



MINUTES
CITY OF NORCO
SPECIAL MEETING – STUDY SESSION
CITY COUNCIL
CONFERENCE ROOMS “A” & “B”
NORCO CITY HALL – 2870 CLARK AVENUE
AUGUST 23, 2010

-
1. CALL TO ORDER: 3:05 p.m.
 2. ROLL CALL:
Mayor Malcolm Miller, **Present**
Mayor Pro Tem Berwin Hanna, **Present**
Council Member Kathy Azevedo, **Present**
Council Member Kevin Bash, **Present**
Council Member Harvey C. Sullivan, **Present**
 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Pro Tem Berwin Hanna
 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS: No Public Comments or Questions Received.
 5. STUDY SESSION ITEMS:
 - A. Overview from the City Manager

City Manager Groves presented and overview of the study session.

- B. Norco Area Chamber of Commerce Presentation

Marv Fortman, Chairman; Tom Wilson, Vice Chairman; and Susan Yasui, Treasurer, were in attendance representing the Norco Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center. Mr. Fortman presented information on the Norco Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center relating to its organization structure, its role, how these goals will be accomplished, what the Visitor’s Center role is, the role of the Equine Council, an idea to support distressed businesses in Norco, pilot project details, how they came to be, and what they support and partnerships they are seeking. He noted that there are currently 53 members. Other ideas presented by the Norco Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center were a restaurant guide and an informational-type placard placed in all local businesses for promotional and advertising purposes.

Council Member Azevedo stated that she witnessed the placards firsthand in businesses located in Grass Valley, California. She added that that the placards provide information to visitors that would draw them back to the City for future events.

Mr. Wilson stated that the Norco Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center would need the City’s financial support to survive.

C. Discussion Regarding a City-Wide Fiber Optics Network

Deputy City Manager/Director of Finance Okoro stated that this is a project that the City has included in the Capital Improvement Program budget for the past 5 years and noted that a small segment has already been completed.

IT Manager Michael Daly presented information regarding what fiber optics is and what benefits a City-wide fiber optics network would provide for the City. Results of a pilot project completed were presented as an example of how fast the fiber optics network transfers data. The current telephone system at City Hall is also proposed to be placed on this network, as the current system is 10-plus years old, and some of the offsite facilities are much older. Other areas that could be included in the network would be security cameras in parks; monitor scada, irrigation, and traffic light controls; and closed circuit broadcast to large auditoriums. The proposed fiber optic facility map was presented, with a fiscal impact of \$800,000; \$600,000 in the current adopted CIP budget and \$600,000 in the current fiscal year Water & Sewer Fund. Deputy City Manager/Director of Finance Okoro confirmed that the funding would come from development impact fees, which can only be used for capital projects. He also stated that the quicker this project is implemented, the quicker the City will realize the cost savings.

City Manager Groves stated that when the City is in need of data, our ability to communicate is the key, and this project would provide that strength. She added that there are concerns regarding the status of our current telephone system and the cost to replace that system in an emergency situation.

IT Manager Michael Daly confirmed that the fiber will not fill the conduit and that there will be the ability to lease the remaining area. He also confirmed that the RFP process will take place in the near future and the award of bid resulting from that process will be brought to the Council for action in December.

D. Discussion Regarding County of Riverside's Public Safety Communications Tower Project

Lt. Cooper stated that for years the Sheriff's Department has been desiring an improved communications system. Dan Nila, the Project Manager for Riverside County Information Technology, Public Safety Enterprise Communication (PSEC), presented information on the public safety communications tower project. The project is proposed due to the outgrown current system, officer safety issues, voice and data share infrastructure, radio coverage gaps, and increased radio usage. The advantages to Norco include the elimination of radio coverage gaps, dependable radio usage for Sheriff Department deputies, and tower availability for City use. The technology and project timeline information were presented, including the proposed site on Beacon Hill. The radio type is the first of its kind developed by Motorola.

Planning Director King confirmed that most of this land is zoned commercial and also confirmed that this project would not have a negative impact on any future development.

Sergeant Joe Belli presented information regarding the coverage area of the two types of towers that could be built. The current proposed tower is a lattice tower and antennas. The option would be a monotower and antennas. Assistant Riverside County Executive Officer/EDA Rob Field confirmed that the desired design of the tower will need to be confirmed within the next 30 days.

E. Discussion of Future Study Session Dates

City Manager Groves stated that the proposed future study session dates are September 20 (1 p.m.); October 11 (1 p.m.), October 25 (1 p.m.), and November 8 (1 p.m.). She noted that the main purpose for the study sessions will be to discuss different aspects of the budget, along with some other key items yet to be determined. The Council was asked to review the proposed dates and inform staff if any of the dates and times do not work into their schedules.

6. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Miller adjourned the meeting at 4:53 p.m.

BRENDA K. JACOBS
CITY CLERK

/bj-76413