



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

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

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**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:04 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**

The City Council will recess to Closed Session (Section 54954) to consider the following matter:

**CLOSED SESSION:**

**§54956.9(c) – Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation  
One Case**

**RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION:** 7:00 p.m.

**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.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Pro Tem Bash

**INVOCATION:** Pastor Rene Parish, Beacon Hill Assembly of God

**PRESENTATIONS:** Jim Burdett, California High School Rodeo Association

Mr. Burdett was unable to attend. The presentation will be scheduled for a future date.

Annalynn Neve-Wiltjer, American Cancer Society

On behalf of Norco Horseweek, and the Green Family, Mr. Tony Barreto presented the City Council with a check for the Seniors and Pets program in the amount of \$4,750. Also, on behalf of Mr. John Opitz of Full Service, the Green Family, and Norco Horseweek, Mr. Barreto presented the City Council with a check for the Senior Center in the amount of \$14,000.

**CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS AS FOLLOWS:**

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

Mayor Pro Tem Bash:

- Attended STAR meeting and complimented Deputy City Manager Brian Petree and Recreation Supervisor Peggy Calvert for their work at the Senior Center.
- Attended UNLOAD meeting and noted that he will be taking over the responsibilities held by Council Member Azevedo on the Committee.
- Commented that he is organizing for veterans to speak at Norco High School to share their experiences.
- Commented on Measure X regarding the proposed homes to be built near Hidden Valley/La Sierra area.
- Commented on the Veterans Day event at the George Ingalls Veterans Memorial on Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.
- Commented on the upcoming Film Festival in February 2016. Burt Ward, who played Robin on the Batman television series will be the guest speaker.

Council Member Hanna:

- Council Member Hanna read a statement from the Northwest Mosquito Abatement and Vector Control District regarding the West Virus and ongoing treatments throughout the County. Of the 79 reported cases in Riverside County, 4 confirmed cases are in Norco.

Council Member Newton:

- No report given.

Council Member Azevedo:

- Attended the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) meeting on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The HERO Program has now moved to 279 cities outside of Riverside County and is the largest program in the country. Due to the success of the HERO Program, Council Member Azevedo reported that Norco will be receiving approximately \$38,000. Council Member Azevedo also noted that the Riverside Habitat Conservation Agency will merge with WRCOG.
- Commented on the WRCOG LED Christmas lights exchange program in which residents can turn in their old lights and receive up to two free sets of energy efficient LED Christmas lights. The program will be held in Eastvale this year. More information is on the WRCOG website.
- Attended the UNLOAD meeting. Council Member Azevedo requested that the Lieutenant discuss the UNLOAD program for high school students at the next Town Hall meeting and invite the Principal of Norco High School.
- Commented on the \$5,000 donation from Lucas Oil for the Parade of Lights and Winter Festival.

Mayor Higgins:

- No report given

2. CITY COUNCIL CONSENT ITEMS:

Mayor Pro Tem Bash pulled item 2.C.

**M/S BASH/NEWTON 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 Regular Meeting Minutes of October 21, 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. Recap of Actions Taken by the Planning Commission at its Meeting Held on October 28, 2015. **Pulled for discussion.** (Planning Director)
  - D. Approval of Reclassification of Computer Information Systems Technician from Part-Time to Full-Time. **Action: Approved reclassification of Computer Information Systems (CIS) Technician from part-time to full-time.** (City Manager)
  - E. Resolution Accepting a Grant in the Amount of \$4,512 from the Fiscal Year 2015 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) to Continue the Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program. **Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2015-66, accepting the SHSP funds in the amount of \$4,512** (Fire Chief)
3. ITEM(S) PULLED FROM CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR
- 2.C. Recap of Actions Taken by the Planning Commission at its Meeting Held on October 28, 2015. (Planning Director)

Mayor Higgins requested to agendaize items 5.C. and 5.D. from the Planning Commission Recap for the Council meeting on December 2, 2015.

**M/S HANNA/BASH to agendaize Planning Commission item 5.C. for the Council meeting of December 2, 2015. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:**

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

**M/S HIGGINS/NEWTON to agendaize Planning Commission item 5.D. for the Council meeting of December 2, 2015. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:**

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

**M/S HIGGINS/NEWTON to receive and file the remaining items on the recap of the actions taken by the Planning Commission at its meeting held on October 28, 2015. 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:

Kathy Thistlewaite thanked the City Council for the white vinyl fencing being installed. Ms. Thistlewaite commented that the new fencing is much more visible

Ted Hoffman commented on the Riverside County Sheriff's K-9 Trials event Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at Ingalls Park.

Geoff Kahan commented on the Veterans Day event at the George Ingalls Veterans Memorial Plaza on Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. There will be a flag retirement ceremony and interactive participation for all veterans in attendance. Mr. Kahan also commented that Mr. Glenn Hedges has fallen ill and asked all to keep him in thoughts and prayers.

Amy Pierceall shared her experiences about being a member of this community. She also expressed her concern that Norco's lifestyle is in jeopardy. Ms. Pierceall said she is now certified with the County of Riverside Registrar of Voters Office to run voter registration drives. She asked for assistance in getting the community interested in local government and voting.

5. DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS:

- A. Approval of Renaming Horsetown Parade of Lights and Winter Festival to Horsetown Parade of Lights and Christmas Festival. (Deputy City Manager)

Deputy City Manager Petree reported that this year marks the 11<sup>th</sup> year of the Horsetown Parade of Lights and Winter Festival as a City sponsored community event. At the October 27, 2015 Horsetown Parade of Lights and Winter Festival planning meeting, Chairman Kahan brought forward the discussion of changing the name of Horsetown Parade of Lights and Winter Festival to include the word "Christmas." After discussion, a motion was made and passed with a majority in favor of renaming the event to Horsetown Parade of Lights and Christmas Festival. Information was gathered on Southern California cities holiday event names. Of the 104 cities identified, 50 use the word "Christmas," 33 use "Holiday," 14 use variation of "Parade of Lights," and a few use "Santa." The Parade of Lights Committee was supportive in changing the event name.

Council Member Azevedo expressed concern about the legal technicalities. City Attorney Harper indicated that he cannot guarantee that the City would not be challenged.

The following speakers commented in support of the recommendation:

Larry Eckhoff:  
Pat Overstreet  
Rose Eldridge  
Geoff Kahan  
Glenroy Franklin

**M/S BASH/HANNA to approve renaming Horsetown Parade of Lights and Winter Festival to Horsetown Parade of Lights and Christmas Festival. 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:

Mayor Pro Tem Bash requested an update on the Lake Norconian Club Foundation's lawsuit against the State of California.

**M/S BASH/HIGGINS to agendaize a status update regarding the Lake Norconian Club Foundation's lawsuit against the State of California. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:**

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

**NOES: NONE**

**ABSENT: NONE**

**ABSTAIN: NONE**

Mayor Pro Tem Bash commented that this year, not all slots for the military banner program were filled. He suggested that when this happens to fill the empty slots with banners for Norconians such as George Ingalls.

**M/S BASH/HIGGINS to direct the Veterans Memorial Committee to discuss options and criteria for filling empty slots for the Military Banner Program. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:**

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

**NOES: NONE**

**ABSENT: NONE**

**ABSTAIN: NONE**

Council Member Azevedo thanked CalFire for the t-shirt she received with the wording, "CalFire Supports Breast Cancer Awareness Month." Council Member Azevedo also commented on the Norco High School football game tomorrow night versus Centennial High School.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mayor Higgins adjourned the meeting at 7:57pm

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Cheryl L. Link, CMC  
City Clerk