

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE LA PALMA CITY COUNCIL

October 2, 2001

CLOSED SESSION

The City Council met in Closed Session at 6:15 p.m. pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6:

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR

Agency Negotiators: Steve Filarsky and Tami K. Piscotty
La Palma Police Association

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Aragona called the regular meeting of the La Palma City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 2, 2001, in the Council Chambers of La Palma City Hall, 7822 Walker Street, La Palma, California.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Barnes led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

INVOCATION

Bishop Larry Boberg of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints gave the Invocation.

ROLL CALL:

Councilmembers present: Lauree Aragona, Christine Barnes, Kenneth A. Blake, Alta E. Duke, Paul F. Walker

Councilmembers absent: None

City Officials present: Catherine Standiford, City Manager
Vince Giampa, Chief of Police
Jeff Kirkpatrick, Police Captain
Ed Ethell, Police Captain
Ismile Noorbaksh, Director of Public Works/City Engineer
Tami K. Piscotty, Assistant to the City Manager
Paul Pitts, Director of Building & Safety
Robbeyn Bird, Director of Finance
Jan Hobson, Director of Recreation & Community Services
Joan Hoesterey, Principal Planner
Joel Kuperberg, City Attorney
Peggie Turnage, Executive Assistant

PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Aragona and Mayor Pro Tem Walker presented Battalion Chief O'Neill a Proclamation designating October 13, 2001 as a Day of Remembrance and Reflection for the firefighters who perished in the World Trade Center attack, and designating October 7-13, 2001 as Fire Prevention Week.

Chief O'Neill thanked the City Council for the Proclamation and encouraged everyone to visit their local Fire Station on Saturday, October 13th.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Andy Hilbert, 4812 El Rancho Verde Drive, La Palma, addressed the Council to urge an immediate budget cut of at least 5% before presenting a measure to the voters asking them to ratify the Utility Users Tax.

Mr. Keith Nelson, 5311 La Luna Drive, La Palma, addressed the Council to state that the Parade Committee has invited the Veterans to participate in this year's parade, "Celebrating America" and encouraged all local veterans to participate. In addition he stated that the Veterans organization would be asking the County to issue a Proclamation declaring this the official county event for veterans for the year. He also announced that the Public Works Department would be this year's Honorary Grand Marshals. This year there will also be a competition at the High School at the end of the parade for drum sections for any of the schools that wish to participate.

Mr. Duane Schuster, 8272 El Pescador Lane, La Palma, addressed the Council to report that long-time resident and member of Neighborhood Watch Jack Barrows passed away on Friday.

Mr. Rudy Starowitz, 5801 San Simeon Drive, La Palma, addressed the Council to express his opinion that the trees and vines along La Palma Avenue are not doing well.

Mr. Brian O'Neal, 5042 Cartagena Circle, representing the City of La Palma on the Anaheim Union High School District Task Force, addressed the Council to present an update of the Task Force's activities. He announced that the School District recently hired a Facilities Director. He reported that the current enrollment is approximately 17,000 high school students and 10,000 junior high school students. It is projected by the year 2010 it will peak out at 36,000 students total. Currently there is no state money available for new construction or modernization programs. With this enrollment projection in mind there will be no empty classrooms in the District and there is an obvious need for extra facilities. A consultant will be doing a telephone survey on behalf of the District to provide input and determine the feasibility of proceeding with the GO bond issue. As an immediate relief to the excess student enrollment, two high schools will begin extended day sessions within the next two months.

Mayor Aragona asked if had been determined when the bond issue would go to the voters.

Mr. O'Neal responded that would depend on the results of the survey but possibly in March.

Mr. Larry Herman, 5122 Andrew Drive, La Palma, Orange County Vector Control representative addressed the Council to give an update on the Red Imported Fire Ant. He stated that as a result of the warm weather the ants are still very active and encouraged everyone to be aware of any suspicious dirt mounds on their property. He also reported that Vector Control is trying for an exemption from the Discharge Permit issue.

Mr. Herman asked who is responsible for maintaining the property at the southeast corner of Crescent Avenue and Moody Street and commented on its poor condition.

City Manager Catherine Standiford responded that the property owner is responsible for the maintenance and added staff will attempt to get the owner to clean the property up. She added that if the owner does not maintain the property, the City has enforcement actions that can be employed.

RECESS

Mayor Aragona recessed the City Council to convene as the Community Development Commission at 7:30 p.m. (See separate Community Development Commission Minutes.)

