

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2001 - 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBER, 990 PALM STREET
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA

ROLL CALL:

Council Members

Present: Council Members Jan Howell Marx, Christine Mulholland, Ken Schwartz, Vice Mayor John Ewan, and Mayor Allen K. Settle

City Staff:

Present: Ken Hampian, City Administrative Officer; Jeff Jorgensen, City Attorney; Lee Price, City Clerk; Wendy George, Assistant City Administrative Officer; John Mandeville, Community Development Director; Bill Statler, Finance Director; Ann Slate, Human Resources Director; Jim Gardiner, Police Chief; Bob Neumann, Fire Chief; John Moss, Utilities Director; Mike McCluskey, Public Works Director; Paul LeSage, Parks and Recreation Director

PRESENTATIONS

PROCLAMATION PRESENTED TO DR. STEPHEN HANSEN FOR HIS WORK WITH FIRST NIGHT®.

Mayor Settle presented a proclamation to Dr. Stephen Hansen honoring him for his contributions to First Night.

PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL ARSON AWARENESS WEEK.

Mayor Settle presented a proclamation to Fire Marshall Drake, Fire Inspector Madden, and Fire Chief Neumann declaring the week of May 6, 2001 as National Arson Awareness Week.

PROCLAMATION ANNOUNCING MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK.

Mayor Settle presented a proclamation to City Clerk Price and staff pronouncing the week of April 29, 2001 as Municipal Clerks Week.

INTRODUCTIONS

INTRODUCTION OF NEW FIREFIGHTERS

Fire Chief Neumann introduced Richard Barrett, Mark Vasquez, and Samuel Fox, recently hired Firefighters for the City of San Luis Obispo.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sandi Siguerdson, former Director of the San Luis Obispo Symphony, thanked Council for support of the symphony and updated the Council on their recent trip to Carnegie Hall.

Andrew Carter asked Council to consider mid-block signalization on Higuera and Marsh Streets. **Public Works Director McCluskey** provided background and reported that traffic studies show there are no warrants for signalization.

CONSENT AGENDA

C1. WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY DIGESTER NO. 3 REPAIR, SPECIFICATION NO. 90046A AND 90046B.

ACTION: Moved by **Ewan/Marx** to: 1) Approve plans and specifications for "Digester #3 Empty and Clean" and "Digester #3 Repair" Specification Numbers 90046A and 90046B." 2) Authorize staff to advertise for bids and authorize the City Administrative Officer to award the contract if the lowest responsible bid is within the Engineer's estimate of \$180,000; motion carried 5:0.

C2. RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1999-00.

ACTION: Moved by **Ewan/Marx** to receive and file the Risk Management Report for 1999-00; motion carried 5:0.

C3. AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A REGIONAL TRAINING WEB SITE, SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS (SCUBA), AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EQUIPMENT.

ACTION: Moved by **Ewan/Marx** to authorize staff to submit applications for grant monies in the amount of \$138,500 from the Federal Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program for a regional training web site and self-contained breathing apparatus and \$50,000 from the Domestic Terrorism Planning Grant for hazardous material equipment; motion carried 5:0.

C4. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO FURNISH JANITORIAL SERVICE, SPECIFICATION NO. 90201.

ACTION: Moved by **Ewan/Marx** to: 1) Approve the "Request for Proposals to Furnish Janitorial Service, Specification No. 90201." 2) Authorize distribution of the request for proposals. 3) Authorize the City Administrative Officer to award a contract if contract prices are within the cost estimates of \$162,800; motion carried 5:0.

C5. ADDITIONAL CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING PLAN.

Council Member Mulholland pulled this item to vote in opposition and stated her reason to be that she does not support the annexation of the Airport Area.

ACTION: Moved by **Ewan/Schwartz** to: 1) Amend the contract with Wallace Roberts Todd for preparation of the Airport Area Specific Plan by \$33,000 for additional work on the financing program. 2) Appropriate \$33,000 from the unreserved General Fund balance in order to fund this added cost; motion carried 4:1 (Mulholland).

C6. LETTER TO SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROVIDING INPUT ON THE REDISTRICTING PROCESS.

ACTION: Moved by Ewan/Marx to authorize the Mayor to sign the letter and direct staff to forward it to the County not later than May 8, 2001; motion carried 5:0.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. FIRST TIER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DRAFT PARKING AND DOWNTOWN ACCESS PLAN (PDAP).

Public Works Director McCluskey, Deputy Public Works Director Bochum, and Finance Director Statler provided the report.

Public Comments:

Dave Romero, 2057 Skylark Lane, voiced concern about the use of parking enterprise funds for unproven parking demand reduction activities. He also argued that staff has not implemented any parking demand reduction measures to date even though there is money in the budget to do so.

Eugene Jud, 665 Leff Street, urged the Council to look into the costs of providing transit services and spoke in favor of implementing parking demand reduction measures. He urged the Council to use the parking fund for parking demand reduction, and reiterated opposition to building the Marsh Street Parking Garage expansion.

Andrew Carter, 1283 Woodside Drive, voiced support for the recommendations and urged the approval of higher fines for overtime offenders and monthly passes at both garages.

Jean Anderson, 544 Pacific Street, expressed support for parking demand reduction measures, and urged citizens to read the book "Divorce your Car."

