

**MINUTES
LA PUENTE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING OF
MARCH 27, 2012**

Per <i>Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised 10th Edition</i>, minutes are a record of the actions taken by the body. These minutes do not include a summary of the discussion but only reflect the action taken by the body. A complete audio recording of this meeting is available on the City's website www.lapuate.org
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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 27, 2012, at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Solis called the City Council Meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present: House, Mendoza, Holloway, Argudo and Solis

Members absent: None.

Staff Members present: City Manager Plumlee, Interim City Attorney Casso, City Clerk Jacquez-Nares, Director of Administrative Services Komers, Finance Manager Leung, Chief of Police Lt. Cacheiro, City Engineer Pagett, and Public Works Consultant Di Mario

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Mendoza led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTATION BY CHIEF LOPEZ FROM REGION 2 ON AB 109

Police Chief Lt. Cacheiro introduced James R. Lopez, Divisional Chief for Region 2, Tom Lang Divisional Chief for Region 3, and Captain Michael Claus of Industry Sheriff Station.

Chief Lopez provided a PowerPoint Presentation with a summary on AB 109.

Mayor Pro Tem Argudo requested clarification on the NRP's (Non Revocable Parolees) on the Contract City Graph of Region III and why the numbers are increasing in the City of La Puente. He asked if Chief Lopez knew of any Cities that have implemented their own type of monitoring system.

Chief Lopez clarified that for Non Revocable Parolees the condition of parole is that if they commit a crime they will not be sent back to prison to finish their sentence. The parolees are released to their City of choice; most go back to their City of origin. These parolees are being required to attend socialization classes. Chief Lopez stated that he is not aware of any Cities implementing their own monitoring system.

Council Member House asked if the parolee's address is in Valinda are they still being counted as a La Puente resident.

Chief Lopez answered that these statistics only reflect the people that reside in the City of La Puente and that the other areas are under the unincorporated part of the County.

Council Member Mendoza requested clarification on how this AB 109 accounts for the parolee's criminal offenses. Does it only take into consideration their most current offense rather than all of their prior offenses? She asked the residents to be good neighbors and watch out for each other.

Chief Lopez answered that currently AB 109 will only take into consideration their last offense.

Council Member Holloway stated that the State has given its cities the opportunity to handle their state prisoners and inquired if there is any additional funding for the Sheriff's Department to handle these additional prisoners. He requested the statistics for the unincorporated areas that are serviced by the Industry Sheriff's Station.

Chief Lopez stated that from October to June of this fiscal year the County of Los Angeles was allocated 112 million dollars for the entire program. The program has three components: probation with all their staffing, inmates being incarcerated in the County jail now, and the enforcement that require additional officers. Next year the allocated funds will be 301 million. A foreseeable issue will be housing all the inmates at the County jail because it is currently at capacity. He said that he does not know the exact number of service calls but will defer to Chief Lang and Captain Claus to provide that information.

Captain Claus stated that the total number of 102 service calls for Industry Station does not seem accurate. He agreed to provide the Council at their next meeting the numbers of PSP's of the surrounding areas.

Mayor Pro Tem Argudo wants to let everyone know that the City of La Puente being the smallest community has a big problem and because he believes that La Puente currently has the highest number of service calls in Region III.

Chief Lang stated that he will provide Mayor Pro Tem Argudo the correct number of calls for service for the City of La Puente compared to other cities in Region III within 24 hours. Currently, Compliance teams and Special Assignment Officers are monitoring these individuals.

Captain Claus confirmed that the City of La Puente has the highest calls for service of the Cities that Industry Station services.

Council Member Mendoza asked if the information on these parolees is public information.

Chief Lopez answered that the databases that the Sheriff use are not available for public information.

Mayor Pro Tem Argudo stated that the Dashboard software is available to the City Council for view this information.

Mayor Solis thanked Chief Lopez for his presentation he also thanked Chief Lang and Captain Claus for attending the meeting. He was aware AB 109 for some time now and is concerned that when these parolees get sentenced and then let out early or on parole their next crime is considered a new offense and the offender does not have to complete the time owed on the prior offense.