RECONVENING

Mayor Aragona reconvened the meeting in joint session with the Planning Commission at 7:32 p.m.

AN ORDINANCE DEFINING AND REGULATING COMPUTER VIDEO ARCADES AND TUTORING FACILITIES

Chairman/Mayor Aragona reconvened the City Council in Joint Session at 7:32 p.m. and opened the Public Hearing. She then called upon Principal Planner Joan Hoesterey to present the staff report on this item.

Ms. Hoesterey stated that this item was initially brought forward as an urgency ordinance in April of this year because there were several of these businesses in the City that staff was having some problems with and inquiries of similar new businesses that wanted to open. Staff felt there should be some regulations in place in the Municipal Code in order to have a better ability to deal with these uses. Ms. Hoesterey stated that the City has serious concerns regarding the safety and welfare of the clients patronizing these facilities. In addition, negative comments have been received and staff has observed incidents that have raised issues relating to the existing uses in the City. For both uses the clients are primarily under the age of 18 and that adds a concern for the youth in the City. Ms. Hoesterey stated there is one computer arcade in the City that is currently operating. At this particular business there has been a problem in being able to monitor the clients that attend the facility. In addition, the youth tend to congregate outside the facility and this has resulted in disruption to adjacent businesses, there has been some vandalism occurring in that area, reports of patrons driving erratically in the parking lot of this facility, as well as what some of the other business owners feel are threats to their safety.

Ms. Hoesterey stated that the proposed ordinance puts into place regulations to govern these particular uses. Specifically the ordinance addresses the zoning, discretionary approvals, hours of operation, supervision of patrons, loitering of patrons outside the business, and the proximity of these businesses to other like businesses. Ms. Hoesterey stated there are several of the tutoring facilities in the City and while there have been no problems with many of them, there are problems with a few of them that staff feels is important to address and the City continues to get weekly calls for other businesses wishing to open as tutoring facilities in the City. The proposed ordinance includes a clear definition of a tutoring facility and regulations to handle those particular things that are exclusive to tutoring facilities. The biggest distinction is that a tutoring facility is not a day care facility, it is for some type of education or training and the students are permitted a maximum of three hours per day and 15 hours per week to attend to specific academic education. To that a possible four hours on Saturday or Sunday has been added for those under middle school age, and six hours on Saturday or Sunday for middle school or high school students. The problems that the City has been experiencing with these facilities have not been on Saturday or Sunday, but the fact that during school holidays and recesses at winter, spring, and summer, that these facilities are taking care of children all day long for periods of seven to nine hours a day. None of these facilities have any outdoor areas for the children to use; they are confined within the facilities for the majority of the time. However, several of them release the students on their own to go to fast food businesses or markets in the area to purchase food for their lunches and this practice has been problematic.

Chairman/Mayor Aragona asked if these regulations could be applied to those tutoring businesses that are currently in operation.

City Attorney Joel Kuperberg responded these rules would apply prospectively; that is one of the reasons why, following this item, are Planning Commission Items 3 and 4 that are to use some of these same standards and incorporate them into in one case, an existing Conditional Use Permit, and in another case, a pending Conditional Use Permit. The existing uses become what are called legal non-conforming uses and under the law they can maintain that status, they just can't expand or change without having to comply with these regulations.

Chairman/Mayor Aragona asked who would enforce these regulations.

Ms. Hoesterey responded these things would normally fall under code enforcement activity; however, with this type of concern frequently Planning and Building and Safety are involved.

Commissionmember/Councilmember Barnes commented that with the proliferation of these types of tutoring sites she hopes the State of California will come to the forefront in regulating the safety for the children.

Ms. Lusye Yu, 13410-1/4 Village Drive, Cerritos, addressed the Commission to state that her husband's tutoring center usually drives the children home in the center's vans. In addition, they try to keep the children indoors but for high school and junior high, you have to let them out and sometimes they sneak out.

Ms. Hoesterey stated that these comments should appropriately be addressed to Planning Commission Item No. 3.

Commissionmember/Councilmember Duke made a motion to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Commissionmember/Councilmember Blake and carried unanimously.

Commissionmember/Councilmember Barnes stated that in order to be a business-friendly city, this issue has to be weighed with the concerns of the other businesses and the residents adjoining those businesses but she feels that the need for safety for the children should be the utmost concern and these regulations will help meet that consideration.

Commissionmember/Councilmember Duke agreed and stated while the City needs to be business friendly, the City does have an obligation to the children. She added she feels the line between tutoring and childcare is a very obscured line and this ordinance helps to address this.

