



SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF NORCO
CITY COUNCIL

May 7, 2014

City Council Chambers
2820 Clark Avenue, Norco, CA 92860



CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Hanna called the meeting to order at 4:00 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**

1. WORKSHOP PRESENTATION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 OPERATING BUDGETS.

City Manager Okoro presented information regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2014-15 Operating Budgets. An overview of the FY 2014-2015 City Operating Budgets was presented as follows:

- Balanced budget for all Operating Funds except for NPDES.
- Balanced General Fund Budget achieves the following:
 - Maintains existing services levels.
 - Avoids use of one-time revenues or inter-fund borrowing.
 - Provides funding for an estimated 7% and 4.89% increase in Sheriff and County Fire contracts respectively.
 - Provides funding to pay down liability for post-retirement healthcare costs.
 - Provides funding to pay for pass-through pension rate increases.
 - Reduces overall operations and maintenance expenditures across departments.
 - Most major General Fund revenue categories showing positive upward trend.
 - Overall General Fund revenues are estimated to increase by 1.6% from FY 2013-2014 year-end estimate.
 - Excluding the impact of pass-thru cost increases from County Fire, County Sheriff and one-time expenditure reductions, remaining general expenditures are estimated to decrease by 2.2%.
 - Continuing progress to improve Water Fund Working Capital and contribute to Water Capital Projects Fund.

- Maintain current positive financial condition of the sewer fund and continue contribution to Sewer Capital Projects Fund.

Discussion took place in regards to the addition of a motor officer to the Sheriff's Department. City Manager Okoro noted that a big difference between a motor officer and a patrol motor is that the City would own the motor officer and the motor cycle and the City would buy the number of hours a patrol motor would work. Lt. Hedge confirmed that 9 out of 14 of the current Deputies are radar certified. In response to Mayor Pro Tem Higgins in regards to how much time a Deputy spends on speed enforcement, Lt. Hedge stated that it depends on the resources available. Mayor Pro Tem Higgins noted that the motor officers were the key to reducing speed and asked why the City can't get a motor officer as a part of the contract if they write 99% of the tickets and eliminates a lot of the liability. In response, City manager Okoro stated that the standard County contract does not include a motor officer and a motor officer needs to be contracted separately on a request basis with the City paying for the training costs for that motor officer. Mayor Pro Tem Higgins commented on negotiating a motor officer as part of the contract or go to the County Supervisors to discuss this. Council Member Azevedo commented on doubling the speeding fines on streets lined with horse trails. In response, Lt. Hedge noted that this has been petitioned in Sacramento as this affects the Vehicle Code.

Mayor Pro Tem Higgins commented on the NPDES Program, noting the fine the City received for not having best practices in place. In response, Public Works Director Askew commented on the importance of the program and Norco's participation efforts, adding that the City is up to standards and attends the meetings.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS:

Ted Hoffman. Mr. Hoffman commented on the Public Works/Engineering Budget, noting that there are several roads in disrepair and this is an area that should not be reduced. He further commented on patrol hours, noting that the City should look at discretionary hours on a limited basis. Mr. Hoffman further commented on the water increases, noting that increases should be evaluated annually.

Ed Dixon. Mr. Dixon asked how effective parked police cars are at the entrance to the City to reduce speeding. In response, Lt. Hedge noted that this is a deterrent to see a unit visually.

Linda Dixon. Ms. Dixon thanked the Council for encouraging the contracting of a motor officer. She further noted that the Exclusive Refuse Franchise Agreement Ad-Hoc Committee did not recommend that any of the franchise fees go to NPDES funding, but to the citizens who pay that fee, adding that she would like to see that happen. She further commented on the importance of economic development, noting the businesses that have been recruited and adding that this is one area that should be funded for more than a 2-day a week employee. She also encouraged additional staff for Planning.

3. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Hanna adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

BRENDA K. JACOBS, CMC
CITY CLERK