Chief Lopez confirmed Mayor Solis' statements and stated that they are working on rectifying the issue of their prior crime sentences.

PRESENTATION OF MILITARY BANNER CERTIFICATE

City Manager Bret Plumlee provided a brief summary of the Military Banner recognition program and introduced the family of Elias Romero.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION FOR LA PUENTE HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING TEAMS

Mayor Solis provided instructions to the La Puente High School Wrestling Team. He commended the coaches for their commitment and the wrestlers for their discipline.

City Manager Plumlee provided a brief introduction of the La Puente High School Wrestlers.

Mayor Solis provided all of the individual accomplishments of the La Puente High School Wrestlers as follows:

Sharon Garcia made it to the Championship match and captured 2nd place in her weight class. Sharon also won the USA Wrestling California Folkstyle Championship. She is ranked 1st in California Interscholastic Federation (CIF), 2nd in Regional State, and 1st in State at Fresno.

Laura Gonzalez finished 4th in her weight class. She is ranked 7th in California Interscholastic Federation (CIF), 4th in Regional State, and 3rd in State at Fresno.

Stephanie Herrera is ranked 10th in California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) and 4th in State at Fresno

Jesus Hernandez is League Champion and ranked 6th in California Interscholastic Federation (CIF)

Juan Herrera is League Champion and ranked 7th in California Interscholastic Federation (CIF).

Hugo Guitron is ranked 3rd in League.

Anthony Alarcon is ranked 5th in League.

Assistant Coach Lane announced that Sharon Garcia was an All American.

City Manager Plumlee called each of the La Puente High Schools Wrestlers to the dais to receive their Certificates.

Assistant Coach Lane stated that this had been a great year coaching alongside of Coach Medina and Nguyen and after this season everyone knows La Puente.

Assistant Coach Medina said he was not from La Puente and will not be coaching next year. He stated that in La Puente girl wrestling exists and the City has great athletes.

RECESS THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Solis recessed the City Council meeting at 8:00 p.m.

RECONVENE THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Solis reconvened the City Council Meeting at 8:20 p.m.

PRESENTATION OF A PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH

City Manager Plumlee read the Proclamation declaring April as Fair Housing Month.

The Mayor and City Council presented the Proclamation to Sindy Guzman, representative of the Fair Housing Foundation.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Frank Sanchez stated that freedom speech is every citizen's right. He stated his issues with Mayor Solis and Mayor Pro Tem Argudo.

Anthony Duarte thanked Council Member Mendoza for her four years of service in the City Council and for allowing him to serve on the Planning Commission. He asked Interim City Attorney Casso whether the City has to follow the State and Federal regulations not allowing a City sponsored public event during the election cycle.

Max Leyva expressed his concerns with the campaigns during this election.

Lou Perez commended the La Puente High School Wrestling Team. He stated his concerns with the Mayor's actions and the loss of the JPIA insurance.

Arturo Diaz stated that the residents of La Puente deserve better than what they were getting in these campaigns for this election. He said that Mayor Solis requested the SEIU endorsement and he was denied this endorsement. He accused Mayor Solis of intimidating City staff from attending their own union meeting. Mr. Diaz ceded his remaining time to Mr. Sanchez. Mr. Diaz requested an update on the Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA) Performance Improvement Plan.

Mayor Solis did not allow Mr. Diaz to cede his remaining time to Mr. Sanchez.

Manuel Maldonado stated he had received several calls from residents that Code Enforcement Officers are taking their campaign signs from their private property. He urged the remainder of the Council that is not running for reelection to place a stop on the unnecessary use of Code Enforcement. Mr. Maldonado stated that his group invited all six candidates to a forum. He said that of the four that attended, his group endorsed three candidates. He was very upset with the use of Code Enforcement to intimidate residents of the City during the Election. Mr. Maldonado stated that Mrs. Hermelinda Cerda informed him that due to her having a campaign sign on her lawn their Neighborhood Watch Meetings will now have to pay \$20.00 for the use of a City meeting room.

