

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Procter called the meeting to order at 6:41 p.m. Councilmember Luna led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Councilmember Richard C. Cook, Councilmember Mary Ann Krause, Councilmember Ray C. Luna, Vice Mayor Gabino Aguirre, and Mayor John T. Procter responded to roll call. City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz, City Attorney Karl H. Berger, and Deputy City Clerk Josephine G. Herrera were also present. City Clerk Steven J. Salas was absent.

PRESENTATION

A. Presentation by Santa Paula High School Friday Night Live

Gaby Godinez, Angelica Zavala, Maria Mora, Myra Aguiniga, Jorge Aguiniga, Julian Zavala, and Annette Preciado were present representing Santa Paula High School Friday Night Live. Ms. Zavala and Ms. Mora spoke regarding this youth advisory group that meets once a month to come up with projects that improve the city, and addressed the unsafe environment at Las Piedras Park. They stated that their group wishes to hold a clean-up day at least once a month at Las Piedras Park, and invited the community to participate in this activity. They further expressed their pleasure that the City Council shares their concern in making Las Piedras Park a priority project, and stated that they look forward to working with the City Council and the community in making Las Piedras Park a safe place. The City Council commended and congratulated the Santa Paula High School Friday Night Live group for their great work and for their willingness to assist in cleaning the park and making it safe for the neighborhood.

B. Proclamation Recognizing Ventura County Arts Week 2003

Vice Mayor Aguirre presented a proclamation to Judy Klement proclaiming October 3 through 12, 2003 as "Ventura County Arts Week." Ms. Klement invited everyone to attend an art reception on October 4, 2003, at 12:00 p.m., at the Blanchard Community Library.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Rick Bianchi, 27200 Tourney Road, Valencia, representing Centex Homes, spoke regarding the community outreach workshops and charrette process, which will provide an opportunity for the community to participate in the planning and design of the Fagan Canyon project. He invited everyone to attend the four meetings for the charrette process, and provided the web address for more information: www.fagancanyon.com.

Carmen Guerrero, 3591 Corby Avenue, Camarillo, representing De Colores Art Group, thanked the City Council and City staff for supporting the successful Fandango Jarocho on September 21, 2003. She also acknowledged Centex Homes, Latino Town Hall, Mendez Concrete, Cal-West Realities, and Century 21 Buenavista Realty for their sponsorship.

Vice Mayor Aguirre introduced Dr. Luis Villegas, Superintendent of the Santa Paula Elementary School District. Dr. Villegas welcomed the City Council and everyone to Barbara Webster School.

Maria Ruiz, 516 N. Oak Street, along with her son Rigoberto, stated that she has lived in the Las Piedras Park neighborhood for seven years. She mentioned that her son attends the Boys and Girls Club with Calla Dominguez, and that her son is also involved in the Junior Marines. She expressed her concern with her neighborhood, which has experienced murders and graffiti. She further stated that she wishes to put together a clean-up group because the community and its children deserve a clean city.

Rigoberto Ruiz, 516 N. Oak Street, stated that he is involved with the Weed and Seed Program, and expressed his interest in a clean-up day so that the community may become involved. He also thanked Calla Dominguez for involving him in the Weed and Seed Program. Mayor Procter commended Rigoberto for his efforts. Councilmember Cook also acknowledged Rigoberto and his mother, and stated that he hopes more parents will express their concern and become more involved.

Jesse Hernandez, representing Efrain Covarrubias, stated that he had spoken with City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz regarding a city-owned easement that Mr. Covarrubias wishes to purchase. Mr. Hernandez was advised that this issue would be placed on a future agenda.

Javier Magaña spoke regarding the need for more parks for sporting activities such as soccer. He also stated that while he agrees with the importance of meeting low-cost housing needs, consideration should also be given for parks and schools.

CITY COUNCIL/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Procter thanked Carmen Guerrero and Xavier Montes for their efforts on the successful Fandango Jarocho.

APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Councilmember Krause, seconded by Councilmember Luna, to adopt the Consent Calendar as presented. There was no opposition, and the motion carried.

