

**TWENTYNINE PALMS CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
REGULAR MEETING
6136 Adobe Road
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
www.ci.twentynine-palms.ca.us
Tuesday, January 13, 2009
6:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER** - Mayor Klink called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- Liz Meyer led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
INVOCATION – Pastor Frank Ferrandini, First Assembly of God Church gave the Invocation.
ROLL CALL -The following Councilmembers were present: Cole, Flock, Harris, Spear and Mayor Klink.

- 2.0 SPECIAL RECOGNITION AND PRESENTATIONS** - None

3.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 3.1 Mayor Klink announced due to technical difficulties these proceedings would not be televised on Cable T.V.

- 4.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None

5.0 COUNCIL COMMENTS -

Councilmember Harris wished everyone a safe and Happy New Year.

Councilmember Spear welcomed everyone to the first City Council meeting of 2009.

Councilmember Cole wished everyone his best.

Mayor Klink congratulated the Twentynine Palms High School boys basketball team on their 3rd place finish on the Alaskan tournament. He said the Chamber Mixer is this Thursday at Curves from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. He said he attended the volunteer recognition dinner at Theater 29 and there was a really good turn out and he thanked all of the volunteers for their efforts. He wished his wife Tory a Happy 26th Anniversary on January 8th.

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).

- 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 warrant register totaling \$989,644.55.
- 6.3 Approval of Minutes
RECOMMENATION: The City Council approve the minutes of the December 9 2008 City Council meeting.
- 6.4 Chamber of Commerce Report- December 2008
RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file.

Councilmember Spear abstained from item 6.2 check number 45271 for the San Bernardino County Sherriff's Department due to possible conflict of interest.

On a motion made by Councilmember Spear, seconded by Councilmember Harris and carried with a 5-0 roll call vote, the City Council approved the Consent Calendar 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 Review and Consideration of a Comprehensive General Plan Update Proposal
RECOMMENDATION: The City Council considers the approval of a contract for the creation of a comprehensive General Plan Update.

Community Development Director (Director LaClaire) presented a Staff Report to the City Council.

Nelson Miller, representative for Hogle Ireland spoke to the City Council concerning the Comprehensive General Plan Update and said RSG assisted the City with community meetings and surveys and identified hazards. He said a key outcome of that process was a concern that the build out projection of the existing general plan of population was greater than 100,000 people. He briefed the City Council on the General Plan Update and Optional Tasks which included General Plan Update website, General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC), Development Code Update (including Architectural Design Guidelines/Visual Preference Survey), and Development Impact Fee Update. He said their aggressive time schedule had them finishing the project in October of 2010.

Mayor Pro Tem Flock asked if the water supply would be studied and how much is available and what kind of population it will support.

Nelson Miller responded the information would be looked at that is available by the water providers but that new research would not be done for that.

Councilmember Spear said the General Plan Update website was an excellent option but wanted to know if the website was monitored by Hogle Ireland and also wanted to know if Hogle Ireland saw many hits on a certain item would they adjust their approach to that item.

Nelson Miller, responded they will look at those things and yes, Hogle Ireland would manage the website.

Mayor Pro Tem Flock asked how the City would be sure they were getting input from citizens that have concerns or are affected that live in the community.

Nelson Miller said they ask but do not require the citizens to identify themselves that visit the website. He said the citizens are then asked a number of questions that ask them to identify themselves as a stakeholder in the community.

Mayor Klink opened the Public Hearing.

Bob Whitt, Twentynine Palms resident spoke to the City Council in opposition of the item and asked if the money could be used to do other things in the community due to the hard economic times.

Liz Meyer, Twentynine Palms resident spoke in opposition of the item and said it was not a good year to make the commitment although the cost was within reasonable range.

C.J. Horn, Twentynine Palms resident said he has mixed feelings on the growth of the City and the issues should be addressed when people complain.

Mayor Klink closed the Public Hearing.

Mayor Pro Tem Flock requested staff to run by the financial aspects and what money is available.

Financial Director Ron Peck responded that right now the City has general fund equity of \$8,700,000. Which is more than the City general fund spends in a whole year. He said over the next two years, the City has projected they will spend \$800,000 more than it takes in. He said this would bring the general fund equity down to \$7,900,000.

Councilmember Harris said if we do not do something now and wait for another year what will the cost be and if the economy does not turn around will the cost go up.

Councilmember Cole said he saw the need for a Comprehensive Plan Update but was concerned with the cost due to the economy.

