

**TWENTYNINE PALMS CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
REGULAR MEETING
6136 Adobe Road
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
www.ci.twentynine-palms.ca.us
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2008
6:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER** - Mayor Pro Tem Spear called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Pat Flanagan led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
INVOCATION - Pastor Charlie Zwicker, 29 Palms Nazarene Church, gave the Invocation.
ROLL CALL - The following Councilmembers were present: Flock, Harris, Klink, and Mayor Pro Tem Spear. Mayor Bernal had an excused absence.

2.0 SPECIAL RECOGNITION AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2.1 Mayor Pro Tem Spear presented a Resolution from the California State Senate recognizing the City of Twentynine Palms Twentieth Anniversary. Mayor Pro Tem Spear requested that Pat Flanagan and Karen Meyers join him at the podium to accept the Resolution on behalf of the citizens of Twentynine Palms.

3.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 3.1 Mayor Pro Tem Spear announced that these proceedings will be televised on Cable T.V., Channel 10, as follows: Friday, February 15, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, February 16, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS

- 4.1 Hank Parker, Joshua Tree, spoke to the City Council about the counting of homeless people recently in Twentynine Palms. He wanted the Council to know that he helped to count people as homeless and he said that the count was bogus. He said that others who counted the homeless also had bogus counts, and he said that he participated in the counting just to receive a check. He said that the people he was counting as homeless were not homeless.

Councilmember Harris said that a man he thought was homeless was not. He said that on Super Bowl Sunday he saw someone that was homeless, and again on Monday in Joshua Tree and Wednesday in Twentynine Palms.

Mayor Pro Tem Spear said that what Mr. Parker said has shed some light on the problems regarding the homeless count, and he said it took courage from Mr. Parker to come and tell the City Council.

5.0 CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Klink said that if people were interested in participating in the Adopt a Street Program they should contact Cindy Villescascas at City Hall. He also said if anyone sees old sofas or beds on the side of the roads they should Call City hall to have them removed. He said everyone can help to keep Twentynine Palms clean. Councilmember Klink also wished a happy birthday to several of his family members.

Councilmember Harris said that on February 8th he attended a conference in Joshua Tree regarding Climate Changing in California Deserts. He said there were discussions about water, the atmosphere and pollution. He thanked Pat Flanagan, representing the Mojave Desert Land Trust, for putting a very informative meeting together.

Councilmember Flock said that the City Manager presented Stater Bros with options regarding the use of plastic bags. Councilmember Flock said that they would have more discussions at a higher level.

Mayor Pro Tem Spear said on Super Bowl Sunday a citizen; Councilmember Harris saw a fallen tree due to the storm. He chopped up the tree for the person on Juanita Drive and Mayor Pro Tem Spear said that this is true community spirit.

6.0 CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY CONSENT CALENDAR

- 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 Warrant Register
RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file register totaling \$ 437,114.55.
- 6.3 Chamber of Commerce Report -January 2008
RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file.
- 6.4 Treasurer's Report - December 2007
RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file.

On a motion of Councilmember Klink, seconded by Councilmember Harris and carried with a 4-1 roll call vote (Bernal-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

- 8.1 City Council confirmation of the Costs of Abating Public Nuisances at 6648, 6650, and 6652 Smoketree Avenue (APN 0617-123-13), and Adoption of Resolution No. 08-02 Directing the Recordation of a Special assessment against the Properties to Recover the City's Cost of Abatement.

RECOMMENDATION: Conduct the Public Hearing, consider public comment, and confirm costs of abatement of 6648, 6650, and 6652 Smoketree Avenue in the amount of \$2,941.00 and adopt Resolution No. 08-02 directing the recordation of a Special Assessment in the amount of \$2,941.00 against the property to recover the City's costs of abatement.

Community Development Director Meyerhoff (Director Meyerhoff) presented a staff report.

Mayor Pro Tem Spear opened the Public Hearing.

Councilmember Flock asked at what point could a building be condemned.

