

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE LA PALMA CITY COUNCIL

September 2, 2003

Mayor Barnes called the regular meeting of the La Palma City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 2, 2003, in the Council Chambers of La Palma City Hall, 7822 Walker Street, La Palma, California.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Duke led the pledge of allegiance.

INVOCATION

Councilmember Blake gave the Invocation.

ROLL CALL:

Councilmembers present: Christine M. Barnes, Kenneth A. Blake, Alta E. Duke,  
Larry A. Herman, Paul F. Walker

Councilmembers absent: None

City Officials present: Catherine Standiford, City Manager  
Tami K. Piscotty, Assistant to the City Manager  
Ismile Noorbaksh, Director of Public Works/City Engineer  
Jan Hobson, Director of Recreation & Community Services  
Dominic Lazzaretto, Director of Community Development  
Joel Kuperberg, City Attorney  
Crystal Wilkerson, Administrative Secretary

PRESENTATIONS

Cindy Robinson, Theresa Cronin, and Mayor Barnes presented stipends on behalf of the City Council to the Volunteers.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mark Waldman, 4502 Amberwood, stated that he was thankful that the railroad trains no longer run near the greenbelt near his home, but wanted to know who was responsible for maintaining the area. He stated that the weeds are really high in this area.

City Manager Standiford stated that the area is owned and operated by the Orange County Transportation Authority and they are responsible for weed control and maintenance. She stated that City Staff will contact them to let OCTA know of the issue on Mr. Waldman's behalf.

RECESS

Mayor Barnes recessed the City Council to convene as the Community Development Commission at 7:20 p.m. (See separate Community Development Commission Minutes.)

RECONVENING

Mayor Barnes reconvened the meeting in regular session at 7:25 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Walker made a motion to approve the following item on the Consent Calendar:

APPROVED THE AUGUST 19, 2003 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2003-38 APPROVING A REGISTER OF DEMANDS FOR SEPTEMBER 2, 2003

ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2003-39 DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO SELL CITY'S SURPLUS SWAGER WELL SITE AND ESTABLISHED THE TIME, PLACE AND DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO HEAR PROTESTS

APPROVED AND AUTHORIZED THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AMENDMENT NO. 6 TO COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT NO. C-95 BETWEEN THE ORANGE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY AND CITY OF LA PALMA

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Blake and carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Barnes, Blake, Duke, Herman, Walker

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

REGULAR ITEMS

4. Rubberizing Slurry Sealing on Various City Streets

Councilmember Herman pulled this item from the Consent Calendar to ask Public Works Director, Ismile Noorbaksh, if the proposed project will be closer to the bid of \$150,000 or the amount that is set aside at \$237,000.

Mr. Noorbaksh stated that the completed project will be somewhere between \$150,000 to \$175,000.

Councilmember Herman asked if any of the surrounding areas needed resurfacing as well.

Mr. Noorbaksh stated that areas in the condominiums need resurfacing, but the City has replaced the broken asphalt with new material.

Councilmember Walker asked if the Condominium Association will pay for the repair done on the streets within the complex.

Mr. Noorbaksh explained that the CC & R's do not cover repaving. The only areas they are responsible for are near the drive approaches.

Councilmember Herman made a motion to approve the Plans and Specifications, and authorize the Director of Public Works to solicit competitive bids for the Rubberized Slurry Sealing on Various City Streets, City Project No. ST-261. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Walker and carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Barnes, Blake, Duke, Herman, Walker

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

5. Tree Replacements and Vine Installations on La Palma Avenue between Walker Street and Denni Street

Councilmember Herman pulled this item from the Consent Calendar to ask Public Works Director, Ismile Noorbaksh, what he estimated the cost of maintaining this project.

Mr. Noorbaksh stated that in the beginning of this project he doesn't expect much of a maintenance cost. He explained that when the trees mature, he expects \$5,000 annually to maintain the plantings.

Councilmember Herman asked if there were enough Public Works staff members to maintain this added area of the City.

Mr. Noorbaksh stated that he feels comfortable with the amount of workers he currently has, but the City won't know until the project matures to see the volume of maintenance it requires at that time.

Mayor Barnes asked if the cost of the vine project is based on the existing vine projects the City currently has.

Mr. Noorbaksh responded positively. He stated that the report mentions that there will be 142 Liquid Amber Trees being planted and according to Council Policy there will actually be replanting of 79 Bradford Pear Trees and this is not mentioned in the report. The area between Moody and Denni Streets will be with 63 Liquid Amber Trees.

Councilmember Blake asked if it was possible to have Liquid Amber Trees for the full length of La Palma Avenue to show consistency instead of both trees.

Mayor Pro Tem Duke asked if there was a difference in price between the two trees.

Mr. Noorbaksh stated that they were of equal value.

Councilmember Walker asked if there were root barriers on these trees.

Mr. Noorbaksh answered positively.

Councilmember Walker asked how the root barriers planted four years ago were holding up.

Mr. Noorbaksh answered that they are holding up very good.

Councilmember Walker clarified that the City will not need to replace the sidewalk due to tree root damage.

Mr. Noorbaksh explained that after twenty years the City will need to look at the trees to make sure they haven't damaged anything and also for years to follow.

