

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE LA PALMA CITY COUNCIL
STUDY SESSION

February 11, 2013

Mayor Hwangbo called the Special Meeting of the La Palma City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 11, 2013, in the Council Chambers, 7822 Walker Street, La Palma, California with all members present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Captain Enright

ROLL CALL: Council and Commission Members

Council Members present: Council Member Charoen, Council Member
Goedhart, Mayor Hwangbo, and Council Member
Kim, and

Council Mayor Pro Tem Shanahan
Members absent:

City Officials present: Ellen Volmert, City Manager
Michael Belknap, Recreation and Community
Services Director
Douglas Dumhart, Community Development Director
Jeff Moneda, Public Works Director
Michael Solorza, Finance Director
James Enright, Police Captain
Laurie Murray, Administrative Services Manager/City
Clerk

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

1. Larry Herman, 5122 Andrew Drive, addressed the City Council regarding proposed Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD) rate increases and asked for the matter to be agendaized at a future City Council meeting.

REGULAR ITEM

1. Study Session: User Fees

- a) Receive Staff presentation on User Fees and Charges.

City Manager Volmert gave a brief introduction of the item and the meeting format and Finance Director Solorza gave a brief report.

Recreation and Community Services Director Belknap discussed the current and proposed User Fees for the Recreation and Community Services Department.

Discussion ensued regarding resident and nonresident fees, cost comparisons, the softball fields and lights, and that separate meters are not installed for the softball field lighting.

Jenelle Godges, Southern California Edison (SCE), offered that SCE might be able to provide an estimate for the hourly cost to operate the lights.

Further discussion ensued regarding field preparation costs, tennis court rentals, gazebo and pavilion rental fees, contracting out Pee Wee sports, not subsidizing recreation classes, youth sports, the Tiny Tot program, direct cost versus full cost recovery, Day Camp, Fit N Fun, advertising rates and printing costs for the *Mosaic*, and facility deposits.

Larry Herman, 5122 Andrew Drive, addressed the City Council to seek clarification on contracting out Pee Wee Sports, and reduced park office hours. He also commented on increasing fees for the Tiny Tot program and nonresident fees. He suggested contracting out the Fit N Fun program and supported staff's efforts to reduce *Mosaic* printing costs by putting the job out to bid.

The Mayor called for a short recess at 8:28 p.m.

The City Council reconvened at 8:35 p.m. with all members present.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Moneda discussed the current and proposed User Fees for Public Works.

Discussion ensued regarding the methodology used for determining fees, how direct costs were calculated, clarification of the work involved in installing different sized meters, and water service delinquent fees.

Larry Herman, 5122 Andrew Drive, addressed the City Council in opposition to raising water service delinquent fees. He also commented on street closures and Fats Oils and Grease (FOG) permits.

Community Development Dumhart described the current and proposed User Fees for Planning.

Discussion ensued regarding the elimination of artificial turf permit fees; temporary banner fees, eliminating artificial turf permits, real estate signs, a request for services to be identified as mandatory or discretionary, updating the Municipal Code to require or discontinue requiring permits for certain items; and administrative review fees.

Captain Enright described the current and proposed User Fees for the Police Department.

Discussion ensued regarding false alarm fees, loud party service fees, non response/compliance fees, DUI fees, and extra duty fees.

Captain Enright indicated that he would report back to the City Council what non response/compliance fees are.

Administrative Service Manager Murray described the current and proposed User Fees for the Administration Department budgets.

- b) Provide direction to Staff concerning the recommended fee levels for each fee or charge for service.

Discussion ensued regarding whether Staff should apply Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation rates to User Fees in future years. By consensus, with Council Members Charoen, Goedhart, and Kim being in the majority and Mayor Hwangbo being in the minority, the City Council directed staff not to apply CPI inflation rates in future years.

Further discussion ensued regarding nonresident fees for Recreation classes, with the majority of the City Council (Council Members Charoen, Goedhart, and Kim) indicating that they preferred to charge the Direct Cost of classes for non residents. Mayor Hwangbo stated that the nonresident fee should be set at \$10. Council Member Goedhart also noted that classes should not be subsidized for non residents. Council

Member Kim expressed concern over any impacts to residents from non-resident fee changes.

- c) Schedule a Public Hearing to consider adoption of an updated Master Fee Schedule for February 19, 2013.

Discussion ensued regarding the User Fee Schedule not being ready for adoption, whether fees should be set at direct cost or full recovery cost, that fees shouldn't be lowered, and that there was possibly a need for one more short discussion prior to a User Fee Schedule being adopted.

City Manager Volmert explained that because the Public Hearing had been posted for February 19 that it would be necessary to agendize the Public Hearing, open the hearing, take any public comment, and then continue the Public Hearing to another date.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Hwangbo adjourned the Special Meeting at 10:12 p.m.

Steve Hwangbo
Mayor

Attest:

Laurie A. Murray, CMC
City Clerk