

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Luna called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Pastor Mike Slagle from Abundant Life Church offered the invocation, and Councilmember Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Councilmember Richard C. Cook, Councilmember Donald L. Johnson, Councilmember John T. Procter, Vice Mayor Laura Flores Espinosa, and Mayor Ray C. Luna responded to roll call. City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz, City Attorney Phillip H. Romney, City Clerk Steven J. Salas, and Deputy City Clerk Josephine G. Herrera were also present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Luzmaria Espinosa, 236 S. Garcia Street, addressed her concerns with criminal activities at Ruben's Lounge; asked the City Council to consider funding an arts commission; and thanked Vice Mayor Espinosa for her service on the City Council.

David Lippert, 15323 Todd Lane, representing Spirit of Santa Paula, spoke regarding the recent meeting of Spirit/Santa Paula Unidos, which met to gather feedback on how to best unite the community, move forward, and collectively invest in the future. He submitted his written comments for the record.

John Wisda, 550 Monte Vista, congratulated Gabino Aguirre, Mary Ann Krause, and Rick Cook on their recent election to the City Council, and thanked Councilmember Johnson and Vice Mayor Espinosa for a job well done. He commented that he hopes the new City Council will work together to take Santa Paula into new directions. He further thanked those who supported him during his campaign for City Council, with special thanks to his wife, Tricia.

Rodney Fernandez, 11011 Azahar, Saticoy, representing the Board of Directors of Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation (CEDC), thanked Councilmember Johnson, and gave special thanks to Vice Mayor Espinosa for her courage, commitment, dedication, leadership, and service to the community. He further presented Vice Mayor Espinosa with a gift. Vice Mayor Espinosa thanked Mr. Fernandez and the Board of Directors of CEDC.

CITY CLERK ELECTION REPORT

City Clerk Steven J. Salas presented his report dated November 25, 2002.

It was moved by Councilmember Johnson to adopt Resolution No. 5541. City Attorney Phillip H. Romney advised that the appropriate motion would be to read the resolution in title only.

It was moved by Councilmember Johnson to read Resolution No. 5541 in title only.

City Clerk Steven J. Salas read Resolution No. 5541 in title only.

RESOLUTION NO. 5541

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA PAULA,
CALIFORNIA, RECITING THE FACT OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD
ON NOVEMBER 5, 2002, AND DECLARING THE RESULTS AND SUCH OTHER
MATTERS, AS PROVIDED BY LAW

It was moved by Councilmember Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Cook, to adopt Resolution No. 5541.

Under roll call vote, all were in favor, and the motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION TO OUTGOING COUNCILMEMBERS

Councilmember Procter presented a proclamation and City tile to Vice Mayor Espinosa.

Councilmember Cook presented a proclamation and City tile to Councilmember Johnson.

County Supervisor Kathy Long presented Councilmember Johnson and Vice Mayor Espinosa with Recognition of Appreciation for their years of service, and thanked them for their contributions and service to the community.

Vice Mayor Espinosa stated for the record, "Good evening, everyone. I offer warm congratulations to newly elected Councilmembers, Dr. Gabino Aguirre, Mary Ann Krause, as well as to Councilmember Cook. I feel very optimistic about the future of Santa Paula with the guiding leadership that they will add to the Council. I commend Councilmember Procter for two years of enlightened, compassionate, and well-reasoned direction, as well as good thoughts for Councilmember Luna's continued service on the Council. My very best regards to fellow Councilmember Johnson, who has served the full eight years with me on the Council. I also extend special thanks to City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz, who in his short duration with the City has exceeded early expectations and set the tone for courtesy, accountability, professionalism, and action for a new era of governance in Santa Paula. It is with a sense of accomplishment that I leave this term knowing that I was part of the selection process for an outstanding new City Manager and the new Finance Director, Ms.

Tina Rivera. It is with gratitude to each of the city staff, but with particular regard for Josie Herrera, Nancy Harriger, Lula Sandoval, Melissa Grisales, with whom I have had regular contact with for the past eight years, for their support that enables each of the Councilmember to carry out their official duties. I thank each department executive and their support staff for the public service they provide to our residents, for their initiative in creating new programs, for their additional efforts that are required with new mandates, and in their responsiveness to Councilmembers' concerns. Eight years goes by almost like a wink of an eye, but I don't think my husband, Victor, and children, Marisa, Victor Carlos, and Chris, think so. I thank them for their sacrifices they made so that I could perform my city duties. I think their contribution on behalf of the city is significant and yet not recognized enough. We worked together as a family and we've been enriched because of it. My gratitude extends to the community as well. It has been easy to serve when one thinks of the community as family, and that's what I think of our community. I am grateful for the trust and confidence you placed in me as your elected representative. Reflecting on the past eight years, I hope that in some small way I have added to the quality of life for our residents, that I have contributed to a more open local government, that I helped to solidify the reality that Santa Paula is a diverse community and it is no longer a question of inviting your special friends to the table to make decisions about the whole community, but about an acceptance that a broader community will be at that decision-making table. And, I hope that I have helped bring our community to a place where a joint vision for the community will get underway. I am also humbled by the opportunity that I experienced in providing leadership for land use decisions such as Measure I and the recent defeat of Measure F, which affect our well-being as a community. I hope that housing needs will continued to be met and addressed through the recently adopted Housing Element. I hope that job and economic development and the ongoing expansion project of our community college will reap benefits for our community. I am very proud that we have a Five-year Youth Plan, and that was adopted during my term, and a new skate park initiated. And as importantly as all of the above, that the social relationships that make up the community are being recognized as a priority. Finally, I will share that my continued effort to meet the expectations of being a good leader, I tried to learn from other mentors and research what it means to be a leader. And, the common ground I found is not about charisma or how articulate one may be, but leadership is more about relationships and how leaders and followers alike, how we together raise each other up in a motivating spirit. And, I thank each of you for that motivating spirit, and I pledge my continued commitment to the entire community. And, thank you for a wonderful eight years."

