

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
MONROVIA CITY COUNCIL
HELD TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2001, 7:30 P.M.**

CONVENE: Following a Closed Session for a Conference with Legal Counsel pursuant to Government Code Sections §54956.9(b)(2), Settlement Authority for Evita Maya, from 6:35 P.M. to 6:38 P.M., at which all City Councilmembers with the exception of Councilmember Hammond, were in attendance, Mayor Lara Larramendi Blakely convened the Regular Meeting of the Monrovia City Council of Tuesday, April 10, 2001 at 7:35 P.M., City Council Chambers, 415 South Ivy Avenue, Monrovia, California.

INVOCATION: Pastor Steve Summerell, Vineyard Christian Fellowship Church, led the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Pro Tem Rob Hammond led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: In attendance were Councilmembers Tom Adams, Victor M. Franco, Joe Garcia, Mayor Pro Tem Rob Hammond, and Mayor Lara Larramendi Blakely.

REPORT OF CLOSED SESSIONS OF APRIL 9 AND 10, 2001:

1. City Attorney Performance Evaluation/Contract Pursuant to Government Code §54957

City Attorney Michael G. Colantuono reported that a Closed Session had been held at the Team Building Session of the City Council on April 9, 2001 at the Holiday Inn Hotel, Monrovia. He stated that no action was taken that required a report at this time.

2. Conference with Legal Counsel Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(b)(2), Settlement Authority for Evita Maya

City Attorney Michael G. Colantuono reported that a Closed Session had been held prior to the City Council Meeting this evening. The City Council gave settlement authority to its negotiator Theresa St. Peter. This did not result in action requiring a report at this time.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Recognition of Participating Restaurants for the Skate Park Fundraising Program of March 29, 2001

On March 29, 2001, local restaurants participated in the "Let's Dine Out" skate park fundraiser. The event raised over \$400.00 and included the following restaurants: Applebee's, Neighborhood Grill and Bar, Rudy's Mexican Restaurant, Ham Shop, Sam's deli, Food Time, Domenico's Monrovia, Memory Lane Cafe, Thyme and Place, Mediterranean Express, Jake's, Wang's Palace, Empanadas Gourmet, Wendy's and Cajun Way.

Recreation Division Manager Michele Tompkins introduced Recreation Specialist Juan Dorantes and Skater Brian Cox to thank the restaurants for their generous contributions. Rudy, of Rudy's Mexican Restaurant, accepted a Certificate of Appreciation for his contribution. The remainder of the Certificates would be mailed.

Mr. Dorantes announced an upcoming Skate-A-Thon fundraiser for the Skate Park to be held in Recreation Park, accompanied with music and refreshments.

PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclaiming the Month of April, 2001 as Earthquake Preparedness Month"

The State of California has designated the month of April as "Earthquake Preparedness Month". The Monrovia Fire Department encourages all citizens, businesses, and schools to enhance their knowledge and awareness of proper safety measures to follow before, during and after an earthquake.

Battalion Chief Sam DiGiovanna accepted the proclamation from Mayor Blakely and presented a brief Power Point presentation regarding Earthquake Preparedness Month.

2. Proclaiming the Week of April 16-22, 2001 "National Community Development Week"

Mayor Blakely proclaimed the week of April 16-22, 2001 as "National Community Development Week" in the City of Monrovia, joining with other communities throughout the nation in support and celebration of the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG).

Established on August 22, 1974, the CDBG program has continued to strengthen America's communities by providing affordable and accessible housing, childcare, health care, senior citizens' programs, and infrastructure improvements. The theme of this year's celebration is "*Building Communities Coast to Coast*."

Linda Jenkins, Los Angeles County Community Development Commission, received the proclamation. Housing Coordinator Daniel McConnell presented the 2001 CDBG Poster to the City Council.

Mayor Blakely introduced members of Boy Scout Troup 190, Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Church. She welcomed them and their leaders to the City Council Meeting.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: Student Representative Chris Bureau reported on activities at Monrovia High School.

A. CONSENT CALENDAR: It was moved by Councilmember Garcia, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Hammond, to approve the Consent Calendar consisting of Items *B, *I-1, *K.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Councilmembers Adams*, Franco, Garcia, Mayor Pro Tem Hammond, Mayor Blakely*
Motion carried: 5-0

*with the exception of Items AB48X (utility related) included in Agenda Item *I-1

***B. MINUTES:** Minutes of the Regular Meetings of March 13, 2001 and Special Meeting of March 20, 2001 were approved by order of the Consent Calendar.

C. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

At the request of Mayor Blakely, City Clerk Linda B. Proctor read the new guidelines for Oral Communications as follows:

At this time citizens who wish to speak on any City business item not on the Agenda should first complete and return a "Speaker Information Form" to the City Clerk before this 45-minute period. By State law, The City Council may not discuss or vote on items not on the agenda. Speakers will be called on a first come, first served basis. Time allotted for each speaker is a maximum of 3 minutes. Please state your name and address for the record. Those not accommodated during this period have an additional opportunity to speak under M. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS, SESSION II following public City business. The City Attorney will track the minutes remaining in the 45-minute period and advise the Mayor prior to the last speaker speaking. Speakers were asked to come to the front of the Chambers to sit and wait their time to speak as the City Clerk called their names three at a time.

1. Cyrus Kemp, Monrovia, spoke unfavorably regarding the new Oral Communication guidelines, and in opposition of Planned Parenthood.

City Attorney Colantuono explained that the City Council had given direction to Staff for the preparation of the Agenda for this matter at the last City Council Meeting.

2. Arianna Gallagher, Long Beach, spoke against Planned Parenthood
3. Fred Baisley, Lakewood, spoke against Planned Parenthood
4. Ann Hodgdon, Monrovia, spoke against Planned Parenthood

- 5. Rosemary Harrahill, Monrovia, spoke against Planned Parenthood
- 6. Tami Vasquez, Pasadena, spoke against Planned Parenthood
- 7. Elizabeth Fickes, Monrovia, spoke against Planned Parenthood
- 8. Chuck Keenan, Monrovia, spoke against Planned Parenthood
- 9. Clare Chesley, Monrovia, spoke against Planned Parenthood
- 10. Nancy Tanker, Monrovia, spoke against Planned Parenthood

D. PUBLIC MEETINGS/HEARINGS: None

**CONVENE MONROVIA REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING
WITHOUT ADJOURNING CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

CONVENE: Chairman Lara Larramendi Blakely convened the Regular Meeting of April 10, 2001 of the Monrovia Redevelopment Agency Board of Directors at 8:33 P.M. in City Council Chambers without adjourning the City Council Meeting.

ROLL CALL: Those in attendance were Boardmembers Tom Adams, Victor M. Franco, Joe Garcia, Vice-Chairman Rob Hammond, and Chairman Lara Larramendi Blakely.

A. CONSENT CALENDAR: It was moved by Boardmember Adams, seconded by Councilmember Franco, to adopt the Consent Calendar consisting of Item *B.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Boardmembers, Adams, Franco, Garcia, Vice-Chairman Hammond, and Chairman Blakely
Motion carried: 5-0

***B. MINUTES:** Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 13, 2001 were approved by order of the Consent Calendar.

MRA REPORTS: None

MRA ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Blakely adjourned the Monrovia Redevelopment Agency Meeting at 8:34 P.M. and the City Council Meeting continued.

RECONVENE MONROVIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING

E. BIDS:

1. 2000-2001 Water Main Replacement Program; Award of Contract to A. D. General Engineering Construction, Inc., in the Amount of \$258,450.00

David Fike, Acting Public Works Director, reviewed the Staff Report.

The 2000-2001 Water Main Replacement Program includes the construction of approximately 2,560 feet of 8-inch diameter Class 52 ductile iron cement mortar lined pipe which will replace old 2-inch and 6-inch welded steel pipe. This project also includes replacement of forty-nine, 1-inch service connections, installation of five fire hydrants, and twenty-three 1-inch services with connection to on-site private plumbing systems.

On March 22, 2001, seven bids were received and opened by the City Clerk with the low bidder being A.D. General Engineering Construction of Burbank with a bid amount of \$258,450.00. The Engineer's estimate was \$283,000.00.

Staff reviewed the bid submitted by A.D. General Engineering Construction and found that all documents are in order. References were contacted and Staff found that this firm has recently satisfactorily completed similar work for other public agencies.

Staff recommended awarding a contract to A.D. General Engineering Construction (2829 N. Glenoaks Boulevard, #106, Burbank, CA 91504) in the amount of \$258,450.00 for the 2000-2001 Water Main Replacement Program and reject all other bids.

