

MINUTES of a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Redlands held in the Council Chambers, Civic Center, 35 Cajon Street, on January 8, 2013, at 5:00 P.M.

PRESENT Pete Aguilar, Mayor
Jon Harrison, Councilmember
Bob Gardner, Councilmember
Pat Gilbreath, Councilmember

ABSENT: Paul Foster, Mayor Pro Tem

STAFF Enrique Martinez, City Manager; Dan McHugh, City Attorney; Sam Irwin, City Clerk; Robert Dawes, City Treasurer; Carl Baker, Public Information Officer; Jeff Frazier, Fire Chief; Mark Garcia, Police Chief; David Hexem, Chief Information Officer; Fred Mousavipour, Municipal Utilities and Engineering Director; Fred Cardenas, Quality of Life Director; Tina Kundig, Finance Director; Oscar Orci, Development Services Director; Debbie Scott-Leistra, Human Resources Director

Mayor Aguilar called the meeting to order and offered those present the opportunity to provide public comment on any item on the agenda for the closed session.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None forthcoming.

CLOSED SESSION:

1. Conference with legal counsel: Anticipated Litigation - Government Code §54956.9(b)
 - a. One case: Facts and circumstances – Consideration of claim by Jeff Thalmayer
2. Conference with legal counsel: Anticipated Litigation - Government Code §54956.9(c)
 - a. One case: Possible initiation of litigation by the City of Redlands
3. Conference with legal counsel: Existing Litigation - Government Code §54956.9(a) - Two Cases
 - a. McMillan v. City of Redlands, San Bernardino Superior Court Case No. CIVDS 1012647
 - b. Mercury Insurance Company v. Red Oak Villas Apartments, et al., San Bernardino Superior Court Case No. CIVDS 1112779

4. Conference with labor negotiator - Government Code §54957.6
Agency Negotiator: Richard Kreisler
Employee Organizations: Redlands Association of Department Directors
Redlands Association of Management Employees
Redlands Association of Mid-Management Employees
General Employees Association of Redlands (SBPEA)
Redlands Civilian Safety Employees Association
Redlands Police Officers Association
Redlands Association of Safety Management Employees

The meeting reconvened at 6:03 P.M.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT:

City Attorney McHugh announced that no reportable action was taken during the closed session.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Fee Increase – Clint Daigle, of Sea Bright Solar, Inc., cited Government Code in questioning the legality of recent fee increases associated with solar electric generating system installation permits. He thanked staff for their efforts to resolve his complaint and expressed optimism that mutual accommodation is forthcoming.

Neighborhood Dispute – As a resident living in the area of 533 West Olive Avenue, Andrew Hoder described the prior condition of the property at that location. He then highlighted the improvements made by the new owner and expressed his support for his new neighbor.

Low Cost Spay and Neutering – Alexandra Medel and Emily Richardson proposed a low cost spay and neutering program for the Redlands Animal Shelter to reduce the number of animals euthanized annually.

Communication – Steve Rogers expressed his frustration in trying to discuss issues with staff.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Grant Application - On motion of Councilmember Harrison, seconded by Councilmember Gardner, the City Council approved a grant application to the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency for the 2012 Assistance to Firefighters Fire Prevention and Safety Grant.

COMMUNICATIONS

Street Tree Policy – Councilmember Harrison introduced this item with an overview of the development of the Street Tree Policy and Protection Guidelines Manual. Chris Sedmack, Chairman of the Redlands Street Tree Committee, provided an overview of the Manual intended to define and illustrate the policies and procedures to be utilized by City staff for the planting, pruning, removal, preservation and protection of all City trees that comprise the public portion of the Redlands community forest. As public comment, Janet Ward, also of the Street Tree Committee, described the effort to combine guidance from several sources to produce the document. Steve Rogers questioned whether the Manual is consistent with the Redlands Municipal Code. Bill Cunningham asked for consideration of bird nesting habits when establishing tree trimming schedules. Councilmember Gilbreath suggested several changes to correct typographical and continuity errors in the document. On motion of Councilmember Harrison, seconded by Councilmember Gilbreath, the City Council approved the Manual as amended. The document will be periodically updated to ensure that Redlands uses the best practices to ensure the longevity of our urban forest.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further action required the meeting adjourned at 6:40 P.M. The next regular meeting of the City of Redlands City Council will be held on January 15, 2013.

Sam Irwin, City Clerk