



MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2014, 6:00 P. M.
SAN DIMAS COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CONFERENCE ROOM
245 E. BONITA AVENUE

PRESENT:

Mayor Curtis W. Morris
Mayor Pro Tem John Ebner
Councilmember Emmett Badar
Councilmember Denis Bertone
Councilmember Jeff Templeman

City Manager Blaine Michaelis
Assistant City Manager Ken Duran
City Attorney Mark Steres
Assistant City Manager for Community Development Larry Stevens
Director of Public Works Krishna Patel
Director of Parks and Recreation Theresa Bruns

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Morris called the Special City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

a. Members of the Audience

Mayor Morris acknowledged that there were a number of audience members present, mostly businesses owners of businesses in the downtown. He commented that he would be looking for their feedback during the discussion items this evening.

3. Preliminary Review of Downtown lighting options – focusing on tree trunks, roofline/architectural outline lighting, power availability etc.

Mr. Stevens explained that at a previous study session the City Council had asked staff to bring back additional information regarding the options for providing lighting of street trees and roofline lighting in the downtown. Mr. Stevens explained information that had been gathered from contacting the City of La Verne and reports from the City's lighting consultant and a separate quote received by the downtown merchants from a lighting company. Mr. Stevens explained the current availability of power, needs for additional power, options for styles and various costs associated with lighting the parkway trees.

Mr. Stevens described a proposal the downtown merchants had received for the lighting of the rooflines of the businesses. Pat Mayers clarified that the bid assumed that the merchants would provide and pay for the power for the lights.

Mr. Stevens summarized that the preliminary cost for the tree lighting would be \$45,000 - \$60,000 for the installation. The Council asked questions regarding the details of the options.

In response to a question from a member of the audience, Mayor Morris commented that the main objective in adding the lights is to create a charm to the downtown and not necessarily for businesses to be open at night. The Council discussed the two lighting ideas.

Councilman Templeman asked if the cost could be paid for from the City's Lighting Fund. Mr. Steres replied that he would have to research the matter.

In response to question Mr. Stevens responded that if the Council supports tree lighting staff would recommend wrapping the trees as opposed to up lighting.

Mayor Morris asked for feedback from the merchants present. Karol Curtis, expressed concern with roofline lighting, she felt that it may look hodge podge if all the merchants didn't participate. Craig Johnson commented that he would like lighting the trees, but not wrapping them rather run them vertical. A merchant comment that the trees in front of her business are on private property and would they be included. Mr. Stevens responded that they were not included in the proposal and doing the work on private property would be more difficult.

It was the consensus of the Council that they support the city paying for lighting the parkway trees with lights mounted in a vertical fashion. They suggested continuing to explore the roofline lighting with the merchants if they are willing to pay for the installation.

4. Discussion of petition requesting City to revise zoning standards to maintain first floor for retail space and/or establish limitations on personal service businesses

Mr. Stevens commented that the City received a petition from some of the downtown merchants concerned with the potential loss of retail space to service use with the proposed conversion of a beauty supply store to a beauty salon. Mr. Stevens added that the current zoning CG 2, allows for both retail and service as permitted use. He added the only restriction is for office use on the 1st floor. He further added that any change is allowable uses would have to go through a zone change process.

Councilman Templeman commented that he has heard on several occasions from experts that there is a need for a mix of retail and service businesses because of the changing shopping center environment and would not be in favor of changing regulations.

The proposed new owners of the beauty salon and barber shop explained their proposed business and commented on the amount of foot traffic a salon would generate.

One of the merchants commented on the amount of capital it takes to open up a new retail business.

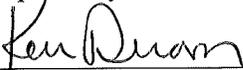
It was the consensus of the Council to leave the zoning as it is for now. Mr. Stevens commented that the City may be receiving a grant that could be used to revisit the downtown planning review that was initiated a few years back.

Mayor Morris commented that Council needs to adjourn the Study Session for its regular scheduled meeting. He suggested that because of the interest by the merchants that another study session be scheduled at an undetermined future date to discuss the rest of the items on the agenda.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The Study Session adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ken Duran, City Clerk