

**CITY COUNCIL
TEMPLE CITY, CALIFORNIA
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JULY 6, 2010**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Vizcarra called the City Council Regular Meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at 5938 Kauffman Avenue, Temple City.

2. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Councilmember-Blum, Sternquist, Yu, Chavez, Vizcarra
ABSENT: Councilmember-None

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Pulido, City Attorney Vail, Parks and Recreation Director Burroughs, Deputy City Clerk Kuo, Assistant to the City Manager Flod, Community Development Manager Lambert, Financial Services Manager Molina, Public Safety Officer Ariizumi

3. INVOCATION

The Invocation was provided by Councilmember Blum.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Temple City businessman Jerry Jambazian led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

5. CEREMONIAL MATTERS – PRESENTATIONS

A. INTRODUCTION OF TEMPLE CITY SISTER CITY STUDENTS

Beatrice Macias, representing Sister Cities Organization, introduced Temple City High School students leaving for the City's Sister City of Hawkesbury, Australia: Christine Nowak, Tyler Yung, Kelsey Sih, Kasey Sickles, Dana Tran. Carrington Taylor was not present.

Mayor Vizcarra and the City Council presented each student with a City logo T-shirt, City's 50th Anniversary pin and tote bag.

PRESENTATION BY ATHENS SERVICES TO SURVEY WINNERS

Dennis Chiapetta, Athens Services, presented certificates to the three survey winners to receive one year of free trash service: Richard Luevano, Viola Cox, and George Moreno.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

Casey Lo, from Senator Carol Liu's office, invited the Council and the public to attend the 10th Annual Women's Health Conference coming up on October 29, 2010, Friday, from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. The free event will be held at the Pasadena Convention Center.

Mary Burke, resident, expressed her opinion about City Hall's employee reorganization. She was pleased to hear that the City is considering building the Emergency Operation Center near where she lives.

Susan Schlaeger, Library Manager, informed Council and the public that beginning July 12, 2010, the library will be open more hours, thanks to Supervisor Antonovich. The new open hours will be as follows: Monday-closed, Tuesday to Thursday from 10 am - 8 pm, Friday and Saturday 8 am - 6 pm.

7. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez moved to approve the Consent Calendar, seconded by Councilmember Yu and unanimously carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmember-Blum, Sternquist, Yu, Chavez, Vizcarra
NOES: Councilmember-None
ABSENT: Councilmember-None
ABSTAIN: Councilmember-None

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approved as presented the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 15, 2010.

B. PLANNING COMMISSION ACTIONS – MEETING OF JUNE 8, 2010

Received and filed the Planning Commission actions of their meeting of June 8, 2010.

C. PLANNING COMMISSION ACTIONS – MEETING OF JUNE 22, 2010

Received and filed the Planning Commission actions of their meeting of June 22, 2010.

D. CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FOR PLACEMENT AND REMOVAL OF A STREET BANNER BY ST. LUKE SCHOOL

Approved the request by St. Luke Church for City staff to place and remove a street banner publicizing their school enrollment, subject to submission of proper insurance documentation.

E. ACCEPTANCE OF WORK AND APPROVAL OF FULL PAYMENT TO STARS ELECTRIC FOR WORK PERFORMED ON THE TEMPLE CITY PARK WALKWAY LIGHTING RETROFIT PROJECT (P10-02)

- 1) Accepted the work performed by Stars Electric for the Temple City Park Walkway Lighting Project;
- 2) Approved payment in the amount of \$19,475.61; and
- 3) Authorized the City Clerk to file the Notice of Completion.

F. AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR THE STATE-LEGISLATED SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SR2S) PROGRAM GRANT

Authorized City Manager to submit an application for the State-Legislated Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Program Grant.

G. PETTY CASH REPORT

Received and filed the Petty Cash Report with the current charges.

H. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 10-4682 – APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS

Adopted Resolution No. 10-4682, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TEMPLE CITY ALLOWING CLAIMS AND DEMANDS IN THE SUM OF \$929,634.15 DEMAND NO. 29588 THROUGH 29712 (\$634,309.77 – FY 2009-2010) AND DEMAND NOS. 29713 THROUGH 29729 (\$295,324.38 – FY 2010-2011).

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS-None

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. PUBLIC HEARING: COMPREHENSIVE RETAIL STRATEGY UPDATE AND PRESENTATION

Lisa Hill, Buxton Company representative, provided City Council with an update and power point presentation regarding their progress on the preparation of a comprehensive retail strategy for Temple City and discussed the next steps in this process.

