

MINUTES OF THE ADJOURNED MEETING
OF THE LA PALMA CITY COUNCIL

November 18, 2002

Mayor Walker called the City Council Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The City Council recessed to a Closed Session pursuant to the following:

Government Code Section 549567.6:

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS: Steve Filarsky and Tami Piscotty
La Palma General Employees Association
La Palma Police Association

RECONVENING

Mayor Walker called the adjourned meeting of the La Palma City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 18, 2002, in the Council Chambers of La Palma City Hall, 7822 Walker Street, La Palma, California.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Miss La Palma Kiley Pratt led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

INVOCATION

Pastor Michael Heher of St. Irenaeus Catholic 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
Tami Piscotty, Assistant to the City Manager
Ismile Noorbaksh, Director of Public Works/City Engineer
Paul Pitts, Director of Building & Safety
Robbeyn Bird, Director of Finance
Jan Hobson, Director of Recreation & Community Services
Joel Kuperberg, City Attorney
Crystal Wilkerson, Senior Office Assistant

PRESENTATIONS

Board Member Tim Keenan of the Orange County Transportation Authority stated that he has served with Councilmember Aragona on a number of different regional committees and he has tremendous respect for her regional view and support. He added that he has appointed Councilmember Aragona to the OCTA Citizens Advisory Committee. Mr. Keenan, with the assistance of Community Representative Jennifer Emmy, then presented Mayor Walker with a check for \$136,800.00 from funds made available from Measure M to be used for the widening of the Moody Street Bridge over the Coyote Creek Channel.

Director of Recreation & Community Services Jan Hobson introduced Recreation Coordinator Noel Munivez to present Miss La Palma and her Court. Mr. Munivez stated that the pageant held on November 7th was a packed house and was very successful. Mr. Munivez recognized the committee members and then introduced Miss La Palma Kiley Pratt, First Runner Up Jody Kelly, and Princess Sarah Goldsberry. Second Runner Up Jamy Lin, and princesses Priscilla Albarian, Jessica Lem, and Katie McElderry were unable to be present.

Mayor Walker stated that this is the last full meeting for Councilmember Aragona and at this time there are several presentations to be made.

Assemblyman Tom Harman presented Councilmember Aragona a Resolution from the California Legislature, the Assembly, and in particular from himself. He commended her for the magnificent job that she has done for the City of La Palma.

Mayor Walker presented Councilmember Aragona with a State Resolution on behalf of Senator Ross Johnson and a certificate on behalf of Congressman Ed Royce. He explained that Senator Johnson and Congressman Royce were unable to attend this evening.

Mayor Walker and the City Council presented Councilmember Aragona with a City Tile in appreciation for her dedicated service and valuable contributions to the City of La Palma.

Councilmember Blake stated that the Council would definitely miss Councilmember Aragona and added that hopefully she will continue to work behind the scenes on behalf of the City of La Palma.

Councilmember Duke stated that this community and this City Council have been blessed to have had the privilege of working with Councilmember Aragona for the past four years. Councilmember Duke added that the number of committees that she sat on and contributed to is mind-boggling. She thanked Councilmember Aragona for her work here and for her friendship as well.

Mayor Pro Tem Barnes stated that Councilmember Aragona has always been very supportive of the work she does outside of Council. She described Councilmember Aragona as caring, compassionate and energetic. She shared the following quote, "Diligence beyond duty" and stated that is what she feels Councilmember Aragona has accomplished. She concluded by

stating that Councilmember Aragona has been a fantastic mentor to her and she will always appreciate that and will miss her.

Mayor Walker stated that he met Councilmember Aragona six years ago when the Blue Ribbon Committee was formed. He stated that without reservation, he was very proud of her and delighted when she was elected to the City Council. He added that she is tireless and never stops; she is always doing something for the City. He congratulated Councilmember Aragona, wished her all the best and stated that he is sad to see her go.

Ms. Charlene Hatakeyama, on behalf of the La Palma Chamber of Commerce, presented Councilmember Aragona with a bouquet of flowers and commended her for her support of the businesses in La Palma. She stated that she has known Councilmember Aragona for a number of years and has grown in her respect and admiration for her.

Mr. Cliff Ishii stated that Councilmember Aragona is a million dollar Councilwoman who has brought millions of dollars to the City and gave her a million thanks.

Mr. Brian O'Neal stated that even before Councilmember Aragona was on Council it was obvious that she really took an interest in the City and everyone around here. She helped citizens resolve issues before she came on Council and she has been helping to resolve issues ever since and he is sorry to see her step down. He added that he also appreciated the mentoring she gave him when he was on the City Council.

Mr. Duane Schuster stated that he has worked with Councilmember Aragona for several years as Hugs the Bear and also as a member of the Lions Club and reminded everyone that she is La Palma's Americana Award recipient for this year.

