

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE LA PALMA CITY COUNCIL
GOAL SETTING SESSION

January 6, 2015

Mayor Kim called the Special Meeting of the La Palma City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2015, in the Fan Palm Room, La Palma Community Center, at 7821 Walker Street, La Palma, California with Mayor Pro Tem Goedhart, Council Member Hwangbo, Mayor Kim, Council Member Steggell, Council Member Shanahan, City Manager Volmert, and Management Analyst Corbin present.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

1. Larry Herman, 5122 Andrew Drive, addressed the City Council asking the status of the City's financial obligations and requested that they consider senior programs.
2. Jim Johnson, 7511 Mark Circle, addressed the City Council regarding their concerns for the budget and asked them to consider reviewing the budget more than once a year as his business practiced.

REGULAR ITEM

1. Goal Setting Session

The City Council met for the purpose of conducting a Goal Setting Session. Breaks were taken at intervals during the evening as follows:

The Mayor called for a short recess at 8:02 p.m.

The City Council reconvened at 8:15 p.m. with all members present.

The City Council discussed potential goals and their priority for 2015.

Discussion continued and the outcomes of the session are summarized below and will be brought forward for a formal vote at the January 20, 2015, City Council meeting.

2015 Goals

1. Make a City Council decision regarding the billboard project by April, with a minimum of one site.
2. Maintain a sustainable balanced budget which includes the following:
 - a. Receive a mid-year budget/financial status report in February which includes a clear analysis of the City's financial status and a plan to balance the 2014-15 budget (including a decision on adopted budget items which were to return to the City Council for decisions at mid-year);
 - b. Improve the 2015-16 budget process including more City Council discussion and at least one dedicated work session;
 - c. Improve the transparency, ease of understanding, and accuracy of the 2015-16 budget document; and,
 - d. Adopt a 2015-16 budget which is balanced without the use of reserves for operations, or use of one-time monies for ongoing expenditures, and which is consistent with the forecast for the longer term.
3. Complete a study of modernization of the utility users' tax by December 2015 in preparation for decision making regarding a potential November 2016 ballot measure.
4. Address the water/sewer funds operational deficits by September 2015.
5. Maintain Quality of Life through beautification, continuous improvement in operations and services, and improvement in communications. Emphasis is on the City's core responsibilities including maintaining strong police and fire services, infrastructure, keeping residents happy, and providing services and protection.
6. Approve the Zoning Code in 2015.
7. Meet the State mandate of reducing City water usage and permanently reduce the City's water usage.
8. Complete labor negotiations for 2015.
9. Have a City Council discussion regarding whether or not to go forward with a school district survey of residents north of Houston and include the historic context of the issue. Survey to be followed by a decision on whether or not to put resources into creating a strategy and action plan going forward.
10. Promote and achieve a better business environment through implementation of the Economic Development Action Plan recommendations, especially those concerning streamlining regulations and processes and conducting an annual meeting with existing businesses. Include a survey of business attitudes to provide an additional outlet for business input.

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ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Kim adjourned the Special Meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Peter L. Kim
Mayor

Attest:

Laurie A. Murray, CMC
City Clerk