

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
MONROVIA CITY COUNCIL
HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2009, 7:30 P.M**

CONVENE: Mayor Rob Hammond convened the Regular Meeting of the Monrovia City Council of Tuesday, February 17, 2009, at 7:37 P.M., in City Council Chambers, 415 South Ivy Avenue, Monrovia, California. In attendance were City Manager Scott Ochoa, City Attorney Craig A. Steele and City Clerk Linda B. Proctor.

INVOCATION: Youth Minister Ulises Gutierrez gave the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Councilmember Mary Ann Lutz led the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL: In attendance were Councilmembers Tom Adams, Joe Garcia, Mary Ann Lutz, Mayor Pro Tem Dan Kirby, and Mayor Rob Hammond.

PRESENTATION/PROCLAMATION:

PR-1 Recognition of Daihan Lee. The City Council recognized Daihan Lee for his many years of service to the community through KGEM, helping bring public access programming, community event coverage and important news and information to our residents and businesses, and wished him the very best in his future endeavors.

PR-2 Proclaiming March 2 through 6, 2009 as "Water Awareness Week": In response to the drought, ten Cal Poly Students teamed up to declare a "Water Awareness Day" for the state of California by working with the local water district to provide the students with educational tools and pamphlets. The students who named themselves "Aqua Squad" were planning to visit local elementary schools to educate students on the importance of water conservation through interactive activities. Members of the Aqua Squad were in attendance to receive a proclamation and to report on their goals and activities planned for the week.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: There was no report.

CONSENT CALENDAR: It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Kirby, seconded by Councilmember Lutz, to approve the Consent Calendar. There were no objections. The Consent Calendar consisted of the following Agenda items:

CC-1 Unadopted Minutes of the February 3, 2009 Regular Meeting of the Monrovia City Council

CC-2 Payroll No. 3 in the Amount of \$605,338.03, and Voucher Nos. 156378 through 156666 in the Amount of \$2,197,594.54

CC-3 Acceptance of Work, Approve Change Orders in the Amount of \$26,613.13, Notice of Completion, and Release of Retention to Cedars Construction, Inc., for Exterior Improvements, 601 South Myrtle Avenue for a Total Project Amount of \$416,613.13: On September 19, 2006, the Redevelopment Agency Board approved the acquisition of 601 South Myrtle Avenue. The building had been vacant since the mid 1990s, and had conveyed a negative impression.

To achieve an anchor for Old Town, the Redevelopment Agency assumed responsibility for renovating the building. On November 28, 2007, the Historic Preservation Commission approved the design consisting of replacing all the stucco with brick, adding windows and a side entrance on Colorado Boulevard and an interior front patio on Myrtle Avenue.

On June 17, 2008, the City Council awarded a contract to Cedar Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$435,000.00. The work began in August 2008 and was completed in October 2008. The final construction cost was based upon structural steel reinforcement work and removal of unclassified fill for the patio slab authorized by the City, increasing the contract amount by \$26,613.13, for a total project amount of \$461,613.13. Funding for the project was provided by the Redevelopment Agency.

CC-4 Initiation of Proceedings for the Levy and Collection of Assessment and Order the Preparation of the Engineer's Report for the 2009-10 Fiscal Year Citywide Lighting and Landscape Maintenance Assessment District, Resolution No 2009-06. The Citywide Lighting and Landscape Maintenance Assessment District had been in existence since the early 1980's. It provided funding for the maintenance of public street lighting and traffic signals, maintenance of street trees, maintenance of landscaping of street median and parkway areas including Myrtle Avenue, Huntington Drive, Cypress Avenue and Maple Avenue, and maintenance of landscaping of parkway areas for the Gold Hills Development area.

CC-5 Initiation of Proceedings for the Levy and Collection of Assessment and Order the Preparation of the Engineer's Report for 2009-10 Fiscal Year Park Maintenance Assessment District, Resolution No. 2009-07. The Park Maintenance District provided funding for the maintenance of Canyon, Library, Recreation, Rotary, Olive Avenue, Julian Fisher, and Grand Avenue Parks.

