

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE LA PALMA CITY COUNCIL

January 19, 2010

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Shanahan called the Regular Meeting of the City Council to order at 7:10 p.m. in the Council Chambers of La Palma City Hall, 7822 Walker Street, La Palma, California.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez

INVOCATION: Pastor Matthew Mitchell, Faith Fellowship Church

ROLL CALL: Council and Commission Members

Councilmembers present: Councilmember Charoen, Councilmember Herman, Mayor Shanahan, Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez, and Councilmember Waldman

Councilmembers absent: None

City Officials present: Dominic Lazzaretto, City Manager/Executive Director
Joel Kuperberg, City Attorney
Ed Ethell, Chief of Police
Jan Hobson, Recreation & Community Services Director
Jeff Moneda, Public Works Director/City Engineer
Keith Neves, Finance Director
Laurie Murray, Administrative Services Manager/ City Clerk
Kimberly Kenney, Minutes Clerk

PRESENTATIONS

1. Mayor Shanahan presented a City plaque to outgoing Community Activity and Beautification Committee Member, Wendy Huang, for her years of dedication and service to the City of La Palma.

2. Mayor Shanahan presented a plaque to outgoing Development Committee Member Gerald Grimaldi for his many years of dedication and service to the community of La Palma.
3. Kiwanis representative Richard Lutz and Kiwanis President Abe Waheed presented awards to the winners of the Kiwanis Holiday Home Decorating Contest as follows:

Fantasy of Lights winners: First Place, Adam and Nicole Guillen; Second Place, Jim Lawmbe; and Third Place, Emily Pereira.

The Spirit of Christmas winners: First Place, Alvin Van Otterloo; Second Place, Brian and Linda MacDonald; Third Place, Terry Weber.

Santa's Workshop winners: First Place, Peter Benze; Second Place, the Hall Family; Third Place, Curtis and Jayne Carlson.

Christmas in Motion winner: James Wullschleger

Christmas Fantasy winners: First Place, Al Ezra and Tim Holland; Second Place, Larry Bandy; Third Place, Norma Grable and Fran Monroy.

Best Decorated Street winners: First Place, Dallas Drive; Second Place, Sommerdale Lane.

4. Donna McCay, Co-Chair for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, gave a presentation on the upcoming fundraising kick-off rally for the Relay for Life to be held on February 1, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. at the Buena Park Senior Activities Center, 8150 Knott Avenue.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

No members of the public wished to speak.

RECESS THE CITY COUNCIL AND CONVENE AS THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AT 7:29 P.M.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of Community Development Commission Minutes

Minutes of the December 15, 2009, and January 5, 2010, Regular Meetings of the La Palma Community Development Commission.

B. Approval of Register of Demands

Resolution No. CDC 2010-02 approving the Register of Demands for January 19, 2010.

Commission Member Charoen made a motion to approve Consent Calendar Items A and B.

The motion was seconded by Commission Member Herman and carried on the following vote:

AYES: Commission Member Charoen, Commission Member Herman, Vice Chairperson Rodriguez, Chairperson Shanahan, and Commission Member Waldman

NOES: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None Scheduled.

REGULAR ITEMS

None Scheduled.

ADJOURN THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, AND CONVENE AS THE PLANNING COMMISSION AT 7:30 P.M.

CONSENT CALENDAR

PL-1. Approval of Planning Commission Minutes

Minutes of the December 15, 2009, and January 5, 2010, Regular Meetings of the La Palma Planning Commission.

Commission Member Waldman made a motion to approve Consent Calendar Item PL-1.

The motion was seconded by Vice Chairperson Rodriguez and carried on the following vote:

AYES: Commission Member Charoen, Commission Member Herman, Vice Chairperson Rodriguez, Chairperson Shanahan, and Commission Member Waldman

NOES: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None Scheduled.

REGULAR ITEMS

None Scheduled.

ADJOURN THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND CONVENE AS THE CITY COUNCIL AT 7:31 P.M.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Waive the Reading of All Ordinances

Waive the reading of all Ordinances in their entirety and read by title only.

2. Approval of Council Minutes

Minutes of the December 15, 2009, and January 5, 2010, Regular Meetings of the City Council and the Minutes of the December 22, 2010, Special Meeting of the City Council.

3. Approval of Register of Demands

Resolution No. 2010-05 approving the Register of Demands for January 19, 2010.

4. Municipal Code Codification Services

Approve and authorize the City Manager to execute an Agreement with Municipal Code Corporation for codification services.

