



MINUTES
CITY OF NORCO
CITY COUNCIL

December 18, 2013

City Council Chambers
2820 Clark Avenue, Norco, CA 92860

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

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

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

Conference with Legal Counsel

Existing Litigation

Name of Case: Jack Mohl, Jr. *versus* City of Norco et al.
Case Number: RIC1306419

Name of Case: Mike Mandahl, et al. *versus* City of Norco et al.
Case Number: RIC 1313153

Initiation of Litigation Pursuant to Section 54956.9(c):

Number of Potential Cases: Two (2)

RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION: 7:00 p.m.

REPORT OF ACTION(S) TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION (§54957.1) **City Attorney Harper stated that there were no reportable actions taken in closed session.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Hanna

INVOCATION: Norco Foursquare Church, *Pastor Jared Vieyra*

PRESENTATIONS:

Presentation of Navy in Norco Pennant -- *Captain Eric Ver Hage, Commanding Officer, Norco Naval Surface Warfare Center*

Captain Ver Hage presented information regarding the Norco Naval Surface Warfare Center. A "Navy in Norco" pennant was presented to the City of Norco for display at City Hall.

**Recognition of Eagle Scout Project -- City of Norco Mass Care Trailer-47,
Michael Porter, Troop 33**

Michael Porter presented information regarding his Eagle Scout Project. He presented a check in the amount of \$85.50 to the City of Norco for the George Ingalls Veterans Memorial project.

Welcome Home War Hero – Sgt. Trent Pontes, U.S. Army

Mayor Hanna presented Sgt. Pontes with a Certificate of Recognition thanking him for his service to our Country.

Recognition of the Norco High School Agriculture Department Students for Receiving the Golden Bell Award given by the California State School Boards Association:

Norco High School Agriculture Department evenly incorporates the three circles of agricultural education; classroom instruction, supervised agricultural experience, and leadership development. The students served by the program are as diverse as the course offerings. Classes are structured so that students will learn the theory of the topic at hand and apply their learning through projects based in the classroom or in the field.

Mayor Hanna presented a Certificate of Excellence to the Norco High School Agriculture Department congratulating them for receipt of the Golden Bell Award.

CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS AS FOLLOWS:

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

Council Member Bash:

- Announced that the Corona-Norco Unified School District Board approved Trustee Area Scenario 1.A. which will benefit the City of Norco.
- Stated that the commemorative book celebrating the celebrating the Corona-Norco Unified School District's 125 year history is available to purchase.
- Thanked the Fire Department and Sheriff's Department for assisting with the young man that was hit in front of his house.
- Reported that Louis VanderMolen is in the hospital with pneumonia

Mayor Pro Tem Higgins:

- Recognized the new Sergeant in the Norco Sheriff's Department, Sergeant Christian Dekker.

Council Member Azevedo:

- Reported on the Riverside County Transportation Commission meeting she attended in place of Mayor Hanna and noted that the new Chairman will be Supervisor Marion Ashley. She also commented on the groundbreaking ceremony held for the 91 Freeway Expansion Project on that same day, as well as the Foothill Parkway Westerly Extension Project that will be moving forward.

- Reported on the WRCOG meeting at which time “rallying” took place for Planning Directors to encourage stations for hybrid plug-in vehicles. She also noted the Apps available for the HERO program and project updates.
- Noted that it was a 3-2 vote by the Corona-Norco Unified School District Board that approved the Trustee Area Scenario 1.A.
- Reported on the City’s 50th Birthday activities, displaying the shirts and hats that are available to purchase, and reported on the calendar of events and the Film Festival at Norco High School. Council Member Bash gave a brief overview of the Film Festival to be held on Feb. 1 – 2.

Council Member Newton:

- Reported on the Blue Light Ceremony for fallen officers that he attended with Mayor Hanna, noting that Lt. Hedge was also in attendance.

2. CITY COUNCIL CONSENT ITEMS:

Mayor Hanna requested that the following be added to the December 4, 2013 minutes as stated at that meeting – “Recognized the Animal Control Division and the Norco Sheriff’s Department for its assistance with the NART rescue and the arrests made regarding the cock fighting.”

City Manager Okoro stated that there is a correction to Item 2.D., noting Exhibit “A” to Resolution No. 2013-65, Basic Services for residential customers, where it should read “Senior” rates and not “Senior/Disabled”. He added that Waste Management does not offer any discounted rates to disabled individuals.

