



**CITY OF NORCO  
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, March 4, 2015  
City Council Chambers, 2820 Clark Avenue, Norco, CA 92860**

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**CALL TO ORDER:** 5:35 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Herb Higgins, Mayor, **Present**  
Kevin Bash, Mayor Pro Tem, **Present**  
Kathy Azevedo, Council Member, **Present**  
Berwin Hanna, Council Member, **Present**  
Greg Newton, Council Member, **Present**

**CLOSED SESSION:**

§54956.9(c) – Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation:  
Six Potential Cases

**RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION:** 7:15 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Council Member Berwin Hanna

**REPORT OF ACTION(S) TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION (§54957.1):** (City Attorney)

City Attorney John Harper stated that there is no reportable action from Closed Session.

**INVOCATION:** Pastor Louie Monteith, Calvary Chapel Norco

**RECOGNITIONS:** Norco College – 2015 Bellwether Award for Summer Advantage Program

Mayor Higgins presented a certificate to Dr. Paul Parnell of Norco College for the great distinction of receiving the 2015 Bellwether Award. Also recognized, on behalf of Dr. Michael Lin and staff, was Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Support Michael Cobarrubias for Corona-Norco Unified School District's involvement in the Summer Advantage Program at Norco College.

**PRESENTATIONS:** Horsetown USA Hall of Fame

Stacey Turner, President of Norco Horsetown USA Hall of Fame, thanked the City Council for their support. Ms. Turner specifically thanked Council Member Kathy Azevedo for her participation in the Induction Ceremony and presented her with a gift of appreciation.

**CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS / REPORTS ON REGIONAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Mayor Pro Tem Bash:

- Attended a Riverside Conservation Authority meeting. The meeting included discussion on mitigation of natural resources to create interlocking properties.
- Attended a meeting with the Navy to discuss the Navy's Photovoltaic Project, changes to Building 501 to accommodate a Blimpie Sandwich shop, and other building renovations. Commented on the Navy's open house on Saturday, March 7, 2015, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. to allow the public to obtain information about the Photovoltaic Project.

Council Member Hanna:

- Attended a Riverside Transit Agency (RTA) meeting. RTA added a bus line at Tom's Farms.
- Attended a Vector Control meeting and discussion included the recent influx of mosquitos due to rain and warm weather.

Council Member Newton:

- Attended a Chino Basin Desalter Authority meeting on Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, which included action on the reconciliation of allocation of costs for fiscal year 2013/2014. The Board approved a refund of overpayment of \$86,706. Provided update on the micro tunneling project under the Santa Ana River. The project delay was determined to be due to a failure of bridges built in 1939 and 1940.

Council Member Azevedo:

- Attended the UNITY meeting on Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Attended a Western Riverside County of Governments (WRCOG) meeting in which updates on CEQA reforms and TUMF projects were provided as well as information on a senate bill that will make changes to Charter cities.

Mayor Higgins:

- No report given.

2. CITY COUNCIL CONSENT ITEMS:

Council Member Newton pulled item 2.C. and Mayor Pro Tem Bash pulled item 2.E.

**M/S AZEVEDO/BASH to approve the remaining Consent Calendar items as recommended. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:**

**AYES: AZEVEDO, BASH, HANNA, HIGGINS, NEWTON**

**NOES: NONE**

**ABSENT: NONE**

**ABSTAIN: NONE**

- A. City Council Minutes: Regular Meeting of February 18, 2015. **Action: Approved the City Council regular meeting minutes.** (City Clerk)
- B. Procedural Step to Approve Ordinance after Reading of Title Only. **Action: Approved** (City Clerk)
- C. Annual Resolution Making Findings and Continuing Existing Rates for Maintaining Flood Control Channels within County Service Area CSA-152. **Pulled for discussion.** (City Manager)
- D. 2015 Vacant Parcel Spring Weed Abatement Program. **Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2015-07, declaring that weeds and hazardous vegetation, on or in front of vacant property in the City of Norco, constitute a public nuisance, declaring the City's intent to provide for abatement and setting a public hearing.** (Division Fire Chief)
- E. Dedication of Field 6 at Wayne Makin Sports Complex in Honor of Rex and Pat Cooter. **Pulled for discussion.** (Deputy City Manager/Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services)
- F. Authorization to Enter Into a Five-Year Lease with Konica/Minolta for Nine Digital Multi-Function Devices. **Action: Authorized staff to enter into a five-year lease agreement with Konica/Minolta for five model Bizhub C224e, two model Bizhub C454e, and two model Bizhub C654e digital multi-function devices.** (Information Technology Consultant)

3. ITEM(S) PULLED FROM CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

- 2.C. Annual Resolution Making Findings and Continuing Existing Rates for Maintaining Flood Control Channels within County Service Area CSA-152. (City Manager)

Council Member Newton referenced Section 5 and asked that if there was enough money for drainage improvements and permit compliance could the money be used for street repairs, water repairs, and flood control. In response, City Manager Okoro indicated that the funds are strictly for NPDES compliance.

