

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE LA PALMA CITY COUNCIL

April 16, 2002

Mayor Walker called the regular meeting of the La Palma City Council to order at 7:03 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16, 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

Pastor Sandra Heer of the Fountain of Living Waters Methodist Church 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  
Jeff Kirkpatrick, Police Captain  
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  
Joan Hoesterey, Principal Planner  
Mark Austin, Deputy City Attorney  
Peggie Turnage, Executive Assistant

PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Walker presented a Proclamation recognizing Fire Service Recognition Day to Chief Mark Hawkins of the Orange County Fire Authority. Chief Hawkins thanked the City for the Proclamation and invited everyone to visit their local fire station.

City Manager Catherine Standiford introduced new city employees Regena Thyberg-Sims, Finance Department, and Jill Olivier, Recreation Department.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

There was no one who wished to address the City Council at this time.

RECESS

Mayor Walker recessed the City Council to convene as the Community Development Commission at 7:11 p.m. (See separate Community Development Commission Minutes.)

RECONVENING

Mayor Walker reconvened the meeting in regular session at 7:13 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Duke pulled Item No. 6.

Mayor Walker pulled Item No. 4

Mayor Pro Tem Barnes made a motion to approve the following items on the Consent Calendar:

APPROVED THE APRIL 2, 2002 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2002-17 APPROVING A REGISTER OF DEMANDS FOR APRIL 16, 2002

ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2002-18 DECLARING THE RESULTS OF THE SPECIAL ELECTION HELD IN THE CITY ON MARCH 5, 2002 AND DECLARING THAT INITIATIVE ORDINANCE 2002-01, AN INITIATIVE ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LA PALMA APPROVING AND MAINTAINING THE UTILITY USERS TAX IN EFFECT SINCE 1994, WAS ADOPTED BY A MAJORITY OF THE VOTERS

ACCEPTED THE WORK AND AUTHORIZED THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO FILE THE NOTICE OF COMPLETION AND ACCEPTANCE OF WORK WITH THE ORANGE COUNTY RECORDER FOR THE PURCHASE OF LIGHT EMITTING DIODE (L.E.D.) UNITS FOR CITY TRAFFIC SIGNALS, CITY PROJECT NO. ST-247

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

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

PURCHASE OF ONE LAW ENFORCEMENT ALTERNATIVE FUEL PICK-UP TRUCK

Mayor Walker stated he had had some concerns on this item, which had been answered by the City Manager. He asked Ms. Standiford to share this information with the Council and audience.

Ms. Standiford explained that the La Palma Police Department has had the benefit of a 1980's era Chevy pickup truck that was seized in a drug raid which they have been using to tow the radar board which also functions as emergency lighting and helps for traffic control. The City has an opportunity to replace that vehicle with funds received through the South Coast Air Quality Management District. These funds have to be used for vehicles or other equipment, which reduce emissions. She also stated that another intent of having the pickup truck is that the City also has an opportunity to purchase a mobile command post. She explained that the City used to have a mobile command post in the form of a very old motor home which was shared with the City of Cypress and this command post is used when there is an incident in the community like a flood or other natural disaster or for a community event which provides some flexibility to have staff out in the field. Grant funds have been received from the State and Federal governments that need to be used for law enforcement purposes. She added that these grant funds have a certain time limit on them and if the City does not spend the funds they go back into a state pool. Assuming that the purchase of the truck is approved, it is staff's intention to come back and request approval to purchase the mobile command post using those grant funds. She stated the reason that purchase of the truck is before Council for consideration before the mobile command post is because the Chevy pickup that the City already has is not capable of hauling a mobile command post trailer and it doesn't make much sense to order a mobile command post trailer unless the Council is willing to allow staff to purchase the truck necessary to haul it. Neither the truck nor command post trailer would be funded out of General Funds.

Mayor Walker made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2002-19 Authorizing the Purchase of One Law Enforcement Vehicle. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Blake and carried on the following roll call vote:

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

#### RESURFACING AND RUBBERIZED SLURRY SEALING ON VARIOUS CITY STREETS

Councilmember Duke stated she must abstain on this item because she lives in the project area.

Mr. Larry Herman, 5122 Andrew Drive, La Palma, addressed the Council to ask the life expectancy of the rubberized slurry sealing versus the resurfacing.

Director of Public Works/City Engineer responded that the life expectancy of the rubberized slurry seal is approximately five to seven years and the resurfacing is eight to ten years.