As authorized by the City property owner voters when this District was formed in Fiscal Year 1997-98, the proposed assessments for Fiscal Year 2009-10 could be changed from the assessments of Fiscal Year 2008-09 by the federally calculated Consumer Price Index cost of Living Adjustment. For those parcels of land that underwent subdivision or consolidation during the past year, there would also be changes in assessments not requiring voter approval.

CC-6 Approval of \$5,820.00 Expenditure from the Art in Public Places Fund for Painting of Mural on the West Wall of the Property Located at 128 E. Lemon Avenue. Artist Betsy Thurmond, owner of Kids Art in Old Town Monrovia, submitted a mural grant application to the Endowment for the Arts Committee for a three-part mural to be painted on the West side of the building at 128 East Lemon Avenue. The mural was a "Tribute to Artist Vincent Van Gogh" and featured his paintings "Sunrise over Cypress Tree," "Wheat Field and Cypress," and "Starry Night." The center portion, "Wheat Field and Cypress" was already finished. The building's owner, Don Yost, had given permission for the mural and the artist met all the City requirements and agreed to take full responsibility for necessary restorations and/or removal at her own expense.

The Monrovia Endowment for the Arts Committee unanimously recommended that the City Council allocate \$5,820.00 from the Art in Public Places Fund for the mural production at its meeting on February 9, 2009. The fund currently had \$143,970.00, which amply covered this request.

CC-7 Recognition of Participation in the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications Authority, Resolution No 2009-08. This matter established the City of Monrovia's participation in the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LA-RICS), a cooperative planning and coordination of governmental services to establish a wide-range public safety communications network, in support of the JPA which was approved at the February 3, 2009 City Council meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT:

- 1 Ulises Gutierrez, Monrovia
- 2 Steve Baker, Monrovia
- 3 Becky Shevlin, Monrovia
- 4 Sarah Wallick, Monrovia High School
- 5 Chris Ziegler, Monrovia
- 6 Chuck Keene, Monrovia

In response to Speaker No. 4, Mayor Hammond reported that the City had been in contact with Monrovia High School and the District regarding the parking situation due to construction of the new Science Building. He stated as the City did not know of the construction schedule, it had not anticipated the present problems for parking, but that the City was working with the School District for solutions. He asked for patience, as the problem could not be resolved overnight.

In response to Speaker No. 5, Mayor Hammond noted that Mr. Ziegler was a dedicated cyclist and deeply concerned about overall health of our City and the nation but that the City had not received a specific plan as asked for of Mr. Ziegler. As to the use of school yards, Mayor Pro Tem Kirby noted that the City had no jurisdiction over School District property.

OLD BUSINESS: At the request of Councilmember Lutz, City Attorney Steele clarified the action taken by the City Council on January 20, 2009 regarding Agenda item AR-1, Hillside Wilderness Preserve and Hillside Recreation Area Resource Management Plan and Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, Resolution No 2009-04. He stated that, in response to rumors of the contrary, Resolution No 2009-04 had not been amended but rather adopted as presented. In addition to the adoption of the Resolution, Councilmember Adams added in the motion that the City do nothing to promote the sites, and to keep access points as camouflaged to the extent that we can refrain from making the trails highly visible, that each of these points come back with satisfactory proof that the City had legal access and easements before anything was formalized, conclude the evaluation of the existing fire road to determine if it was an alternative, and insure that the full Wildland Fire Protection Plan was in place as stated in the Minutes, the official transcript of the City Council Meeting. He stated that information on this subject could be found on the City's website under "Rumor Control" and "Wilderness Preserve Management Plan" link on the front page which consisted of a copy of a letter from his law firm to Robert Silverstein of Silverstein Law Firm correcting information which had been incorrectly perceived by a resident, and a copy of the Minutes of the January 20, 2009 City Council Meeting. He stated that that information was also available through the City Clerk's Office.

