



**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF NORCO**  
STREETS, TRAILS AND UTILITIES COMMISSION MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 2820 CLARK AVENUE  
JUNE 1, 2009

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1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Showalter called meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL: Commissioners Present: Showalter, Mauro, Walker, Hedges, Burt  
  
Commissioners Absent: Hickey, Hutnik, Turpin
3. STAFF PRESENT: Bill Thompson, Director of Public Works  
Rose Matthews, Executive Secretary  
Terry Piorkowski, Public Works Supervisor
4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Walker
5. PUBLIC COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS:
6. TO BE READ BY THE CHAIR: “All discretionary actions before the Streets, Trails and Utilities Commission are advisory in nature and final actions will be confirmed, modified, or deleted by the City Council.”
7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
  - A. May 4, 2009

M/S Hedges/Walker to approve the minutes of May 4, 2009. Motion carried by the following vote.

AYES: Showalter, Mauro, Hedges, Burt, Walker  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Hickey, Hutnik, Turpin  
ABSTAIN: None
8. NEW DISCUSSION ITEMS:
  - A. Definitions of Duties and Limitations on Authority of the Streets, Trails and Utilities Commission

The Director presented the staff report on the definitions of duties and limitations on the authority of the Streets, Trails and Utilities Commission. He addressed the questions from the May 4, 2009 meeting regarding the direction and intent of the “health” element of the Commission.

The Director read from various sources the definitions of local municipalities and county level government with regard to the jurisdictional responsibility in the area of Health care expertise.

Commissioner Walker noted that the spirit of the Commission's health designation was to assist with the oversight of the Wyle cleanup project and to provide a forum for residents to address concerns. Commissioner Walker also noted a number of other animal issues and animal diseases the City has to deal with in regard to education of the community versus creation of policy due to the uniqueness of the City.

The Director noted the City Council's decision to omit the health duty from the Commission was made based on staffing, funding and expertise levels.

Commissioner Burtt noted that there were agencies that would provide information for distribution to residents via flyers or that could be included in the water bills.

It was noted by Staff that there may not be a Health Officer appointed in the City of Norco.

Chair Showalter noted the ordinance states the Commission should be involved in public health issues as it concerns the water and sewer systems and not other health issues in general.

Further discussion was held on the intent of the ordinance and other agency/s involvement.

Commissioner Walker noted that there has been overlap by the different agencies regarding public health and those issues during the beginning of this Commission.

The Director explained the Commission's role may escalate if threats to the community's general health were threatened. The effort may include the County, State or the federal government in a lead role capacity.

Chair Showalter noted that the County should be notified in case of any issues and the City would be the intermediary between the City and County with the County keeping the lead role.

Commissioner Mauro noted the City Council that originally created the duty that included health tied the ordinance to public health issues in general as their intent; not just the water and sewer issues.

Commissioner Hedges inquired if the City had anyone attending the Northwest Vector Control meetings. The Director noted that Council Member Berwin Hanna was appointed to attend their meetings.

The Director also noted that many different Boards had representation from the City of Norco.

Commissioner Burttt inquired if there were any current issues needing discussion.

Commissioner Mauro noted he was a member of the Community Advisory Committee regarding the Wyle issue.

The Director noted the Wyle update would be included as an agenda discussion item.

Commissioner Mauro noted the dirt removal issue from the Kennedy School Project construction was brought forward to this Commission.

The Director noted the school site was addressed by the Commission before the ordinance added the "health" duty and explained that potential public health issues would be presented to the Commission.

Commissioner Mauro noted that this Commission has always dealt with health issues as a regular item, when necessary.

Commissioner Walker emphasized the importance of providing education to and for the residents in order to prevent any unfortunate circumstances to occur should an issue of health or animal disease come to the forefront.

Discussion was held on the proactive nature of the water health issues and the water sampling recommendations that come along with those issues.