Jerry Jambazian, businessman, asked questions about the 3 target areas.

Peggy Miller, resident, asked if Buxton brokers deals for the city.

Kenneth Knollenberg, resident, asked if the information generated by Buxton can be used to help the current businesses in town.

Councilmember Sternquist stated that the information generated by Buxton is very useful in efforts to bring in new businesses. However, the key problem is the size of the retail spaces we have available.

City Manager Pulido suggested that property owners can use this information by Buxton to decide how to utilize their properties. Instead of dividing the properties into many smaller spaces, perhaps they would relocate a specific retailer so properties can be combined to bring in another business. It is about starting to plan with good information.

Ms. Hill informed the Council that the next step forward would be to use the report given to them from Buxton to decide which retailers should receive the City's pursuit package. Councilmember Yu asked what the best way to narrow down their selections is. Ms. Hill suggested Council select 20 retailers at a time. Councilmember Yu expressed concern that each Council could essentially pick 20 different retailers to pursue. Ms. Hill stated that Council could contact all the retailers on the list provided but 20 was a manageable number to start with. Councilmember Yu suggested an Ad Hoc Committee be created to help with the selection process and also asked the City Attorney for some suggestions on how the Council can work together on this. City Attorney Vail recommended the Council not try to do this as a group. Council should only make the targets known at the appropriate time because other cities may also be competing for the same retailers.

Councilmember Yu suggested that each Councilmember submit their 20 selections to the Ad Hoc Committee and let the Committee bring back recommendations to be approved by Council.

Councilmember Blum stated that he would like to see other people besides the Council serve on the Ad Hoc Committee. Councilmember Sternquist said she would like to serve on the Committee, as does Councilmember Yu. Councilmember Blum suggested the Chamber of Commerce have a representative serve as well. Mayor Vizcarra stated the Ad Hoc Committee could deliberate on who, other than Council, should be involved.

Mayor Vizcarra appointed Councilmember Sternquist and Councilmember Yu to the Pursuit Package Ad Hoc Committee.

City Attorney Vail suggested that Council may want to form a different team to contact the retailers once the packages are distributed. Ms. Hill confirmed that Council will have many opportunities to be involved.

B. PUBLIC HEARING: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 10-4683 – PROPOSED LEVY OF CITYWIDE LIGHTING AND MAINTENANCE DISTRICT ASSESSMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011

Joan Cox, representing Harris and Associates, gave a historical overview for the establishment of the Lighting and Maintenance District and responded to Mayor Vizcarra's question regarding an increase in the assessment. Ms. Cox informed the Mayor that the request would have to comply with Proposition 218 meaning there would have to be an election.

Mayor Vizcarra opened the public hearing.

Hearing no requests to speak, either for or against this item, the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Yu moved to adopt Resolution No. 10-4683, a RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TEMPLE CITY ORDERING THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF ASSESSMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011 WITHIN THE CITYWIDE LIGHTING AND MAINTENANCE DISTRICT PURSUANT TO THE STATE LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING ACT OF 1972 AND AUTHORIZING THE ADDITION OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FEES TO THE TAX BILLS, seconded by Councilmember Blum and unanimously carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmember-Blum, Sternquist, Yu, Chavez, Vizcarra
NOES: Councilmember-None
ABSENT: Councilmember-None
ABSTAIN: Councilmember-None

10. COMMUNICATIONS

A. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONTHLY UPDATE

Linda Payne, Chamber of Commerce President, provided an update of the Chamber's recent and upcoming events and membership numbers.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez asked Chamber President Payne to make available to the Council a listing of their new businesses.

Councilmember Sternquist asked that a list of Chamber expenditures also be made available to Council.

Councilmember Blum reminded everyone that the Chamber's Installation Dinner will be on July 29th and it will be held at the Capistrano Embassy Suites in Arcadia.

11. RECESS TO COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING

At 9:13 p.m., the City Council recessed to the Community Redevelopment Agency Meeting. Minutes of the Agency Meeting are set forth in full in the Agency's records.

RECESS TO FINANCING AUTHORITY MEETING

At 9:25 p.m., the City Council recessed to the Financing Authority Meeting. Minutes of the Agency Meeting are set forth in full in the Agency's records.