5. Destruction of Obsolete Records

Resolution No. 2010-06 approving and authorizing the destruction of obsolete records pursuant to the California Government Code Section 34090.

Councilmember Herman made a motion to approve Consent Calendar Items 1 through 5.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Charoen and carried on the following vote:

AYES: Councilmember Charoen, Councilmember Herman, Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez, Mayor Shanahan, and Councilmember Waldman

NOES: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None Scheduled.

REGULAR ITEMS

6. Parks and Recreation Master Plan Recommendations of Conceptual Plan

a) Receive the presentation on the Draft Master Plan

Jim Pickel, Moore Iacofanco Goltsman (MIG) Principal, gave a detailed presentation on the Conceptual Site Plan for Central Park.

Maxine Surks, Deputy Project Manager for MIG, presented a report on the variety of proposed shaded structures and play equipment.

Ron Hagan, Senior Financial Consultant for MIG, gave a detailed presentation on the several Phases of the Site Plan and reported on funding options.

b) Adopt a Resolution approving the State Park Grant (Proposition 84) Application

Resolution No. 2010-07 approving the State Park Grant (Proposition 84) Application.

Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2010-07 approving the State Park Grant (Proposition 84) Application as recommended by Staff.

Discussion ensued regarding the amount of grant funds the City might get and the limitations that might be put on the plan; that the grant is competitive rather than formula based; the Grant application process; the grant timeline; that the City would have eight years to spend the grant funds; that there is an application fee of \$3,500; that once approved and funding is secured the construction could be completed in approximately nine months; and funding strategies for the project.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Herman and carried on the following vote:

AYES: Councilmember Charoen, Councilmember Herman, Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez, Mayor Shanahan, and Councilmember Waldman

NOES: None

- c) Provide direction on any proposed modifications that should be included in the final Master Plan and documents

Council Comments & Questions:

Discussion ensued regarding coordinating with the school districts and that it couldn't be accomplished prior to submittal of the grant application and if the Site Plan can be modified after receiving grant funds.

Public Input:

Chris Barnes, 4971 Berton Circle, addressed the City Council regarding her support for the Conceptual Site Plan; the need for fencing around the young children's play area; the potential of trees around the amphitheater blocking the view of performances; installing sinks by the barbeque and picnic areas; and partnering with the schools to make improvements such as ADA compliant walkways at Walker Junior High School.

Abe Waheed, 5271 Ivywood Drive, addressed the City Council regarding his support for this Conceptual Site Plan and suggested that the walking trail be constructed out of a product that is softer on the knees.

Richard Lutz, 8182 Bellhaven Street, addressed the City Council regarding his support for the Conceptual Site Plan; suggested switching the locations of the proposed meditation garden and young children's play area; not removing the restroom on the southwestern corner; and not installing trees at the Pavillion that would obstruct the public's site of performers.

City Manager Lazzaretto asked for clarification as to whether there are currently trees around the Pavillion.

Recreation and Community Services Director Hobson responded that there are currently large trees surrounding the Pavillion.

Sharon Gutjahr, 5489 Dirk Circle, addressed the City Council regarding her support for the Conceptual Site Plan; recommended that there be fencing around the young children's play area; the need for more covered shade areas for families; additional parking at El Rancho Verde Park; and moving the designated smoking area adjacent to Walker Street as to keep smokers away from the basketball courts and children.

John Alvis, 7902 Birchwood Circle, addressed the City Council regarding his support for the Conceptual Site Plan. He recommended having landscaping along the sides of the walkways; incorporating public art on the walking trail; and including Luther Elementary School into the sports field expansion plans.

Gerard Goedhart, 4922 Berton Circle, addressed the City Council regarding moving the designated smoking area adjacent to Walker Street as to keep smokers away from the basketball courts and children; concern that the exercise stations will not be fully utilized; including artwork in lieu of the exercise equipment; the water plaza increasing the City's liability risk; and fencing off the young children's play area.