Mayor Aragona recessed the City Council at 7:54 p.m.

Mayor Aragona reconvened the City Council at 7:55 p.m.

Councilmember Duke made a motion to adopt Resolution 2001-47 adopting a Negative Declaration for an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of La Palma, California, Amending Sections 26-2, 26-62, 26-160, and 26-164 Regulating Computer Video Arcade and Tutoring Facility Uses. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnes and carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Aragona, Barnes, Blake, Duke, Walker

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Mayor Pro Tem Walker made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 2001-6, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of La Palma, California, Amending Sections 26-2, 26-62, 26-160, and 26-164 Regulating Computer Video Arcade and Tutoring Facility Uses. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Duke and carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Aragona, Barnes, Blake, Duke, Walker

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Mayor Aragona recessed the City Council at 7:58 p.m.

Mayor Aragona reconvened the City Council in regular session at 8:45 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Blake requested that Item No. 7 be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

Councilmember Blake made a motion to approve the following items on the Consent Calendar:

APPROVED THE SEPTEMBER 18, 2001 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2001-46 APPROVING A REGISTER OF DEMANDS FOR OCTOBER 2, 2001

APPROVED THE AGREEMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE WITH THE COUNTY OF ORANGE

ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2001-48 APPROVING THE STREET CLOSURE SCHEDULE FOR LA PALMA DAYS

APPROPRIATED AND AUTHORIZED THE EXPENDITURE OF \$2,000 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO PAY FOR LA PALMA'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE WEST ORANGE COUNTY CITIES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

AWARDED A CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,210.23 TO GOLDEN STATE FORD TRUCK SALES OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF AN EXISTING 4-YARD DUMP TRUCK (LP-22)

APPROVED AND AUTHORIZED THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AMENDMENT NO. 3 TO COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT NO. C-95-982 WITH THE ORANGE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

ADOPTED RESOLUTION 2001-49 ADOPTING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA PALMA AND THE LA PALMA GENERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION FOR THE GENERAL EMPLOYEES UNIT AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION 2000-35; AND

ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2001-50 ADOPTING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA PALMA AND THE PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES UNIT; AND

ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2001-51 ADOPTING A SALARY SCHEDULE AND A COMPREHENSIVE LISTING OF PERSONNEL PRACTICES AND BENEFITS FOR MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES, AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 2000-37

The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Walker and carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Aragona, Barnes, Blake, Duke, Walker

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

NOTICE OF COMPLETION AND ACCEPTANCE OF WORK FOR THE RESURFACING ON
VARIOUS CITY STREETS, CITY PROJECT NO. ST-239

Councilmember Blake stated he would abstain on this item because he resides in the area where the work was done and in addition the contractor is a client of the firm in which he is employed.

Mayor Pro Tem Walker made a motion to accept the work and authorized the Director of Public Works to file the Notice of Completion and Acceptance of Work for the Resurfacing on Various City Streets, City Project No. ST-239. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnes and carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Aragona, Barnes, Duke, Walker

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Blake

Mayor Aragona recessed the City Council at 8:48 p.m.

Mayor Aragona reconvened the City Council at 8:51 p.m.

REGULAR ITEMS

PRESENTATION ON IMPACT OF LOSING THE UTILITY USERS TAX: POLICE
DEPARTMENT

City Manager Catherine Standiford stated this evening staff will be presenting a "what-if" scenario if the utility users tax were lost tomorrow, what would the Police Department have to look at doing in response. For the benefit of those who could not attend the Special Meeting on September 24th, she presented a brief overview of the utility users tax issue. Mrs. Standiford stated that in approaching this exercise, staff was given the following directions:

- 1) Approach the exercise as if you were going to lose the revenue tomorrow
- 2) Try to preserve those services mandated by state or federal law
- 3) Try to emphasize those services that benefit the greatest number of citizens

Mrs. Standiford stated that at this time all departments are being treated equally and all are asked to go through this same exercise to make a 15% reduction. She then called upon Police Chief Giampa for his presentation.

Chief Giampa stated that the Police Department is committed to providing the highest quality of law enforcement services possible and their basic mission is to ensure around-the-clock protection of life and property. He added that in recent years the department has taken an active role in the community, working in partnerships to implement pro-active measures that resolve problems, address crime and quality of life issues. During the last five-years with the implementation of these programs, the part one crimes have been reduced by 48%.

