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MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE LA PUENTE CITY COUNCIL
May 27, 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 May 27, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Holloway called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Members present:	Council Member Mendoza, Council Member Storing, and Mayor Pro Tem Holloway.
Council Members absent:	Council Member Solis (arrived at 7:14 p.m.), Mayor Lujan
Staff Members present:	City Manager Cowley, Assistant City Manager Yamachika, City Attorney Casso, City Clerk Turner, Finance Director Kim, Public Works Director Salas, Recreation Director Bistarkey, City Clerk Assistant Garcia, and Management Analyst Ayala.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Mendoza.

PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES TO LA PUENTE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS

Certificates were presented to the La Puente Scholarship Award winners.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION TO THE BASSETT HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADING SQUAD - 1ST PLACE DIVISION WIN

Certificates of Recognition were presented to the Bassett High School Cheerleading Squad.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION TO VIRGIE GOMEZ, CITY OF LA PUENTE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

A certificate of recognition was presented to Employee of the Month, Virgie Gomez.

At 7:15 p.m., Mayor Pro Tem Holloway called for a brief recess to take photos with the certificate recipients.

The meeting was called back to order at 7:18 p.m. (Council Member Solis was not present.)

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Leonard Rose Jr. appeared to speak about his camping experience, the awards he has received, the American Heart Association and a teacher from the Bassett Unified School District who is about to retire.

Robert Young appeared to speak about his concern of grant funds being pulled from school programs.

(Council Member Solis returned to the Chamber at 7:30 p.m.)

Ken Medeiros appeared to speak about police officers, sales tax, the Redevelopment Agency, bankruptcy, and the sewers.

Marty Paz appeared to express concern about the level of aid that was provided to the Relay for Life event and to thank Council Member Solis for his responsiveness. In response, Mayor Pro Tem Holloway noted the ways the City provided assistance to the Relay for Life event and that his contact information is available on the City's website.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

A-1 READ AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF AUGUST 28, 2007 AND OCTOBER 9, 2007

Staff was directed to bring back the minutes to the next Council Meeting for approval.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Council Member Solis moved to approve Consent Calendar items D-1 through D-7; seconded by Council Member Mendoza. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Mendoza, Solis, Storing, and Holloway. NOES: None. ABSENT: Lujan.

D-1 CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION APPROVING WARRANT REGISTER NO. 1227 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007-08

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council adopt Resolution No. 08-4719.

D-2 TREASURER'S/FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDED FEBRUARY 29, 2008

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council receives and files the Monthly Treasurer's/Financial Report for the month ended February 29, 2008.

D-3 TREASURER'S/FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council receives and files the Monthly Treasurer's/Financial Report for the month ended March 31, 2008.

D-4 CONSIDERATION OF FIREWORKS SALES PERMITS FOR VETERANS GROUPS FOR THE 2008 INDEPENDENCE DAY SEASON

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council approve the issuance of permits to sell Safe and Sane Fireworks by American Legion Post 75, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1944, and AM Vets Post 62, pursuant to all applicable code requirements.

D-5 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR CALHOME PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS-2007

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council adopt Resolution No. 08-4720 authorizing the City Manager to apply for CalHome Program grant funds in the amount of $520,000.00.

D-6 CONSIDERATION OF ACCEPTANCE FOR SENIOR CENTER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT - AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council accept the audio-visual system portion of the Senior Center Improvements Project as complete and authorize the filing of a Notice of Completion and release of payment to Western Audio-Visual Corp.

D-7 BID AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE HACIENDA BOULEVARD SEWER IMPROVEMENTS FROM NELSON AVENUE TO GLENDORA AVENUE

Staff Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council: 1) award the construction contract to KZC Construction, Inc., in the amount of $891,660.00 for the Hacienda Boulevard Sewer Improvements from Nelson Avenue to Glendora Avenue; and

2) authorize the City Manager to execute any necessary change orders in an amount not to exceed fifteen (15%) percent of the original contract amount.

NEW BUSINESS

E-1 CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING A REVISED EDUCATION REIMBURSEMENT POLICY

Management Analyst Ayala presented a Power Point presentation summarizing the information contained in the staff report.

It was noted that a letter was received from the union supporting the change to the policy.

Council Member Solis moved to approve the revised Education Reimbursement Policy with an implementation date of July 1, 2008; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Holloway. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Mendoza, Storing, Solis, and Holloway. NOES: None. ABSENT: Lujan.

E-2 CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM ASSISTANCE LIMITS

Assistant City Manager Yamachika provided a brief summary of the staff report.

In response to a question about the number of applications received, Assistant City Manager Yamachika noted that approximately two dozen had been received. He also noted that adjustments can be made to the policy in the future if needed.

Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the CDBG and CalHome Residential Rehabilitation Program limits; seconded by Council Member Solis. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Mendoza, Storing, Solis, and Holloway. NOES: None. ABSENT: Lujan.

E-3 CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSAL FOR THREE (3) YEAR SEWER CHARGE INCREASE

Public Works Director Salas gave a brief update on this project and introduced John Farnkopf of Hilton, Farnkopf and Hobson.

John Farnkopf reviewed the Power Point presentation.

In response to a question about the need for additional funds, Mr. Farnkopf responded that once the numbers were fine tuned, it was determined that expenses were not being covered.

In response to a question about the amount of money that could be saved if the City were to opt out of the Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District, Public Works Director Salas noted that a study would need to be conducted to determine the amount of savings.

City Attorney Casso noted that the current sewer fee increase is a separate fund than the Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District and further clarified that if the City were to opt out of the Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District and provide those services, the same Proposition 218 noticing requirements would need to be met.

By unanimous consent, Council directed staff to receive and file the Hilton Farnkopf and Hobson sewer charge study and directed staff to mail notice of the proposed increase, in compliance with Proposition 218, to property owners in the City and to draft an ordinance for the Council's consideration, amending Chapter 4.10 of the La Puente Municipal Code and increasing the sewer rates over a three year period.

RECESS

Mayor Pro Tem Holloway recessed the City Council Meeting at 8:06 p.m.

RECONVENE THE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Pro Tem Holloway reconvened the City Council Meeting at 8:08 p.m

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

COUNCIL AB1234 REPORTS

Council Member Solis reported on his attendance at the ICSC Conference.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Council Member Storing expressed concern regarding the overgrown weeds at the field across from City Hall.

Mayor Pro Tem Holloway expressed concern regarding an abandoned property on Amar east of Valley Super Burger.

Council Member Solis noted graffiti on Temple near Sunset, Orange and Amar.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM STAFF

City Manager Cowley recognized City Hall staff that donated over $700 to the Relay for Life event and recapped the Ribbon Cutting ceremony that was held the previous Thursday for the new playground equipment.

Mayor Pro Tem Holloway acknowledged the Kiwanis Club for their participation in the Relay for Life event.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Amy M. Turner, City Clerk

Daniel C. Holloway, Mayor Pro Tem