Mayor Klink said he had concerns with the way the state is going and he said that it was a lot of money to be spent at one time.

Mayor Pro Tem Flock said two years ago he would have said we had a good General Plan and there was no reason to change it unless the safety of the

public was concerned. He said financially it is a bad time to spend money but what he has heard from staff the City cannot afford to not do it and it will not hurt the City too badly if we do not do the update. He said an advantage to doing it now is projects are slow and staff is not tied up with processing applications of subdivisions and they have the time to devote to this. He said now is the time to do it.

On a motion made by Councilmember Spear, seconded by Councilmember Harris and approved with a 4-1 (Klink no) roll call vote, the City Council approved the General Plan Comprehensive Update and Environmental Impact Report.

On a motion made by Councilmember Cole, seconded by Councilmember Spear and approved with a 4-1 (Klink no) the City Council approved the General Plan Update Website. (Option A)

On a motion made by Councilmember Spear, seconded by Councilmember Harris and approved with a 5-0 roll call vote, the City Council rejected the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) (Option B)

On a motion made by Councilmember Spear, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Flock and approved with a 4-1 (Klink no) roll call vote, the City Council included the Development Code Update for \$81,230. (Part of Option B)

On a motion made by Councilmember Cole, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Flock and approved with a 4-1 (Spear no) the City Council rejected the Architectural Design Guidelines for \$64,920. (Option C)

On a motion made by Councilmember Cole, seconded by Councilmember Harris and approved with a 4-1 (Spear no) roll call vote, the City Council rejected the Visual Preference Survey. (Option D)

On a motion made by Councilmember Spear, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Flock and approved with a 4-1 (Klink no) roll call vote, the City Council adopted the Development Impact Fee Update for \$77,730.

9.0 REPORTS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS- None

10.0 LEGISLATIVE/COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT

10.1 Base Expansion Plans

RECOMMENDATION: The City Council receives the staff report and provides direction to staff.

City Manager Michael Tree (City Manager Tree) presented the City Council with a staff report regarding the base expansion. He said the public comment period ends January 31, 2009 with the Department of the Navy.

Councilmember Spear said he wanted to have the deadline of the comment period extended a minimum of 90 days and any input the City would like to have

should be done through a Resolution with the public input and voted upon by the City Council.

Community Liaison of Public Affairs of the Marine Air Ground Combat Center (Community Liaison) Jim Ricker responded the City Council did have a right to request an extension however that was not controlled by the Marine Base; it had to go back to the Department of the Navy to extend the date out.

Mayor Klink opened the item to the public.

Valace Dalts, Twentynine Palms resident spoke on behalf of the Citizens Alliance for Wonder Valley which formed to explore the affects of the base expansion on the community of Wonder Valley. She said there were concerns regarding the need for accurate current maps of the expansion areas, the impact on real estate values, changes in the usage of Amboy Road, the movement of homes, the impact of the environment, the impact on the health of residents in the impacted areas, impact on water resources regarding access and quality and the lack of outreach by the Marine Corps to the residents of Wonder Valley.

Councilmember Harris asked if the Marine Corps Base had met with the Citizens Alliance for Wonder Valley.

Valace Dalts responded no.

City Attorney Patrick Munoz suggested the City Council writing a letter based on comments by the public to the Marine Corps Base and if the City Council wanted a continuation the information would be needed tonight.

Mayor Klink asked if the letter could go on the City website for the public to view.

City Manager Tree responded a Council packet would be put together with a draft document which would go online with the agenda.

Councilmember Harris said he felt it was urgent to get the word out to attend the meeting to get the public's concerns out.

11.0 FUTURE COUNCIL INITIATED ITEMS

Councilmember Spear said he would like to know how much money out of the City General Fund the City spends and support on the Chamber of Commerce and what impact does the City have in regards to their course of conduct. He also said he is concerned about the Chamber Mixer this Thursday and that the Chamber President will addressing Explore Twentynine Palms. He said if they continue to use the word bus he has concern with false advertisement and wants to know what bus they are using. He asked City staff to address the issue with the Chamber before Thursday and requested a staff report wanting to know what the City is getting for our money in terms of the Chamber of Commerce.

12.0 CLOSED SESSION

12.1 Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Potential Litigation (3 cases).

13.0 ADJOURN- Mayor Klink adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:05 p.m. to Closed Session. The Closed Session adjourned at 8:30 p.m. with no action taken.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charlene L. Sherwood CMC, City Clerk