



MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2008, 5:00 P. M.
CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM
245 E. BONITA AVE.

PRESENT:

Mayor Curtis W. Morris
Mayor Pro Tem Emmett G. Badar
Councilmember Denis Bertone
Councilmember John Ebner
Councilmember Jeff Templeman (Arrived at 5:13 p.m.)

City Manager Blaine Michaelis
City Attorney J. Kenneth Brown
City Clerk Ina Rios
Assistant City Manager of Community Development Larry Stevens
Assistant City Manager Ken Duran
Director of Public Works Krishna Patel
Parks and Recreation Director Theresa Bruns
Planning Manager Craig Hensley
Finance Manager Barbara Herron
Public Works Superintendent John Campbell

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Morris called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.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 will be subject to a three-minute limit.)

- a. Members of the Audience

There were no comments.

3. STUDY SESSION

- a. Discuss 2008-09 Budget for the City of San Dimas

City Manager Michaelis stated that Assistant City Manager Duran would provide an overview of the proposed Fiscal Year 08-09 budget; Public Works Director Patel would present a Powerpoint slide show regarding pavement management; Planning Manager Hensley would provide an update on the Walker House; and public comments would be heard.

General Fund:

Assistant City Manager Duran provided a brief overview of the proposed Fiscal Year 07-08 budget and said staff is anticipating impacts on the City's revenue based on take-aways from the State and the general state of the economy. He said the new revenue source from Costco has not been included in this fiscal year budget until first quarter revenues are projected. He indicated that a number of projects have been placed on a "hold list" that would be revisited in the Fall. Mr. Duran reviewed the general fund

expenditures and said there has been significant redevelopment housing set aside expenses with the Walker House renovation and housing programs. He pointed out noteworthy items such as the General Municipal Election; increased insurance costs due to an increase to the general liability pool; a 4.8% increase in Public Safety; and reduced contracted services due to anticipated reduction in building activity.

In response to Council, Mr. Duran outlined the Humane Society's proposed license fee increase and contract options. He said the Humane Society is undergoing major renovation and asking contract cities to participate.

It was the consensus of the City Council to bring back to the next meeting the contract and resolution for consideration.

Special Funds:

Mr. Duran highlighted the special funds, which are restricted for special projects. He stated that although projects are on hold, several significant projects are proposed, the biggest is the reconstruction of San Dimas Avenue, Foothill to Gladstone; and off-site street improvements.

Mr. Duran responded to Council's questions about the \$1.5 million in project holds and said by deferring some projects, it lessens the amount of loans the City makes to the Redevelopment Agency to fund projects, resulting in a cost savings to the general fund.

Mr. Duran mentioned that included in the Infrastructure fund is \$100,000 to move forward with the Puente sidewalk project. The Council discussed the Puente Sidewalk project and it was the consensus of the Council to bring back this item for consideration.

Mr. Duran said the last item is a request from the City Attorney for an increase in retainer rates. He stated that the last increase was approved two years ago and they have been slightly under CPI for the last two years.

It was the consensus of the City Council to bring back this item at the next meeting.

Councilmember Templeman inquired if the State does not take funds, would projects on "hold" be brought back for consideration. City Manager Michaelis said August is the time the State budget is anticipated to be approved. He said the "hold list" will be revisited in September to determine whether or not to move forward with any project.

Mr. Duran stated that a lot of projects are not affected by the time issue. He pointed out that anticipated loss of revenue from two State sources are not included in the proposed budget - Fund 72 Proposition A portion of sales tax and Fund 41 COPS Grant. If those funds are received, the budget will be amended.

Staff responded to Councilmember Templeman that if necessary, adjustment will be made to the budget to increase the contract amount to cover inspections; staff will look at alternative materials for the downtown wood sidewalks as part of the downtown planning process; and staff will develop a ten-year capital budget for necessary replacements.

Mayor Morris expressed concern with liability issues and the safety of citizens. He thought it would be worthwhile to maintain the wood sidewalks. Mr. Duran said money is available for sidewalk evaluation.

Mr. Duran added that the City Council approved the contract for the architect, and \$3 million has been set aside for the city hall renovation project.

Chamber of Commerce:

Councilmember Bertone stated he was elected to the Chamber Board and would not participate in discussions.

Rhonda Beltran, Chairperson, Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, thanked the City Council for their continued support and participation in the Chamber's activities. She stated that in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding, the Activities Report has been submitted for Fiscal Year 2007-08, and she respectfully requested \$50,000 to continue support to the business community and residents.

Ted Powl, CEO/President, Chamber of Commerce, highlighted the Chamber's activities report for the current budget year. He introduced Emmanuel Sidi, who will be working with the San Dimas Chamber of Commerce, and fellow student Alexandre Laugerotte, assigned to the La Verne Chamber of Commerce.

Public Works:

Director of Public Works Patel presented a Powerpoint slide show on Pavement Preservation and requested Council's support and approval to proceed with enhancing City streets and pursue the Annual Pavement Preservation program that entails the concept of "the right treatment of the right pavement at the right time". He indicated that the changes extend the life of the streets.

In response to Council, Director Patel explained the two-day process and cost of micro-surfacing. He said pavement deteriorates and the goal is to extend the life of the streets as well as the budget; all streets will be assessed.

In response to Mayor Morris, Mr. Patel expressed concern about longevity with rubberized asphalt and questioned the oil content.

RECESS

Mayor Morris recessed the study session at 6:52 to convene the regular City Council meeting. The study session was reconvened at 8:52 p.m.

Walker House:

Planning Manager Hensley reviewed final plans for the Walker House Landscape and responded to Council's questions regarding the handicap ramp; trellis costs; lighting; and security of the building.

Councilmember Templeman suggested using proximity readers at the elevators.

Mr. Hensley said if the City Council is supportive of the plans, the City Attorney can assist with the Contract Agreement.

Councilmember Bertone recommended staining versus painting of the patio.

Mr. Hensley further responded that only the Palm tree is being removed; everything else stays. He mentioned that the Historical Society prepared a brass plaque for the building and they are not part of the plan. He added that the grant for the irrigation system is not part of the plan tonight. Mr. Hensley suggested installing a walking path.

Director of Parks and Recreation Bruns said notification was received that the City received an award for the Brazilian tree in the front yard, as the most significant tree in the area.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Morris adjourned the study session at 9:16 p.m. to convene a City/Redevelopment closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8.

Respectfully submitted,

Ina Rios, CMC, City Clerk