

MINUTES
SPECIAL JOINT CITY COUNCIL / IMPROVEMENT AGENCY MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2006

CALL TO ORDER Mayor/Chair Versaw called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 154 South Eighth Street, Grover Beach, California.

ROLL CALL

City Council/Agency: Council/Board Members Ashton, Ekbohm, Shoals, Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chair Lieberman, and Mayor/Chair Versaw were present.

City/Agency Staff: City Manager/Executive Director Perrault, Assistant City Attorney/Assistant General Counsel Donaldson, City Clerk/Agency Secretary McMahon, Administrative Services Director/Finance Officer Chapman, Interim Community Development Director/Interim Deputy Director Hansen, Acting Police Chief Bewick, Recreation Manager Petker, Public Works Superintendent Ford, Human Resources Coordinator Barrett, and Administrative Specialist-Confidential Carr were also present.

Also present was City Engineer Garing.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS The Mayor/Chair opened the floor to any member of the public for comment on items of interest which were within the jurisdiction of the City Council / Improvement Agency but were not listed on the agenda. No one responded and the Mayor/Chair closed the Public Communications segment for this portion of the meeting.

CITY COUNCIL

1. Proposed Resolution of Support for Expanded Rail Services Between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Mayor Versaw read the title to the foregoing item and deferred to Council Member Shoals, the City's representative to the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) and the Coast Rail Coordinating Council. Council Member Shoals described efforts to initiate rail services to connect downtown San Francisco and downtown Los Angeles along the Pacific Coast Rail Corridor, which would include a stop at the Grover Beach Train Station. The proposed Resolution stated the City's support of new and expanded rail services, which could be economically beneficial to the City. If adopted, staff would be directed to send a copy of the Resolution to the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments, the Governor of California, State Legislators, and the California Department of Transportation.

Brief discussion was held regarding Amtrak and other rail providers involved in the proposed service.

Action: It was m/s by Council Members Shoals/Ashton to adopt Resolution No. 06-58 in support of expanded passenger rail services to connect downtown San Francisco and downtown Los Angeles along the Pacific Coast Rail Corridor. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Council Members Ashton, Ekbohm, Shoals, Mayor Pro Tem Lieberman, and Mayor Versaw.
NOES: Council Members - None.
ABSENT: Council Members - None.
ABSTAIN: Council Members - None.

Resolution No. 06-58: A Resolution of Support by the City Council of the City of Grover Beach, California, for Expanded Passenger Rail Services to Connect Downtown San Francisco and Downtown Los Angeles along the Pacific Coast Rail Corridor.

JOINT CITY COUNCIL / IMPROVEMENT AGENCY - PUBLIC HEARING

CC/IA-1. Proposed FY 07 Budget.

Mayor/Chair Versaw read the title to the foregoing item, declared the Public Hearing open and deferred to City Manager/Executive Director Perrault. City Manager/Executive Director Perrault gave a brief overview of progress to date on budget discussions and outlined the next steps for final budget approval. He then distributed a memorandum, dated July 19, 2006, that listed items identified at the two previous budget workshop meetings regarding corrections or funding recommendations that had been amended.

Administrative Services Director/Finance Officer Chapman gave a brief overview of modifications to the budget document. She estimated that revised pages for the budget document could be distributed within the next week.

Administrative Services Department

Referencing a PowerPoint presentation, Administrative Services Director/Finance Officer Chapman gave an overview of the proposed department budget, achievements, goals, and work plan. She then responded to questions from the Council/Agency.

Brief discussion was held regarding lower costs for employee services in the proposed FY 07 budget compared to the previous fiscal year.

Mayor/Chair Versaw invited public comments on this portion of the budget presentation. No public comments were received.

City Management Department

City Manager/Executive Director Perrault began his presentation by complimenting staff in the City Management Department, whom he found to be very effective, efficient, and responsive since he officially took the position of City Manager/Executive Director in June 2006. He then gave a brief overview of the proposed department budget, achievements, goals, and work plan. He noted that one of his major goals was the revision of the Capital Improvement Plan. City Manager/Executive Director Perrault then responded to questions from the Council/Agency.

Discussion was held regarding:

- reduction in the cost of employee services from the previous year;
- the economic development plan; and
- department achievements regarding the number of meetings held, agendas, and agenda packets prepared and distributed.

Mayor/Chair Versaw invited public comments on this portion of the budget presentation. No public comments were received.

Parks and Recreation Department

Referencing a PowerPoint presentation, Recreation Manager Petker gave an overview of the proposed department budget, achievements, goals, work programs, and capital improvement projects. She then responded to questions from the Council/Agency.

