



MINUTES
CITY OF NORCO
CITY COUNCIL/COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 2820 CLARK AVENUE
APRIL 15, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Azevedo called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Kathy Azevedo, **Present**
Mayor Pro Tem Malcolm Miller, **Present**
Council Member Frank Hall, **Present**
Council Member Berwin Hanna, **Present**
Council Member Richard L. MacGregor, **Present**

Staff Present – Allred, Cooper, Frye, Jacobs, Okoro, Oulman, Petree and Thompson

City Attorney Harper – **Present**

THE CITY COUNCIL/CRA RECESSED TO CLOSED SESSION (SECTION 54954) TO CONSIDER MATTERS:

Section 54957.6 – Conference with Labor Negotiator

Negotiating Parties: City Manager Allred and Director of Fiscal & Support Services Okoro

Employee Organization: Norco Firefighters Association
Norco Battalion Chiefs Association
Norco General Employees Association
Norco Public Works & Parks Maintenance Workers Association

RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION: With no Closed Session Items to report, Mayor Azevedo reconvened the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council Member MacGregor

INVOCATION: Pastor Vernie Fletcher
Grace Fellowship Church

PRESENTATIONS: **Norco Chamber of Commerce 2008 Civic Awards**

Woman of the Year – Velma Hickey (Ms. Hickey was unable to attend the meeting)
Man of the Year – Pastor Vernie Fletcher
Award of Merit – Dick White

**Norco 2009 Horseweek Royalty
An Introduction was made by Taylor Miller,
Director of the Horseweek Queen competition,
followed by self introductions:**

*Queen Danelle Saenz
3rd Princess Chelsie Moore
1st Princess Becky Pace*

PROCLAMATION: Mental Health Month – May 2009

REGULAR COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CRA) AGENDA AS FOLLOWS:

**M/S Hall/Miller to approve the item as recommended on the CRA Consent Calendar.
The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:**

**AYES: AZEVEDO, HALL, HANNA, MACGREGOR, MILLER
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE**

1. CRA CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

- A. CRA Minutes, Regular Meeting of April 1, 2009. **Recommended Action: Approve the CRA Minutes.** (City Clerk)
- B. Application to the Riverside County Economic Development Agency for Funding Under the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. **Recommended Action: Adopt CRA Resolution No. 2009-06.** (Housing Manager)

2. CRA CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING:

- A. Amendment to the Fiscal Years 2009-2013 Norco Redevelopment Agency Capital Improvement Program Budget for Right-of-Way Acquisition and Public Improvements in Connection with a 2005 Purchase and Sale Agreement with Dennis D. Jacobsen Family Holdings, LLC and Realty Bancorp Equities TLG, LLC

Recommended Action: Cancel the public hearing as negotiations are still in process. (Director of Economic Development)

M/S Miller/Hanna to cancel the CRA public hearing. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

**AYES: AZEVEDO, HALL, HANNA, MACGREGOR, MILLER
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE**

3. OTHER CRA MATTERS: No Other CRA Matters

ADJOURNMENT OF CRA: 7:24 p.m.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AGENDA AS FOLLOWS:

M/S Hanna/MacGregor to approve the items as recommended on the City Council Consent Calendar. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: AZEVEDO, HALL, HANNA, MACGREGOR, MILLER

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

4. CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

A. City Council Minutes, Regular Meeting of April 1, 2009. **Recommended Action: Approve the City Council Minutes.** (City Clerk)

B. Project Status Update for Wyle Laboratories Norco Facilities Site. **Recommended Action: Receive and File.** (City Manager)

C. **Ordinance No. 910, Second Reading.** A City-Initiated Proposal to Add Title 20, Cultural Resources, to the Norco Municipal Code -- Code Amendment 2009-05. **Recommended Action: Adopt Ordinance No. 910.** (City Clerk)

D. 2009 Vacant Parcel Spring Weed Abatement Program. **Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution No. 2009-16, setting the public hearing for June 3, 2009.** (Fire Chief)

E. Approval of Quarterly Investment Report for Quarter Ended March 31, 2009. **Recommended Action: Receive and File.** (Director of Fiscal and Support Services)

F. Annual Adoption of City Investment Policy. **Recommended Action: Approve and Adopt Investment Policy with modification.** (Director of Fiscal and Support Services)

G. Making Findings and Continuing Existing Rates for Maintaining Flood Control Channels within County Service Area CSA-152. **Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution No. 2009-17.** (Director of Fiscal and Support Services)

- H. Professional Services Agreement with RHA Landscape Architects Planners, Inc. of Riverside, California for Professional Design, Construction Documents and Planning Services Related to the Wayne Makin Sports Complex Lighting and Irrigation Project. **Recommended Action: Approve the Professional Services Agreement with RHA Landscape Architects Planners, Inc. in the amount of \$75,270 and authorize the City Manager to approve change orders up to 10% of the contract.** (Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services)
- I. Action Minutes for Planning Commission Meeting of April 8, 2009. **Recommended Action: Receive and File.** (Planning Manager)

5. CITY COUNCIL ITEMS FOR ACTION:

- A. Sheriff's Department Annual Report for 2008

The City Council's actions to increase law enforcement staffing in recent years has significantly improved safety and the quality of life in Norco. More criminals were arrested in 2006 and 2007 than in any other two-year period. As a result, only once in the last 20 years has property crime been as low as in 2008; violent crime has never been this low.

