



MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2007, 8:00 A. M.
CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM
245 E. BONITA AVE.

PRESENT:

Mayor Curtis W. Morris
Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Templeman
Councilmember Denis Bertone
Councilmember John Ebner
Councilmember F. D. "Sandy" McHenry

City Manager Michaelis
City Clerk Rios
Assistant City Manager of Community Development Stevens
Assistant City Manager Duran
Director of Development Services Coleman
Public Works Director Patel
Parks and Recreation Director Bruns

Supervisor Michael Antonovich
Chief Michael Freeman
Field Deputy Jay Gomez
Director of Parks and Recreation Russ Guiney
Sgt. L. A. Sheriff's Dept. Aide to the Supervisor John J. Shaughnessy
Transportation Deputy Michael Cano
Head, City Services Dave Pilker, P.E.
Planning Deputy Paul A. Novak, AICP
Susan Tae, Department of Regional Planning, Land Division Section
Deputy Susie Nemer
Chuck Gutierrez, Fire Department, Fleet Services
Assistant Chief Ron Watson
Lieutenant Gary Kimble
Anna Pembedjian, Justice Deputy

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Morris called the meeting to order at 8:08 a.m.

2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

(For anyone wishing to address the City Council on an item on the agenda. Under the provisions of the Brown Act, the legislative body is prohibited from taking or engaging in discussion on any item not appearing on the posted agenda. Speakers are limited to five (5) minutes.)

a. Members of the Audience

No one stepped forward to speak.

b. City representatives

There were no comments.

c. County representatives

There were no comments.

3. MEETING WITH SUPERVISOR ANTONOVICH

- a. City appreciation for County support and assistance for the Poison Oak Trail Funding (Regional Park and Open Space District 2006 Competitive Trails Grant Program). Appreciation for the new Sheriff's station and its positive contribution to the men and women of the Department, public and community. Request County support for San Dimas' MTA Call for Projects application to widen Foothill Boulevard across the San Dimas Wash channel near Walnut Avenue to improve pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicle safety.

Staff provided an overview of and expressed appreciation for the Poison Oak Trail funding and the new Sheriff's Station. Staff requested the Supervisor's support for the MTA project to widen Foothill Boulevard across the San Dimas Wash channel near Walnut Avenue to improve pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicle safety.

Supervisor Michael Antonovich stated he is happy to help and requested staff to come up with a priority list to get projects funded.

- b. Update/discussion status and process for the Vista Verde (Dentec) development proposal for the Walnut Creek area of the county.

Assistant City Manager Stevens reported that in December, 2006, the County Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on the revised Vista Verde 70-residential unit project with bridge connect to San Dimas Avenue. He said the Commission continued the meeting to March 2007 for technical review. Staff will contact the applicant to discuss the issues and staff will continue participation in the process.

Ms. Tae stated that the Commission expressed the need to address staff's concern and continued the public hearing to March.

Councilmembers expressed concerns with mass and bulk; the need for a bridge; density of the project; safety issues; and this piece of property is part of the proposed Significant Ecological Area.

1) **Julia Silva**, Attorney, stated the County Regional Planning supports the project and wants to work with the city to do what is best for the community. She suggested addressing safety and access issues and looks forward to meeting with Mr. Stevens.

2) **Unidentified young man** encouraged the concerned parties to continue talking to each other and work diligently to address the issues.

Mayor Morris stated that access is a serious issue. He said the previous owner refused participation in the design of the street, and as a result, the streets were not designed to handle traffic. He mentioned that is one reason for the public hearing to get public input and after a long process, the decision would be made by the Board.

3) **Pat Leeds** said the 35 Mesa Oaks residents support this project, and does not think the developer agreed to install sewers in Mesa Oaks. She said the City of San Dimas wants the project annexed into San Dimas. She felt the proposed development would add value to Mesa Oaks properties and the developer should be allowed to develop the 60 acres of land.

Mayor Morris said the easiest access is through Mesa Rica and people in that area are against having access.

Mary Burger is in favor of this project and felt it would enhance the value of the Via Verde community.

