

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE LA PALMA CITY COUNCIL

March 15, 2011

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Rodriguez called the Regular Meeting of the La Palma City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of La Palma City Hall, 7822 Walker Street, La Palma, California.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Pro Tem Charoen

INVOCATION: Pastor Jerry Bennett, Faith Fellowship Church

ROLL CALL: Council and Commission Members

Council/Commission Members present: Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chairperson Charoen, Council/Commission Member Hwangbo, Mayor/Chairperson Rodriguez, Council/Commission Member Shanahan, and Council/Commission Member Waldman

Council/Commission Members absent: None

City Officials present: Dominic Lazzaretto, City Manager/Executive Director  
Joel Kuperberg, City Attorney  
Michael Belknap, Recreation & Community Services Director  
Douglas Dumhart, Community Development Director  
Jeff Moneda, Public Works Director/City Engineer  
Keith Neves, Finance Director  
Kimberly Kenney, Minutes Clerk

PRESENTATIONS

1. Mayor Rodriguez presented a Proclamation to National Multiple Sclerosis Society Representative, Frank Austin, in recognition of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week.

## ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Larry Herman, 5122 Andrew Drive, the City's Orange County Vector Control District representative, thanked Community Development Director Dumhart for the La Palma Community Development marketing packets that he plans to take to the American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) conference.

Michelle Stegell, 5035 Via Brenda, addressed the City Council regarding the services that her company offers to home owners that are having a difficult financial time.

## RECESS THE CITY COUNCIL AND CONVENE AS THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AT 7:10 P.M.

## CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Community Development Commission Minutes

Minutes of the February 15, and March 1, 2011, Regular Meetings of the La Palma Community Development Commission.

B. Approval of Register of Demands

Resolution No. CDC 2011-09 approving a Register of Demands for March 15, 2011.

Vice Chairperson Charoen made a motion to approve Consent Calendar Items A and B.

The motion was seconded by Commission Member Shanahan and carried on the following vote:

AYES: Vice Chairperson Charoen, Commission Member Hwangbo, Chairperson Rodriguez, Commission Member Shanahan, and Commission Member Waldman

NOES: None

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

None Scheduled.

REGULAR ITEMS

None Scheduled.

ADJOURN THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, AND CONVENE AS THE PLANNING COMMISSION AT 7:11 P.M.

CONSENT CALENDAR

PL-1. Approval of Planning Commission Minutes

Minutes of the February 15, and March 1, 2011, Regular Meetings of the La Palma Planning Commission.

Commission Member Waldman made a motion to approve Consent Calendar Items PL-1.

The motion was seconded by Commission Member Shanahan and carried on the following vote:

AYES: Vice Chairperson Charoen, Commission Member Hwangbo, Chairperson Rodriguez, Commission Member Shanahan, and Commission Member Waldman

NOES: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None Scheduled.

REGULAR ITEMS

None Scheduled.

ADJOURN THE PLANNING COMMISSION, AND RECONVENE AS THE CITY COUNCIL AT 7:12 P.M.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Waive the Reading of All Ordinances

Waive the reading of all Ordinances in their entirety and read by title only.

2. Approval of Council Minutes

Minutes of the February 15, and March 1, 2011, Regular Meetings of the La Palma City Council and the Minutes of the February 16, and February 25, 2011, Special Meetings of the La Palma City Council.

3. Approval of Register of Demands

Resolution No. 2011-10 approving the Register of Demands for March 15, 2011.

4. Destruction of Obsolete Records

Resolution No. 2011-11 authorizing the destruction of obsolete records pursuant to the California Government Code Section 34090.

5. Annual Progress Report of the General Plan - Fiscal Year 2009-10

Resolution No. 2011-12 approving the 2009-10 Annual Progress Report on the status of the General Plan.

Council Member Waldman made a motion to approve Consent Calendar Items 1 through 5.

The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Charoen and carried on the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Pro Tem Charoen, Council Member Hwangbo, Mayor Rodriguez, Council Member Shanahan, and Council Member Waldman

NOES: None

ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

6. Agreement with the Municipal Water District of Orange County

Approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the Agreement with the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC).

Mayor Rodriguez asked to table Item 6 to the April 5, 2011, City Council meeting to allow other Orange County cities the ability to review the Agreement.

Council Member Waldman made a motion to table the Agreement with the Municipal Water District of Orange County to the April 5, 2011, City Council meeting. By consensus, the City Council agreed.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

None Scheduled.

## REGULAR ITEMS

7. Adoption of an Ordinance Amending Chapters 17 and 26 of the La Palma City Code Pertaining to Fences, Walls, and Hedges

Community Development Director Dumhart gave the Staff Report.

Council Member Waldman made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-02 Amending Chapters 17 and 26 of the La Palma City Code Pertaining to Fences, Walls, and Hedges.

The motion was seconded by Council Member Shanahan and carried on the following vote:

AYES: Council Member Hwangbo, Mayor Rodriguez,  
Council Member Shanahan, and Council  
Member Waldman

NOES: Mayor Pro Tem Charoen

8. Council Member Request: Annual Arbor Day Program

City Manager Lazzaretto gave a brief overview and Recreation and Community Services Director Belknap gave the Staff Report.