City Manager Catherine Standiford stated that Councilmember Aragona will always have a special place in her heart because she was the Mayor that gave her her first City Manager job. On behalf of the City staff she thanked Councilmember Aragona because she has always been incredibly supportive of the City, its programs, and the hard work that staff does. She wished Councilmember Aragona good luck on her transition.

Councilmember Aragona thanked everyone for being here tonight and stated it really meant a lot to her. She stated there are a lot present in this room who have been friends forever and new friends as well. She stated she is not going away, she will just be wearing a different hat. She thanked everyone for standing by her, many tough decisions were faced, and some easy as well, and everyone has been there through both. She introduced her husband Joe, her daughter Jodi and husband Tom, and Tom's parents John and Rene Lukacs and stated that her family is very important to her and is her number one priority. She explained that her son, his wife and their son Austin, were all with her Granddaughter Amanda this evening who was singing in a choir that performs at Senior Citizens Homes and Hospices.

Councilmember Aragona commented that sometimes you wonder why you do something and stated that she felt there was a need for someone like herself who had a lot of energy and a lot of interest in other people and that's what she has tried to continue while she has served. Some of

her goals were to bring about a strong street maintenance program. She also wanted to share her beliefs that you give for the greater good and you don't worry about what it costs you to do that. She stated that one of her first goals was to increase La Palma's exposure in the County, in the region and in the State, improve La Palma's stature and put it on the map. She added that she also wanted to reach out to the surrounding communities like the City of Cerritos and encourage working together and she also wanted to reach out to the school districts that weren't part of the La Palma family yet. She reported that we now have open enrollment for the students at Kennedy and Walker. Councilmember Aragona stated that when she came on Council she noted that there was not a line item in the Budget for the Seniors and senior transportation and reported that they now have a free van that provides transportation for the seniors and funds are allocated in the budget for senior programs. She shared some of her experiences in Sacramento and thanked Los Alamitos City Manager Bob Dominguez, former Cypress City Manager Mark Ochendusko and Cypress City Councilmember Tim Keenan for their encouragement and stated that these three men remain her mentors today. Councilmember Aragona stated that one of her proudest moments was completing the Edison right-of-way and thanked Assemblyman Tom Harman and Senator Ross Johnson for coming to La Palma's aid when negotiations with Southern California Edison stalled. She added that Cerritos is following La Palma's lead and has named their Edison right-of-way project El Rancho Verde Park West.

Councilmember Aragona stated that there are so many in the room that she has to thank for believing in her and feeling that she had something to offer, and she appreciates that. She stated that just because she is stepping down does not mean that she's not going to continue to support the things she believes in. She will still be involved. She thanked staff and stated that she hoped there is not a department represented this evening that doesn't know how much she appreciates the hard work that they do. She thanked everyone in the room, they made her think outside the box, and stated that it's been a wonderful, challenging four years and it's been a pleasure to make new friends and work with everyone.

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 7:38 p.m. (See separate Community Development Commission Minutes.)

RECONVENING

Mayor Walker reconvened the meeting in regular session at 7:39 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Walker pulled Item No. 5 from the Consent Calendar.

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

APPROVED THE NOVEMBER 5, 2002 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2002-60 APPROVING A REGISTER OF DEMANDS FOR NOVEMBER 18, 2002

APPROVED AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN EDCO DISPOSAL CORPORATION (dba PARK DISPOSAL) AND THE CITY OF LA PALMA TO PROVIDE FOR AN ANNUALLY RENEWING PROVISION

ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2002-61 APPROVING PROGRAM SUPPLEMENT NO. 004-M TO ADMINISTER AGENCY-STATE AGREEMENT FOR FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT NO. 12-5319 FOR THE REHABILITATION OF ORANGETHORPE AVENUE FROM MOODY STREET TO COYOTE CREEK CHANNEL, CITY PROJECT NO. ST-230

APPROVED THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS TO SOLICIT COMPETITIVE BIDS FOR THE WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AT THE CITY YARD AND WALKER WELL SITES, CITY PROJECT NO. 02-WTR-03

ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2002-62 EXTENDING THE TERM OF THE CABLE FRANCHISE HELD BY MEDIA ONE OF CYPRESS, INC., LOCALLY KNOWN AS AT&T BROADBAND

ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2002-63 APPROVING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA PALMA AND THE LA PALMA GENERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION AND ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2002-64 AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2001-19 FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESIGNATING CERTAIN EMPLOYEES IN REGULAR FULL-TIME POSITIONS AS CONFIDENTIAL EMPLOYEES AND RESTRICTING SUCH EMPLOYEES FROM REPRESENTING ANY EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION ON MATTERS WITHIN THE SCOPE OF EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATION PURSUANT TO THE EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE RELATIONS RESOLUTION

RECEIVED AND FILED THE INVESTMENT REPORT AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2002

RECEIVED AND FILED THE FIRST QUARTER REVENUE REPORT

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

AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR MEDIAN IMPROVEMENTS ON MOODY STREET

Mayor Walker explained that this item was pulled due to the fact that Councilmember Blake must abstain because three of the bidders are customers of his employer and Councilmember Barnes must abstain because she lives within 500 feet of the project area.

