



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
SIGNAL HILL CITY COUNCIL**

January 21, 2014

A Regular Meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber of City Hall on January 21, 2014.

**CALL TO ORDER – 6:01 P.M.**

**ROLL CALL**

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

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN

**CLOSED SESSION**

City Manager indicated the following item was to be discussed under Executive (Closed) Session.

- a. A closed session will be held pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6 to discuss labor negotiations with unrepresented employees.
- b. A closed session will be held pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9, existing litigation, regarding City of Cerritos, et al. v. Water Replenishment District of Southern California, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BS128136.
- c. A closed session will be held pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9, existing litigation, regarding Water Replenishment District of Southern California v. City of Signal Hill, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. VC060496.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

There was no public business from the floor on closed session items. It was moved and seconded to recess to Executive (Closed) Session at 6:02 p.m.

The following vote resulted:

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

ABSENT: MEMBER HANSEN

**RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION AT 6:02 P.M.**

Council Member Hansen entered closed session at 6:22 p.m.

**RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING AT 7:01 P.M.**

Mayor Noll reconvened the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Noll led the audience in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

Mayor Noll read an announcement on public comments. Mayor Noll also reported on the passing of former Council Member and Mayor Louis Dare.

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

Gloria Nava, Signal Hill resident, commented on the letter from the city to residents on the Taxpayers' Right to Know and Vote.

Maria Harris, Signal Hill resident, representing proponents of the Taxpayers' Right to Know and Vote initiative and Signal Hill Community First, and pointed out that the late Louis Dare was supportive of the Taxpayers' Right to Know and Vote.

Mayor Noll asked staff to clarify the letter sent to residents.

City manager indicated that the city has a speakers' bureau and have made them available if residents would like information presented to them. City Manager reiterated that the city cannot advocate, the city cannot take a position.

**CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

City Attorney reported on closed session items. No reportable action was taken.

**CITY COUNCIL RECEIVES AND FILES STRATEGIC PLAN SURVEY RESULTS**

City Manager presented the staff report and introduced Bill Kelly of Kelly and Associates Management Group who along with Dr. Richard Bernard of FM3 went over the resident satisfaction survey for the council and public.

Council Members asked questions of Dr. Bernard regarding the survey. Dr. Bernard explained to the council and public the methods of the survey.

Bob Mendoza, Signal Hill resident, asked what time of day was polling done, number of people who did the polling, and cost to conduct survey.

Maria Harris, Signal Hill resident, asked if those registered voters who provided phone numbers were the ones sought out for the survey.

Dr. Bernard replied that the number of people on the phone bank varies each day, and the survey is done systematically over series of nights to avoid calling into the household more than once. The survey was conducted in evening hours and weekends, and explained how phone numbers were chosen.

The City Manager responded that the city paid \$17,000 for the survey, and that one of the reasons for the survey is to see how residents view city staff and city services. This is basically our report card.

It was moved by Council Member Forester and seconded by Council Member Woods to receive and file.

The following vote resulted:

AYES: CHAIR NOLL  
VICE CHAIR WILSON  
MEMBER FORESTER  
MEMBER HANSEN  
MEMBER WOODS

NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE

#### **CITY COUNCIL APPROVES ORDINANCE NO. 2014-01-1465**

City Manager presented the staff report.

It was moved by Council Member Forester and seconded by Council Member Hansen to waive further reading and adopt Ordinance No. 2014-01-1465 amending Chapter 8.48 of the Signal Hill Municipal Code, entitled "Security Alarm Systems", to adopt a protocol for alarm call verifications.

The City Attorney read the title of the ordinance.

The following vote resulted:

AYES: CHAIR NOLL  
VICE CHAIR WILSON  
MEMBER FORESTER  
MEMBER HANSEN  
MEMBER WOODS

NOES:        NONE  
ABSENT:      NONE  
ABSTAIN:     NONE

**CITY COUNCIL APPROVES ORDINANCE NO. 2014-01-1466**

It was moved by Vice Mayor Wilson and seconded by Council Member Forester to waive further reading and adopt Ordinance No. 2014-01-1466 approving Zoning Ordinance Amendment 13-06, a request to amend Signal Hill Municipal Code Chapter 20.49, entitled "SP-6, Commercial Corridor Specific Plan," to include "ATM's Freestanding" as a conditionally permitted use.

City Attorney read the title of the ordinance.

