



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
SIGNAL HILL CITY COUNCIL
April 21, 2015**

A Regular Meeting of the Signal Hill City Council was held in the Council Chamber of City Hall on April 21, 2015.

CALL TO ORDER – 6:01 P.M.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: MAYOR FORESTER
VICE MAYOR WOODS
COUNCIL MEMBER NOLL
COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN

CLOSED SESSION

- a. A closed session was held, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 pertaining to public employee appointment; title of position: City Manager.
- b. A closed session was held pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6(a) to discuss labor negotiations with the Signal Hill Police Officers' Association.
- c. A closed session was held pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a)(1), existing litigations, regarding *Cerritos et.al. v. WRD* Case No. BS128136 and *WRD v. City of Signal Hill*, Case No. VC060496.

PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

There was no public business from the floor.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION – 6:02 P.M.

Council Member Hansen entered closed session at 6:17 p.m.

RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING – 7:07 P.M.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

City Attorney reported on closed session items on the agenda. Item (a) was discussed, no reportable action was taken. Items (b) and (c) were not discussed and Council will recess to closed session following tonight's meeting to discuss the items.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Forester led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

Maria Harris, Signal Hill resident complimented the City for informative water conservation facts and video displayed on the website.

Elizabeth Wise, Signal Hill resident and business owner introduced Cancer Concierge Network and Cancer Retreat Nights, extended invitations to the open house on May 2nd, and provided www.cancerconciergenetwork.org website for more information.

Kiran Gidwani, Signal Hill resident introduced himself as an applicant for commissioner positions with the City.

Nancy Lauer, Signal Hill resident introduced herself as an applicant for a commissioner position with the City.

INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Forester introduced Judy Kamei, new City Librarian with the Community Services Department.

Ms. Kamei came forward and expressed she is pleased to work in a Library with great staff and programs, and looks forward to making contributions to serve the citizens of the City.

Mayor Forester introduced Travis Brooks, new Management Analyst with the Public Works Department.

Mr. Brooks came forward to express he is honored to work for the City and looks forward to serving citizens and the Public Works Department with all its endeavors.

PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Forester asked Signal Hill Police Dispatcher Shanika Taylor to come forward on behalf of all Police Dispatchers and introduced Connie Sziebel,

Representative for Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe, who presented certificates to Signal Hill Police Dispatchers on behalf of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in recognition of National Public Safety Telecommunications Week.

Ms. Taylor thanked the Mayor, City Council and command staff for recognizing dispatchers' efforts.

Ms. Sziebel expressed thanks on behalf of Supervisor Knabe for the invitation and City's recognition of the dispatchers.

Mayor Forester and Police Captain Nunley introduced Richard Johnson, Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Coordinator with the Police Department.

Mr. Johnson came forward and provided a report on the duties of the EOC Coordinator and what he will be doing in the coming year.

Mayor Forester thanked Mr. Johnson and recognized Vice Mayor Woods for urging the Council to establish an EOC Coordinator.

Mayor Forester read the proclamation in recognition of National Public Safety Telecommunications Week and asked for all police officers present at the meeting to come forward.

Vice Mayor Woods recognized Police Chief Langston for securing the grants to fund establishment of the EOC Coordinator.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

a. 2015-2019 Strategic Plan Workshop

City Manager introduced the Economic Development Manager who presented the staff report and Bill Kelly, President/CEO of Kelly Associates Management Group who presented the planning objectives.

Mr. Kelly asked Council for comments to help finalize the plan for formal adoption at a later date.

Mayor Forester asked Council to allow community input prior to Council comments.

Maria Harris, Signal Hill resident requested clarification and made specific suggestions on various points within each objective.

Mark Solomon, Signal Hill resident asked Council to consider establishing council districts.

Neena Strickhart, Signal Hill resident and Signal Tribune Publisher voiced concern about limiting community outreach to social media and electronic means.

City Council individually commented and made suggestions regarding the strategic plan.

Vice Mayor Woods asked Mr. Kelly and the City Manager to explain subsequent steps for the strategic planning process.

Council Member Hansen asked if public suggestions can be submitted as an addendum section for the updated plan.

The City Manager suggested staff will work with Mr. Kelly and return with a redlined updated strategic plan for Council to review, and establish future dates for the Council to review and vote on items in the plan.