Mike Spangler, President of the San Luis Obispo Property Owners Association and Director of the Downtown Coalition, reported that the City of Santa Barbara will soon be constructing a new parking facility that will provide over five hundred new spaces for vehicles and alternative modes of transportation (copy of handout provided and on file with the City Clerk). He asked Council to approve the implementation of parking demand reduction measures but not fund the expenditures through the parking enterprise fund.

Bill Walter, Chair of the Downtown Association Parking Committee, suggested that the draft resolution be amended to change the word "successful" (as it relates to parking demand reduction measures) to "effective," and further, proposed that the Downtown Association be included in any assessment process to measure effectiveness.

Tom Swem, Downtown Association President, stated that the Association wants to participate in the design and review of all parking demand reduction measures and that they are opposed to any use of the parking enterprise fund for parking demand reduction.

Brett Cross, 1217 Mariner's Cove, supports "gold card" concept, but took issue with some of the program components. He also suggested that the Council consider what is fair to the property owner when it looks at parking in-lieu fees. Lastly, he urged the Council to avoid being too punitive when examining parking ticket fines.

Dave Juhnke, Chair of the Chamber Board, voiced support for staff recommendations including the use of parking fund monies for parking demand reduction measures provided that those activities can be shown to be effective in reducing the demand for parking. He concurred with Bill Walter's request to include "stakeholders" in the process and added that he hopes that parking demand reduction measures that are found to be ineffective will be dropped or paid for by some other funding mechanism.

Richard Milgram, Department of Regional Planning at Cal Poly, contended that the City's parking fees are too low and spoke in favor of the staff recommendations.

Mark Shaeffer, Director of Ride-On, reported that alternative transportation activities implemented by CalTrans for the Cuesta Grade project have proven to be effective. He also explained that Ride-On is currently seeking grant monies to help develop programs and asked the City to involve them in the process of designing, implementing and assessing parking demand reduction measures.

Mayor Settle called a recess at 8:40 p.m. The meeting resumed at 8:55 p.m.

Council discussion followed.

Council Member Mulholland proposed a minor revision to the resolution as follows: In the third "Whereas," add the words "violations of" before the words "California Vehicle Code." There were no objections to this amendment.

Vice Mayor Ewan voiced concern about the proxy card program and the differential between the Palm and Marsh Street garages and proposed additional study. He commented that he does not believe that a savings of 50% for "gold card program" members is enough, and proposed that if the incentive proves ineffective, the Council consider increasing the subsidy. Vice Mayor Ewan added that he supports increasing the parking in-lieu fee and the use of parking enterprise funds for parking demand reduction activities.

Council Member Marx proposed that expanding the parking district to include "uptown" would allow the parking enterprise fund to collect more in-lieu fees. She noted that she is in favor of using the parking enterprise fund to pay for parking demand reduction measures but does have some concerns regarding some of the particulars of the programs proposed, including the name of the "gold card program."

Council Member Mulholland commented that proposed fees and fines are still not enough. She indicated that she supports parking demand reduction measures and funding them via the parking enterprise fund. Additionally, she urged staff to implement "park and ride" programs (Tier 3) quickly.

Council discussion followed regarding Section 6 of the draft resolution. Several members of the Council provided suggestions for refinement. *Council agreed to amend the draft resolution as follows:*

1. *Third "Whereas," add the words "violations of" before the words "California Vehicle Code."*
2. *Amend Section 6 to read:*

Program 6.1 of the Parking Management Plan is hereby amended to read as follows:

The principal purpose of Parking fund revenues will be used to:

- a) *Maintain and expand parking operations and supply, including effective parking demand reduction programs; and*
- b) *Repay bonds that financed the construction of the parking structures. Pilot or "test case" parking demand reduction activities may also be funded, provided that they are well-defined and monitored for a specific period of time, and a measurement of effectiveness is predetermined.*

Mayor Settle commented in support of the staff recommendations, indicated he would support suggestions made by his Council colleagues for modifications and made the following motion:

ACTION: Moved by Settle/Schwartz to 1) Adopt a resolution: (a) Reducing the free time in downtown parking garages, increasing the maximum daily fee charged in garages, and increasing various parking fees and fines effective July 1, 2001; and, (b) Amending Policy 6.1, of the existing Parking Management Plan on the use of the Parking Fund to allow its initial use to pay for untested parking demand reduction (PDR) activities on a pilot test case basis and its ongoing use to pay for proven PDR activities that reduce the demand for downtown parking. (See Attachment A). 2) Receive a progress report on other *first tier* parking and access activities authorized by the City Council and endorse implementation strategies, financial plans and schedules for each. 3) Receive and file information on Parking in-lieu fees. 4) Review and endorse staff recommendations for *second tier* parking and downtown access activities; motion carried 5:0

Additional Council discussion ensued regarding next steps. *By agreement, the Council directed staff to bring back a discussion of the proxy card program and the differential between the Palm and Marsh Street garages when staff returns with options to consider relative to parking in-lieu fees. Further, staff agreed to provide follow-up on establishing the baseline for the "gold card" program in three months, or as part of the discussion on parking in-lieu fees.*

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS

None

COMMUNICATIONS

None

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Settle adjourned the meeting at 10:15 p.m. to Tuesday, May 15, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 990 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL: 5/15/01
LP:mk



Lee Price, C.M.C.
City Clerk