

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE LA PALMA CITY COUNCIL

August 20, 2002

Mayor Walker called the regular meeting of the La Palma City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 20, 2002, in the Council Chambers of La Palma City Hall, 7822 Walker Street, La Palma, California.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Blake led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

INVOCATION

Mayor Pro Tem Barnes gave the Invocation.

ROLL CALL:

Councilmembers present: Lauree Aragona, Christine Barnes, Kenneth A. Blake, Alta E. Duke, Paul F. Walker

Councilmembers absent: None

City Officials present: Catherine Standiford, City Manager
Vince Giampa, Chief of Police
Ismile Noorbaksh, Director of Public Works/City Engineer
Tami K. Piscotty, Assistant to the City Manager
Paul Pitts, Director of Building & Safety
Robbeyn Bird, Director of Finance
Jan Hobson, Director of Recreation & Community Services
Joel Kuperberg, City Attorney
Peggie Turnage, Executive Assistant

PRESENTATION

Chief Giampa introduced two new employees to the Police Department, Police Officers Jeffrey Nguyen and Paul Bracciodieta.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Larry Herman, 5122 Andrew Drive, La Palma, addressed the Council to compliment the City Council staff on the selection of the contractor for the street work done in his area, the streets look great. Mr. Herman also asked the status of the proposed medians on Moody Street, north of La Palma Avenue.

City Manager Catherine Standiford responded that this project had been put on hold pending the outcome of the utility user tax measure. She added it is included in the Capital Improvement Program for this next year.

Director of Public Works/City Engineer Ismile Noorbaksh added that the final design plan for this project should be finalized by next week and hopefully would come before Council at one of the September Council meetings.

Councilmember Duke stated she concurred with Mr. Herman's comments and added that she found the contractor to be very cooperative with the residents in the area in getting their cards in and out.

RECESS

Mayor Walker recessed the City Council to convene as the Community Development Commission at 7:09 p.m. (See separate Community Development and Planning Commission Minutes.)

RECONVENING

Mayor Walker reconvened the meeting in regular session at 9:56 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Blake made a motion to approve the following item on the Consent Calendar:

APPROVED THE AUGUST 5, 2002 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2002-49 APPROVING A REGISTER OF DEMANDS FOR AUGUST 20, 2002

AUTHORIZED THE ATTENDANCE OF MAYOR WALKER, MAYOR PRO TEM BARNES, AND COUNCILMEMBERS BLAKE AND DUKE AT THE LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN LONG BEACH, OCTOBER 2-5, 2002 AND DESIGNATED MAYOR WALKER AS THE CITY OF LA PALMA'S VOTING DELEGATE AT THE LEAGUE'S GENERAL ASSEMBLY

RATIFIED THE ISSUANCE OF A PURCHASE ORDER TO GENERAL PUMP COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,542.00 FOR THE EMERGENCY REHABILITATION OF THE CITY YARD WELL AND ELECTRIC MOTOR UNDER CITY CODE SECTION 2-46, "EXCEPTION TO BIDDING PROCEDURE-EMERGENCIES"

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Aragona and carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Aragona, Barnes, Blake, Duke, Walker
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS FROM CITY-AFFILIATED COMMITTEES/COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilmember Aragona reported that she had the honor of attending the Anaheim Union High School Board Meeting at which La Palma resident Brian O'Neal took his Oath of Office. She also reported that she attended Assemblyman Harman's Job Fair at Cypress College, which was very successful. She added that she had the opportunity to discuss the State budget with Assemblyman Harman and reported that the feeling is that local government will take some very substantial hits come January. She thanked the Council and staff for honoring her request to move the last Council Meeting to August 5th to allow her to honor a family commitment. She added that while she was in New York she went to "Ground Zero" and it was very moving.

Councilmember Aragona stated she has received several phone calls about the Pacific Electric right-of-way. She explained that two years ago we were told that the trains would stop and landscaping would begin but the trains are still running and, in fact, they have increased and are running on the weekend. She added that she also received a phone call regarding graffiti on the train bridge that runs east and west over the creek and asked staff if they could contact the appropriate cities to encourage graffiti removal.