Leonard Wayne Jr. spoke about his two watch dogs. He promoted the City of Covina Community Center and their Senior Citizen field trips.

City Manager Plumlee provided an update on the status of the JPIA Performance Improvement Plan for Mr. Diaz.

John Binakas asked Interim City Attorney Casso if he can relinquish his time to another speaker and would this be legal. After a discussion with the Mayor Mr. Binakas decided not to speak.

Interim City Attorney Casso answered that ultimately it is left to the presiding officer. There are no rules as to relinquishing the time but there are rules that set forth that an individual must fill out a speaker card and is allowed to speak for five minutes. It has been a practice in the past to allow individuals to relinquish their time to other speakers.

Mayor Solis stated that he was there to run a meeting and for five people to come and allow one speaker to talk for their time was not conducive. He said he would allow only Mr. Binakas to speak if he did not want to he would call the next speaker.

Craig French commended Police Chief Lt. Pete Cacheiro and his deputies for lowering the crime rate in La Puente, removing the graffiti, and for their professionalism. Mr. French also commended the City Council for the \$50,000 funding for the Special Assignment Officers. He commended City Manager Plumlee for all the tools he brings to the City and encouraged the Council to assist Mr. Plumlee in moving the City forward.

Mayor Solis thanked Mr. French, Police Chief Lt. Cacheiro and his Special Assignment Officers SAO's for being an asset to the City.

Mayor Pro Tem Argudo stated that this Council developed these enhancements via a strategic plan that the entire City Council put in place and they were now seeing the fruits of this labor. He confirmed that Code Enforcement is being equitable in seizing all campaign signs.

Police Chief Lt. Cacheiro thanked Mr. French for his kind words and said that the ones doing all the ground work are Sergeant Mark Lopez along with the deputies that are in place. He is just managing the resources on behalf of the City and Department. He stated that when he first came on board he had several meetings with Council and they told to him to keep it simple and keep the public safe. Police Chief Lt. Cacheiro stated that there were several Neighborhood Watch Programs in place and he has not heard that they are being charged for the use of a City meeting room. The campaign signs that are being taken down are being removed legally.

Mayor Solis stated that everyone is losing signs.

City Manager Plumlee stated that Code Enforcement is applying the code consistently across the board according to the City Codes and Regulations. He asked the residents to call City Hall or him for any Code Enforcement issues or complaints. City Manager Plumlee thanked Police Chief Lt. Cacheiro for his outstanding work along with the Sheriff's Department and the City Council for their support and the funding for Public Safety to lower crime with the City.

Police Chief Lt. Cacheiro stated that if any issue arises with any staff member to please contact him, City Manager Plumlee, Director of Administrative Service Komers or Sergeant Lopez.

Rudy Almeida stated his concerns with the use of Marijuana and the dispensaries in the City of La Puente. He stated that there are 104 registered sex offenders in the City of La Puente.

Council Member House corrected Mr. Diaz statement that the Council needed to take anger management courses. The Council needed to take training on the laws and how to conduct the meetings. The current Council has completed this training and when the new Council is elected the new members will undergo this training. He addressed Mr. Maldonado's concerns and informed him that he had not received any complaints and that he cannot take action on items that he has no knowledge of. Council Member House asked Mr. Maldonado to contact him if he had any issue.

Marty Paz stated that he sees that City Clerk, Pat Jacquez-Nares, is back from a six or seven month layoff. This gives him hope that there is a chance that Associate Planner Beth Chow may be rehired by the City. He requested clarification on Carol Cowley's duties as she was hired to perform Deputy City Clerk duties at \$75.00 an hour up to \$30,000 and if this meant that both Pat and Carol would be undertaking the same duties. Mr. Paz requested clarification on why the maintenance crews are no longer doing the sidewalks and the street striping. He stated that his signs are also missing not just the candidate signs. Mr. Paz requested an update on the MVP Lounge not selling food during evening hours. He referred to the Make La Puente Beautiful event next month and requested that the City clean their property located by the over pass at Mi

Casita restaurant on Old Valley and Valley before they cite their residents. On his election ballot he requested clarification on the deadline for write-in candidates. Mr. Paz stated he will vote for all of the candidates running for City Council. He asked for the legal size limit for signs.