Councilmember Johnson congratulated Gabino Aguirre, Mary Ann Krause, Rick Cook on their election to the City Council. He stated that he and Vice Mayor Espinosa sat with a different Council every two years for the last eight years, and that he learned that every Council person elected has had a passion for Santa Paula. Also during his term, he stated that he learned of Supervisor Kathy Long's passion for the valley, especially during the

issue with the Toland Road Landfill. He further gave thanks to Vice Mayor Espinosa for her service. He noted that in the past eight years, the City Council hired several City Managers and Interim City Managers; however, he believes that the Council did the right job in hiring City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz. He further thanked the community and Deputy City Clerk Josie Herrera. Finally, he gave special thanks to his wife, Debbie, and stated that if it weren't for her, it would have been a rough eight years.

Vice Mayor Espinosa and Councilmember Johnson stepped down from the dais.

CITY CLERK ADMINISTERS OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY ELECTED COUNCILMEMBERS

City Clerk Steven J. Salas administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Councilmember Gabino Aguirre and re-elected Councilmember Rick Cook. Councilmember-elect Mary Ann Krause was not in attendance due not being able to return from her holiday trip due to severe weather conditions, and her oath of office was rescheduled for the December 16, 2002 City Council Meeting.

SEATING OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

Councilmember Aguirre and Councilmember Cook took their seats at the dais.

ROLL CALL

Councilmember Gabino Aguirre, Councilmember Richard C. Cook, Councilmember John T. Procter, and Mayor Ray C. Luna responded to roll call.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz suggested that the City Council postpone the election of Mayor and Vice Mayor due to the absence of Councilmember-elect Mary Ann Krause.

It was moved by Councilmember Cook, seconded by Councilmember Aguirre, to pull items 11 A, B, and C until the next meeting.

Under roll call vote, Councilmember Aguirre, Councilmember Cook, Councilmember Procter, and Mayor Luna were in favor. The motion carried.

A. Review Procedure for Election of Mayor and Vice Mayor - City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz' report dated November 27, 2002.

B. Selection Process for the Mayor of the City of Santa Paula - The City Clerk will conduct the selection process for the Mayor of the City of Santa Paula. The Mayor will take his/her seat at the dais.

C. Selection Process for the Vice Mayor - The Mayor will conduct the selection process for the Vice Mayor of the City of Santa Paula.

COMMENTS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilmember Cook thanked everyone and stated that he would work hard. He noted that the City has a diverse Council. He gave special thanks to his wife, Sally. Finally, he noted that the number one issue for the City is the state budget crisis, and that he looks forward to serving the community.

Councilmember Aguirre thanked everyone for being at the meeting. He noted that there have been several events in his life that brings this type of emotion. The first was being born. The second was getting married and having two children. The third was receiving his doctorate degree from UCLA, and having his son graduate that same day at UCLA. Finally, the fourth was tonight. He thanked Don Johnson for his good work, and thanked Laura Flores Espinosa for the vision and leadership she provided. He stated that the City Council needs to develop a vision to imagine what Santa Paula can be and could be in the next 20 years, and that the vision include opportunities for growth, economic development, support for present businesses, and an aggressive public relations campaign to bring businesses into town. He further stated that his vision of Santa Paula is that it will be an island in a sea of development, and families will come here on weekends to get away from their towns. Finally, he noted that he plans to work hard and do his very best while serving on the City Council.

Councilmember Procter welcomed new Councilmembers Aguirre and Krause, and continuing Councilmembers Cook and Luna. He thanked Mayor Luna for his year as Mayor, and paid tribute to the previous Council body. He stated that he was very proud of the council in their selection of City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz. He bid a fond farewell to Don Johnson, and thanked and saluted Laura Flores Espinosa. He spoke on the many obstacles faced by City Councilmembers which include the bureaucratic process, legal complexities, and political correctness, and noted that their job requires cooperation and agreement and interaction with the City Manager is important. He stated that he has great optimism with the new Council, and that many Santa Paulans truly care and have a passion for their City.

Mayor Luna noted that the Council hears many complaints and that it was nice to hear positive comments. He commended City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz for his quick responses to citizens' concerns.

CITY COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz, on behalf of city staff, thanked Don Johnson and Laura Flores Espinosa for their service.

City Attorney Phillip H. Romney also thanked Don Johnson and Laura Flores Espinosa, and stated that he looks forward to working with the new Council.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

It was moved by Councilmember Cook, seconded by Mayor Luna, for a report letting the Council know how it can start the revocation of the license at Ruben's Bar. Under roll call vote, Councilmember Cook, Councilmember Cook, Councilmember Procter, and Mayor Luna were in favor. The motion carried.

It was moved by Mayor Luna, seconded by Councilmember Procter, for a report and history on the easement at 751 Ralph Way. Under roll call vote, Councilmember Cook, Councilmember Cook, Councilmember Procter, and Mayor Luna were in favor. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Luna adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

ATTEST:

Steven J. Salas
City Clerk