

STAFF REPORT

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: JIM COPSEY, ACTING CITY MANAGER/ CHIEF OF POLICE
VIA: KATHY PETKER, PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAM DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: MAYOR'S COMMENDATION HONORING JIM GARING

BACKGROUND

The Mayor's commendation was initiated to recognize residents and citizens who have substantially contributed time and resources to the City. This evening, the Mayor is honoring Mr. Jim Garing, who has been a long-time community member and business owner, providing engineering services to the City of Grover Beach almost 50 years, and 31 years as the City Engineer.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Garing graduated from San Luis Obispo High School in June 1962. His first full-time job was with Dick Hickenbottom, working as a soils laboratory technician. Dick was City Engineer of Grover City from 1960 to 1962. The City then appointed Sam Taylor as City Engineer. Mr. Garing continued his education at California Polytechnic State University ("Cal Poly") while working part time for Mr. Hickenbottom and the firm Garing, Taylor & Associates. He graduated in June 1967. Upon graduation, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps.

Mr. Garing's remarkable military service spanned from 1967 to 1972. He was a pilot and flew 138 combat missions in Vietnam and Laos. He was also an Advanced Jet Training Instructor at the Naval Air Station Chase Field in Beeville, Texas.

In late 1972, Mr. Garing and his wife, Kathy, came back to the Central Coast and he began working full time with Garing, Taylor & Associates, while concurrently working on projects in Grover City.

A major project that he worked on that is still utilized today is the Master Drainage Study. Under the direction of Sam Taylor, the Master Drainage Study was adopted by the City in January 1976. Upon Mr. Taylor's retirement with the City, Mr. Garing was appointed as the City Engineer on December 7, 1981.

Mr. Garing stated, "I am most proud of the Master Drainage Study developed 38 years ago and the fact that the City has implemented it over time as funding has become available." When the

APPROVED FOR FORWARDING


ROBERT PERRAULT
CITY MANAGER

Please Review for the Possibility of a Potential Conflict of Interest:

- None Identified by Staff
- Peterson
- Bright
- Lee
- Marshall
- Nicolls

Meeting Date: March 4, 2013

Agenda Item No. 1

firm Garing, Taylor & Associates became City Engineer in 1960, most streets in town were dirt, Grand Avenue was a two-lane street, with Eucalyptus trees lining both sides of the narrow road almost all the way to the ocean. As funding became available, Mr. Garing worked on virtually every street in the City over the last 40 years, designing reconstruction, curbs, gutters, and sidewalks.

Mr. Garing has also been on the Zone Three Advisory Council since 1983 when he was appointed Alternate Delegate to CSA 12 by the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors. The Zone Three Advisory Council has representatives from the Cities of Arroyo Grande, Grover Beach, Pismo Beach, Oceano Community Services District, County Service Area 12 (which extends to Port San Luis Harbor District), the agricultural community and, lastly, a Delegate at Large. In 1995, he was appointed Delegate at Large by the Board of Supervisors. The Zone Three Advisory Council advises the Board of Supervisors regarding operation and maintenance of the Lopez Dam Water Project, including the dam, transmission pipelines, and the water treatment plant.

Other memorable Grover Beach projects in Mr. Garing's lengthy resume include:

- The Manhattan Avenue Storm Drain System;
- The 1978 Grover City Water Project, which included Well No.4, Reservoir No. 1, and the Water Transmission Main;
- Relocation of the City Maintenance Yard from North 16th Street and Saratoga Avenue to the current location on Farroll Road;
- Upper Water Pressure Zone Booster Station and Standby Power Unit on North 16th Street and north of Saratoga Avenue;
- Acquisition and construction of the Mentone Drainage Basin;
- Construction of the Mentone Storm Drain System;
- Reservoir No. 2;
- Reservoir No. 3;
- Reconstruction of all City Sewer Lift Stations, 1981 – 1995;
- Reconstruction of the Nitrate Removal Water Plant, South 16th Street and Mentone Avenue;
- Reservoir No. 1 Reconstruction and Seismic Retrofit;
- Construction of the beginning of the West Grand Avenue Storm Drain System; and
- Construction of the South Grover Beach Sewer Trunk Main System, eliminating the need for three existing sewer lift stations.

It is an honor to commend Mr. Garing for his outstanding services to our country, as well as to the City of Grover Beach.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

No Council action required for this item.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

The agenda was posted in accordance with the Brown Act.

Attachment

1. Mayor's Commendation



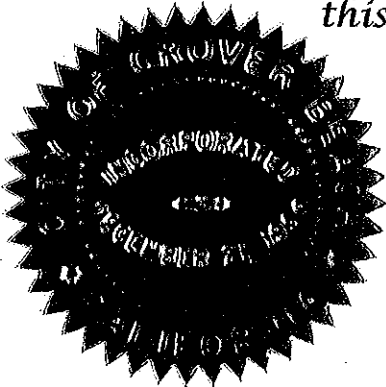
Mayor's Commendation

Presented to

JIM GARING

In recognition and appreciation for your many years of service and contributions as City Engineer to the City and residents of Grover Beach. We look forward to continuing to receive your professional expertise as our City Engineer for many years to come!

In witness thereof, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Grover Beach to be affixed this 4th day of March 2013.



Debbie Peterson, Mayor

Attest: _____

Donna L. McMahon, City Clerk