A member of the public pulled Item 2.E. Council Member Newton pulled Items 2.A. and 2.D.

M/S Bash/Higgins to adopt the remaining items as recommended on the City Council Consent Calendar. 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 December 4, 2013
Special Meeting of December 3, 2013
Recommended Action: **Approve the City Council Minutes** (City Clerk)
PULLED FOR DISCUSSION
- B. Procedural Step to Approve Ordinance after Reading of Title Only.
Recommended Action: Approval (City Clerk)
- C. City Council Appointments to Regional Boards, Standing Committees and Other City Council-Appointed Committees for Calendar Year 2014.
Recommended Action: Approve the recommended City Council appointments for the 2014 calendar year. (City Clerk)

- D. Resolution Approving the Extension of the Contract and Terms of the Existing Franchise Agreement with USA Waste of California, Inc. for the Provision of Integrated Waste Management Services and Approval of the Annual CPI and Disposal Adjustment Increase Retroactive Back to July 1, 2013. **Recommended Action: Adopt Resolution No. 2013-65, approving Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement between the City of Norco and USA Waste of California, Inc. for the Collection, Transportation, Recycling and Disposal of Solid Waste for an additional six months and allow for the annual CPI and disposal adjustment increase, retroactive back to July 1, 2013 pursuant to Section 18 of the franchise agreement. (City Manager) PULLED FOR DISCUSSION**
- E. Ratification of Appointments to an Ad Hoc Committee to Review a New Contract with USA Waste of California, Inc. **Recommended Action: Approve the appointment of members to serve on an ad-hoc committee to review a new contract with Waste Management. (City Manager) PULLED FOR DISCUSSION**
- F. Recap of Actions Taken by the Planning Commission at its Meeting held on December 11, 2013. **Recommended Action: Receive and File** (Planning Director)

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

- Item 2.A. City Council Minutes:
Regular Meeting of December 4, 2013
Special Meeting of December 3, 2013

Council Member Newton requested one change to the December 3, 2013 Minutes, noting that Mayor Hanna was present at that meeting. He further stated that he will abstain from approving the December 3, 2013 Minutes.

M/S Higgins/Bash to approve the City Council Minutes. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: AZEVEDO, BASH, HANNA, HIGGINS, NEWTON
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE
ABSTAIN: NEWTON ON THE DECEMBER 3, 2013 MINUTES

Item 2.D. Resolution Approving the Extension of the Contract and Terms of the Existing Franchise Agreement with USA Waste of California, Inc. for the Provision of Integrated Waste Management Services and Approval of the Annual CPI and Disposal Adjustment Increase Retroactive Back to July 1, 2013.

Council Member Newton commented on the letter from Viramontes regarding the cost increase on the green waste cost component, asking why not haul to El Sobrante instead of Viramontes.

Julie Reyes, representing Waste Management, stated that she will get clarification on this and will report back to City Manager Okoro.

M/S Newton/Bash to adopt Resolution No. 2013-65, approving Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement between the City of Norco and USA Waste of California, Inc. for the Collection, Transportation, Recycling and Disposal of Solid Waste for an additional six months and allow for the annual CPI and disposal adjustment increase, retroactive back to July 1, 2013 pursuant to Section 18 of the franchise agreement.. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

Item 2.E. Ratification of Appointments to an Ad Hoc Committee to Review a New Contract with USA Waste of California, Inc.

Ted Hoffman. Mr. Hoffman stated that he hopes that the ad-hoc committee addresses a waste-to-energy project throughout this process.

M/S Higgins/Bash to approve the appointment of members to serve on an ad-hoc committee to review a new contract with Waste Management. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

4. CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS:

- A. Discussion Regarding the City of Norco General Municipal Election Cycle.
Recommended Action: No staff recommendation – information presented for discussion and City Council recommendation purposes only. (City Clerk).

City Manager Okoro provided information regarding the discussion item as presented in the staff report.

City Clerk Jacobs provided some additional information, noting that it was her opinion as the City's Election Official that this should be brought to the people as an advisory measure to approve any changes to the four-year terms that the City Council Members were elected for. She also noted that according to the Riverside County Registrar of Voters, the cost will be the same or possibly higher if adding an additional contest pushes the County to a three card ballot, which would not be a justification to the Board of Supervisors in regards to the requirement for approval based on the cost-effectiveness of the proposed action.

Council Member Azevedo commented on this item, noting that the election should be the vote of the people and the residents are not provided with this opportunity as in even years. She added that she would consider reducing her term and placing this on ballot to see what the people vote.

