeting of April 22, 2008.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

C-1 ADOPT ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10.12, TITLE 10 OF THE LA PUENTE MUNICIPAL CODE CHANGING THE ZONE DESIGNATION OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 156721 HAYLAND STREET FROM R-1 (ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO R-3 (MULTIPLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) - ZONE CHANGE NO. 328 (Introduced and title read at the meeting of March 25, 2008)

City Manager Cowley reported that this Ordinance was first introduced at the Council Meeting of March 25, 2008 where the title was read and further reading was waived. She noted that it is appropriate to adopt the Ordinance at this time.

Council Member Solis moved to adopt the Ordinance amending Chapter 10.12, Title 10, of the La Puente Municipal Code; seconded by Council Member Mendoza. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Storing, Lujan, Holloway, and Mendoza. NOES: None.

C-2 REQUEST TO CONSIDER ADOPTING A POLICY FOR TOURS OF CITY HALL (Requested by Mayor Lujan)

Major Lujan noted that members of the Historical Society gave suggestions about the tours at the last Council Meeting.

Council Member Storing stated that it has been several years since hands on school tours have been conducted by the Historical Society. The schools will schedule an appointment; their first stop is at the Rowland House for some hands on activities and then they proceed to City Hall for a mock City Council Meeting. She noted that Pat McIntosh, of the Historical Society, asked to have the tours continue throughout the summer and to include a tour of the Historical Society's room in the basement of City Hall.

A brief discussion raised the following points: Children should be limited to a specific number and a specific route should be followed when going downstairs for safety reasons; the function of the Education Commission could be increased to include promotion of school tours; these tours are a great way for schools to save money with pending budget cuts; the Historical Society meets the 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Senior Center and will need more docents if this program is expanded; general guidelines should be developed that include who conducts the tours, and what is included in each tour.

Staff was directed to come back with general guidelines and report about how the tours will operate.

CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

Council Member Solis moved to approve Consent Calendar item numbers D-1 through D-3; 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. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION APPROVING WARRANT REGISTER NO. 1224 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007-08

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

D-2 CONSIDERATION OF DECLARING LAPTOP COMPUTERS AS SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council: (1) declare the 5 Compaq nx9600 laptop computers as surplus; and (2) authorize the City Manager to initiate the sale of the surplus computer equipment at fair market value.

D-3 APPROVE COMMENDATION TO ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF, JOHN NIETO

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council approve the commendation to Assistant Fire Chief, John Nieto that was presented at his retirement dinner on April 4, 2008.

NEW BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL

E-1 CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH MANAGEMENT PARTNERS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND ADOPTING A BUDGET AMENDMENT RESOLUTION

City Manager Cowley reported that the ad hoc committee selected Management Partners. Their fees are $2,500 per unit of service which includes all fees and expenses. The initial scope of services included six areas of review, but the ad hoc committee suggested the addition of reviewing the processes used by staff and to offer recommendations to Council. The initial budget was $25,000. Staff is asking for adoption of the resolution for an additional $25,000. It is anticipated that there will be 18-20 units of service and the expected conclusion is July 15, 2008.

Mayor Pro Tem Holloway moved to (1) approve the contract with management Partners; and (2) adopt the resolution amending the budget to allocate an additional $25,000 for the services to be provided by Management Partners; seconded by Council Member Solis. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Solis, Lujan, Holloway, and Mendoza. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Storing.

E-2 CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING A RESOLUTION OPPOSING PROPOSITION 98 - THE CALIFORNIA PROPERTY OWNERS AND FARMLAND PROTECTION ACT

Mayor Pro Tem Holloway moved to adopt the resolution in opposition to Proposition 98; seconded by Council Member Mendoza.

City Manager Cowley reported that the League of California Cities asked La Puente to adopt the resolution in opposition to Prop 98. Proposition 98 is on the June 2008 ballot. The proponents of the measure claim the measure is solely about eminent domain. There are several hidden items in the measure including rent control, making local inclusionary housing ordinances unconstitutional, prohibiting the use of eminent domain for consumption of natural resources, preventing any new water storage or conveyance projects in California, and prohibiting transfers of economic benefit from one private party to another.

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

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

No Reports.

It was determined that the following ad hoc committees are still open: (1) Ed Butts Ford, (2) Professional Contracts, and (3) Contributions to Social Services.

Following discussion, Council directed the Ed Butts Ford and Social Services ad hoc committees be disbanded.

COUNCIL AB1234 REPORTS

None.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Mayor Pro Tem Holloway asked to adjourn the meeting in memory of Rod Rodriguez, a long time volunteer at the Industry Sheriff Station.

Council Member Storing complimented staff on a successful Easter Egg Hunt.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM STAFF

None.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney Casso announced that the City Council will adjourn to closed session on labor negotiations involving employee organization SEIU Local 721 and for a Public Employee Evaluation of the City Manager.

Mayor Lujan recessed the meeting to closed session at 8:01 p.m.

F-1 THE CITY COUNCIL WILL RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.6 TO CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

AGENCY DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE: CAROL COWLEY
EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION: SEIU 721

F-2 THE CITY COUNCIL WILL RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

CITY MANAGER

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Mayor Lujan reconvened the City Council meeting to open session at 11:13 p.m.

City Attorney Casso announced that at 10:29 p.m. a motion was made by Council Member Solis and a second by Mayor Pro Tem Holloway to extend the meeting pursuant to requirements of the municipal code. The motion passed unanimously.

On Council Item F-1 there was no reportable action taken. Item F-2 was continued to a future Council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Lujan adjourned the meeting at 11:15 p.m. in memory of Carmen Alderete and Rod Rodriguez.

Amy M. Turner, City Clerk

Louie A. Lujan, Mayor