Assisted by a video presentation, Chief Giampa explained that 90% of the department's budget comes from the General Fund and represents 51% of the city's General Fund totaling 3.8 million dollars. Personnel expenditures total 3.1 million dollars and maintenance and operations is \$660,000.00. He stated that 15% of the Police Department's share of the General Fund totals \$572,000.00 and a 15% reduction the majority of that money would quite obviously have to come from the Personnel share of the General Fund. Chief Giampa explained that the services his department provides that are funded by the General Fund are:

- Patrol
- Investigations
- Community Policing Unit
- Records and Communications
- Code Enforcement
- Disaster Preparedness

He further explained that Patrol is staffed by four supervisors, eleven police officers, three part-time park rangers, and five part-time reserve police officers and one of the eleven officers is the canine unit. Patrol provides twenty-four hour, seven day a week, uniformed police response to calls for service and self initiated activities. It's the backbone of the police department and it's the most visible representative of the City.

The Investigations Division is staffed by one supervisor, two detectives, and a civilian investigative aide. Investigations handles all of the investigative follow-up, they conduct investigations, they file criminal cases, they produce and serve search warrants, they prepare court cases, they conduct suspect interviews, intelligence gathering, Megan's Law monitoring, etc.

The Community Policing Unit is staffed by one supervisor, a DARE Officer and one School Resource Officer. The Community Policing Unit is the smallest unit in the Police Department but it's responsible for most all of the services not directly related to the primary mission. The Community Policing Unit is responsible for the management, supervision and logistical support of all of the volunteers programs including VIP, Neighborhood Watch, and Explorer Scouts. It also manages the DARE program, puts on the Every 15 Minutes program, manages the school resource officer program, the citizens police academy and all the other crime prevention and quality of life services that are provided by the Police Department.

Records and Communications is staffed by four dispatchers, one records clerk, and three part-time dispatchers. The dispatchers answer all calls for service including acting as the primary safety answering point for 911. They operate twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Dispatch also provides for twenty-four hour counter coverage. He added that there is another Records Clerk in the department's budget, but it is funded through another source.

Code Enforcement is staffed by one full-time employee who devotes 50% of his time to Code Enforcement and 50% to Parking Control. This position is responsible for pro-active and re-active code enforcement in the City.

The City Disaster Preparedness Program provides for the training and supplies to city workers to handle major disasters such as earthquakes and floods. The Emergency Service coordination is assigned to the Community Policing Sergeant and 30% of his time is spent on disaster preparedness. This program insures the compliance with state and federal disaster relief and recovery laws and insures the necessary training is provided to the city's employees and volunteers.

Chief Giampa briefly reviewed the special funding sources which are revenues that do not come from the General Fund that provide for the Records Clerk previously mentioned and the two motorcycle officers, two part-time police service aides, special enforcement team overtime, bicycle patrol team overtime and new technology and equipment.

Chief Giampa stated that a 15% reduction would result in a significant reduction in services and personnel. The primary factor in arriving at the suggested reduction was not to jeopardize the primary safety mission. The services and programs that could be reduced or eliminated, based upon staff's professional analysis in the event of a 15% reduction in the Police Department's allocation have been identified as follows:

- DARE Program
- School Resource Officer Program
- Volunteers in Policing
- Explorer Scout Program
- Citizens Academy
- Business Outreach Program
- Police Records
- Code Enforcement Program
- Park Ranger Program
- Reserve Officer Program
- Disaster Preparedness Program
- Staff Support for Neighborhood Watch

Chief Giampa stated all of this, however, represents only 13.6% of the General Fund Allocation. In order to comply with the 15% reduction it's necessary to reduce the level of service in patrol. The impact of reducing the patrol force would result in increased response time to non-emergency calls for service, less flexibility in deployment of the uniformed personnel, increased overtime expenditures to meet minimum deployment staffing, safety of officers responding to emergencies

could be compromised and there could be an increased exposure to liability due to an inadequate police response. The net effect of these recommendations is a significant reduction in personnel amounting to six full-time employees, four of those being sworn police officers, and eight part-time employees. A reduction such as this potentially has the impact on the department's ability to staff special events, respond to the needs of other departments, and surrounding agencies as well.

Mr. Carroll Sweet, 8071 Janeen Circle, La Palma, addressed the Council to state that La Palma has one of the finest police forces in Orange County and in the state and he felt it would be a shame if the Council cut into their budget and destroyed some of the really innovative programs that they have put in place. He added he hoped the Council really appreciates the fine police force it has.