The following vote resulted:

AYES:        CHAIR NOLL  
                 VICE CHAIR WILSON  
                 MEMBER FORESTER  
                 MEMBER HANSEN  
                 MEMBER WOODS

NOES:        NONE  
ABSENT:      NONE  
ABSTAIN:     NONE

**CITY COUNCIL APPROVES ORDINANCE NO. 2014-01-1467**

It was moved by Vice Mayor Wilson and seconded by Council Member Woods to waive further reading and adopt Ordinance No. 2014-01-1467 approving Zoning Ordinance Amendment 13-05, amendments to Title 20 of the Municipal Code for emergency shelters for the homeless in accordance with State mandates.

The City Attorney read the title of the ordinance.

The following vote resulted:

AYES:        CHAIR NOLL  
                 VICE CHAIR WILSON  
                 MEMBER FORESTER  
                 MEMBER HANSEN  
                 MEMBER WOODS

NOES:        NONE  
ABSENT:      NONE  
ABSTAIN:     NONE

**CITY COUNCIL APPOINTS PAUL PATTERSON TO FILL THE VACANCY ON THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION**

The City Manager presented the staff report.

Mayor Noll stated the process to select a candidate to fill the vacancy on the Civil Service Commission and opened nominations for the Commission.

Council Member Forester nominated Larry Blunden.

Vice Mayor Wilson nominated Jimmy Eleopolous.

Council Member Hansen nominated Paul Patterson.

Council Member Woods nominated Paul Patterson.

Following the nominations, the following vote resulted:

Council Member Forester voted for Larry Blunden.

Vice Mayor Wilson voted for Jimmy Eleopolous.

Council Member Hansen voted for Paul Patterson.

Council Member Woods voted for Paul Patterson.

Mayor Noll voted for Larry Blunden.

There being no majority vote for any of the candidates, it was moved by Council Member Forester and seconded by Council Member Woods to go with the top two candidates. The following vote resulted:

AYES:            CHAIR NOLL  
                  VICE CHAIR WILSON  
                  MEMBER FORESTER  
                  MEMBER HANSEN  
                  MEMBER WOODS

NOES:            NONE

With the removal of one candidate, the following vote resulted:

Council Member Forester voted for Larry Blunden.

Council Member Woods voted for Paul Patterson.

Council Member Hansen voted for Paul Patterson.

Vice Mayor Wilson voted for Paul Patterson.

Mayor Noll voted for Larry Blunden.

The Council congratulated Paul Patterson on his appointment to the Civil Service Commission.

**CITY COUNCIL REVIEWS AND APPROVES THE PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION**

The City Manager presented the staff report and introduced the Community Services Director who reviewed for the City Council the conceptual ideas and series of events planned.

It was moved by Council Member Forester and seconded by Council Member Hansen to review and approve the proposed activities for the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration. The following vote resulted:

AYES: CHAIR NOLL  
VICE CHAIR WILSON  
MEMBER FORESTER  
MEMBER HANSEN  
MEMBER WOODS

NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE

**CITY COUNCIL APPROVES SITE AT 3100 CALIFORNIA FOR USE AS A DOG PARK, INITIATES GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT AND ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO REDESIGNATE THE SITE AS PI, PUBLIC INSTITUTIONAL, AND DIRECTS STAFF TO WORK WITH THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION TO FINALIZE THE DESIGN**

City Manager gave a brief overview of the subject matter and introduced the Community Services Director who presented the staff report.

Community Services Director fielded questions and additional suggestions for the project posed by the City Council.

Neena Strichart, Signal Hill resident, spoke in favor the project and suggested the city sell bricks, benches, or trees for persons to donate to the park.

It was moved by Council Member Forester and seconded by Council Member Woods to approve the site at 3100 California Avenue for use as a dog park; initiate a general plan amendment and zoning ordinance amendment to re-designate the site as PI, Public Institutional; and direct staff to work with the Parks and Recreation Commission to finalize the design.

AYES: CHAIR NOLL  
VICE CHAIR WILSON  
MEMBER FORESTER  
MEMBER HANSEN  
MEMBER WOODS

NOES:        NONE  
ABSENT:     NONE  
ABSTAIN:    NONE

## **CITY COUNCIL APPROVES CONSENT CALENDAR**

The City Manager indicated the following item was listed on the Consent Calendar for Successor Agency approval:

a. Contract Services Agreement with Jose Melad and CSG Consultants, Inc. for Building Plan Check and Inspection Services

Summary: The City Council will consider approval of a Contract Services Agreement with Jose Melad and a Contract Services Agreement with CSG Consultants, Inc. Both companies are structural engineering consultants whose primary function is to provide building plan check and inspection services.