It was moved by Councilmember Adams, seconded by Councilmember Franco, to award a contract to A.D. General Engineering Construction in the amount of \$258,450.00 for the 2000-2001 Water Main Replacement Program and reject all other bids.

**ROLL CALL: Ayes: Councilmembers Adams, Franco, Garcia, Mayor Pro Tem Hammond, Mayor Blakely
Motion carried: 5-0**

2. Rehabilitation of Well No. 3; Award of Contract to General Pump Company in the Amount of \$148,370

David Fike, Acting Public Works Director, reviewed the Staff Report.

Well No. 3 is located at 2655 South Myrtle Avenue and was originally drilled in 1946. The well casing is 20-inches in diameter and 500-feet in depth. The pump is a vertical turbine type with a 200-horse power motor and a capacity of 3,300 Gallons Per Minute.

Recent tests have shown an estimated 20% decline in the overall pump efficiency, increasing the energy cost. Loss of efficiency over time is normal due to age and wear and tear on the unit. AWWA (American Water Works Association) standards for rehabilitation of a water well recommends rehabilitation be performed about every 5 to 7 years.

The Well No. 3 Rehabilitation Project will include the following major repairs:

- Pull the motor and pump assembly and video inspect screen and casing;
- Clean casing and screen;
- Reface tubing, straighten shaft, and replace any damaged shafts;
- Replace bearings and bowl assembly;
- Rewind motor and replace bearings; and
- Video log the rehabilitation of the Well and re-install pump and motor.

This project also included the rehabilitation of Booster 1-5 and Booster 2-1. The rehabilitation work for the boosters included rewinding the motors and replacing the bearings and bowl assemblies.

On March 22, 2001, three bids were received and opened by the City Clerk ranging from a low of \$148,370.00 to a high of \$191,105.00. The apparent low bidder was General Pump Company in the amount of \$148,370.

Staff recommended that the City Council award a contract to General Pump Company (159 N. Acacia Street, San Dimas, CA) in the total amount of \$148,370.00.

It was moved by Councilmember Garcia, seconded by Councilmember Adams, to award a purchase order to General Pump Company in the total amount of \$148,370.00 for the Rehabilitation of Well No. 3, Booster 1-5 and Booster 2-1, and reject all other bids.

**ROLL CALL: Ayes: Councilmembers Adams, Franco, Garcia, Mayor Pro Tem Hammond, Mayor Blakely
Motion carried: 5-0**

F. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. Oral Report by Melinda Bitney; Response to Customer Complaints to Adelpia Communications Regarding Customer Service Center

Community Services Director April Soash introduced Melinda Bitney, General Manager, Gail Becardo, and Larry Windsor, Regional Government Affairs Manager, to provide an update regarding Adelpia's customer service and call center complaints.

Ms. Bitney informed Staff of the following items in reference to improving the call center issues:

The Colorado Springs call center was having a new switch installed that will add more trunk lines, more phones and more customer service representatives.

All of these improvements should be operational by May 1, 2001.

Adelpia has established a task force to look at the operational issues and how the Monrovia calls can be rerouted to the call center located in the City of Industry.

The Staff Report attachment summarized the complaints received by the Community Services Staff only from January 2000 to the present. Also was attached was a copy of a letter sent to Adelpia's president John Rigas from Mayor Bartlett. The most complaints received (12) were related to the call center.

Mayor Pro Tem Hammond suggested a month's free service for all Monrovia subscribers to help make up for the numerous, continuous complaints.

In response to Mayor Blakely's question, Ms. Bitney replied that the move to the City of Industry would take approximately two to three weeks. Hopefully, the telephone number can remain the same. Mayor Blakely requested that she be advised when the call center transition was going to be made as she and other Councilmembers would like to go for an inspection.

Councilmember Garcia noted that the complaints were the same since he has been on Council with no changes. He stated that there are now other companies who are looking at Monrovia to serve the community and provide cable access.

Mr. Windsor stated that there were no excuses but there were reasons. He stated that the difference of Colorado and the City of Industry was none with the trained person answering the telephone. However, Industry had less traffic at this time.

Mayor Pro Tem Hammond stated that these explanations did not fall on deaf ears, just tired ears. He stated that it was incumbent on Mr. Windsor as the regional person to implement his first suggestion of offering one-month free service.

Councilmember Adams reminded Ms. Bitney and Mr. Windsor that it was the personal promises of their bosses of the best service possible service to Monrovia, yet the same old problems existed.