- *Since 2005, crime has decreased by 30% and arrests have increased by 16%.*
- *Traffic safety has significantly increased; there were fewer fatal, injury, and non-injury collisions in 2008 than in any of the prior 10 years. Grant funding has been used to target alcohol and drug impaired drivers and to add two motor officers; traffic enforcement time has almost doubled and citations issued more than doubled from 3,595 in 2005 to 7,339 in 2008.*
- *The goal to reduce emergency response times has been achieved in 2008. Deputies arrived at high-priority calls for service in less than 5 minutes; 15% more quickly than they did in 2005.*

Today, citizens in Norco are less likely to be crime victims or traffic accident victims than they have been at any other time in recent history.

Recommended Action: Receive and File. (Lt. Cooper)

Lt. Cooper presented the Council Item, displaying the slides on the screen that were included with the staff report. Lt. Cooper noted that Norco is trying to identify the repeat drunk drivers and requested a list of those repeat drunk drivers that live in Norco (23-plus currently identified in Norco) from the DMV. These violators are assigned to various deputies who watch and keep track of them on the roads. Lt. Cooper stated that the California Office of Safety has funded many of the programs in Norco. Lt. Cooper further noted that crime rates typically increase with a downturn in the economy.

Lt. Cooper stated that two or three times a year, the Norco Sheriff Department enlists volunteers to ride a horse across streets marked for equestrian crossing in order to educate the community regarding the safety involved in this type of street crossing.

In summary, Lt. Cooper noted the following:

- **Future response time challenges might be mitigated by offering office space to County deputies;**
- **Facility improvement needs can be funded through the Redevelopment Agency;**
- **Traffic safety challenges can be met with aggressive targeted enforcement while using grants to help fund programs that emphasize arresting impaired and repeat DUI drivers;**
- **Youth access to alcohol challenges will continue to be addressed through UNLOAD, education and enforcement; and**
- **The Norco Sheriff Department will continue to attempt to meet increased staffing needs through grant funded programs.**

Council Member Hall congratulated Lt. Cooper on a great report and encouraged him to keep up the great work.

Mayor Pro Tem Miller commended Lt. Cooper on the dedication of the Norco Sheriff Department deputies. He further complemented Lt. Cooper on the positive statistics for the Norco Sheriff's Department in light of this economy. In response to Mayor Pro Tem Miller's question regarding the cost differential between an in-house or contract police department, the City Manager stated that he is familiar with other cities that currently have an in-house police department and their budgets are at least \$10 million compared to the City of Norco's budget of \$5 million for contracting through the Riverside County Sheriff Department.

Council Member MacGregor congratulated all members of the Norco Sheriff Department for an outstanding job and referred to them as Norco's own. He stated that he has heard very positive comments on the department and is glad that the average speed in Norco has decreased.

Council Member Hanna congratulated the Norco Sheriff Department for doing a great job and for being very visible in the community.

Mayor Azevedo concurred with other Council Members. She also thanked Lt. Cooper for his services with the UNLOAD Committee. Mayor Azevedo further noted that it is rewarding to work with Lt. Cooper on that committee.

M/S Miller/MacGregor to receive and file the Sheriff's Department Annual Report for 2008. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: AZEVEDO, HALL, HANNA, MACGREGOR, MILLER
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE

B. Agreement for Law Enforcement Services

This agreement extends for five years the current arrangement where the Sheriff's Department provides policing services in Norco.

Recommended Action: Authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement. (Lt. Cooper)

Lt. Cooper presented the Council Item and stated that the only change to the agreement from 5 years ago is that Norco is now a Charter City. City Manager Allred added that we also have two rate-supported sergeants assigned to Norco that are not included in Exhibit "A".

M/S Hanna/MacGregor to authorize the Mayor to sign the Agreement for Law Enforcement Services. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: AZEVEDO, HALL, HANNA, MACGREGOR, MILLER
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE

6. ITEMS PULLED FROM CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR: No Items Pulled from the City Council Consent Calendar

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS:

Pat Overstreet, 1231 Corona. Ms. Overstreet wanted to take this opportunity to promote the Ranch Tour, which will be held on May 30th. She also thanked Lt. Cooper for the fine job the Norco Sheriff Department is doing.