Further discussion ensued regarding the need to make Phase Two the starting point of the Conceptual Site Plan; if the Tiny Tots program would be affected by the modifications; proposed controlled access entry ways; incorporation of resident suggestions into the plan; integrating art into the landscaping, view-scape, entryway, and benches; a public option to purchase artistic tiles to get the community involved; the possibility of retaining the restroom by the baseball diamond; how parking can be accommodated at El Rancho Verde Park; needing approval from Southern California Edison (SCE) prior to implementing parking at El Rancho Verde Park; inserting a crosswalk across Moody Street

to El Rancho Verde Park; making Central Park non-smoking; adding trees to the northern side of the proposed walking trail; proposed walking sessions taught by staff that includes the exercise stations; incorporating a bio-swail near the proposed water plaza; the cost involved in using a softer surface for the walking trail; the route of the walking trail; not making changes to the walking trail along Nelson Lane; picnic table areas being ADA compliant; the design features of the proposed Concept Plan being ADA compliant; culturally oriented program recommendations; how many of the current trees would remain; planting two trees for every one tree that is removed during the improvement process; incorporating garden features such as trellises or arbors along the walking trail; partnering with Luther Elementary School for a joint use agreement; consensus that no member of the City Council wants a designated smoking section close to the playing fields or where children play; installing multipurpose turf in the volley ball courts; reasons for moving the restroom; using the current gazebo design for new gazebos to keep historical value; and the City Council's overall support for the Conceptual Site Plan.

City Manager Lazzaretto read letters in support of the plan from Nitesh Patel, Community Activities and Beautification Committee Chairperson; and from Diane Scheerhorn, Centralia School District Superintendent.

COUNCILMEMBER AB1234 REPORTS, REPORTS FROM CITY-AFFILIATED COMMITTEES, AND COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilmember Waldman attended the Ground Water Replenishment System (GWRS) Environmental Replenishment Steering Committee meeting and the monthly Orange County Division League of California Cities (OCLOCC) meeting.

Councilmember Charoen had nothing to report.

Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez reported that he plans to attend the LOCC Policy Committee on Transportation, Public Works, and Telecommunications in Sacramento. He reported on the lockdown at Walker Junior High and John F. Kennedy High and asked if the City used the electronic readerboard for emergency notification.

City Manager Lazzaretto responded that the City did not use the readerboard for that incident, but announced that Staff is bringing forward a Readerboard Policy on February 16, 2010, to address this issue.

Councilmember Herman attended the Orange County Vector Control District (OCVCD) employee recognition breakfast; the Cypress School District school closure meeting; the volunteer recognition event for the Community Beautification Project at 8182 Santa Margarita Lane; the OCVCD Operations meeting. He announced that he plans to attend an upcoming OCVCD meeting and commented on the Friday Report regarding the City Yard Profile Reclassification. He closed by announcing the upcoming Water Rate Community meeting on February 9, 2010, and commented on the new Senior programs at Central Park.

Mayor Shanahan attended the volunteer recognition event for the Community Beautification Project at 8182 Santa Margarita Lane and the Cypress School District school closure meeting. He asked about plans to address the issues involved with the upcoming storms.

Public Works Director Moneda responded that sand bags will be available at the City Yard for all La Palma residents and the Public Works Department has been conducting site checks to mitigate flooding issues.

City Manager Lazzaretto reported that the readerboard will have a notice about available sand bags and that City Staff has filled sandbags for its infrastructure. He closed by noting that the upcoming rain may be beyond the design parameters of the City's infrastructure, but that City Staff will respond promptly to any flooding issues.

Mayor Shanahan noted his concerns for La Palma Intercommunity Hospital and local schools. He asked if those sites have a history of flooding.

Police Chief Ethell responded that major arterials have flooding issues until the storm drains can catch up to the inundated water flow and that this is to be anticipated. He added that neither the Hospital nor local schools have a history of flooding.

CITY MANAGER REMARKS

City Manager Lazaretto reported on the house fire on Bon Villa. He reminded the City Council of the Goal Setting Session on Monday, January 25, 2010, and announced the upcoming Chamber of Commerce breakfast at La Palma Intercommunity Hospital on January 20, at 7:00 a.m. He reported that upcoming Agenda Items would include the Pavement Management Plan and consideration of support for the LOCC's new initiative.

CITY ATTORNEY REMARKS

City Attorney Kuperberg had nothing to report.

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Shanahan recessed to a Closed Session at 9:47 p.m. pursuant to Government Code Section 54957: Public Employment: City Manager.

The City Council reconvened in Open Session at 9:50 p.m. with all members present and asked the City Attorney to report.

City Attorney Kuperberg reported that by unanimous vote the City Council has agreed to enter into negotiations for a new contract pursuant to Section 2.2 of the City's Employment Agreement with City Manager Lazzaretto and the City Council has appointed a subcommittee consisting of Mayor Shanahan and Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez to negotiate the terms of a new agreement.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Shanahan adjourned the Regular Meeting of the La Palma City Council at 9:51 p.m.

/s/

Steve Shanahan, Mayor

Attest:

/s/

Laurie A. Murray, City Clerk