Mayor Pro Tem Templeman left the meeting at 8:51 p.m.

- c. Timetable for relocation of the helicopter for trauma patient transportation currently stationed at County Fire Station 64 (Walnut Avenue) near residential and business areas.

Fire Chief Freeman said they are committed to the timeline of Summer 2007 to relocate the trauma helicopter and should have an exact date by April 1, 2007. He expressed appreciation to the City of San Dimas for allowing them to stay at Station #64. He said the helicopter is conducting life saving missions and the San Dimas leadership helped save lives.

- d. Update/status – Cost of Sheriff Services Study – impact on Contract Cities and Independent Cities. Also, Status regarding the County's change in policy to apply financial liability to contract cities for Deputy sexual criminal conduct matters – settlements and costs.

Mayor Morris expressed a serious concern with a policy change from that of the Sheriffs paying out of the County fund for criminal conduct of Sheriffs to that of contract cities settling two cases. He said the Trust Fund meeting on the Oversight Committee discussed the final case and the Board of Supervisors ruled while the Sheriff's opposed. He said criminal acts are not part of the contract and he felt the cases should be considered. He felt it was a serious concern to have three retroactive funding after \$5 million in damages.

Unidentified Woman stated the Board became aware in June, 2006 of the sudden shift in practice by Sheriff's Department. She stated that the Board reviewed the contract, which was vague as it relates to settlements and proceeded with settlements for two of three cases from the County general fund; and at that time, instructed the CEO to notify Contract Cities that they no longer wished to continue this practice.

Mayor Morris stated he chairs the Claim Board Oversight Committee and agreed the contract assumption of liability is vague and needs resolving. He stated the liability was incurred approximately three years ago and the rules have been changed. He mentioned that Sheriff's Department and County Counsel assigned to the Oversight Committee is working well to report on risk management areas, and cost liabilities have dropped over the last five years.

- e. City update and status regarding equestrian fence and trail along San Dimas Avenue from Via Verde North to the 57 overpass.

City Manager Michaelis reported that the City took a brief analysis of fence materials and the recommendation from the engineer was to remove the fence and close the trail. Further instruction was to analyze the fence design to meet safety concerns. He said testing of different fence materials is nearly completed and staff hopes to present a report to the City Council in February and find a solution to address safety concerns and install the appropriate materials.

Councilmembers said the fence is designed to keep horses from the roadway and Council is committed to get the trail re-opened as quickly as possible, and as safe as it could be.

- f. Items of County interest or concern.

Supervisor Antonovich advised that as of January 7, 2007, first time violations on the car pool lane would cost \$168.50; and the second offense would double, the third would triple, the fourth quadruple; and the fifth would result in a suspended license. He mentioned that the sign has not been updated.

In response to Brock Wonders, Supervisor Antonovich said there are approximately two million legal people and said it costs the County Justice System approximately \$274 million per year for children of illegal immigrants. He further replied that a program called ICE at the county jail, trained by Homeland Security, involves deportation; however, Counties have no control over funding hospital and medical services.

Supervisor Antonovich reported that the recent budget included the creation of two programs: 1) a Graffiti abatement program and 2) a Nuisance Abatement Team. He said residents in the unincorporated areas could call 1-800-675-4357 to report graffiti and the goal is to remove graffiti within 48 hours, and if repeatedly tagged, staff would go out to meet with taggers. He mentioned that the Nuisance Abatement team would cover a broad area from La Verne to Glendale/Burbank to La Crescenta.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Members of the Audience

No public member came forward to speak.

- b. City representatives

Councilmembers thanked Supervisor Antonovich for meeting with Council and staff, and stated that he and his staff are very responsive and the city is fortunate to have the San Dimas Sheriff's Station, Captain Curtis and Lieutenant Kimble, and appreciates the great relationship with the County.

- c. County representatives

No comment.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Morris adjourned the meeting at 9:24 p.m. The next meeting of the City Council will be January 23, 2007, 7:00 pm Regular Session.

Mayor of the City of San Dimas

ATTEST:

City Clerk