Mr. Herman stated that due to the condition of Andrew Drive and the fact that it is heavily traveled by residents in the area, he would like to see it resurfaced as well.

Mayor Walker commented that he had noticed many areas on Andrew Drive marked for repair and asked if it wouldn't be feasible to resurface at least those sections of the street.

Councilmember Aragona stated she met with Mr. Noorbaksh about the excessive water runoff on Andrew Drive, but it was cost-prohibitive to re-route the water into a catch basin to Walker Street.

Councilmember Blake asked what the cost difference would be between the slurry seal and the resurfacing.

Mr. Noorbaksh responded that without being able to do any calculations, he thought it would be approximately \$40,000.00 to \$50,000.00 more. He suggested that one solution might be to solicit bids for resurfacing and also solicit bids for a combination slurry seal and resurfacing and then make the decision based on the costs.

Councilmember Aragona made a motion to amend the Plans and Specifications to allow for two options on the bidding and authorized the Director of Public Works to solicit competitive bids for Resurfacing and Rubberized Slurry Sealing on Various City Streets, City Project No. ST-252. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Blake and carried on the following roll call vote:

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

#### REGULAR ITEMS

#### AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO REGULATION OF ADULT BUSINESSES

City Manager Catherine Standiford stated that this item is the second reading of an ordinance that was before the Council at its April 2, 2002 meeting. She explained that this ordinance essentially brings the adult business ordinance into compliance with a wide variety of federal laws.

Mayor Pro Tem Barnes made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2002-02, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of La Palma, Amending Chapter 15A and Chapter 26 of the La Palma Municipal Code Relating to the Regulation of Adult Businesses. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Duke and carried on the following roll call vote:

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

### THIRD QUARTER REVENUE REPORT

City Manager Catherine Standiford stated that a comparison of the third quarter revenues indicates that revenues this year are currently \$61,913.00 lower than for the same time period last year. She pointed out that this shortfall is primarily due to a decline in sales tax and lower interest rates while revenues from Recreation Fees and Charges, Utility Users Tax, and Business License Fees are all slightly higher than were projected. Ms. Standiford stated that based upon third quarter data the projected revenue is \$241,893.00, or approximately 3.1 percent less than originally budgeted for this fiscal year. She recommended that the Council continue with the actions it took to reduce General Fund expenditures on November 2, 2001 through the end of this fiscal year. In addition, she recommended that the City Council seriously consider deferring or postponing the award of any contract for capital projects which will require ongoing General Fund supported maintenance costs until such time as the economic outlook warrants such action. Ms. Standiford also reported that staff is anticipating a 2% revenue reduction for the next fiscal year and staff will be looking at ways to make reductions in the coming fiscal year budget by that 2% projected deficit.

Councilmember Blake asked if the City would receive the full amount of vehicle in-lieu fees. Ms. Standiford responded that this is an election year and all signs indicate that there will not be any reduction in vehicle in-lieu fees for this fiscal year. However, there is no guarantee that after the elections the state could possibly reduce or eliminate these funds to cities.

Councilmember Blake asked if there has been any decision from the County Auditor/Controller regarding the Poole property tax case.

Ms. Standiford responded that the net impact would be approximately \$180,000.00 but the County has backed off on its initial plan to withhold property tax payments from the cities. She stated that the City has received a letter from the Auditor-Controller advising that, as a result of a recent case pertaining to pass-through fees in relation to redevelopment, they plan to withhold a 2% amount for the various school districts that serve La Palma. In addition, the statute of limitations goes back three years. She added that she has been in contact with one of the school districts that have indicated that they would use those funds for capital improvements for the school that is located in La Palma.

Councilmember Aragona stated that she feels the Council needs to keep the cost constraints in effect and be realistic that they might need to tighten the belt a little more.

Mayor Pro Tem Barnes commented that the League of California Cities, Action for Better Cities, becomes very important.

Mayor Walker thanked staff for their continued effort and hard work.

### COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS FROM CITY-AFFILIATED COMMITTEES/COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilmember Aragona stated she attended a Junior Women's League Meeting in Newport Beach on behalf of the Mayor and reported that the topic was Domestic Abuse and Children at

Risk. She also reported that Supervisor Wilson spoke and reported that an airport at El Toro is a dead issue. She also reported that the Neighborhood Watch Meeting had an excellent demonstration by Sergeants Nunez and Engen on the new rifles that will be in La Palma's police units.