Council Member Newton commented on drop-off voting. He further commented on the 2011 election, noting that social media came into play and did not increase voting. He further noted that informed voters vote and does not agree with changing the election cycle at this time.

Mayor Pro Tem Higgins commented on the change to the odd-year election cycle in 1993 to be in line with the School District, noting that they are a critical organization. He noted that he wants as many people to vote as possible and wants to give the people the opportunity, adding that being on the same cycle as the School District would also raise the potential for a Norco individual to be elected to the School Board. Council Member Higgins stated that if the Council terms are extended it should go to the people, but if reduced, the Council can make that decision.

Council Member Bash noted he has been pushing for even year. He commented on the new developments with change in the Trustee Areas for the School District and also the demographics that have changed. He stated that Norco controls the vote for a representative from the City of Norco. Council Member Bash commented on the importance of the preservation of the City's lifestyle and further commented on concerns with the uninformed voters who receive inaccurate information.

Mayor Hanna asked about the 2005 election and the reason for the increased votes cast. In response, staff noted that it included the Charter Ballot Measure. Mayor Hanna noted that if there is a change made to the election cycle and Council terms, it should go to the citizens for them to make the decision.

Roy Hungerford. Mr. Hungerford noted that he is against the change, noting that history will look back at this Council destroying the City. He added that it is all about the quality of the vote, not the quantity.

Karen Leonard. Ms. Leonard commented on the uneducated vote in the larger elections, noting that if it is moved, it will be people that really don't care. She noted her support to stay with the informed vote, the quality vote.

M/S Higgins/Bash to receive and file the report.

Under Discussion:

Council Member Newton stated that he agrees with the two speakers in regards to the educated voter.

The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

- B. Consideration of Reducing the Number of Members on the Streets, Trails and Utilities Commission from Seven to Five. **Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the City Council direct staff to not fill the current unscheduled vacancy on the Streets, Trails and Utilities Commission; and, prepare an Ordinance establishing the number of members on the Streets, Trails and Utilities Commission at Five.** (City Clerk)

City Manager Okoro provided information regarding the discussion item as presented in the staff report.

M/S Azevedo/Bash to not fill the current unscheduled vacancy on the Streets, Trails and Utilities Commission; and, prepare an Ordinance establishing the number of members on the Streets, Trails and Utilities Commission at Five. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

- C. Consideration to Install STOP Signs on Valley View Avenue at Willow Drive. **Recommended Action: Staff is not recommending installation of STOP signs on Valley View Avenue at Willow Drive.** (Director of Public Works)

Public Works Director Askew provided information regarding the discussion item as presented in the staff report.

Gary Roquet. Mr. Roquet commented that he lives on Willow Drive and noted that this is a dangerous intersection. He added that he wants safe access to Valley View, adding that he represents twelve (12) other residents that live in the neighborhood.

Glenn Hedges. Mr. Hedges commented on the Friesian/Valley stop sign and the reason for putting it in. He noted that this is the same thing where the situation is the visibility, adding that the stop sign would protect the people and save lives in the future.

Council Member Bash stated that he supports a stop sign at this corner.

Mayor Pro Tem Higgins commented on an experience he had on Valley View coming off of Willow where he came close to being hit, noting the visibility problems. He commented on his support for the stop sign.

Council Member Newton commented on this intersection noting that this situation is much like Corona Avenue and Fourth Street. He noted that traffic flows good at that location, noting he supports these stop signs. He recommended moving the horse trail sign and add rail to define the trail on Willow Avenue.

Council Member Azevedo noted that she supports these stop signs. She asked about the ramifications regarding unwarranted stop signs. In response, City Attorney Harper commented that the potential liability is that the City has immunity for accidents that occur on streets which meet the Code criteria and added that if someone is injured, the plaintiff argues that we no longer have design immunity. Council Member Azevedo stated that she has spoken with other residents that desire a stop sign on their streets. City Attorney Harper noted that the other issue is the argument for someone blowing a stop sign, and if the stop sign was not warranted, they could make a case.

Mayor Hanna stated that he supports the stop sign, noting the family with the kids and the equestrians crossing Valley View from Willow and back.

M/S Bash/Higgins to put in the two stop signs based on visibility issues causing potential harm to equestrians, pedestrians, bicyclists and all road users expecting other road users to stop. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

RECESS: Mayor Hanna recessed the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

RECONVENE: Mayor Hanna reconvened the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

- D. Consideration to Install Speed Tables at Two Test Areas. **Recommended Action: City Council direction.** (Director of Public Works)

Public Works Director Askew provided information regarding the discussion item as presented in the staff report.