**M/S NEWTON/HANNA to adopt Resolution No. 2015-06, making findings and continuing existing rates for maintaining flood control channels within County Service Area CSA-152. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:**

**AYES: AZEVEDO, BASH, HANNA, HIGGINS, NEWTON**  
**NOES: NONE**  
**ABSENT: NONE**  
**ABSTAIN: NONE**

- 2.E. Dedication of Field 6 at Wayne Makin Sports Complex in Honor of Rex and Pat Cooter. (Deputy City Manager/Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services)

Mayor Pro Tem Bash commented on youth sports in Norco and its influence regionally and nationally. He credited Rex and Pat Cooter for their dedication and for touching the lives of many Norco youth.

**M/S BASH/AZEVEDO to approve the Field 6 dedication at Wayne Makin Sports Complex in honor of Rex and Pat Cooter. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:**

**AYES: AZEVEDO, BASH, HANNA, HIGGINS, NEWTON**  
**NOES: NONE**  
**ABSENT: NONE**  
**ABSTAIN: NONE**

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ted Hoffman thanked the Council for scheduling a meeting of the Business Process Advisory Group to discuss Code Enforcement procedures. Mr. Hoffman also commented on a call he placed to the City's after hours telephone service on Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup> regarding a signal light out on Hidden Valley Parkway. He said that the person he spoke with lacked customer service skills and asked the City to follow up.

Geoff Kahan spoke on behalf of John Sears and the 3 Mules. Mr. Sears and his mules travel around the country to spread the word about the importance of open space and

establishing a statewide trail system. Mr. Kahan read Mr. Sears' "Declaration of Emergency."

5. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

- A. Approval of Sixth Street Electronic Gateway Sign Design and Contract.  
(Economic Development Consultant)

Economic Development Consultant Roger Grody indicated that at this time, staff is requesting that the City Council continue this item to a date uncertain to provide staff additional time to finalize the terms of the contract.

**M/S BASH/HIGGINS to continue this item to a date uncertain. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:**

**AYES: AZEVEDO, BASH, HANNA, HIGGINS, NEWTON**

**NOES: NONE**

**ABSENT: NONE**

**ABSTAIN: NONE**

6. CITY COUNCIL / CITY MANAGER / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

Council Member Hanna inquired about a fire hydrant on Seventh Street and Corona Avenue, which has a black bag covering it. In response, Director of Public Works Lori Askew indicated that staff is waiting for a part and that she will follow up on the progress. Council Member Hanna also asked about the Third Street project bid. Director Askew stated that the bid has been out for two weeks. Council Member Hanna commented on an upcoming meeting with the Lighthouse Men of Australia.

Council Member Newton asked if the Council would be receiving a revised schedule on CIP projects. In response, City Manager Okoro indicated that he sent a revised schedule to the Council approximately three weeks ago. Council Member Newton stated that the schedule is in need of more revisions on the dates.

Council Member Newton also referenced the Caliber invoices he requested and received regarding the Corona Avenue encroachments. He stated that there wasn't sufficient back up and requested more detail on the charges.

Council Member Azevedo commented on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Norco Film Festival and thanked Mayor Pro Tem Bash for his work on the event which raised over \$11,000 for Norco High School scholarships.

Mayor Higgins also commented on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Norco Film Festival and the impact that the speakers had on the Norco High School students.

Council Member Hanna thanked Lt. Briddick for his department's work with recent traffic enforcement.

Deputy City Manager/Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Brian Petree commented on Norco Girls Softball League Opening Day ceremony on Saturday, March 7, 2015 at Wayne Makin Sports Complex.

Council Member Newton asked Lt. Briddick to comment on the recent neighborhood watch meeting. The Lieutenant reported that meeting addressed quality of life issues such as noise and homelessness. The meeting also educated residents on the impacts of crime. Lt. Briddick noted that neighborhood watch meetings enhance communication between law enforcement and residents and encourage residents to attend future meetings.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Higgins adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

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Cheryl L. Link, CMC, City Clerk