Councilmember Franco asked if the rates for service could be on a pro-rated reduction based on service improvement. Mr. Windsor stated that he would report back as to what had been stated tonight to Mr. Fisher and Mr. Rigas, and perhaps obtain a copy of the meeting to send to them. The City Council offered Mr. Windsor an open invitation to come back monthly under Oral communication to give updates.

G. REPORTS OF CITY COUNCILMEMBERS & SUB-COMMITTEES:

1. **Mayor Blakely** reported that:

(a) She and Councilmember Garcia had looked for funds to purchase the hillside everywhere in Sacramento and that they now needed to look at all agencies' budget for pieces of money sitting out there. She stated that they were focused on getting funds, but now had to wait for the May revisions of the State budget, coming out on May 8. Much of the State's surplus, unfortunately, have been eaten up by the utility crisis.

(b) Sara Barth, from Senator Boxer's staff, had visited Monrovia and toured Monrovia Canyon Park. Senator Boxer's office is also looking for federal funding to assist in the purchases of the land.

2. **Mayor Pro Tem Hammond** reported that:

(a) The Department of Community Services Youth and Family Network's upcoming event was the Jelly Bean Dream Spring Egg Hunt at Recreation Park. He thanked the sponsors—Bowden

Development, Inc., Distinctive Properties, Ferrari Bros., Peck Road Gravel Pit, and the Monrovia Rotary Club-- for their generous contributions.

(b) He had attended a DARE program class to see exactly what happened during class time. He noted that while it is an anti-abuse of drugs program, the slate taught now is relative to real day situations—things facing children of today, which are not just drugs. DARE is multi-faceted, teaching kids pitfalls and dangers and opportunities other than violence. Officer Bill Couch has extended this program to include today's situations, which Mayor Pro Tem Hammond commended him for. He encouraged others to visit classrooms to see for themselves.

(c) He, Councilmember Adams and Councilmember Garcia attended the Police Departments' Baker to Vegas this past weekend. There were 20 runners, and 100 people each taking a nine-hour shift to assist the event. Police Officer Andy Velebill and Detective Don Newton organized the event over the last six months. There were 12,000 people along the road watching over the 120-mile relay race.

3. **Councilmember Adams** had no report.

4. **Councilmember Franco** reported that:

(a) He had attended two of the Committee meetings assigned to him but would be out of town and unable to attending the upcoming Planning Commission meeting.

(b) He attended the most recent Media of the Foothills Board meeting. He announced the selection of Jasen Lewis as the newly hired Executive Director of the organization. He discussed the revision of the architect's plans for the new studio, and noted that they also discussed future growth needs.

(c) He attended the recent Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee meeting, noting that it was a good opportunity to hear bills affecting local government.

5. **Councilmember Garcia** reported that:

(a) There would be numerous fundraisers for the Skate Park and that the next fundraising venture would be the Skate-A-Thon at Recreation Park as was mentioned earlier in the evening. It will be held on April 25, 2001. It will include music and refreshments. Another event is planned for during Monrovia Days. He stated that he was desirous of seeing more youth in the community involved, as this will serve a very large need in Monrovia.

(b) During the last couple of weeks he and Mayor Blakely have attended Sacramento together with regard to looking for state money for hillside purchases. They have met with many agencies and with representatives from both the Assembly and Senate. They have left no stone unturned and will continue to go up there whenever the opportunity arises.

(c) Last weekend he and his colleagues Tom Adams and Rob Hammond supported the Police Department's Baker to Vegas relay races. He stated that it was very moving to participate and to lend moral support to and drive for the runners. Considering it was made up of over 200 agencies and in rather extreme weather conditions, it was amazing to see that kind of support and rivalry.

H. **REPORTS OF COMMISSIONS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:** None

I. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

*1. **Legislative Bulletin**

This matter was approved by order of the Consent Calendar.

This report highlighted and summarized pending State legislation that may be important to Monrovia and provided a brief analysis of the potential impacts to the City. The recommendations made by Staff reflected the City's priorities and programs, as well as the direction taken by the League of California Cities and were as follows:

Oppose, SB829, SB910, and receive, for information only, AB896 and AB48X

2. **Establishment of the Fire Safe Council; Resolution No. 2001-16.**

Fire Chief, Peter Bryan, reviewed the Staff Report.

Twenty to fifty or more, years of growth of the natural chaparral have produced a severe fire hazard endangering residents of Monrovia and their homes. The history of the San Gabriel Mountains shows major fires each year and often times those fires damage or destroy homes in the hillsides.