City Attorney Harper stated that from a legal point of view, speed tables are not State-approved traffic control devices and the City would hold the liability.

Lt. Hedge commented on the Sheriff's Department concerns. He noted the City's uniqueness and the impacts to public safety. He commented on the response time concerns, especially priority one calls. He stated that he has additional concerns with vehicles avoiding these locations causing hazards and also concerns in the evening hours when there may be those unaware of the speed tables, along with damaged vehicles or traffic collisions that may occur. Lt. Hedge stated that public safety is his main concern and is not in favor of the speed tables.

Chief Mecham commented on the potential for increased response times, noting that the majority of calls are EMS calls and the increased response time would cause negative effects.

Trina Daniels. Ms. Daniels noted she lives on a street with speed humps and does not recommend them, adding that young drivers are attracted to them and accelerate, or they drive to the side of the bumps.

David Sandidge. Mr. Sandidge submitted an email in support of the installation of Speed Tables.

Council Member Newton commented in regards to the financial impact. He noted that he went on a test drive with Public Works Director Askew and at 15 or 20 mph the speed table can adjust. Public Works Director Askew stated that the speed humps on Corona Avenue are much shorter and these are speed tables. Council Member Newton further commented on the design of the speed tables in regards to preventing cars from driving around them and also drainage issues.

In response to Council Member Newton, Chief Mecham noted that speed can be exceeded by 15 mph based on the posted speed limit, depending on traffic and road conditions.

Council Member Azevedo commented on her concerns regarding response times and public safety. She added that her number one goal is to add motor officers when money is available to do so. She stated that she cannot support something that will hinder public safety.

In response to Council Member Azevedo, Chief Mecham noted that 84% of their calls are for EMS.

Mayor Hanna stated that he agrees with the concerns with public safety. He noted that he cannot support these.

M/S Azevedo/Hanna to receive and file the report. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

5. CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- A. **Code Change 2013-06 (City of Norco):** Ordinance regarding the applicability of prevailing wage requirement to State funded or assisted Public Works contracts.

Senate Bill 7 was adopted adding Section 1782 to the California Labor Code and requires that, in order to receive State funding or financial assistance for Public Works projects, contracts for such projects shall be subject to California Labor Code Section 1720, et. seq., the Prevailing Wage Law. This Bill specifically applies to charter cities, such as Norco, notwithstanding the provisions in charters making the Prevailing Wage Law inapplicable to City Public Works projects. This Ordinance does not apply to Public Works projects funded without State assistance and does include projects funded by revenues required by the California Constitution to be received by cities; i.e., State gas tax.

Recommended Action: Adopt Ordinance No. 971 for first reading. (City Attorney)

City Attorney Harper provided information regarding the public hearing item as presented in the staff report.

Mayor Hanna OPENED the public hearing, indicating that proper notification had been made and asked for the appearance of those wishing to speak. With no one wishing to speak Mayor Hanna CLOSED the public hearing.

M/S Azevedo/Higgins to adopt Ordinance No. 971 for first reading.

Under Discussion:

Council Member Bash stated that he would not vote for this, noting the State's role in this decision.

Council Member Newton stated that after working with union and non-union companies, this is a Charter issue and will not support this.

Council Member Azevedo noted her concerns for no State funding if this is not supported.

Water and Sewer Manager Thompson stated that from past history in the Public Works Department, any grant funds of any type were all done this same way and this ordinance would not change how things are done at this time.

City Attorney Harper stated that if we do not approve the ordinance, it would affect funding.

Mayor Hanna commented on his concerns regarding the projects that require State funds and added that he would hate to lose Measure A and TUMF money.

Council Member Newton stated that he understands prevailing wage, and does not want to lose any funding, but has a problem with the State changing the City's Charter.

The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

- B. **Code Change 2013-07 (City of Norco):** Ordinance replacing Title 15, Chapters 15.01-15.08 and 15.90 of the Norco Municipal Code, adopting by reference the 2013 edition of the California Building Standards Code including the 2013 California Building Code; 2013 California Electrical Code, 2013 California Mechanical Code, 2013 California Plumbing Code, 2013 California Residential Code, and 2013 Green Building Code.