RECONVENE AS CITY COUNCIL

The City Council Meeting was reconvened at 9:27 p.m. with all Councilmembers present

12. ACTION ON REQUEST BY CRA – None

13. UPDATE FROM CITY MANAGER

14. MATTERS FROM CITY OFFICIALS – None

15. COUNCIL REPORTS REGARDING AD HOC OR COMMISSION MEETINGS

Councilmember Blum reported that he attended the California Contract Cities Association meeting on June 16 and found 2 items of interest. First item of interest is that the Legislation is trying to stop Sacramento from taking money from the Cities. Second, the County's Internal Services Department is offering to the cities to contract out some of their maintenance services. Mayor Vizcarra added that he is now on the selection committee for the Contract Cities Association.

Councilmember Blum gave an update on the Rosemead Boulevard Enhancement & Safety Improvement Project Ad Hoc Committee. The Committee has tentatively selected one management company from the six that submitted a proposal. City Manager Pulido is doing some follow through with the firm selected to bring to Council a proposal for approval in one month to 6 weeks time period.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez gave a report on the meeting he attended with Public Safety Officer Ariizumi for San Gabriel Valley Animal Control Joint Power Authority on June 17th. The Executive Board (i.e., City of Azusa, City of Monterey Park, City of San Gabriel, City of Temple City) agreed to extend their contract with the San Gabriel Valley Humane Society (SGVHS) for another 2 years. SGVHS provides animal shelter services and some field services to the cities.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez gave an update on the progress of the Protocol Ad Hoc Committee. The Committee members are revising their first draft with assistance from the City Attorney. They feel after one more meeting, they will have something to present to the Council.

16. COUNCIL ITEMS SEPARATE FROM THE CITY MANAGER'S REGULAR AGENDA

A. COUNCILMEMBER BLUM

During the budget planning session, Council had discussed about the City becoming a High Performance Organization. Councilmember Blum provided the Council and public with a handout defining a High Performance Council and Staff. He went over the list briefly and thought Council and staff could use it as a guide when working on becoming a high performance organization.

B. COUNCILMEMBER STERNQUIST

1) Post Office – Early Closing

Councilmember Sternquist stated that the residents have complaints about not being able to access their post office box since the Post Office is now closed at 6:30 pm.

Councilmember Sternquist did speak to the Post Office Manager and asked Sergeant Osterman to update Council about the situation. Sergeant Osterman stated that earlier this year some post office boxes were broken into and mail was stolen. Some of the stolen mail contained personal information which was used to commit identity fraud. The Postal Office Supervisor decided to close the postal office between 6:30 p.m. and early morning hours because most of the break-ins occurred during those times. Another reason the post office is closed at 6:30 p.m. is because repairs on those post office boxes have not been concluded. The Post Office Inspector has been investigating these crimes and some arrests have been made. The Federal government, postal inspector and the Sheriff's are all combining efforts to solve these crimes.

Councilmember Sternquist stated that the Postal Office Manager assured that eventually all the post office boxes will be upgraded to make them more secured.

Councilmember Sternquist inquired about requirements for business signage. With new businesses coming into town, she wanted to know what design control the City has over the businesses. She is concerned because she is not able to make out the name of a business because the lettering in English is too small. Mayor Vizcarra added that he would like to know if the businesses needed to run their color scheme through the City's Community Development Department.

Councilmember Yu suggested that the City may want to re-examine the signage ordinance. Mayor Pro Tem Chavez added that the City may need to review and update the other code sections as well. Mayor Vizcarra added that he remained concerned about the housing density issue.

Community Development Manager Lambert responded to the Council regarding current requirements for business signage. City Attorney Vail added that the City does have the ability to dictate that signs need to be in English for public safety reasons but cannot require that the signs only be in English. The City can require English and the second language be in different fonts and sizes.

Councilmember Sternquist asked if the Planning Commissioners can work on the ordinance to make the signage more uniform. City Attorney Vail informed Council that there are sign consultants that can help the commissioners with this process, however, there are some issues the community needs to decide first. (i.e., how many signs on a building, how big, texture of the sign) He would also encourage the Chamber to be involved in this regard.

City Manager Pulido stated he will relay this issue to the Planning Commissioners to work on. He will also provide a proposal of what it would cost to move forward from the legal standpoint and if we need to hire a consultant for this kind of work. City Attorney Vail said there are attorneys who are knowledgeable on signage codes. They can make sure that the language is clear, provisions are legal and are defensible in court. But the Attorney needs to know what the provisions are to begin with.

Council concurred to have the City Manager provide an update in the City Manager's report within the next 90 days.

Councilmember Sternquist re-emphasized that her intention is not to eliminate any language, but at least have consistency so that consumers can recognize what the business is. Mayor Pro Tem Chavez stated that this is not just a business issue but also a legal issue.