Discussion was held regarding:

- funding included in the FY 07 Budget for the reclassification of the Recreation Manager position to a Parks and Recreation Director;
- proposed costs for a storage shed; and
- user fees supporting 50 percent of department operations.

Mayor/Chair Versaw invited public comments on this portion of the budget presentation. No public comments were received.

Community Non-profit Groups

Grover Beach Chamber of Commerce

Referencing a PowerPoint presentation, Zach Joesting, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, gave a brief overview of the Chamber's visitor service enhancements, goals and objectives as a visitor information center, special events, and requests for additional funding.

Cathy Springford, President, Grover Beach Chamber of Commerce, spoke in support of the Chamber's funding requests.

Discussion was held regarding:

- Chamber membership levels, growth, and costs;
- street signage for visitor information;
- the Chamber's Sandfest event;
- coordinating efforts to develop a Chamber "visitors' guide" and promote the City's economic development program;
- status of partnering with the City for relocation information;
- income generated for the Chamber from the annual sale of fireworks and the disposition of those funds;
- request for funding a full-time staff position dedicated to visitor services;
- potential impacts if the Chamber changed its focus and philosophy towards being a visitor information center;
- the increased funding request in light of the City's constrained fiscal situation; and
- recruiting volunteers to provide visitor information services.

City Manager/Executive Director Perrault suggested that if the Council/Agency was considering the Chamber's request for additional funding, the funds should come from the Improvement Agency rather than the General Fund.

Mayor/Chair Versaw invited public comments on this presentation. No public comments were received.

Action: It was m/s by Council/Board Members Ekbom/Shoals to:

- 1) continue the existing funding level of support for the Chamber; and
- 2) increase funding to the Chamber of Commerce for visitor/tourism services by \$10,700 from funds in the Improvement Agency, for:
 - (a) signage in the amount of \$700;
 - (b) development of a mutually beneficial visitors' information pamphlet or map in the amount of \$5,000;
 - (c) a part-time Chamber staff position in the amount of \$5,000; and
 - (d) reducing the amount designated for an economic development consultant in the Improvement Agency by \$10,000.

The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Council/Board Members Ashton, Ekbom, Shoals, Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chair Lieberman, and Mayor/Chair Versaw.

NOES: Council/Board Members - None.

ABSENT: Council/Board Members - None.

ABSTAIN: Council/Board Members - None.

San Luis Obispo Visitors & Conference Bureau

Jonni Biaggini, Executive Director, spoke in support of the City's efforts to increase tourism and stated that the San Luis Obispo Visitors and Conference Bureau was requesting the same level of funding from the City as had been provided the previous year.

There was no discussion held and no public comments received.

Recess: Upon consensus of the City Council / Improvement Agency, the meeting was recessed at 8:20 p.m.

Reconvene: At 8:30 p.m., the meeting reconvened with all Council/Board Members present.

Community Development Department

Interim Community Development Director/Interim Deputy Director Hansen gave a brief overview of the proposed department budget, achievements, and goals. He then responded to questions from the Council/Agency.

Discussion was held regarding:

- the enterprise fund;
- accountability by developers for projects that caused damage to City streets;
- preliminary overview process and a funding options program with PG&E, regarding undergrounding utilities;
- Land Use Element;
- utilizing the expertise of consultants for certain projects;
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds;
- Beachfront Lodge & Conference Center feasibility study costs; and
- potential future assemblage of properties for development or housing.

Mayor/Chair Versaw invited public comments on this presentation. No public comments were received.

City Manager/Executive Director Perrault briefly summarized the amendments to the proposed budget document thus far.

Discussion was then held and staff was requested to further analyze the cost benefit of continuing the Agency's membership and staff attendance at conferences sponsored by the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC).

Further discussion was held regarding the timing of formal adoption of the FY 07 Budget, and whether to proceed with the special meeting scheduled for Monday, July 24, 2006 or to delay adoption until the regularly scheduled meeting of Monday, August 7, 2006.

Action: Upon unanimous consensus, the Council/Agency directed staff to: 1) cancel the special meeting scheduled for Monday, July 24, 2006; and 2) schedule formal adoption of the FY 07 Budget at the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting of Monday, August 7, 2006.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business to come before the City Council / Improvement Agency, Mayor/Chair Versaw adjourned the meeting at 9:11 p.m.

City Council:

/s/ LARRY VERSAW, MAYOR

Attest: /s/ DONNA L. McMAHON, CITY CLERK

(Approved at CC Mtg 8/21/06)

Improvement Agency:

/s/ LARRY VERSAW, CHAIR

Attest: /s/ DONNA L. McMAHON, AGENCY SECRETARY

(Approved at IA Mtg 10/02/06)