Chair Showalter noted there was an item missing from the new, joint ordinance. The paragraph concerning, "construction, purchase, lease, etc." He wondered why.

The Director noted this paragraph was included in the Capital Improvement Project portion of the Municipal Code. He specified that he had only included the amended section of the ordinance.

Pat Overstreet, 1231 Corona Avenue, noted she was concerned with the removal of the duty portion regarding health from this Commission, however, now that she knows Riverside County is the lead agency for these issues; she was relieved.

Commissioner Walker noted that the website mentioned the City Manager or his appointee was the Health Officer.

The Director noted that he would research the UNLOAD Committee and find out who may be appointed as the City's Health Officer might be.

Discussion was held.

M/S Hedges/Walker to table the "health" issue until the Director researches and determines if the City of Norco has appointed a Health Officer. Motion carried by the following vote.

AYES: Showalter, Hedges, Burt, Walker

NOES: None

ABSENT: Hickey, Hutnik, Turpin

ABSTAIN: Mauro

- B. Riverside Community College "RCC" Campus request for Right-of-way Improvements on Third Street from Hamner Avenue to West End.

The Director presented the staff report regarding the Riverside Community College "RCC" Campus preliminary request for right-of-way improvements on Third Street from Hamner Avenue to West end.

Chair Showalter reported the proposal noted white vinyl fence.

The Director noted the fencing would be the alternative trail fence. He also noted that ADA compliance would be met with the construction of the sidewalk and the trail.

Commissioner Hedges inquired as to the ownership of the street from RCC adjacent to Hamner Avenue.

Terry Piorkowski, PW Supervisor noted that ownership belongs to RCC.

Further discussion was held on various options regarding trail, fencing and sidewalk construction.

Pat Overstreet, 1231 Corona Avenue noted concern regarding separation of the trail and sidewalk.

The Director noted the final design was not complete and thanked Pat for her time. He also noted the partners in the school were very cooperative and wanted to do the right thing, and they asked questions regarding what could beautify the southern portion of the campus. The campus is in the process of becoming accredited and the partners would like to present an attractive and appropriate campus.

Further discussion was held.

M/S Burt/Showalter to recommend the Riverside Community College "RCC" Campus request for Right-of-way Improvements on Third Street from Hamner Avenue to West End as shown to be brought back when the actual proposal was complete for a second look. Motion carried by the following vote.

AYES: Showalter, Mauro, Hedges, Burt, Walker  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Hickey, Hutnik, Turpin  
ABSTAIN: None

C. Modification of Hamner Avenue and Third Street Signage and Pavement Markings

The Director presented the staff report for the modification of Hamner Avenue and Third Street signage and pavement markings. New signage and markings will move traffic through the intersection and provide more traffic safety for vehicles and riders at the intersections.

Discussion was held on the various signage and marking options.

Commissioner Walker inquired if the design element was to be done in-house. The Director, noted yes.

Chair Showalter noted the new striping on Second Street was very well done and he thought it looked great.

M/S Showalter/Burt to receive and file the staff report while authorizing the Director to move forward with the modification of Hamner Avenue and Third Street signage and pavement markings. Motion carried by the following vote.

AYES: Showalter, Mauro, Hedges, Burt, Walker  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Hickey, Hutnik, Turpin  
ABSTAIN: None

D. Installation of a Stop Condition at the intersection of Hillside Avenue and Third Street

The Director presented the staff report on the possible installation of a stop condition at the intersection of Hillside Avenue and Third Street. Although, the volume numbers were not done, he feels justified in supporting a modification at this t-intersection and installing a possible stop condition.

Chair Showalter noted he felt the stop condition should go in both directions.

The Director noted the funding element for the street condition and any future improvements in this area including the realignment of the intersection to include possible modifications to the existing trail. The modification to the trail would be to realign the trail on one side of the street.

Discussion was held.

M/S Burtt/Showalter to receive and file the possible installation of a stop condition at the intersection of Hillside Avenue and Third Street.