State law allows local governments to amend the California Model Codes, providing the amendments are more restrictive and are necessary in order to provide the highest level of life-safety standards. The proposed ordinance will adopt and amend the 2013 editions of the California Building Code, the California Electrical Code, California Mechanical Code, California Plumbing Code, California Residential Code

and the California Green Building Code. State law requires that local government enforces these code editions beginning January 1, 2014.

Recommended Action: Adopt Ordinance No. 972 for first reading. (City Engineer)

City Engineer Milano provided information regarding the public hearing item as presented in the staff report.

Council Member Newton commented on Section 15.01.080, 2. And asked if this is a change, adding that he does not like the way it reads. In response, City Engineer Milano presented some history on this sentence and suggested removing it in its entirety.

Mayor Hanna OPENED the public hearing, indicating that proper notification had been made and asked for the appearance of those wishing to speak.

Ted Hoffman. Mr. Hoffman commented on Section 15.01.080, 2. regarding fences not over 6 feet high, noting that a block wall 6 feet high would then not require a permit. He also commented on Section 15.01.080, 10. Regarding a cover on a 12 x 24 corral, adding that this needs some clarification. He recommended going back to the 3 foot walls on Section 15.01.080, 2.

Glen Hedges. Mr. Hedges commented on his concerns regarding Section 15.01.080, 10., noting the requirements for portable covered corrals per two approved animal units.

Bob Leonard. Mr. Leonard commented as a general contractor noting that if the City allows a 6 foot block wall to be built without a permit, they are asking for trouble.

Mayor Hanna CLOSED the public hearing.

M/S Bash/Higgins to adopt Ordinance No. 972 for first reading with the following revisions.

15.01.080 Amendment Section 105.2 items ~~2 & 10~~. Section 105.2 items ~~2 and 10~~ are is amended to read as follows:

~~2. Fences not over 6 feet high.~~

10. Self-supporting portable covered pipe corrals not exceeding a maximum of 12 ft. x 24 ft. Provided the number of such structures is premised upon the number of animal units allowed on the property as regulated by the Norco Zoning Code. ~~There shall be no more than one 12 ft. x 24 ft. portable covered corral per two approved animal units.~~ Furthermore, it is understood that covered corrals do not have any walls and are securely fastened to the surrounding corral fencing.

The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

- C. **Zone Code Amendment 2013-03 (City of Norco):** A City-initiated proposal to amend Title 18 “Zoning” of the Norco Municipal Code, Chapter 18.02 – Definitions”, Section 18.31.08 - “Yard Requirements – Walls, Fences and Structures in Setback Areas” and Section 18.38.22 -”On-site Location of Parking Facilities”, to address/revise the definitions of non-commercial vehicle and trailer parking in residential zones.

Zone Code Amendment 2013-03 is a City-initiated proposal to amend Title 18 (Zoning) of the Norco Municipal Code to address or revise the definitions pertaining to recreational vehicles, trailers, and parking areas, and to address the regulation of on-site parking in residential zones.

Recommended Action: Adopt Ordinance No. 964 for first reading.
(Planning Director)

Planning Director King provided information regarding the public hearing item as presented in the staff report.

Mayor Pro Tem Higgins noted that he is not in the position to tell people where they can park on their front lawn.

Council Member Azevedo noted that she is concerned, noting front yard parking and enforcement issues.

Mayor Hanna OPENED the public hearing, indicating that proper notification had been made and asked for the appearance of those wishing to speak. With no one wishing to speak, Mayor Hanna CLOSED the public hearing.

M/S Higgins/Bash to deny Ordinance No. 964 for first reading.

Under Discussion:

Planning Director King noted some inconsistency in the Code and added that some revisions will need to be made.

The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

- D. **Appeal Hearing 2013-02 (Lakeville Retail Group, LLC):** 1) An appeal of a condition of approval from Planning Commission approval of Conditional Use Permit 2013-13: A request for a temporary modular unit for use as a construction office and interim sales office for an existing RV rental business located at 2185 Hamner Avenue in the Norco Auto Mall Specific Plan; 2) A request for waiver of application fees.

On November 13, 2013, the Planning Commission adopted Resolution 2013-48 approving Conditional Use Permit 2013-13 for a temporary modular unit to be used

as a construction office for Tractor Supply Co., and an interim sales office for an existing RV rental business located at 2185 Hamner Avenue in the Norco Auto Mall Specific Plan. The Planning Commission approval included Condition No. 13 with a time restriction on the unit to the earlier of either, one year, or the issuance of an occupancy permit for Tractor Supply Co. This condition was appealed to the City Council by the applicant. Along with the appeal the applicant has requested a refund of application fees.