The City's 1983 Safety Element of the General Plan identifies the hillside areas as endangering residents and sets standards for their safety. Many of the above standards are being met or currently being worked on. The 1997 Uniform Fire Code, modern brush clearance regulations, and new construction requirements have been adopted by the City Council in order to mandate fire safety to the homes within the hillside areas. Residents are required to clear the brush 200 feet from structures in order to reduce the hazard, unless the slope is too great.

There is still more that the City can do to increase the hillside fire safety. The next step is to form a community-based organization, specifically to bring together all available resources to assist the citizens of Monrovia. Fire Safe Councils, as they are called, are usually made up of residents, insurance companies, brush clearance contractors, and the Fire Department. They have the ability to receive grant funding and bring together various resources and stakeholders in order to assist residents with improving the fire safety of their homes.

City Attorney Michael Colantuono indicated that a Fire Safe Council could be an informal community organization under the direction of the Fire Chief in order to allow the organization to be flexible in its operation and membership. If approved this Council action would authorize the Fire Chief to establish a Fire Safe Council that will operate under the Fire Chief's direction.

Chief Bryan then presented an 8 minute video regarding affects of fire in our own back yards, wildland urban interface and how a fire council worked in making a town fire safe. In response to Mr. Franco's question, Chief Bryan stated that students could be involved.

Taras Matla, a member of the proposed council, stated that a preliminary meeting had been held and comments during the meeting had been very encouraging. Councilmember Garcia commended all of those interested in being a part of the council for their interest. Councilmember Franco noted that this issue was an issue for the community and adjacent neighboring communities, not just a hillside resident issue.

Chief Bryan announced that the formal organization of the fire council would be held on April 19, 2001, 7:00 P.M., City Council Chambers, if it were the desire of the City Council to continue.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Hammond, seconded by Councilmember Adams, to adopt Resolution No. 2001-16 relating to the establishment of a Fire Safe Council.

**ROLL CALL: Ayes: Councilmembers Adams, Franco, Garcia, Mayor Pro Tem Hammond, Mayor Blakely
Motion carried: 5-0**

I. RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES: None

***K. PAYROLL & VOUCHERS:** Payroll No. 7 in the net amount of \$386,198.51 and Voucher Numbers 93629 through 93949 non-sequentially in the amount of \$664,373.98 were approved by order of the Consent Calendar.

L. SCHEDULED MEETINGS

The next Regular Meeting of the Monrovia City Council is scheduled for Tuesday, April 24, 2001, 7:30 P.M., Council Chambers, 415 South Ivy Avenue, Monrovia, California.

M. ORAL COMMUNICATION, SESSION II

Mayor Blakely explained Session II, noting that it should have been stated that this Session was a continuation of Session I, and that if all those who wished to speak had spoken and there was time left in the 45-minute period, then Session II would not be used. As a courtesy to those who did not understand

the new guidelines, she asked if there were those in the audience who wished to speak to any item not on the Agenda.

1. John O'Neill, Monrovia, volunteered to work on Fire Council; reported about 1000 people walked on the Prayer Walk against Planned Parenthood on Palm Sunday and thanked the Police Department for their assistance during the Prayer Walk.
2. Sandy Natale, Arcadia, spoke against Planned Parenthood.
3. Holly Wooster, Monrovia, disagreed with previous speaker's opinion about the United States Constitution.
4. Ms. Fickes, Monrovia, took issue with the limit of three minutes for all matters. City Attorney Colantuono stated that any additional information could be submitted in writing to the City Council at any time.

Mayor Blakely introduced Michael Colasuonno, newly appointed member of the reorganized Mayor's Advisory Committee.

O. CLOSED SESSION: None

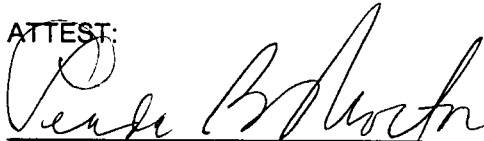
P. ADJOURN: Mayor Blakely adjourned the meeting at 10:03 P.M. in memory of Timothy McKeehan, 19-year-old son of Beverly and Tom McKeehan, and Barbara Ann Paquette, 55-year resident of Monrovia.

APPROVED:



Lara Larramendi Blakely, Mayor

ATTEST:



Linda B. Proctor, CMC, City Clerk