

**TWENTYNINE PALMS CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
REGULAR MEETING
6136 Adobe Road
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
www.ci.twentynine-palms.ca.us
TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2008
6:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER** - Mayor Bernal called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Jim Ricker led the Pledge of Allegiance.
INVOCATION - Father Ian Hanley, St. Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church gave the Invocation.
ROLL CALL – The following Councilmembers were present: Flock, Harris and Mayor Bernal. Councilmember Klink and Mayor Pro Tem Spear had an excused absence.

2.0 SPECIAL RECOGNITION AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2.1 Recognition of “City Employee of the Quarter”
Mayor Bernal recognized Craig Stacey as the “City Employee of the Quarter” for the period ending December 31, 2007. She said that Craig has been with the City since June 2001 and is a Maintenance Worker IV in the Public Works Department.
- 2.2 Introduction of Morongo Basin Sheriff’s Station Command
Captain Donnie Miller addressed the City Council and said that he is very proud and happy to have been appointed the Captain of the Morongo Basin Sheriff’s Station. He introduced Lieutenant Dale Mondary, Deputy Jeff McDaniel (School Resource Officer), and Deputy Curtis Colb (Traffic Officer).
- 2.3 Presentation to Finance Director Ron Peck
Mayor Bernal said that the City’s Finance Department was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence on Financial Reporting for the Fiscal Year ending June 20, 2006. Mayor Bernal said the City’s Finance Department has received this award for the past 7 years, and she congratulated Ron Peck and the Finance Department.

3.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 3.1 These proceedings will be televised on Cable T.V., Channel 10, as follows
Friday, January 11, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, January 12, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS

- 4.1 Valerie Driscoll, Joshua Tree, said that she did not think she would be investing in Twentynine Palms anymore because her interest has been diverted elsewhere. She asked how much money the City had collected for curb and gutters.

5.0 CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS -This is the time for comments from the City Councilmembers on any subject.

Councilmember Harris said he hoped everyone had a great Christmas and he wished everyone a happy New Year. He also said that people should do what they can to protect their homes, and during the holidays they should not leave empty boxes outside because people will know what they have inside their homes. He also said that March 7th is the annual Career Day at the Twentynine Palms High School from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Councilmember Flock congratulated Craig Stacey on his recognition. He welcomed Captain Miller and Lieutenant Mondary, stating that he had worked with both of them in the past and it had been a pleasure. Councilmember Flock said the Contractors Board recently visited 44 construction sites and found one violation. He said that is a great report card for the City. He said that the Bucky Bucklin Park is being dedicated on Saturday, January 12th at 11:00 a.m.

Mayor Bernal encouraged people to attend the Bucky Bucklin Park dedication. She also said Happy Birthday to Councilmember Harris and Happy Anniversary to Councilmember Klink and his wife Tory.

6.0 CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are to be considered routine by the City Council/Redevelopment Agency and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed. Any item may be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered separately by the City Council under item number 7.0 on the agenda. The public will be given an opportunity to comment on Consent Calendar items prior to the City Council action (roll call vote).

At this time, the City Clerk will read the title(s) of the ordinance(s) listed herein except those that are removed for separate action.

- 6.1 Waive the Reading of Ordinance and Approve the Reading by Title Only
RECOMMENDATION: The City Council approve the reading by title only of all ordinances and that further reading of such ordinances be waived.
- 6.2 Approval of Minutes
RECOMMENDATION: The City Council/Redevelopment Agency approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 11, 2007.
- 6.3 Chamber of Commerce Report – November 2007
RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file.
- 6.4 Law Enforcement Report – November 2007
RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file.
- 6.5 Letters from the City Auditors
RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file.

- 6.6 Update of Management Action Plan (MAPS)
RECOMMENDATION: Review and provide direction to staff as appropriate.

On a motion of Councilmember Harris, seconded by Councilmember Flock and carried with a 3-0-2 roll call vote (Klink/Spear absent), the Consent Calendar was approved as submitted.

7.0 ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION OR SEPARATE ACTION AND/OR ADDED AGENDA ITEMS - None

8.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

9.0 REPORTS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- 9.1 Report Regarding Planning for Workshops to Gain Input on the General Plan
RECOMMENDATION: The City Council receives staff report and provides direction as appropriate.

Frank Spevacek presented a staff report to the City Council. He discussed dates for a series of workshops regarding the General Plan to be held with the City Council and the general public. The dates for the workshops will be as follows: January 29th, joint meeting with City Council and Planning Commission, February 9th and February 13th to gain community input, and on March 11th the results will be presented to the City Council. Mr. Spevacek said that there will be an on-line survey and flyers sent to residents home.

Councilmember Flock urged people to participate in the process. He said that people's input would be heeded regarding the General Plan.

Mr. Johnson, Twentynine Palms, said he would like general comments from the City Council about what businesses are coming to the City.

Community Development Director (Director Meyerhoff) said the International Council of Shopping Centers recruits businesses. He also said the Economic Development group is also looking into recruiting business.

Councilmember Flock said that a big box store will probably eventually come, the Marine Corps Base is expanding, and the Casino will have an impact on the City.

Philip Block, Joshua Tree, said that his project was impaired by the General Plan. He said that suggestions for meetings regarding the General Plan would be beneficial for the City.

Mr. Spevacek said that he would be there to facilitate then frame the workshops. He noted that the public would have the opportunity to speak at the workshops.

- 9.2 Update on Progress of Draft Animal Code
RECOMMENDATION: The City Council receives staff report and provides direction to staff.

Community Development Director Meyerhoff presented a staff report to the City Council.

Director Meyerhoff said that a subcommittee of Planning Commissioners was established to review the Draft Animal Code.

Councilmember Flock asked what the trigger is for Animal Control Officers.

Director Meyerhoff said that the definition is overly broad and will be reviewed.

Councilmember Flock volunteered to assist in reviewing the definitions in the draft Animal Code that will be brought back to the City Council within 60 days.

10.0 LEGISLATIVE/COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT

- 10.1 City Council Agency Liaison and Task Force Assignments
RECOMMENDATION: Review Council assignments and take action as appropriate.

City Manager Tree presented a staff report.

The consensus of the City Council was that the Council assignments were satisfactory as they are.

- 10.2 Establishment of a General Fund Reserve Policy
RECOMMENDATION: The City Council adopts Resolution No. 08-01, establishing the City's General Fund Reserve Policy at a Minimum of 50% of the annual budgeted general fund expenditures.

Finance Director Ron Peck presented a staff report to the City Council.

On a motion of Councilmember Harris, seconded by Councilmember Flock and carried with a 3-0-2 roll call vote (Klink, Spear absent) the City Council adopted Resolution No. 08-01 establishing the City's General Fund Reserve Policy at a minimum of 50% of the annual budgeted General Fund expenditures.

11.0 FUTURE COUNCIL INITIATED ITEMS

Councilmember Flock said that he would like the Solid Waste task force to draft a proposal to Stater Bros. in regards to the use of plastic bags.

Mayor Bernal said that she would like to discuss turning some vacant land into hiking and riding trails.

12.0 CLOSED SESSION

12.1 Closed Session Pursuant to Government Codes Section 54957
Public Employee Performance Evaluation – City Manager

12.2 Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9
Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Potential Litigation (1 case)

13.0 ADJOURN - Mayor Bernal adjourned the meeting to a duly noticed Closed Session at 6:45 p.m. Item 12.2 was continued to a future closed session. The Closed Session adjourned at 7:30 p.m. with no action being taken.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene L. Sherwood CMC, City Clerk