City Manager Plumlee stated that for political signs the limit is 24 square feet. He said that the City is having a Make La Puente Beautiful Month in April there will be advertising for this event and on April 21st there will be a clean-up crew in that area. The Helping Hands Organization will participate in this event.

Mayor Solis asked about the complaints from the residents that businesses are not in compliance. He requested a report on the MVP Lounge.

City Manager Plumlee encouraged that the residents provide any reports on business not in compliance to him in writing. There was a very positive outcome after meeting with the owners of the businesses that were undertaking prostitution in their establishments with the help of our prosecuting attorney these issues have been resolved.

Mayor Pro Tem Argudo asked what the process was and the length of time it took to respond to these complaints.

City Manager Plumlee stated that it varies on the type of case.

Council House stated that he gets numerous calls with complaints that the MVP Lounge is not serving dinner. These people need to make a formal complaint with the City and not just with him. He suggested that they speak to the owner of the property.

Mayor Pro Tem Argudo stated that by serving as a Council Member Mr. House you are a vehicle for complaints and if you receive one you need to forward the complaint in writing to the City Manager. He stated his concerns with the MVP Lounge and called upon Charlie Klinakis as the owner of this property.

~~Interim City Attorney Casso warned the Mayor and Council Members to refrain from further discussion on any one particular item unless it was properly agendaized.~~

Mayor Solis stated that the Council has requested all the case information on the MVP Lounge and staff has not provided the information to them. What are the Council Members to do to better inform the residents? The Council has been kept in the dark for six months on the activities on this establishment.

Interim City Attorney Casso explained the reasons why they take measured steps in providing Council the information in order for the Council to remain neutral if the case comes before the Council for action. He stated that the Mayor and the entire Council have personal knowledge that staff is working on this item. If any residents have concerns the Council should refer them to the City Manager.

A. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A-1 READ AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF DECEMBER 13, 2011 AND MARCH 13, 2012

Mayor Pro Tem Argudo moved to waive further reading and approve the minutes of the regular meetings of December 13, 2011 and March 13, 2012; seconded by Council Member House. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: House, Mendoza, Holloway, Argudo, and Solis. NOES: None.

A-2 READ APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JOINT SPECIAL MEETING OF JANUARY 3, 2012

Mayor Pro Tem Argudo moved to waive further reading and approve the Minutes of the Joint Special Meeting of January 3, 2012; seconded by Mayor Solis. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: House, Mendoza, Holloway, Argudo, and Solis. NOES: None.

A-3 READ APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETINGS OF JANUARY 5, 2012, JANUARY 11, 2012 AND MARCH 13, 2012

Mayor Argudo moved to waive further reading and approve the Minutes of the Special Meetings of January 5, 2012, January 11, 2012 and March 13, 2012; seconded by Mayor Solis. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: House, Mendoza, Holloway, Argudo, and Solis. NOES: None.

B. PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL - None.

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL - None.

D. CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

David Argudo moved to approve the Consent Calendar items D-1 through D-7. ; seconded by Vince House. The motion unanimously carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: House, Mendoza, Holloway, Argudo, and Solis. NOES: None.

Mayor Solis thanked Director of Administrative Services Komers and Finance Manager Leung for their efforts in saving money on the budget.

D-1 CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING WARRANT REGISTER NO. 1316 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-12

Action Taken: The City Council adopted the Resolution No. 12-5001 approving Warrant Register No. 1316.

D-2 APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER'S/FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JANUARY 31, 2012

Action Taken: The City Council received and filed the Monthly Treasurer's/Financial Reports for January 31, 2012.

D-3 APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER'S/FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 29, 2012

Action Taken: The City Council received and filed the Monthly Treasurer's/Financial Reports for February 29, 2012.