Director Meyerhoff said that the City Council could order a building to be condemned. He said that first it must go through the process at the Planning Commission level.

Mayor Pro Tem Spear closed the Public Hearing.

On a motion of Councilmember Klink, seconded by Councilmember Harris and carried with a 4-1 (Bernal-absent) roll call vote, item 8.1 was approved.

9.0 REPORTS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- 9.1 Selection of a Task Force to Develop a Priority List of Community Development Block Grant Fund Proposals (CDBG)

RECOMMENDATION: The City Council select a task force to prioritize the submission of eligible Community Development Block Grant Projects (CDBG) for allocations of funds for 2008-2009.

Community Services Director Randy Council (Director Council) presented a staff report to the City Council.

Councilmember Klink and Councilmember Flock were selected as the task force to develop a priority list of Community Development Block Grant Fund Proposals.

- 9.2 Update on Open Space Working Group

RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file.

Director Meyerhoff presented a staff report to the City Council.

Director Meyerhoff said that the meetings have been focused on the creation of buffer zones and the protection of wildlife corridors.

Councilmember Flock said that numerous agencies are involved and it is a lengthy process.

Mayor Pro Tem Spear said that they do need a plan for the future.

Director Meyerhoff said he would continue to report back to the City Council.

9.3 Update on Region-Wide Lighting Ordinance

RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file

Director Meyerhoff presented a staff report to the City Council.

Councilmember Harris said that regular builders should use low-density lighting and this is an important item to look at.

Mayor Pro Tem Spear said that at the next budget cycle he would like to see retrofitting.

Director Meyerhoff said there are more ideas too come.

9.4 Updates on Low Flow Toilets

RECOMMENDATION: Receive, file and provide direction to staff.

Director Meyerhoff presented a staff report to the City Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Spear said that this is important and a task force should be appointed.

9.5 Update on Builders Roundtable

RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file.

Director Meyerhoff presented a staff report to the City Council. He said that the objectives of the meeting included providing a clear and equitable development review and building permit process; a review of what is working and what requires improvement; strategies for improving city processes and procedures; and suggestions for streamlining project review.

Councilmember Flock said that if a builder does not have a permit they cannot work.

Councilmember Klink said he thinks the Builders Roundtable is a good idea.

Councilmember Harris said it is good that they are educating and explaining what is permissible.

9.6 Review of Public Safety Programs

RECOMMENDATION: The City Council receive the staff report and provide direction as appropriate.

Captain Miller, Morongo Basin Sheriffs Station, presented a staff report to the City

Council. He suggested that a two-member task force be appointed to discuss and evaluate several programs and the process of utilizing a Community Service Officer to oversee the programs.

Councilmember Klink and Councilmember Harris were chosen to be on the task force to review the programs.

10.0 LEGISLATIVE/COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT – None

11.0 FUTURE COUNCIL INITIATED ITEMS

- 11.1 Councilmember Klink asked staff to find out the cost of shaving the palm trees on Adobe Road and Highway 62.
- 11.2 Mayor Pro Tem Spear said a task force regarding low-flow toilets needs to be put on an agenda.
- 11.3 Mayor Pro Tem Spear requested General Spiese be contacted to see if the Base could donate a howitzer to put in Stanley Park, and rename Stanley Park back to Veterans Park.
- 11.4 Mayor Pro Tem Spear suggested a task force with City Manager Tree, and Waste Water Task Force members be set up to work on the issue of Stater Bros plastic bags.

12.0 CLOSED SESSION

- 12.2 Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8
Property Acquisition – Conference with Real Property Negotiator, Michael Tree
617-292-01, 618-222-01, 618-222-04, 618-262-06, 617-041-01, 617-041-02,
617-041-22, 617-041-23, 616-011-10.
- 12.1 Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957
Public Employee Performance Evaluation – City Manager

13.0 ADJOURN – The City Council meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m. to Closed Session. The Closed Session ended at 7:35 p.m. with no action being taken.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene L. Sherwood CMC, City Clerk