Mr. Ted Reina, 8081 Lancashire Circle, La Palma, addressed the Council to state that he is a little upset because the citizens have been told that the 5% tax was temporary but it has been taken and used as permanent. He praised the police department for their response to a recent emergency at his home and stated he doesn't feel other departments have the same weight as the police department and urged the Council not to make the cuts equally across the board.

City Manager Catherine Standiford clarified that this is an exercise designed to look at what could potentially happen, it's not a threat, it's not what staff is saying will happen. She added that, obviously, if that revenue source is no longer available the community, and the City Council, have some difficult decisions to make. Rather than have the City staff decide what the service priorities should be, staff's approach in presenting the impacts was to treat all departments equally for purposes of the exercise. If the utility user tax were suspended then the Council would be faced with making some decisions about how the remaining resources to the General Fund would be allocated. This is an exercise designed to look at what options departments have. She added that it is important to get input from the public about where their preferences lie in terms of those service priorities should actual reductions be necessary in the future.

Mayor Aragona stated that at the October 16th Council Meeting all the other departments would be making presentations for their departments.

Councilmember Barnes asked Mrs. Standiford to explain the survey the City will be conducting.

Mrs. Standiford stated this is an opportunity to engage the public in dialog about what they want the financial future of La Palma to be and so over the next six or seven weeks there are several steps that the City is taking to educate and inform the public. In addition to the presentations made by each department a series of three open houses will be scheduled, one at each elementary school in La Palma, where the City staff would be available in a more informal setting to meet with interested and concerned citizens about what programs, activities and services are at risk and to get input from the public at those open houses about their service priorities and if they have any specific preferences about the utility tax and how it should be structured if it is to be continued. In addition to that, there are special issues of the La Palman that are being produced. A citizen survey will also be commissioned. This will be a telephone survey, random sample representative of the La Palma community that will ask a series of questions about citizen

preferences in terms of service priorities. The telephone survey will also be designed to get input from the public on their preferences in terms of a utility tax structure.

Councilmember Barnes suggested that in addition to the telephone survey, perhaps there could be a written survey, either in the La Palman or at the school sites where the presentations are going to be made. She stated all of the department's services have touched her personally and it would be hard to have to cut them.

Mayor Aragona commented that while Community Policing may be a small part of what the Police Department does, she feels that in some ways it is the most beneficial. She stated she personally feels that some of the programs in the Police Department can be looked at and added she feels the school district should share in the cost of some of these programs.

Councilmember Blake asked if the reduction of five officers would reduce the number of officers on the street.

Chief Giampa responded that in order to reach the goal of the exercise yes, it would cut into patrol as well. He added that the community policing positions are officers that are used in other areas such as during the summer time during vacations they are used for vacation relief so this impacts the department's overall ability to do some of the things they have been doing. He clarified that of the five officers that would be cut, one of those officers is patrol.

Councilmember Blake suggested that using reserves could provide greater services at a reduced price.

Chief Giampa responded that would probably run into some labor issues but more importantly, most of the reserves have full-time jobs and are only available to the department at limited times and not generally when the department needs them.

Councilmember Duke stated this exercise is very valuable to everyone, and particularly to the Council so that they can attempt to keep as well balanced a community as possible. She highly encouraged everyone to come back to the next Council meeting and hear the rest of the story. She stated the City is very fragile, financially, and it will always be very fragile financially because of the nature of the city's make up.

Mayor Pro Tem Walker stated that five-years ago when he first ran for Council one of the issues of his campaign was his opposition to the utility users tax and every time the tax has been reviewed he has opposed it. He stated that he has since been educated in the finances of a City and he has been enlightened as to the things that have been taken away from the City. As small a City as La Palma is, 15% will really hurt. He encouraged the citizens to take a sharp look at this and learn from it.

Mayor Aragona asked if staff has an estimated date of completion for the fee study.

Mrs. Standiford responded that it is staff's intent to complete the fee study so that the results can be incorporated into the budget development process, which would be in January or February.

Mr. Ted Reina again addressed the Council to ask how much money is being spent on the survey.

Mrs. Standiford responded that the estimated cost for the survey could be as low as \$15,000.00 and as high as \$25,000.00.

Mr. Keith Nelson, 5311 La Luna Drive, La Palma, addressed the Council to ask if staff had looked into contracting for City services.

Mrs. Standiford responded that she had not specifically asked departments to look at contracting for services. However, when she asked them to submit their first reduction plans, one of the things she was looking for was whether or not they could meet the constitutional mandates within the 85% that would be left. The natural conclusion would have been that if they could not meet the constitutional mandates for minimum service levels within that 85% range, then the question would be if it could be done through a contract arrangement.

