

MINUTES
JOINT CITY COUNCIL / IMPROVEMENT AGENCY MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2010

CALL TO ORDER Mayor/Chair Shoals called the meeting to order at 8:34 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 154 South Eighth Street, Grover Beach, California.

ROLL CALL

Council/Agency: Council/Board Members Bright, Mires, Peterson, Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chair Nicolls, and Mayor/Chair Shoals were present.

City/Agency Staff: City Manager/Executive Director Perrault, City Attorney/General Counsel Koczanowicz, City Clerk/Agency Secretary McMahon, Administrative Services Director/Finance Officer Chapman, Fire Chief Hubert, and Community Development Director/Deputy Director Buckingham 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.

JOINT CITY COUNCIL / IMPROVEMENT AGENCY - CONSENT AGENDA

CC/IA-1. Minutes of the Joint City Council / Improvement Agency Meeting of Monday, October 19, 2009.

Action: Upon unanimous consensus, the minutes were approved as submitted.

IMPROVEMENT AGENCY - BUSINESS

IA-1. South County Transit Hub, Phase III Concept.

Chair Shoals read the title to the foregoing item and deferred to staff for a report. For the information of those present, City Engineer Garing provided an overview of improvements for the South County Transit Hub, previously referred to as the "Ramona Specific Plan". He stated improvements for Phases I and II have been completed and consisted of sidewalk, crosswalk, parking, bus handling, passenger facility, and drainage improvements. At the December 7, 2009 City Council meeting, design concepts for Phase III of the project were presented and discussed. Direction was provided to prepare additional design concepts for parking and drainage improvements along North 9th Street from Ramona Avenue to West Grand Avenue.

City Engineer Garing presented five alternative design concepts with various combinations of one-way or two-way traffic circulation, as well as angled, parallel or eliminated parking. He pointed out that any of the design concepts would require extension of the storm drain to West Grand Avenue, and there were no funds currently allocated for additional storm drain work. He stated the recommended and most economical concept was described as "Plan 1: One-way northbound circulation with angled parking on both the east and west sides of the street, no bike lanes, and landscaped bulb-outs". Alternatively, the Council could test the functionality of the first three design concepts presented by authorizing roadway striping, installing large planters, and receiving public feedback. City Engineer Garing then responded to questions from the Council/Agency.

Mayor/Chair Shoals invited public comments regarding this matter. No public comments were received.

Brief discussion was held regarding the merits of each design concept, the number of parking spaces reduced by the installation of landscaped areas or trees, alternative facilities to accommodate storm water, and ensuring adequate access for emergency vehicles.

Fire Chief Hubert responded to questions regarding minimum street widths required to accommodate standard-sized fire apparatus.

Additional Council/Agency discussion was held regarding potential effects from changing the circulation on North 9th Street from two-way to one-way northbound traffic only. It was suggested that, before a design concept was selected, the Council/Agency receive cost estimates for: (1) the design alternative described as "Plan 4: Two-way traffic with angled parking on both sides of the street and no bike lane", and (2) replacing the curb, gutter and sidewalk on the west side of North 9th Street adjacent to the Rabobank building. Further discussion was held regarding investigating whether the design concept for Plan 4 might impact the structural footings of existing buildings on North 9th Street and, if so, preparing a modified Plan 1 to narrow the sidewalk on the west side of the street to accommodate a 16-ft travel lane instead of a 12-ft travel lane.

Action: Upon unanimous consensus, the Council/Agency requested the following:

Plan 4: 1) Modifying the design concept by eliminating the tree located on the east side of North 9th Street and next to the Post Office mail collection box; 2) providing cost estimates; and 3) determining whether footings of any existing building posed a conflict.

Plan 1: Modifying the design concept by replacing the sidewalk located on the west side of North 9th Street, widening travel lanes to 16 ft, and changing the angled parking configuration to 45 degrees.

JOINT CITY COUNCIL / IMPROVEMENT AGENCY - BUSINESS

CC/IA-2. State of the City Report.

Mayor/Chair Shoals read the title to the foregoing item and deferred to staff for a report. For the information of those present, City Manager/Executive Director Perrault provided a detailed overview of progress achieved during the past two-year budget cycle in the areas of economic development, public safety, streets, utilities and infrastructure, water supply, community development and planning, parks and recreation, administration, and finance. He also identified proposed actions to be taken during the next two-year fiscal cycle.

He noted that, in spite of the severe economic downturn, the City had continued to provide consistent levels of municipal services without significant reductions in either facilities or operations and only a modest reduction in the workforce. For comparison purposes, he outlined budget and staffing levels for cities in San Luis Obispo County which indicated that, although Grover Beach was not the smallest city in terms of population, it had the smallest General Fund budget and the fewest number of employees. He briefly described programs implemented to bolster the local economy, including the Shop and Dine Local Program, Home Rehabilitation Program, and Water Conservation Program, and stated that the Parks and Recreation Department had actually increased the number of City-sponsored special events, including extending the summer concert series to an almost weekly event.

City Manager/Economic Development Director Perrault then provided a fiscal outlook for the coming year, projecting further declines in revenues, property taxes, and sales tax. A structural deficit of approximately \$750,000 was projected for FY 11, which could be resolved with the anticipated sale of another piece of City-owned property. He pointed out that Reserves in the General Fund were at approximately 25 percent of the City's operating budget. All other funds, with the exception of the Storm Water Fund and potentially the Water Fund, remained relatively sound. He stated that the single largest economic threat to the City came from the State: 1) resolving its budget deficit with local government funds, and 2) continuing to legislate mandates on cities without providing any offsetting revenue contribution. He then responded to questions from the Council/Agency.

Brief discussion was held regarding deferring discussion of street selections for the Local Street Rehabilitation Program until after the arrival of the new Public Works

Director, status of the Safe Routes to School projects, the anticipated construction schedule for the West Grand Avenue Enhancement Project, and the status of the City website redesign project and on-line payment program.

Action: Upon unanimous consensus, the report was received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council / Improvement Agency, Mayor/Chair Shoals adjourned the meeting at 9:42 p.m.

City Council:

/s/JOHN P. SHOALS, MAYOR

Attest:

/s/DONNA L. McMAHON, CITY CLERK
(Approved at CC Mtg 10/04/10)

Improvement Agency:

/s/JOHN P. SHOALS, CHAIR

Attest:

/s/DONNA L. McMAHON, AGENCY SECRETARY
(Approved at IA Mtg10/18/2010)