Recommended Action: The City Council is recommended to 1) hear the applicant and make a final determination regarding the appeal; and, 2) deny the waiver of fee request. (Planning Director)

Planning Director King stated that the applicant has requested that the appeal hearing be continued to the January 15, 2014 City Council Meeting.

M/S Bash/Higgins to continue the appeal hearing to January 15, 2014. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS:

Ted Hoffman. Mr. Hoffman commented on the January 4, 2014 “Redneck Party” to be held by the Norco Horsemen’s Association (NHA) at Ingalls Park. He also commented on the March 15, 2014 annual NHA Casino Night in correlation with City’s 50th Birthday.

Pam Smith. Ms. Smith commented on the Norco Area Chamber of Commerce election held in November and reported on the new board members and new executive board.

7. CITY COUNCIL / CITY MANAGER / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

Council Member Azevedo:

- Displayed the City’s 50th Birthday shirts and hats that are available.

Council Member Newton:

- Asked to have an update on the Gateway Specific Plan. City Manager Okoro stated that he would provide this to the City Council.
- Stated that he wants to review the City’s business license policy in regards to loss of revenue from contractors and sub-contractors, noting that staff needs the tools to enforce it. In response, City Manager Okoro noted that contractors are required to provide the list of sub-contractors who do need a business license, adding that the City relies on enforcement from the contractor. City Manager Okoro further stated that business license enforcement is tricky with the tools we have available, as many are out of town businesses.

M/S Newton/Hanna to agendize a discussion regarding the City's business license policy. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

Council Member Bash:

- Commented on horse trail signs he found and looking for an update.
- Commented on the accident that took place in front of his house and asked about the code in regards to parking. In response, Lt. Hedge stated that he would check into it.
- Requested information a potential update to the City's website that will allow for residents to sign up for the email distribution of a City newsletter. He stated that he would also like to utilize the website for business attraction. In response, City Manager Okoro stated that staff has received a proposal for an upgrade to the City's website and commented on the useful tools it would have. He added that the plan is to include funding for the website upgrade in the mid-year budget update sometime in February. He further noted that in the meantime, a tab can be added on the current City website to include newsworthy information for residents.
- Asked about the status of the name of the Fire Station on Hamner Avenue. In response, Chief Mecham stated that Chief Pemberton is working on this to get the name changed from Corona to Norco.
- Stated that he wants to look at the City's requirements for bid sealing. In response, City Manager Okoro stated that the Municipal Code provides these requirements, adding that before any changes are made, he wants to review the City's history in regards to how many contracts are awarded each year that exceed the \$25,000 threshold.
- **M/S Bash/Higgins to agendize a discussion regarding the Navy WW2 Cold War era and the California Rehabilitation Center's first five years in regards to including these buildings on the register for National Historic Places. The motion did not carry.**

Substitute M/S Azevedo/Hanna to hold a joint study session with the Historic Preservation Commission to review resources at the Navy and the California Rehabilitation Center. The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

Mayor Hanna:

- Commented on the cash for gold businesses and asked if they were legal. In response, Planning Director King stated that they were granted an extension to come into compliance and he would look into when that expires. Mayor Hanna requested information on this be presented at the next Council meeting as well as the number of Vape stores.

City Manager Okoro:

- Provided an update on ADA Advocates and Consultants, who is the entity going around Norco serving “acknowledgement letters” to small businesses. He noted that City staff has received a lot of complaints from businesses regarding this “shakedown”, adding that he had a conversation with the company president, who initially said they were advocating for persons with disabilities and were trying to help businesses comply with ADA requirements. A letter was then sent out on December 12th to the company reminding them that they need a business license in order to solicit business in the City. City Manager Okoro stated that he called them today to express the City Council’s concerns and they backed down a little. They were not willing to tell him if the company had any State registrations to operate. He noted that they are currently not operating under any recognized legal status and without a business license, adding that they are not planning to get one. At this point, City Manager Okoro stated that his advice is that if any business is contacted, not to contact this individual back and not use any of the contractors recommended. City Manager Okoro is working with the Public Entity Risk Management Authority, who the City is a member of, to identify legitimate persons that local businesses can contact.
8. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Hanna adjourned the meeting at 10:48 p.m.

BRENDA K. JACOBS, CMC
CITY CLERK