D-4 APPROVAL OF AN EXTENSION OF THE CONTRACT WITH VASQUEZ AND COMPANY LLP FOR AUDITING SERVICES FOR THREE ADDITIONAL FISCAL YEARS BEGINNING WITH FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012

Action Taken: The City Council approved the proposals provided by Vasquez and Company LLP, Inc. and authorized the City Manager to sign the engagement letter for three additional fiscal years of auditing services beginning with fiscal year ending June 30, 2012.

D-5 CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A LEASE WITH OPTION TO PURCHASE AND ACQUISITION FUND AGREEMENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$270,000.00, BETWEEN THE CITY AND MUNICIPAL FINANCE CORPORATION, FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE CITY'S HVAC SYSTEM, AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ACTIONS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

Action Taken: The City Council approved Resolution No. 12-5002 authorizing the execution and delivery of a lease with option to purchase and acquisition fund agreement, and authorizing certain actions in connection therewith.

D-6 CONSIDERATION OF A PARK USE AGREEMENT FOR THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY FOR THE RELAY FOR LIFE EVENT

Action Taken: The City Council approved the Park Use Agreement to Permit the use of La Puente Park for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life event.

D-7 ADOPT AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LA PUENTE AMENDING SECTION 2.13 OF THE LA PUENTE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO EXCEPTIONS TO THE CIVIL SERVICE SYSTEM

Action Taken: The City Council adopted Ordinance No. 12-921 of the City of La Puente, amending Section 2.13 of the La Puente Municipal Code relating to exceptions of the Civil Service System.

E. NEW BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL - None.

RECESS THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Solis recessed the City Council meeting at 9:23 p.m.

RECONVENE THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Solis reconvened the City Council meeting at 9:30 p.m.

RECESS CITY COUNCIL INTO CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Solis recessed into closed session at 9:30 p.m.

Interim City Attorney Casso recessed into Closed Session with all members present to discuss Item F-1 as listed on the agenda.

F. CLOSED SESSION

F-1 THE CITY COUNCIL WILL RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE 54957.6(f) TO CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS. AGENCY DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES: BRET M. PLUMLEE, CITY MANAGER; WARD KOMERS, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES; AND IRMA RODRIGUEZ-MOISA, COUNSEL. EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS: CEA AND SEIU

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Mayor Solis reconvened into open session at 10:27 p.m.

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

Interim City Attorney Casso reported as to Item F-1 there was no reportable action.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS - None.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Mayor Pro Tem Argudo requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Captain James "Ray" Wells.

Police Chief Lt. Cacheiro provided a brief bio on Captain James "Ray" Wells, who passed away on Sunday, March 25, 2012. He worked for the County of Los Angeles for over 40 years,

Mayor Solis stated that Beautification Commissioner Julia Cortez' son suffered a stroke and is not doing well. Our prayers go out the Cortez family.

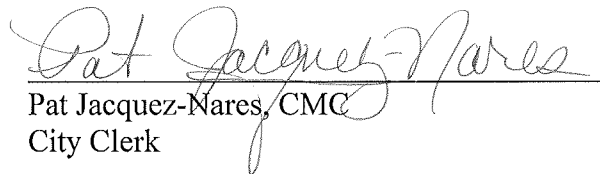
ORAL COMMENTS FROM STAFF

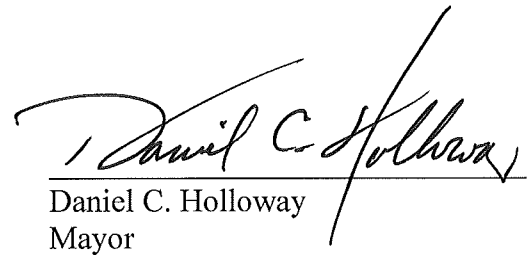
City Manager Plumlee reminded everyone of the State of the City this Thursday, March 29, 2012 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center Courtyard with the Social hour to begin at 6:00 p.m. and the program to begin at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Solis adjourned the meeting at 10:31 p.m. in the memory of Captain James "Ray" Wells.

Approved this 8th day of May 2012


Pat Jacquez-Nares, CMC
City Clerk


Daniel C. Holloway
Mayor