Councilmember Walker asked if the City was using bubblers and if this mechanism provided enough to water the trees. He asked how long they are on at a time.

Mr. Noorbaksh explained that they run 10 minutes for three times a week.

Councilmember Walker explained that he spoke to an arborist and he stated that if the watering is for a short time the root stays at the surface. Councilmember Walker asked if the City has looked into a different method of watering so the dirt gets soaked, allowing the roots to grow deeper.

Mr. Noorbaksh stated no, but he can look into it with the landscape architect.

Councilmember Herman asked if the project will be completed this calendar year.

Mr. Noorbaksh responded positively.

Councilmember Blake made a motion to approve the Plans and Specifications with the correction to replace all trees with Liquid Amber Trees, and authorize the Director of Public Works to solicit competitive bids for Tree Replacements and Vine Installations on La Palma Avenue between Walker Street and Denni Street, City Project No. ST-243. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Herman and carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Barnes, Blake, Duke, Herman, Walker

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS FROM CITY-AFFILIATED COMMITTEES/COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilmember Blake attended the Orange County Fire Authority Executive Meeting to review investment information and the status on the regional fire operation and training center. He mentioned that Councilmember Walker has been promoted to Engineer. He stated that the new squad vehicle, F550 has been delivered to Station 13 and is being used by the volunteers. Councilmember Blake also attended the Tri-City Chamber Legislative Mixer and went on a VIP tour of the Southern Region of the State of California Emergency Evacuation Center. They also saw the new 2000 simulator to test weapons, including the M-16 & M-9. Councilmember Blake also attended the Orange County Council of Governments meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Duke will be attending the next SCAG meeting on Thursday, September 04, 2003. She also attended the Orange County Council of Governments meeting where they provided demographic information and discussed housing needs. Mayor Pro Tem Duke stated that the Orange County Library received the \$600,000 from the State; however it could be taken away or the amount could be reduced again. She stated that they are looking at a different allocation plan for future expenses. She mentioned that the Orange County Library will be opening up another branch in Loder Ranch on September 13. Mayor Pro Tem Duke mentioned to staff that the right turn arrow is faded drastically in the Bank of America drive thru teller drive approach. She also mentioned that there are still left turns being conducted out of this area and stated there isn't a no left turn sign posted.

Councilmember Herman attended the Orange County Vector Control meeting and the most controversial issue was a resident whose dog got sick from eating rat bait and there was a split vote as to whether they should cover the bill. He also attended the, "Jazz Under the Stars", in Garden Grove. Councilmember

Herman asked who was responsible for cleaning up the sand bags from the sewer overflow problem in the Drug Emporium Center.

City Manager Standiford explained that the County will continue to monitor this site as well as City Staff. In addition, the sewer overflow occurs at least a couple of times every year. The City has been trying to make contact with all of the owners of the center to determine the interest in rehabilitating aspects of the Center. She mentioned that the City doesn't have much legal leverage, but can pass on fines if the City is faced with sewer line issues down the road.

Councilmember Herman asked what happened with the parking on the Edison Right of Way at Moody Street that he had reported to the City Manager over the weekend.

City Manager Standiford stated that Chief Giampa was looking into this incident and was unable to attend the Council Meeting this evening.

Councilmember Herman asked Dominic Lazzaretto the status of the VIP Buffet.

Mr. Lazzaretto stated that they have returned the signed Conditions of Approval. The structural design drawings are being prepared now and should be delivered to the City in a few weeks.

Councilmember Herman stated some concerns with the expansion of the Central Park project. He asked if staff could provide him with plans of the current park so he can compare it with the proposed expansion. He also asked when the Arborist was going to be coming to the City to determine which trees will be staying or being removed. Councilmember Herman asked if Staff could flag the trees being removed, so he can easily identify them.

Jan Hobson responded that the Arborist should be out Friday, September 5, 2003 at 8:00 a.m. She also stated that some of the trees will be relocated and that she would flag the ones that will be abandoned.

Councilmember Herman asked if staff could set up some type of barrier that will reflect the proposed intrusion area to the park.

City Manager Standiford stated that Staff will set up a day and a time for all of Council to review this area and set it for Friday, September 5, 2003.

Councilmember Walker attended the Sanitation District meeting. He thanked the City Council and his wife for their support in his achievement as Engineer.

Mayor Barnes also attended the Orange County Council of Governments meeting and they stated how there is a high need for more apartments. She also attended the Tri-City Mixer and training simulator. She mentioned that there were tank demonstrations at the Mixer too.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

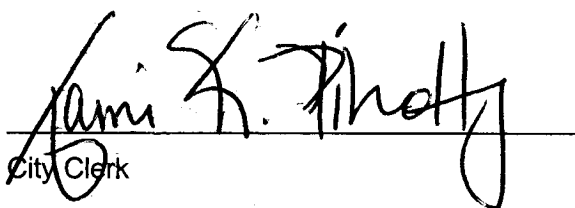
City Manager Standiford reminded Council that they will be adjourning to a meeting Tuesday, September 16 at 5:30 to continue the City Manager's Performance Evaluation.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Barnes adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m. to a Closed Session on Tuesday, September 16, 2003 at 5:45 p.m. to continue the City Manager's Performance Review.

  
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Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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City Clerk