Recommendations: 1. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a Contract Services Agreement between the City of Signal Hill and Jose Melad for a total not to exceed \$155,000 per year, to provide building plan check and inspection services for a term of three years as approved by the City Attorney. 2. Authorize the City Manager to enter into Contract Services Agreement between the City of Signal Hill and CSG Consultants, Inc., for a total not to exceed \$155,000 per year, to provide building plan check and inspection services for a term of three years as approved by the City Attorney.

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 of the report.

Recommendation: Receive and file.

c. Warrant Register Dated January 21, 2014

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 January 21, 2014.

d. Minutes of the Following Meeting(s)

Regular Meeting of January 7, 2014.

Recommendation: Approve.

Council Member Woods requested that Item a. be removed for discussion.

It was moved by COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER and seconded by VICE MAYOR WILSON to approve the Consent Calendar items b-d.

The following vote resulted:

AYES: CHAIR NOLL  
VICE CHAIR WILSON  
MEMBER FORESTER  
MEMBER HANSEN  
MEMBER WOODS

NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE

Council Member Woods questioned why both contract amounts were \$155,000 each. Building Official stated that the \$155,000 is the total approved budget for these services, and both contracts give the city flexibility to use either or both consultants when needed.

It was the consensus of the City Council to approved Consent Calendar Item a.

### **CITY COUNCIL AGENDA – NEW BUSINESS**

Council Member Forester commented on his attendance at the Martin Luther King, Jr. parade held in Long Beach, and complimented Chief Langston on the police department's participation at the parade.

Council Member Forester stated that the mister on the hilltop does not appear to be working properly.

Council Member Hansen commented on the traffic issues at Raymond Avenue and 21st Street. Deputy City Manager commented that this issue has been studied by the city's traffic engineer and it has been recommended that the intersection be made to an all-way stop due to visibility issues. Mayor Noll asked that Temple & 20th also be looked at by the traffic engineer due to visibility issues. Council Member Forester asked the traffic safety committee to look at visibility issues from the driveway at Rossmoor Pastries on Redondo Avenue.

Council Member Hansen stated that she is concerned about the response by residents on the community survey that the city is not communicating enough and we may want to work with a consultant to expand our social media communication and create more access and visibility.

Council Member Woods asked about the solar system at the police department and if the city has reached its 30 percent. Deputy City Manager responded that the solar panels were activated in June, and a preliminary review indicates that the building is proving to be very efficient.

Council Member Woods reported on her attendance at the California Contract Cities Association Legislative Tour in Sacramento January 5-7.

Vice Mayor Wilson commented on his participation in the Martin Luther King, Jr. parade in Long Beach on Saturday, January 18, and thanked Gary Weinberger, Police Volunteer, and Mercedes Benz of Long Beach for their participation in the parade.

Mayor Noll asked the public works director how residents would report pot holes in the city. Public works director described how these issues can be reported.

Mayor Noll thanked the Signal Hill Police Department and the Los Angeles County Fire Department for their response to a fire at the Las Brisas apartments on California.

Mayor Noll announced the Parents' Night Out on Friday, February 14, in the Signal Hill Youth Center.

Mayor Noll announced that Governor Brown proclaimed a state of emergency to prepare for potential drought conditions in the state, and encouraged residents to conserve water. Mayor Noll asked the public works director if the city is considering drought resistant landscaping in the medians. Public works director indicated that the city is doing water efficiency studies for the medians to maximize water usage. Vice Mayor Wilson asked mandatory drought measures. The public works director indicated that would be through the city's water conservation ordinance, and that would be done in different stages by resolution of the city council.

Council Member Forester complimented Community Services on their communication with the sponsors of the holiday outreach.

Council Member Hansen echoed Vice Mayor Wilson's comments about the city's water conservation ordinance and how the city is proactive in these instances, and suggested preparation of a report to council reminding them and the public of the stages outlined in the ordinance.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Council Member Forester and seconded by Vice Mayor Wilson to adjourn tonight's meeting in memory of Louis Dare, former city council member and mayor, and Jean Berry Forester, stepmother of Council Member Larry Forester, to the next regular meeting of the City Council to be held on Tuesday, February 4, 2014 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 NOLL  
                 VICE MAYOR WILSON  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS

NOES:        NONE  
ABSENT:     NONE  
ABSTAIN:    NONE

MAYOR NOLL adjourned the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

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Michael J. Noll  
Mayor

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Kathleen L. Pacheco  
City Clerk