Councilmember Duke stated that she attended the Orange County Council of Governments General Assembly and reported that the speaker was Robert Tolliman who spoke on Regionalism and Collaboration. She added that the big issue is the State Constitutional Amendment to protect the local resources. She also reported that a panel has been formed to study the State finances. In addition, cities were encouraged to be more supportive of school districts in their planning of school sites using set aside monies to assist them.

Councilmember Duke announced that the last Concert in the Park is coming up and the performers will be "The Answer." She reported that the concerts have been going well and the pie and ice cream sales have been going very well.

Councilmember Blake stated that he attended the Operations, Maintenance and Technical Assistance Committee for the Orange County Sanitation District at which an update was presented on the Southern California Edison electrical vault explosion. He reported that it has been determined the explosion was due to the contractor's employee error. He added that the quick medical attention given by the Sanitation District staff probably saved the employee's life. He added that they also presented an update on the bleach disinfectant process and reported they are getting 99.9% kill on the bacteria. Staff has already started working on an action plan for the conversion of full secondary treatment but it will take ten years to get into full secondary treatment. An addendum to improve the activated flood aeration basin selectors project at Plan 1 was also approved.

Councilmember Blake asked staff to contact the Walgreen's Express regarding their landscaping because residents complaining about the weeds have contacted him.

Mayor Pro Tem Barnes stated that she also attended the Orange County COG meeting and reported that the consensus of the group was to include representation from the Orange County

Superintendents Education Office and also Chamber representation. She also reported that all 34 cities are now part of that COG. She also stated that she attended the Orange County League of California Cities Meeting and reported that it doesn't look like there will be a VLF reduction this year, but in January it is still a possibility. There will also probably be increases in taxes on cigarettes and corporate taxes. She stated that she attended the West Orange County Council of Governments and Mayor Bruce Barrows presented an update on the Orange Line. In addition, Vicky Wilson, Orange County Public Facilities Director, gave an informative presentation on the NPDES permit requirements. She also reported that La Palma would host the next meeting of the West Orange County cities COG. She reminded everyone that the Legislative Mixer would be on Thursday at the Los Alamitos Air Base sponsored by PacBell and PacificCare.

Mayor Walker thanked everyone for excusing him from the last meeting, with all the recent fires it made it difficult for him to rearrange his schedule.

Vector Control Representative Larry Herman stated that at the last meeting most of the presentation revolved around the West Nile Virus. He reported that it has been discovered in all of the states east of the Rockies but it is not expected to reach the west coast until next year. He explained that the virus originally started in Africa in the 30's and the bird migratory patterns have brought it into Europe and eventually it came to North America and into this country. To track the virus, all the Vector Control Districts in California, or at least Southern California, have bird flocks that they routinely bleed to check for the virus. In Orange County they have a cage where they trap wild birds, take blood samples and then release the birds. He also stated that the mosquitoes, which are the carriers, are more apt to bite mammals like horses, rather than humans. He added that the climate here is quite different and secondly, Vector Control has been treating mosquitoes in Southern California for a long time so they have controls in place that work well.

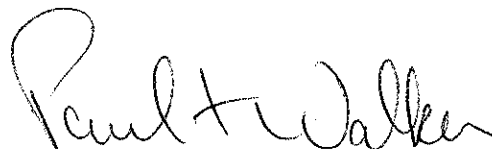
Mayor Walker reported that he attended a funeral in New York for one of his New York brothers from Squad One. He stated that the firemen had made a uniform the fireman's six-year-old son and it was very moving.

CITY MANGER REMARKS

City Manager Catherine Standiford reminded everyone that the City will be planning a September 11th Memorial Ceremony for that evening and more details will follow.

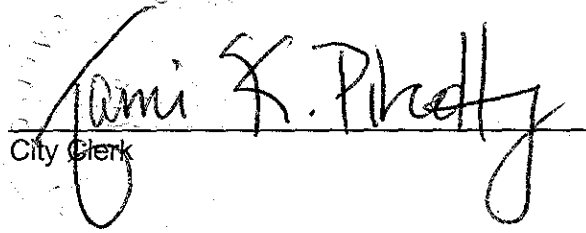
ADJOURNMENT

The City Council adjourned at 10:25 p.m.



Mayor

ATTEST:


City Clerk