Commissioner Hedges noted he supports the possible installation of a stop sign at this intersection with two stop signs and a square corner once in conjunction with the completed research details at this intersection. Motion carried by the following vote.

AYES: Showalter, Mauro, Hedges, Burtt, Walker

NOES: None

ABSENT: Hickey, Hutnik, Turpin

ABSTAIN: None

E. Discussion and Review of 2009/10 Draft Water and Sewer Operations Fund Budgets

The Director presented the staff report on the review of 2009/10 draft water and sewer operations fund budgets.

Commissioner Hedges wondered if the gas tax in the City was going to be affected.

The Director did not have any indication that Gas Tax funds had been designated as possible state budget solutions.

The Director noted the traffic utility lights, traffic safety lights and street lighting line items are included in this budget as the City does not have a lighting district (LMD) to fund maintenance.

Commissioner Hedges inquired if the City had a street sweeper.

The Director noted that city streets with curb and gutter were swept once per month to comply with NPDES regulations.

The Director also noted the uniqueness and challenges involved with street sweeping in the City of Norco.

Chair Showalter inquired what type of "Roundup" is used on the City's trails.

Terry Piorkowski, Public Works Supervisor, noted the surfactant and pre-emergent properties in the "Roundup" pesticide the City uses for the eradication of weeds on City trails.

Discussion was held regarding adding this pesticide information to the City website.

Chair Showalter inquired why there were so many mainline breaks.

The Director and Public Works Supervisor noted that mainline breaks were a seasonal occurrence. Temperature changes, the number of times water pumps are turned off and on which pumps changes water velocity and water pressure contributes to failures.

The Director then noted that the sewer infrastructure was in good shape.

Commissioner Burtt inquired regarding the Task Force Support line item.

The Director noted that the Task Force line item funds regional support, testing, projects and water conservation programs.

The Director continued with the remaining line items in the budget.

M/S Hedges/Burtt to receive and file the review of 2009/10 draft Water and Sewer Operations Fund Budgets. Motion carried by the following vote.

AYES: Showalter, Mauro, Hedges, Burtt, Walker

NOES: None

ABSENT: Hickey, Hutnik, Turpin

ABSTAIN: None

9. CONTINUED DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Waste-to-Energy Project

The Director noted the WRCWRA board will adopt a resolution to either designate an area on their site or staff will seek an alternative site within the City of Norco.

Discussion was held on the various amenities and positives of the renewable energy plant.

Commissioner Hedges inquired if any "green" grants were available. The Director shared that green waste grant funds may be available; the Chevron feasibility study identified a number of funding sources and applications are in process, which includes a Department of Energy (DOE) application for the guarantee of funding.

10. VERBAL UPDATES ON STREETS/TRAILS ISSUES:

The Director noted there were items to report.

The River Road Bridge Project Manager has projected the relocation of the recycled water line will be completed in August 2009. The Reservoir No. 5 project is complete.

Chair Showalter inquired regarding the Second Street project. The Director noted the property acquisition process is moving forward and nearing completion.

The Director also noted that glue down center medians will be placed at North Drive in the foreseeable future.

Discussion was held.

11. OTHER MATTERS:

Commissioner Walker noted the previous weekend's ranch tour was a good opportunity to see and promote the ranches in the City.

Discussion was held on the various ranches in the City.

Commissioner Hedges inquired regarding the comprehensive trail plan. The Director reported that he has not been able to get to it at this time, but is looking forward to getting to it next month.

Discussion was held.

12. ADJOURNMENT: 9:58 p.m.

M/S Hedges/Mauro to adjourn the meeting at 9:58 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., July 6, 2009.

Motion carried by the following vote.

AYES: Showalter, Mauro, Hedges, Burt, Walker

NOES: None

ABSENT: Hickey, Hutnik, Turpin

ABSTAIN: None

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William R. Thompson  
Director of Public Works

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