Council Comments and Questions:

Discussion ensued regarding costs associated with the proposed program; Arbor Day typically occurring in April; that there is not enough time to conduct a program this year; the limited locations to plant trees in La Palma; planting trees at schools; that the item will be discussed at the upcoming joint City Council and Community Activities and Beautification (CAB) Committee meeting; that the City of Cypress asks local businesses to donate to their Arbor Day program; that

donations could be allocated to recover the costs of the program; the importance of tree preservation; that Arbor Day is a day to remind residents to protect trees and nature; that the program can be run at minimal cost; that the City of Cypress' program is run by a 501(c)(3) Community Foundation; that they plants trees prior to Arbor Day and only plant one tree on the actual day; that plaques are given to donors; and that the \$250 donation covers direct expenses but not staff time.

William Stecher, CAB Committee Chairperson, addressed the City Council regarding the Committee's discussion on Arbor Day; resurrecting the Arbor Day program; and that the CAB Committee plans to address the item at the upcoming joint City Council/CAB Committee meeting on March 22, 2011.

Further discussion ensued regarding waiting for the upcoming joint City Council/CAB Committee meeting prior to making a decision; support for the program with minimal or no costs; and locating space for trees.

Council Member Hwangbo asked for clarification on the next steps to take.

City Manager Lazzaretto responded that the City Council can choose to resurrect the Arbor Day program by having the CAB Committee formally proceed or can discuss the item at the upcoming joint City Council/CAB Committee meeting.

Further discussion ensued regarding the CAB Committee having already discussed the matter; that the City Council should wait for that meeting before proceeding; that Arbor Day brings the community together; that the City Council desires local school participation; that the City does not need to plant a large amount of trees; that the program is important whether the funding comes from donations or from Redevelopment dollars; and that Arbor Day would be a way to help upgrade local school frontages.

By consensus, the City Council agreed to receive and file the Staff Report.

#### COUNCILMEMBER AB1234 REPORTS, REPORTS FROM CITY-AFFILIATED COMMITTEES, AND COUNCIL REMARKS

**Council Member Hwangbo** attended the Association of California Cities - Orange County (ACC-OC) Pension Reform Committee meeting; the Anaheim Union High School District (AUHSD) board meeting; and the League of California Cities (LOCC) rally against the Governor's proposal to abolish redevelopment. He commented on the status of the Japanese earthquake and tsunami and the organized manner in which the people of Japan are dealing with the disaster. He noted that there are several residents who are personally impacted by the tragedy.

**Council Member Shanahan** attended the Denni Street Affordable Housing Ad-Hoc Committee meeting. He reported on the Japanese earthquake and tsunami disaster. He commented on support from the United States and announced that the Red Cross has set up a fund to help the victims of the disaster.

**Council Member Waldman** attended the Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD) Administration Committee meeting; the ACC-OC State Budget Update meeting; and the OCSD Ground Water Replenishment System meeting.

**Mayor Pro Tem Charoen** attended the ACC-OC State Budget Update meeting.

**Mayor Rodriguez** attended the Southern California Edison Customer Breakfast; a California Assembly Latino Caucus Leadership meeting; and a funeral in honor of Anaheim resident, Sergeant Jason Weaver. He announced that he plans to attend the upcoming Eagle Scout Court of Honor Ceremony on March 19, 2011. He commented on the Japanese earthquake and tsunami disaster and on steps the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station takes to prepare for similar disasters.

#### CITY MANAGER REMARKS

**City Manager Lazzaretto** announced that he and Police Chief Nuñez would not be out of town the remainder of the week as scheduled. He reported that the California State Assembly and Senate will vote on Governor Brown's proposed budget and that the California Redevelopment Association has created a counter proposal. He noted that the City of La Palma has received three proposals for the Denni Street Affordable Housing Project and that the item will be discussed at the upcoming April 5, 2011, City Council meeting. He reminded the City Council about an upcoming Closed Session on March 21, 2011, to discuss labor negotiations and a Joint City Council/CAB Committee meeting on March 22, 2011. He closed by commenting on the upcoming Eagle Scout Court of Honor Ceremony on March 19, 2011.

#### CITY ATTORNEY REMARKS

**City Attorney Kuperberg** reported that Statement of Economic Interest Forms are due by the end of March and announced that he is available to assist the City Council with the forms, if needed.

Council Member Hwangbo asked how the Japanese disaster has impacted La Palma's emergency preparedness plans and whether it has triggered a reevaluation of these plans.

City Manager Lazzaretto responded that the Management Team meets weekly and reviews a portion of the City's Emergency Preparedness Plan to discuss efficiencies and that Staff is planning a table-top exercise later in the year. He closed by reporting

that the Regional Operational Center kept communities apprised of potential tsunami damage to the California Coast.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Rodriguez adjourned the Regular Meeting of the La Palma City Council at 7:49 p.m. in memory of Sergeant Jason Weaver.

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Ralph D. Rodriguez  
Mayor

Attest:

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Laurie A. Murray, CMC  
City Clerk