Harvey Sullivan, 4561 Hillside. Mr. Sullivan apologized for naming names of people at the last Council meeting, when he stated staff positions he wanted to be eliminated. In response to his question regarding code compliance staff, Mayor Azevedo stated that the Fire Chief handles code compliance. City Manager Allred added that the City has a decentralized code compliance process coordinated by the Fire Chief and assisted by the Fire Prevention Specialist.

Tom Willison, 641 Bridle. Mr. Willison reported on Casino Night and stated that it was a successful night due to everyone in this town coming together realizing that the FFA is a very important program in Norco. He also thanked the City for being involved in Casino Night and presented a plaque to the Council acknowledging their participation.

8. OTHER MATTERS - COUNCIL OR STAFF:

- Director Thompson noted that Crestview Drive opened on Wednesday, April 14th at 3:30 p.m. and it appears that all is functioning well. City Manager Allred added that there is going to be a button-activated switch at the equestrian crossing on Crestview, just south of Sixth Street, for horseback riders to activate the stop light. Mayor Azevedo suggested getting the rocks moved closer together to force the riders to cross at the stop light. Council Member Hanna noted that it is a safe crossing now.
- Director Petree stated that the City has been working with the Horseweek Committee on traffic control during the events (an exhibit was passed out identifying the process). A permanent sign has been placed at the intersection of Crestview and VanderMolen noting that the street will be closed during special events. A sign will be placed at the intersection of California and Buckskin stating that it will be closed to through traffic and residents only will be allowed through (manned intersection). Mayor Azevedo confirmed with Chief Frye that the Fire Department would have access to all the streets. Council Member Hall confirmed that this same traffic control set up would not be for individual horse shows and Director Petree noted that they would not warrant this type of traffic plan. Mayor Pro Tem Miller inquired if the aerial picture was recent and if it correctly showed the pad for the future second arena at Ingalls Park. Director Petree confirmed that it is the new pad shown on the aerial. Director Thompson noted that this aerial is not current (at least two months old) and does not correctly display the new Crestview alignment.
- Director Petree stated that the City has a new partnership with Priefert Ranch Equipment, as they have donated an approved PRCA pen to be used at Norco's rodeos. He further noted that Priefert will provide Norco with a new pen every other year.
- Mayor Pro Tem Miller requested that Director Oulman explain the informational signs along the 15 Freeway as noted in the department's Monthly Progress Report. Director Oulman noted that staff had met with a company that promotes the use of multi-media pylon signs. These signs are custom state-of-the-art signage that provides leading edge displays that greatly enhance public awareness of the community. Director Oulman noted that these signs can be owned by the Redevelopment Agency and could generate funds to the City. In response to Mayor Pro Tem Miller's question, Director Oulman confirmed that the signs would be constructed at no cost to the City.
- Mayor Pro Tem Miller asked Director Petree if the City would be implementing means to reduce energy costs relative to any of its upcoming projects. Director Petree stated that the Scout House project would only include fixing some structural issues and adding an accessible walkway. He also stated that solar panels and use of energy efficient lighting (inside and outside) would be implemented throughout the Animal Control building project. Mayor Pro Tem Miller noted that Southern California Edison performed a before-and-after audit at Heritage Park, where they also received a rebate from Edison. He stated that the City should take advantage of these incentives.

- Council Member Hall stated that he will be going to Sacramento to attend a League of California Cities Board Meeting. He noted that the League is taking the stand in support of all of the propositions that have been placed on the upcoming election ballot, not because they like what is being proposed, but because they are aware what will happen to the State if these propositions do not pass. Council Member Hall noted that the City of Norco has not taken a stand on these propositions and suggests that it not take a stand on them. He also stated that the City of Norco just sent a letter opposing AB155, which would require local agencies contemplating bankruptcy to first obtain approval from the California Debt and Investment Advisory Committee before filing for bankruptcy.
- Mayor Azevedo stated that prior to appointing a task force to study funding options for the Moreno Arena, she has asked Director Petree to confer with the Parks & Recreation Commission and the leaders of the local horse show clubs who use the arena. Following those discussions, the Council can consider the formulation of the Task Force. She also wanted to remind everyone that on May 5th, the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner is being held at Nellie Weaver Hall.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Azevedo adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m. in honor of Ron Miller, Freddie Miller's husband, to May 6, 2009 at 4:00 p.m., in the City Council Chambers, to discuss the Fiscal Year 2010 City and Norco Redevelopment Agency Operating and Capital Improvement Program Budgets.

BRENDA K. JACOBS
CITY CLERK