Councilmember Adams requested that a copy of the letter and Minutes be sent to all who spoke on the subject at the Meeting of January 20, 2009.

PUBLIC HEARINGS / MEETINGS There were none.

CONVENE MONROVIA REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING WITHOUT ADJOURNING CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MRA CONVENE. Chairman Rob Hammond convened the Meeting of February 17, 2009, of the Monrovia Redevelopment Agency Board of Directors at 8:31 P.M. in City Council Chambers, 415 South Ivy Avenue, without adjourning the City Council Meeting.

MRA ROLL CALL: Those in attendance were Boardmembers Tom Adams, Joe Garcia, Mary Ann Lutz, Vice-Chair Dan Kirby and Chairman Hammond.

MRA CONSENT CALENDAR It was moved by Boardmember Adams, seconded by Boardmember Garcia, to approve the Consent Calendar. There were no objections. The Consent Calendar consisted of the following Agenda item:

MRA CC-1 Unadopted Minutes of the February 17, 2009 Regular Meeting of the Monrovia Redevelopment Agency.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS There were none.

MRA ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Hammond adjourned the Meeting at 8:31 P.M.

RECONVENE MONROVIA CITY COUNCIL MEETING

REPORTS OF CITY COUNCILMEMBERS AND SUB-COMMITTEES:

RCC-1 Mayor Rob Hammond reported that

(a) **City of Monrovia Budget Update.** City Manager Ochoa reported that there was no vote this past weekend or on Monday by the legislature for the budget. Mayor Hammond requested a snap shot on the second Meeting in March of the City's sales tax revenue.

(b) **Disposition of Measure L Bond Excess Funds:** City Manager Ochoa presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding the surplus of Measure L funds in the amount of \$280,000.00. He reported that the funds were restricted for the use of the library only and could not be given to the School District or Library Foundation.

It was moved by Mayor Hammond, seconded by Councilmember Adams, that the residential taxpayer be given a reduction in property tax of \$18.00 for one year only for the 2009-10 tax year.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Councilmembers Adams, Garcia, Lutz, Mayor Pro Tem Kirby, Mayor Hammond
Motion carried: 5-0

Mayor Hammond noted that the debt would be paid off earlier. He also suggested that if someone did not want the refund, he or she could donate \$18 to the schools or the Library Foundation. The City Council applauded the entire Staff for this phenomenon of the project being under budget. He reported that the dedication would be held on Saturday, April 4, 2009, 11:00 A.M., with the Grand Opening hopefully in mid-May. Mayor Pro Tem Kirby stated that he would like to have every elementary and middle school class be scheduled for a tour of the new library before summer. Mayor Hammond particularly thanked Community Services Director April Soash.

RCC-2 Mayor Pro Tem Dan Kirby reported that

(a) On February 13, 2009, he spent the day with staff and executive Boardmembers of Foothill Transit which was originally planned to come to grips with funding losses and how it would affect customers. Instead, the meeting was comprised of a budget adjustment to program the anticipated new Federal Section 5307 Economic Recovery funds receive, projected to be \$28.2 million, \$8.5 to purchases ten expansion buses, and \$1.3 million of Foothill Transit's FY2009 formula share capital which had been approved today. They would meet again on Wednesday morning in Covina to prioritize the spending and be under contract in 90 days.

(b) Last Friday, he attended the Mosquito and Vector Control board meeting. He reminded residents to check for standing water after the recent rains to make sure that mosquitoes were not breeding in stagnant water. He reported that the West Nile Virus was still alive, and that birds were still dying in San Diego.

RCC-3 Councilmember Tom Adams reported that

(a) He thanked all for their kind wishes, calls, and cards due to his recent hip replacement which caused him to miss the February 3, 2009 City Council Meeting, noting that it was good to be back.