B. COUNCILMEMBER YU

Councilmember Yu thanked City Manager Pulido and his staff for actively seeking grants and funds to help the City. Councilmember Yu also thanked Congressmen Schiff for his funding support of the new Emergency Operations Center. He asked that a letter be drafted for all Council to sign so it can be presented to Congressmen Schiff's office during a Council meeting.

D. MAYOR PRO TEM CHAVEZ

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez relayed information contained in an article stating the State & Federal government may start assessing money for cleaning the water and making sure runoffs are safe. The expenses for the City never seem to end. He wanted to thank the City Manager, staff and City Attorney for doing a good job in keeping the City ahead.

E. MAYOR VIZCARRA

Mayor Vizcarra would like to hear from Council their opinion on being able to appoint their own Commissioners to serve the different Commissions.

Councilmember Yu stated that he did not feel it was necessary for commissioners to be appointed by special appointment. The City is small and the election is not divided by districts.

Councilmember Sternquist agreed with Councilmember Yu. She preferred to give everyone an opportunity to serve and publicly decide who would be the best candidate.

Councilmember Blum concurred and would rather get people who are interested with some expertise rather than trying to choose from a pool.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez felt he needed more information before he is able to decide. He wanted to make sure he understood Mayor Vizcarra's recommendation and asked if it was to change the appointment process, but a majority of the Council would still have to approve the individual selections. Council still has the power to ultimately appoint. As far as choosing from a pool, we have no power in choosing who is in the pool. He sees plus and minus for both processes. His concern would be about the logistics. Would Council now appoint current Commissioners? Mayor Vizcarra explained that this can be accomplished by picking a name out of a hat. It can be completely random.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez asked if other cities are doing individual appointments. Mayor Vizcarra answered that this is not an unusual process for counties. Mayor Vizcarra felt the current process feels awkward. Having candidates sit all night to wait for their turn to be interviewed by Council in front of the public is a stressful situation and may have discouraged interested candidates.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez thought perhaps Council should look into revamping the interviewing process. It is possible that Council could miss out on a qualified candidate because they don't interview well in front of the public. However, he is also concerned that appointing an individual may create an atmosphere of favoritism, although the majority of the Council still has to agree. He would like to review the reappointment process and do a better job of publicizing the openings, including having current commissioners re-apply. It is an important enough position to have them re-interview for the job.

Councilmember Sternquist felt the City needed to publicize to reach a wider range of the public.

Councilmember Yu agreed with Mayor Pro Tem Chavez that the interviewing process is very awkward for the candidates. Councilmember Yu is in favor of having current Commissioners reapply and re-interview for their position.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez would like to receive a staff report on the current Commissioner reappointment process and have staff give suggestions and options on Commissioner reappointment process.

Mayor Vizcarra wanted to know where the bust of Walter Temple will be placed permanently. Parks & Recreation Director Burroughs stated that she will bring this item to Council at the next Council Meeting. Mayor Vizcarra also wanted to know if the Union 76 gas station is still scheduled to come into town. City Manager Pulido answered yes but there is a transitional period of a couple of months. He will get an update from the gas station owner and update Council on the weekly City Manager's Report.

Das Sheenh, resident, stated that he agreed with Councilmember Blum. We are a small City and the Council is honorable. But what will happen 10-20 years from now. There may be Councilmembers who may misuse this appointment process.

17. REIMBURSEMENTS OF EXPENSES PAID TO OFFICIALS FOR CONDUCT OF CITY BUSINESS

1. COUNCILMEMBER YU - \$120.93 (reimbursement to City for advances – California Contract Cities Association Annual Conference)

18. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

Mary Burke, resident, expressed concern about not being able to hear the Council very well in the Council Chambers. She encouraged the public to donate their newspapers to the San Gabriel Valley Humane Society. She would like the Council to add an answer and question section to the agenda. She also expressed concerns regarding the signage of the businesses. She stated she liked where the Walter Temple bust is located now and asked that it may stay where it is. She also expressed that she was upset about a long term employee being dismissed due to the reorganization.

Jerry Jambazian, businessman, asked why it would take 24 months to complete a "Brush With Kindness" project. City Attorney Vail answered that actual construction is stated in the agreement to be completed within 100 days. The actual construction is minimal compared to the rest of the selection process.

Peggy Miller, resident, asked who would be responsible if someone was injured from working on a "Brush of kindness" project. Community Development Manager Lambert answered that Habitat for Humanity would have insurance and be responsible.

19. CLOSED SESSION – None

20. ADJOURNMENT

The City Council Regular Meeting was adjourned at 10:28 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Deputy City Clerk