Mr. Nelson stated that as part of this process he feels that the City should at least look at the question. It goes hand in glove with Mr. Hilbert's suggestion of making some adjustments now. He also referred to Mr. O'Neal's comments that the school district may have a bond issue on the same ballot as well as the North Orange County Community College District which is talking about a 225 million dollar bond issue and that could have an impact on the consideration of the utility users tax.

Mr. Bill Coil, 5307 Achilles Circle, La Palma, addressed the Council to state that a utility users tax was on the ballot prior to the City Council's adoption and it was voted down. He suggested that perhaps the City has overspent and maybe there are some programs that it can do without. He stated he doesn't like the way that staff is going about this by scaring the citizens and feels it is a waste to spend any money on a survey.

Mayor Aragona stated the Police Department's report will be received and filed and announced that the other department's presentations will be made on October 16, 2001.

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS FROM CITY-AFFILIATED COMMITTEES/ COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilmember Barnes stated that Los Angeles County has a central location for chemical warfare and evacuation and asked if Orange County has anything similar.

Chief Giampa responded that Orange County has an EOC and a plan as does each individual City on a smaller scale.

Mayor Aragona added that the Los Alamitos Training Base is Southern California's EOC and is available for tours.

Councilmember Barnes reported that the Chamber hosted a luncheon, "Choosing the Right Child Care" and there was a lot of good information. She announced that on October 6th there will be a Health Fair sponsored by the Recreation & Community Services Department, the Chamber of Commerce, and La Palma Hospital that will have free health screenings and many other activities.

She also announced the Cypress PTA Council Blood Drive on November 2nd at Moody Street and Orange Avenue from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Walker reported he attended the West Orange County Project Definition Study meeting.

Mayor Aragona stated that Red Ribbon is going along well. She reported that the Hospital Rehabilitation Reunion was special and was very well attended. She also reported that she represented the City at the Susan B. Komen Race for the Cure and presented a proclamation from the City. She reported that Cypress College is working on some joint programming with the City and they are very involved in the Youth 20/20 program. She mentioned the Eagle Scout program and stated that the honoree from La Palma, Phillip Sun, has been very involved in the Young Adult Teen Committee in La Palma. She reported that the Ad Hoc Orange County Transportation Authority meeting in response to Assembly Bill 476 which could increase local representation at the table for transportation issues is moving forward and the next step will be to look at how the representatives are selected and they will be insuring that it is equal representation, as much as is possible, of small cities versus large cities.

Councilmember Blake stated that the ground breaking for the new Orange County Fire Authority Regional Training Center should be late October or early November. He added that he has been reassigned to the Executive Committee. He also shared with Mr. Noorbaksh that he has received many positive comments on the new type slurry seal that was used.

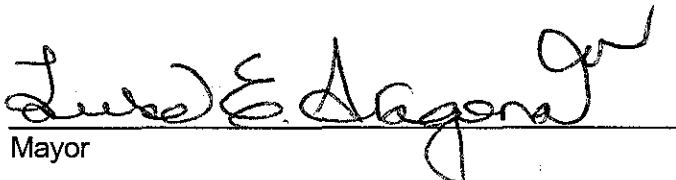
Councilmember Duke reported that the Orange County Library Board will be meeting next Thursday and looking at the possibility of approving a 1.2 million dollar upgrade in their computer system for the entire district.

CITY MANAGER REMARKS

City Manager Catherine Standiford stated that there are a number of cities in Orange County that are not receiving trash pick up right now due to a trash strike. She reported that Park Disposal, the cities contracted trash hauler, did reach agreement with its employees and the city's trash is being picked up as scheduled. She announced that the Seasons La Palma Affordable Housing project will receive its Certificate of Occupancy within days and suggested that the grand opening be held on November 6th at 4:30 if that is agreeable with the Council.

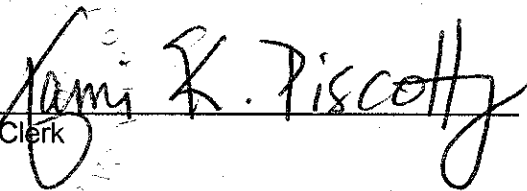
ADJOURNMENT

The City Council adjourned at 10:11 p.m. to a Study Session at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 16th at the Community Center to meet with the new Orange County Supervisor, Jim Silva.



Mayor

ATTEST:


City Clerk