RCC-4 Councilmember Joe Garcia reported that

(a) On Saturday, February 21, 2009, he would be attending a dinner hosted by Bethel AME Church that was honoring Mimi Mency, Terry Asauno, former Monrovia Police Chief Joe Santoro, and City Manager Scott Ochoa.

(b) On February 18, 2009, he would be representing the City at a joint meeting honoring the new President of the League of California Cities, Judy Mitchell, Rolling Hills.

RCC-5 Councilmember Mary Ann Lutz reported that

(a) Youth in Government, a partnership with the YMCA to teach students how to run the government, and had done an outstanding job. She reported on the recent conference in Sacramento and the successful passage of their bill regarding seeing-eye dog identification.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**AR-1 Monrovia Area Partnership (MAP) Program Review**

Dan McConnell, Housing Coordinator, and Alexis Newell, Neighborhood Services Specialist, reviewed the Staff Report.

The Monrovia Area Partnership (MAP) was established by the City Council in August of 2006. Since that time MAP had made a significant positive impact in the City's neighborhoods. MAP established partnerships between residents and the public-private resources serving them. MAP reinforced the importance of community and, since its inception, had been growing to meet the needs of the City's changing community. Even in times when senseless acts of gang violence threatened the peace and security of the public, MAP had been the rallying point for residents to reunite, heal and move forward. The Monrovia Area Partnership continued to be an effective means to deliver public services with a uniquely Monrovia emphasis on quality customer service. MAP became the premiere conduit for providing information and services directly to the neighborhoods. In February 2008, MAP expanded into a second group of neighborhoods offering these resources to those residents.

Staff presented the accomplishments in the expanded MAP area since February 2008 with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

It was moved by Councilmember Adams, seconded by Councilmember Garcia, to receive and file the report There were no objections

AR-2 Adoption of Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) Acquisition Administrative Policy No 9.04

Dan Iwata, Operations Division Manager, reviewed the Staff Report

In July 2007, the City Council adopted the Monrovia Environmental Accords (Accords) and implemented Administrative Policy 9.02 The Accords consisted of 21 action items, they are considered long-range goals calling for completion between 2015 and 2030

The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments together with the AQMD was advocating administrative policies that addressed the purchase of LEVs

The proposed LEV Acquisition Policy would focus on Transportation Clean Vehicles (Action 14) "Implement projects that phase down sulfur emissions in diesel and gasoline fuels by 50% concurrent with using advanced emission controls on all buses, taxis and public fleets to reduce particulate matter and smog-forming emissions from those fleets by 50% by 2015 "

The City was working towards the entire passenger, light-duty and medium-duty non-emergency vehicle fleet meeting LEV standards by 2020 In addition, a minimum 50% of the City's heavy-duty replacements would be certified LEV by 2020 Authorized police and fire emergency vehicles were policy exempt

Staff researched opportunities to use alternative fuels that meet the fleet requirements Presently, fueling stations were not readily available and the infrastructure requirements for alternative fuels were too costly to consider The gasoline/electric hybrids would appear to be an easy transition for our passenger vehicle fleet There was no fiscal impact

It was moved by Councilmember Adams, seconded by Councilmember Lutz, to adopt the Low Emission Vehicle Acquisition Administrative Policy No. 9.04 There were no objections

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

The next Regular Meeting of the Monrovia City Council was scheduled for Tuesday, March 3, 2009, 7 30 P M , City Council Chambers, 415 South Ivy Avenue, Monrovia, California

PUBLIC INPUT, CONTINUED, IF NEEDED None


ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR, IF NEEDED None

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Hammond adjourned the Meeting at 9 29 P M in memory of Mae-Helen Towns, Mother of Monrovia Firefighter Randy Towns

APPROVED


Rob Hammond, Mayor

ATTEST


Linda B. Proctor, MMC, City Clerk