Mayor Walker asked what type of rifles these are and if they are mounted in the trunk.

Chief Giampa responded the rifles are AR15 Patrol Rifles and they are mounted in the vehicle replacing the shotguns that were formerly mounted in the vehicle. The less lethal weapons are carried in the trunks of the vehicles. Chief Giampa added that the best part is that there is no General Fund expenditures for any of these rifles.

Councilmember Aragona stated she attended a Friends of Education Dinner for the Anaheim Union High School District and commented how impressive it was to find that so many La Palma residents have received this honor. She also stated that she attended a Legislative meeting sponsored by the three Chambers with Mayor Pro Tem Barnes. Councilmember Aragona stated that she is a member of the California League of Cities Elected Officials Leadership Academy Program and also the Program Committee for the Monterey Forum and thanked the Council for the input they have shared with her. She briefly reviewed procedures for the Leadership Academy and shared some of the plans for the Monterey Forum.

Councilmember Aragona commended Director of Public Works/City Engineer for his prompt response to a call she had referred to him from a resident on Amberwood concerning traffic safety. She also announced that the Continental Little League is holding a fundraiser at Carl's Jr. on April 25<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 9 p.m. and they will donate 25% of the total sales to the Continental Little League. She also reported that Cerritos Mayor Pro Tem Gloria Kappe has accepted the challenge for the May 4<sup>th</sup> Sarcodosis Walk at Central Park.

Councilmember Blake reported that he attended the Orange County Fire Authority, which was a closed session on labor negotiations, and there were no reportable actions. He commented that the slurry seal on Westra Lane is coming up and stated that it may have to be resealed. He added that he has been getting a lot of complaints about a streetlight that is out on Warwick Circle. Mr. Noorbaksh responded that he would contact Edison.

Councilmember Duke stated she attended the first task force of the SCAG CEHD committee to look at tax law income equity. She announced that this year's Acacia Dinner would be held on November 16<sup>th</sup> at the Santa Ana Performing Arts Center. She also reported that she would be meeting with the Executive Board for the Orange County Library to consider the budget for next year. She announced that SCAG would be having a General Meeting at Lake Arrowhead. She also reported on the School Site Meeting at Kennedy High School and outlined some of the expansion plans for Kennedy, including the new Auditorium.

Mayor Pro Tem Barnes stated she attended the West Orange County Legislative Committee and reported that two letters of opposition were sent to the Assembly regarding the soda tax bill. They also asked for a moratorium on all health care bills that could affect employers and cities throughout the state. She also reported that she attended the Orange County League of Cities

that was very informative. She encouraged everyone to participate in the Sarcodosis Challenge and to attend the Chamber Luncheon on Thursday.

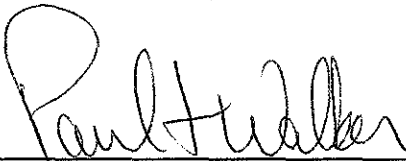
Councilmember Duke announced that Arbor Day would be on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, which is also Volunteer Day and encouraged everyone to put on their work clothes and come out to Denni Street.

Mayor Walker stated he attended the Sanitation District meeting and reported that they discussed adding more chlorine to the outflow water. He added that is on hold because of the issue on secondary treatment. He reported that there are seven cities that have signed on in opposition to the 301 Waiver. He stated that he had an informal meeting with Supervisor Silva and reported that the Supervisor is now committed to making the park at El Toro work. He also stated that Supervisor Silva is delighted to have La Palma in his District.

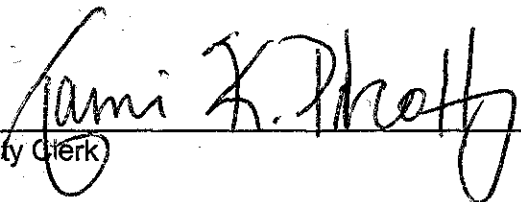
Vector Control Representative Larry Herman stated that he doesn't have anything to report on the Orange County Fire Ant Authority funding from the State. He reported that the paragraph in the update of the California Health and Safety Code which read, "a board of supervisors and a City Council shall not appoint an officer or an employee of a County or a City to a Board of Trustees" has been dropped.

ADJOURNMENT

The City Council adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

  
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Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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City Clerk