- A. Purchase of Lawn Equipment - Approved the purchase of new lawn equipment. Public Works Director/City Engineer Clifford G. Finley's report dated September 12, 2003.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- A. Las Piedras Park Neighborhood Improvement Plan Timeline

Building and Safety Director Stephen R. Stuart's report and Power Point Presentation. He responded to a question regarding the City's ownership of the park by stating that previously Limoneira Company owned and leased the park to the City, and that the City purchased the park in 1985. He further responded to a question regarding the reason few housing rehabilitation and preservation grants were processed in this neighborhood by stating that many properties are rental units and that code enforcement action is the process used for correcting substandard conditions. He further responded to a question regarding the status of the project to correct flooding on Twelfth Street by stating that this is a project that the Council may wish to prioritize in the Las Piedras Park Neighborhood Improvement Plan.

A discussion ensued regarding scheduling the two community meetings in conjunction with the Community Visioning process, and amending the boundary to include the mobile home park to the east of Richmond Road and including the unincorporated properties on Grant Line Street.

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz suggested that the City Council consider the Las Piedras Park Restroom Upgrade report prior to making a decision on the Las Piedras Park Neighborhood Improvement Plan.

- B. Las Piedras Park Restroom Upgrade, Project No. 02.03.239 BAG, Project Update

Public Works Director/City Engineer Clifford G. Finley's report dated September 22, 2003.

Robert Cabral, 444 N. Thirteenth Street, suggested that the new restroom not have hidden areas in the structure for safety reasons. He also commended the Friday Night Live group for their interest in cleaning the park. The City Council acknowledged Mr. Cabral for his efforts to improve the Las Piedras Park neighborhood.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Clifford G. Finley responded to a question regarding lighting to the restroom area by stating that improvements will be made to

improve visibility. He further responded to a question regarding the hours the restroom will be open by stating that the restroom will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., and will be locked overnight.

The report was received and filed.

A. Las Piedras Park Neighborhood Improvement Plan Timeline

The City Council discussed changes to the boundary to include the mobile home park, including the portion that is northerly on Richmond Road, and following the east side of the mobile home park, and continuing to the railroad tracks, and incorporate the few houses on Grant Line Street that are in the unincorporated area. The City Council also discussed the timing of the first community meeting to be scheduled in conjunction with community visioning in early November, and that the second meeting be in held late Winter or early Spring so that feedback on the implementation plan can be included in the community visioning process.

It was moved by Councilmember Krause, seconded by Vice Mayor Aguirre, for approval of staff recommendation for developing the Las Piedras Park Neighborhood Improvement Plan with the changes to the eastern boundary and take into account the timing of community meetings in coordination with the Community Visioning program. There was no opposition, and the motion carried.

C. Council Potential Conflict of Interests Regarding Fagan Canyon

City Attorney Karl H. Berger reported that the opinion letter requested from the Fair Political Practices Commission has been delayed an additional week because the attorney assigned to provide the opinion letter was reassigned to work on a Supreme Court response. He responded to a question regarding whether the City Council should refrain from participating in the upcoming Fagan Canyon Charrette by stating that without an advice letter from the FPPC, participation is at Councilmembers' own risk and individual choice.

D. Status Report on Pending Issues before the Regional Water Quality Control Board

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz stated that the City Council met this afternoon in Closed Session, and that Dennis Dickerson, Executive Officer of the Regional Water Quality Control Board spoke during Public Comment. He mentioned that no reportable action took place during the Closed Session, and that the City Council is waiting to hear from the State Water Quality Control Board on their action regarding the City's request for a stay. He further mentioned that the Regional Water Quality Control Board will consider a new operations permit for the City's wastewater treatment plant on Thursday, October 2, 2003, at 9:00 a.m., at Simi Valley City Hall, and that staff is exploring renting a bus to

take people from Santa Paula to Simi Valley to attend this meeting. He further noted that staff continues to work with local elected officials, and acknowledged County Supervisor Kathy Long, Assemblymember Tony Strickland, and Senator Feinstein for their efforts on the City's behalf.

CITY COMMUNICATIONS

There were no City Communications.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz stated that he had spoken with Mr. Hernandez regarding the purchase of the easement adjacent to Mr. Covarrubias' property, and that this item will be on a future agenda as a Closed Session item.

ADJOURNMENT

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

ATTEST:

Josephine G. Herrera
Deputy City Clerk