Mayor Forester asked staff to work with Mr. Kelly as suggested by the City Manager.

b. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 and Carryover Appropriations from Fiscal Year 2013- 2014 to Fiscal Year 2014-2015

City Manager introduced the Finance Director who presented the staff report and Craig Hartzheim and Jay Siegel, current City auditors from Moss, Levy and Hartzheim LLP.

Mr. Hartzheim and Mr. Siegel came forward and reported that a management report with recommendations is in the works for staff and Council to review.

Mayor Forester asked if Council Members have any questions for staff and auditors.

Council Member Hansen asked Director of Finance to clarify process of assignment for the increased revenue.

Director of Finance explained the process.

Council Member Wilson asked about carryover amounts and timing of future audit reports.

Director of Finance and Mr. Hartzheim addressed the questions.

Mayor Forester asked if anyone in the audience would like to speak on the matter.

Lance Woods, Signal Hill resident asked if the City can invest the general fund balance.

Mr. Siegel and Mr. Hartzheim explained the mandated investment policy of the City and the existence of California State Government Code regulating investments.

Council Member Wilson asked about the water fund and commented on increased water fund expenditures last year.

Director of Finance presented a narrative regarding the water fund.

Mr. Siegel commented on City water rights and Mayor Forester made a statement on the importance of Well No. 9.

It was moved by COUNCIL MEMBER NOLL and seconded by COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN to receive and file the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014.

The following vote resulted:

AYES: MAYOR FORESTER
 VICE MAYOR WOODS
 COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN
 COUNCIL MEMBER NOLL
 COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

It was moved by VICE MAYOR WOODS and seconded by COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON to approve the carryover of certain appropriations from fiscal year 2013-14 to 2014-15 and approve budget adjustment 2015-04-21 to reflect necessary changes.

The following vote resulted:

AYES: MAYOR FORESTER
 VICE MAYOR WOODS
 COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN
 COUNCIL MEMBER NOLL
 COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

c. Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI 14) Los Angeles/Long Beach Urban Area Grant Program

City Manager introduced the Police Captain who presented the staff report.

Council Member Wilson asked about camera data storage policy, monitoring process, and the inclusion of protective gear cost in the grant.

Vice Mayor Woods asked about ongoing expenses for data storage and retrieval.

Police Captain addressed each question posed by Council Members.

Mayor Forester asked if anyone in the audience would like to speak on the matter.

Mark Solomon, Signal Hill resident expressed concern and opposition to the camera surveillance system.

City Council congratulated Police Captain and the Police Department for securing the grant and asked if the surveillance system can help prevent graffiti vandals, if camera locations are preset by grant requirements, and to elaborate on cameras' uses for security purposes.

Police Captain addressed each question and clarified for Council monitoring of water pumps at Reservoir Park.

It was moved by COUNCIL MEMBER NOLL and seconded by VICE MAYOR WOODS to authorize the City Manager to accept UASI 14 Grant Funds and to execute a Sub-recipient Agreement with the City of Los Angeles and approve a budget adjustment for \$408,500 to the Domestic Preparedness Grant Revenue account number 036-336-465-637, and expenditures for \$408,500 to Domestic Preparedness Grant expenditure account number 036-336-545-510.

The following vote resulted:

AYES: MAYOR FORESTER
 VICE MAYOR WOODS
 COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN
 COUNCIL MEMBER NOLL
 COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

d. Interviews for Appointment to City Commissions

City Manager presented the staff report.

City Council discussed various options and past actions.

Mayor Forester concurred with Council Members to keep the commission interviews on May 11, 2015 and to request the unavailable applicant to submit a letter to City Council.

e. Creation of the Economic Development Division and Budget Adjustment for Economic Development Activities

Deputy City Manager presented the staff report.

City Council discussed potential of the City receiving reimbursements from property sales, spoke in favor of creating an Economic Development Division, and voiced the need for more detailed budget spending parameters.

City Attorney commented on Council concerns regarding budget spending parameters.

Mayor Forester proposed to modify the recommendation by establishing a new division and asking staff to return with more detailed budget spending proposal.

Mayor Forester asked if anyone from the public would like to speak on this matter.

Maria Harris, Signal Hill resident came forward and spoke in favor of the recommendation modification.

It was moved by COUNCIL MEMBER NOLL and seconded by VICE MAYOR WOODS to approve the creation of an Economic Development Division (Fund 100-47) within the City Manager's Department with funding to be determined.