The Council approved the award of a contract in the amount of \$246,660.50 to PA Engineering, Inc. on the following roll call vote:

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

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS FROM CITY-AFFILIATED COMMITTEES/COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilmember Duke stated that she attended the Orange County Library Board meeting and reported that there was nothing new to report, they are waiting to see what will develop with the State Budget and they are working on possibilities for the worst-case scenarios. She added that they have a very good film that presents an overview of the administrative portion of the Orange County Library and suggested that perhaps when there is a light Agenda, it could be shown at a Council Meeting.

Vector Control Representative Larry Herman stated that he attended a special meeting of the Maintenance and Vehicle Committee and reported that they will be recommending approval of \$750,000 for a new maintenance vehicle building to the Board of Trustees. He added that this will also include new fishponds for mosquito fish.

Councilmember Blake stated he had the honor of speaking to Academy No. 25 on the Orange County Fire Authority. He added that with 27 recruits coming in and an estimated 135 leaving in the next three years, obviously they have a shortfall.

Councilmember Blake reported he attended the Acacia Day Care Center fund-raiser, which was a very nice affair and commented on Councilmember Duke's World War II Army uniform.

Councilmember Blake stated that unfortunately La Palma Days was rained out and reported that he had 50 cars lined up which he had to call on Friday afternoon to cancel.

Mayor Pro Tem Barnes stated that she attended the Anaheim Union High School Facilities Task Force and added that Mr. Getchel reported that the soil in La Palma is the worst. She reported that the Kennedy Auditorium is going to be state of the art and a world-class facility if they can get the soil under control. She stated that there are two model classrooms available if anyone wants

to see them. She added they are a little different and the models give teachers and staff the opportunity to work out the quirks of the classrooms before they start construction.

Mayor Pro Tem Barnes stated that she attended the Orange County League of California Cities meeting and the speaker from the Department of Housing and Community Development gave a very interesting overview of the department, what they are doing, and the money available since the last proposition passed. After the dinner she attended the City Selection Committee Meeting and reported that several votes were taken on two of the positions and selection of the District 5 Orange County Transportation Authority representative is being put off until January.

Mayor Pro Tem Barnes stated that she also attended the Acacia Day Care Center fund-raiser and loved it.

Councilmember Duke reported that SCAG, at this point, is not moving ahead with the RHEINA process because of lack of funding.

Mayor Walker stated he attended the Sanitation District Board Meeting and reported there is an on-going issue for the bio-solid waste disposal with Kern and King Counties legislation. He explained that the District purchased property in these counties five years ago but they are not allowed to dump bio-solids there because the issue is in litigation. He added that it looks like they will be going to full secondary and will probably be doing bio-solids A which is an additional cost which will hopefully be an easier solution to dumping. He stated that they are currently taking the waste out to the Mohave Desert, which is getting pricey.

Councilmember Aragona stated she sat in on the interview process for a new CEO at La Palma Hospital and also met with the interim CEO who is anxious to reach out to the community and added that there will be a Disaster Preparedness meeting tomorrow. She reported that she has met the potential new CEO and she feels positive about how he will interact with the community.

Councilmember Aragona reported that the Chamber Mixer at EDCO Disposal was excellent and they always do a nice job.

Councilmember Aragona reported that she attended the Senior's Meeting and reminded the Council that the Seniors will be having their Christmas Luncheon in December and the date has been tentatively set as December 12th.

Councilmember Aragona stated that she attended the Acacia Day Care Center fundraiser and she, too, had a wonderful time. She added that it was really nice to see the community-wide response to adult day care.

Councilmember Aragona stated that she has appreciated the information on the housing concerns, school issues, sanitation, fire authority, and added that she finds all of those things very informative.

Councilmember Aragona thanked staff for the very nice reception and stated that it has been a pleasure to work with everyone.

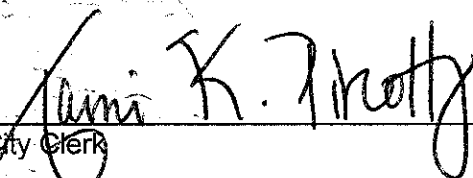
ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Walker adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m. in honor of Councilmember Aragona for her four years of dedicated service to the City of La Palma.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk