

**MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Shoals called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 154 South Eighth Street, Grover Beach, California.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

FLAG SALUTE The flag salute was led by Cameron Hirahara, a 10-year-old, 4th grade student at Grover Heights Elementary School.

ROLL CALL

City Council: Council Members Bright, Peterson, Mayor Pro Tem Nicolls, and Mayor Shoals were present. Council Member Mires was absent.

City Staff: City Manager Perrault, City Attorney Koczanowicz, City Clerk McMahon, Administrative Services Director Chapman, Interim Community Development Director Beck, Police Chief Copsey, and Parks and Recreation Director Petker were also present.

Also present were City Engineer Garing, Parks, Recreation & Beautification Commission Chair Greeley, and Parks, Recreation & Beautification Commissioner Laferriere.

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS: City Attorney Koczanowicz read the following:

On Monday, May 18, 2009, after meeting in Closed Session regarding:

1. Conference with Legal Counsel - Pending Litigation
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(c)
Initiation of Litigation: One (1) potential case

the City Council reconvened into open session and announced there were no reportable actions taken.

AGENDA REVIEW

Action: Upon consensus (Council Member Mires absent), the Council adopted the agenda as presented.

CEREMONIAL CALENDAR

1. Certificates of Appreciation Presented to Spring Garden Tour Participants.

Recreation Coordinator O'Donnell and Parks and Recreation Director Petker were joined by Parks, Recreation & Beautification Commission Chair Greeley and Commissioner Laferriere in thanking all of the participants for opening their respective gardens for another successful and well-attended event. Commissioner Laferriere described the City's new demonstration garden located at Ramona Garden Park which featured drought-tolerant plantings. Mayor Shoals joined them in presenting certificates of appreciation to the following four participants:

- Diane & Michael Stuart, 170 Ocean View Avenue, Grover Beach (who were unable to attend due to a medical emergency);
- Susie Silva-Treadwell, 874 N. 2nd Street, Grover Beach;
- Vanessa & Mike Roza, 413 N. 12th Street, Grover Beach;
- Darrell & Ellie Ross, Ellie's Gourmet Café, 1401 W. Grand Ave, Grover Beach; and
- Dee Santos, 850 Atlantic City Avenue, Grover Beach for the Plant Exchange.

Recreation Coordinator O'Donnell acknowledged and thanked the following individuals who were not present at the meeting:

- Bernie Diggins and Tamera Pullen for plant donations; and
- Linda Dominguez, Lorrie Anderson, and Pam Spicer for serving as event volunteers.

PRESENTATIONS

2. Presentation to the City of a \$10,000 Community Development Grant from Rabobank.

City Manager Perrault stated that the grant was being awarded to the City as part of Rabobank's Community Investment Program. The \$10,000 grant would be matched with a \$10,000 contribution from the Improvement Agency. The funds would be used to launch the City's Local Stimulus Program to assist local businesses.

Rabobank Regional President Steve Harding and Assistant Vice President/Branch Manager Mary Mylan presented the check to the City Council.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor opened the floor to any member of the public for comment on items of interest which were within the jurisdiction of the City Council, but were not listed on the agenda.

- A. Adam Hill, San Luis Obispo County 3rd District Supervisor, announced: 1) new office hours and meeting location for South County constituents; 2) an Energy Town Hall Meeting to be held on June 12, 2009 at the Ramona Garden Park Center to discuss energy-related issues and legislation; and 3) upcoming County budget meetings. He also described recent economic development strategy efforts by the County.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was m/s by Mayor Pro Tem Nicolls /Council Member Bright to approve Consent Agenda Item Nos. 3, 4, and 5 as recommended. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Council Members Bright, Peterson, Mayor Pro Tem Nicolls, and Mayor Shoals.
NOES: Council Members - None.
ABSENT: Council Member Mires.
ABSTAIN: Council Members - None.

3. Treasurer's Report for the Period May 13 - June 3, 2009.

Action: Approved as submitted.

4. Minutes of the Following City Council Meetings:

- Regular City Council Meeting of Monday, January 5, 2009;
- Joint City Council / Improvement Agency Meeting of Monday, January 5, 2009;
- Special City Council Meeting of Monday, January 26, 2009; and
- Joint City Council / Improvement Agency Meeting of Monday, January 26, 2009.

Action: Approved the minutes as submitted.

5. Award of Bid for Construction of Storm Drain Improvements, 16th Street at West Grand Avenue - Consideration of bids received on Wednesday, May 20, 2009 for construction of storm drain improvements on 16th Street.

Action: 1) Adopted Resolution No. 09-37 to award the Construction of Storm Drain Improvements, 16th Street at W. Grand Avenue, to the lowest responsive bidder, California Coastal Development, Inc.; 2) authorized the City Manager to sign and affirm change orders to the project in amounts up to \$14,853, to be deducted from contingency; and 3) authorized the Mayor to execute the contract on behalf of the City.

Resolution No. 09-37: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Grover Beach, California, Awarding the Project: Construction of Storm Drain Improvements, 16th Street at West Grand Avenue.

REGULAR BUSINESS

6. South 13th Street Sidewalk and Street Improvements.

Mayor Shoals read the title to the foregoing item and deferred to staff for a report. City Engineer Garing provided an overview of Council discussion held at the May 18, 2009 meeting regarding alignment of curb, gutter, and sidewalk on South 13th Street between West Grand Avenue and Longbranch Avenue. He then presented two potential design options that would accommodate two travel lanes, parking and bike lanes, and an optional center turn lane. He confirmed that either design alternative would allow future sidewalk improvements without incurring the extra expense of replacing conflicting private improvements and would still conform to the Circulation Element dated August 2005. He then responded to questions from the Council.

Mayor Shoals invited public comments on this matter. There was no response and he closed the public comment period for this item.

Brief discussion was held regarding eliminating the design option for a center turn lane, selecting xeriscape plantings whenever possible, potentially planting street trees along the project area, and the desire to ultimately install continuous sidewalk areas for the entire length of 13th Street, from Atlantic City Avenue to The Pike. Additional discussion was held regarding reviewing other street segments to identify opportunities to narrow street widths.

Action: Upon consensus (Council Member Mires absent), the Council: 1) adopted the construction/rehabilitation plan for the South 13th Street Sidewalk and Street Improvement Project identified as design "Option 1": 48 feet curb-to-curb with future lane configuration to delineate a 12-foot wide parking/bike lane on each side and one 12-foot wide travel lane on each side, but include no center turning lane; 2) authorized the completion of design drawings to obtain bids for construction; and 3) authorized development of a sidewalk design for the full length of 13th Street, from Atlantic City Avenue to The Pike.

7. Countywide Assessment for a San Luis Obispo County Mosquito and Vector Control Program.

Mayor Shoals read the title to the foregoing item and deferred to staff for a report. City Manager Perrault provided an overview of the November 2008 Public Hearing to consider City participation in the county-wide Vector Control Program and the conduct of a mailed ballot to property owners regarding a benefit assessment. It was noted that the City was bordered by Meadow Creek, Pismo Lake, and adjacent wetlands, which were prime locations for mosquitoes to breed, and County efforts to treat these areas had been inconsistent. Funding from the assessment would enhance the local education and abatement effort. City Manager Perrault stated that the County had mailed ballots to all property owners and, if the assessment process was successful, the annual assessment for City-owned properties would be \$246.25.

Brief discussion was held regarding public nuisance abatement procedures which included written notification to property owners, similar to the City's annual weed abatement program.

Mayor Shoals invited public comments on this matter. There was no response and he closed the public comment period for this item.

Action: It was m/s by Council Members Peterson/Bright to authorize the City Manager to vote "yes" on ballots received by the City as the property owner, approving the proposed San Luis Obispo County Assessment for mosquitoes, vector, and disease control. The motion carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Council Members Bright, Peterson, Mayor Pro Tem Nicolls, and Mayor Shoals.

NOES: Council Members - None.

ABSENT: Council Member Mires.

ABSTAIN: Council Members - None.

PULLED CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

None at this time.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

None at this time.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS

A. Mayor Shoals requested Council consensus to schedule discussion of the following items at a future Council meeting:

- Formation of a community foundation to raise revenue for special projects or community improvements, such as street trees and park amenities.
- Increasing the distance at public facility entrances to prohibit smoking beyond the 20-foot minimum distance required by the State or establishing designated smoking areas.
- Creating a Mayor Emeritus Program to honor individuals who have served in the capacity of Mayor for an extended period of time.
- Regulations and abatement procedures for complaints regarding barking dogs.

Action: Upon consensus (Council Member Mires absent), the Council agreed to schedule discussion of the foregoing items on a future Council agenda.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Mayor Shoals objected to a local oversized display advertising the sale of alcohol. He distributed a document entitled "*Saving Face - How Corporate Franchise Design Can Respect Community Identity*" and suggested modifying the City's existing sign regulations.

He then requested a status report regarding the City's street tree regulations and objected to allowing developments to plant 15-gallon street trees, specifically Queen Palms. He suggested requiring larger street tree plantings that were in proportion with the scale of the building.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS AND COMMENTS

8. Development of a Grover Beach Local Stimulus Program.

City Manager Perrault provided an overview of preliminary concepts for a local economic stimulus program and outlined estimated program costs and benefits for the following:

- *Local Business Preference Policy for Purchases by the City* - Establishing a policy to offer a 5% preference to local businesses for City purchases or acquisition of materials, supplies, equipment, or services on a competitive basis. For public works projects, the City would extend the preference to local contractors for qualified bids submitted within 5% or \$5,000, whichever was less. This would primarily assist small businesses operating in the City.
- *Shop Grover Beach* - A program to encourage residents to patronize local businesses. This program concept was modeled after a similar program implemented by the City of Lancaster, which issued a limited number of "Shop Local" cards valued at \$30 each issued on a first-come, first-served basis to residents who presented receipts for local purchases totaling \$500. Program costs would be leveraged to generate additional sales tax.
- *Business Retention Loan Program* - Short-term financial assistance for small local businesses in the form of loans/grants. Loans would be for operational expenditures to those small businesses that could demonstrate economic hardship. Grants would be for tenant or façade improvements and would require matching funds.
- *20% Reduction in Building Permit Fees for a Single Month Program* - Reduce fees during a pre-selected month to stimulate the local construction and related-trade industry.

- *Business Tax Certificate Amnesty Program* - A program to encourage businesses that had not renewed their Business Tax Certificates to complete the process and encourage those without a Business Tax Certificate to comply with the regulation.
- *Home Repair Program* - Provision of loans to income-qualified homeowners or property owners renting to income-qualified residents. Assistance would be capped at \$20,000, with the proceeds available to use for items such as correcting structural and framing defects, leaking water fixtures, drains, window and door repairs, smoke detectors, and water heater strapping. The City would seek to partner with another agency, such as the Economic Opportunity Commission, to administer this program.
- *Water Conservation Program* - A program to encourage water conservation and the use of local contractors to complete the work. The City would offer a rebate to replace lawn grass areas with drought-tolerant landscaping and a rebate for the purchase of water- and energy-efficient washers.

City Manager Perrault then responded to questions from the Council.

Brief discussion was held regarding each of the proposed concepts and maximizing advertising efforts through partnerships with other agencies, such as the Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Vitality Corporation, as well as community service groups.

Mayor Shoals invited public comments on this matter. There was no response and he closed the public comment period for this item.

Action: Upon consensus (Council Member Mires absent), the Council authorized staff to continue developing the local stimulus programs as presented with the following refinements:

- *Local Preference Purchasing Policy* - expand purchasing preference to include employers who reside in Grover Beach;
- *Shop Grover Beach* - limit qualifying purchases to only those sales that generate sales tax;
- *Business Retention Loan Program* - partner with the Economic Vitality Corporation to assist business owners with developing business plans and then survey the businesses afterwards to determine the level of satisfaction with that assistance;
- *20% Building Permit Fee Reduction* - consider coordinating this event with the City's 50-year anniversary celebration; and
- *Home Repair Program* - partner with the EOC to increase the loan amounts and target improvements to reduce visual blight and increase property "curb appeal".

9. Request to Schedule a Joint Meeting between the City Council and Planning Commission.

City Manager Perrault reviewed the request to schedule a joint workshop with members of the City Council and Planning Commission.

Brief discussion was held regarding potential topics for consideration at the workshop and potential meeting dates/times.

Action: Upon consensus (Council Member Mires absent): 1) the Planning Commission would be polled for a suitable meeting date to schedule the joint workshop; and 2) the regular City Council meeting of Monday, June 15, 2009 was cancelled and a Special Meeting would instead be held one week later on Monday, June 22, 2009.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORTS AND COMMENTS

None at this time.

CLOSED SESSION

None at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Shoals adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

/s/JOHN P. SHOALS, MAYOR

Attest:

/s/DONNA L. McMAHON, CITY CLERK
(Approved at CC Mtg 10/19/09)