The following vote resulted:

AYES: MAYOR FORESTER
 VICE MAYOR WOODS
 COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN
 COUNCIL MEMBER NOLL
 COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Subrecipient Grant Agreement Between City of Signal Hill and the Gateway Water Management Association

Summary: The Los Angeles Gateway Region Integrated Regional Water Management Joint Powers Authority (GWMA) received \$1.073 million in grant funds from the Proposition 84 Stormwater Grant Program administered by the State Water Resources Control Board to install storm water quality treatment facilities. As a member agency that participated in this GWMA grant application process, Signal Hill will receive \$73,620 in grant proceeds to construct two storm water biofiltration tree well units. All participating cities are required to enter into a Subrecipient Grant Agreement with the GWMA in order to access grant funds.

Recommendations: Authorize the City Manager to enter into a Subrecipient Agreement between the City of Signal Hill and the Los Angeles Gateway Region Integrated Regional Water Management Joint Powers Authority to receive the portion of the Proposition 84 Stormwater Grant funds allocated to the City of Signal Hill and transfer \$25,380 from the Capital Reserve Fund to fund the Signal Hill Storm Water Biofiltration Project.

b. Schedule of Investments

Summary: The Schedule of Investments is a listing of all surplus funds invested for both the City and the Successor Agency of the former Signal Hill Redevelopment Agency as of the date shown on the report.

Recommendation: Receive and file.

c. Warrant Register Dated April 21, 2015

Summary: The Warrant Register is a listing of all general checks issued since the prior warrant register and warrants to be released upon City Council approval.

Recommendation: Authorize payment of Warrant Register dated April 21, 2015.

d. Minutes of the Following Meeting

Regular Meeting of April 7, 2015.

Recommendation: Approve.

It was moved by COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON and seconded by COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN to approve the Consent Calendar.

The following vote resulted:

AYES: MAYOR FORESTER
 VICE MAYOR WOODS
 COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN
 COUNCIL MEMBER NOLL
 COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

COUNCIL AGENDA--NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Wilson announced Metro Gateway Cities Service Council has three upcoming vacancies for consumers. The Council helps oversee METRO bus services in Southeast Los Angeles County. Applications are due no later than 4:00 p.m. on May 13, 2015. Contact www.gatewaycog.org or by calling (562) 663-6850 for application and more information.

Council Member Wilson reported on his attendance at various Long Beach Grand Prix events, complimented the City of Long Beach, Long Beach Police Department and Long Beach Fire Department for smoothly running the Grand Prix this past weekend, and thanked Skip Keesal for organizing an event.

Council Member Noll suggested resident outreach programs to demonstrate water cost savings by replacing grass mow strip (parkways) with water efficient landscaping and exploring spraying of grass green.

Council Member Hansen suggested conducting community outreach workshops at the Library on water conservation and congratulated Neena and Steve Strickhart on their 25th wedding anniversary.

Mayor Forester gave a personal water saving tip and suggested implementation of a suggestion box for community members to contribute water saving tips.

Mayor Forester asked Community Services Manager to come forward and present the City Community Yard Sale taking place on May 2, 2015, 8 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., and the contact of Community Services Department for details.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION – 9:28 P.M.

City Council recessed to closed session in memory of Sheldon Grossman, Bixby Car Wash owner and an active participant in the Signal Hill community.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

City Attorney reported on closed session items. Item (b) was discussed, directions were given and no reportable actions were taken.

City Council voted on item (c).

It was moved by COUNCIL MEMBER NOLL and seconded by VICE MAYOR WOODS to accept the WRD Settlement Agreement.

The following vote resulted:

AYES: MAYOR FORESTER
 VICE MAYOR WOODS
 COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN
 COUNCIL MEMBER NOLL
 COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON and seconded by COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN to adjourn tonight's meeting to the next regular meeting of the City Council on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 2175 Cherry Avenue, Signal Hill, CA 90755.

The following vote resulted:

AYES: MAYOR FORESTER
 VICE MAYOR WOODS
 COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN
 COUNCIL MEMBER NOLL
 COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

MAYOR FORESTER adjourned the meeting at 10:37 p.m.

Larry Forester
Mayor

Attest:

Robert D. Copeland
City Clerk