

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Procter called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmember Richard C. Cook, Councilmember Mary Ann Krause, Councilmember Ray C. Luna, Vice Mayor Gabino Aguirre, and Mayor John T. Procter were present. Commissioner William H. Irion, Commissioner Gary L. Nasalroad, Commissioner Jesse R. Ornelas, Commissioner Michael E. Sommer, Commissioner John A. Turturro, and Commission Chair Rita Graham were present. City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz, City Attorney Karl H. Berger, City Clerk Steven J. Salas and Deputy City Clerk Josephine G. Herrera were also present. Commissioner Jennifer A. Matos was absent.

PRESENTATIONS

- A. Presentation by Santa Paula Firefighters on Candy Cane Distribution at the Conclusion of the Annual Optimist Club Christmas Parade November 29, 2003

Glen Aronowitz, President of the Santa Paula Professional Firefighters Association, stated that the Fire Department would revive the tradition of having Santa Claus distribute candy canes at Fire Station 1 following the Christmas Parade on November 29, 2003.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment.

CITY COUNCIL, PLANNING COMMISSION, STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Councilmember Krause mentioned that she attended the special recognition for the Police Officers and Fire Firefighters, which was held at Santa Paula Chevrolet, to thank them for their assistance during the recent firestorms.

Mayor Procter stated that he attended the Santa Paula Family Resource Center's Open House, and that he presented proclamations recognizing *Convivir* and *Kidz Care Program*.

APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz noted an amendment was made to the agenda to add an Order of Business Item 8B concerning Santa Paula Memorial Hospital.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Joint City Council/Planning Commission Meeting

a. Direction of the City of Santa Paula

The City Council discussed the direction of the City of Santa Paula, which includes creating economic development; revitalizing the downtown; creating housing for all income levels; creating an atmosphere of pride in the community; increasing participation in local government; seeking ways to outreach to the public; focusing efforts on redevelopment projects; enhancing police services; abating graffiti; and addressing code enforcement. The City Council noted that they have identified three areas for development in the City: Tenth Street corridor from Harvard Boulevard to Santa Barbara Street and the downtown area; Twelfth Street to Santa Paula Creek north along the railroad tracks; and Highway 126/Hallock Drive area.

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz responded to a question regarding whether there would be specific plans for the three areas for development by stating that the Tenth Street corridor is currently being reviewed; staff is in the process of conducting environmental review of the area between Twelfth Street and Santa Paula Creek; and staff anticipates that the Citywide Community Visioning process will provide a basis for the Highway 126/Hallock Drive area.

b. Fiscal Year 2003/04 City Council Goals and Priority Projects

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz reviewed the status of the City Council Goals and Priority Projects.

A discussion ensued regarding the Citywide Community Visioning Project, the Downtown Implementation Plan, the Harvard Boulevard Improvement Plan, and mixed-use development.

c. Role of the Planning Commission

The Planning Commissioners discussed their role as the Planning Commission which includes operating under the police powers of the State for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare for the City; reviewing matters on planning and development; considering matters affecting the General Plan and Housing Element; reviewing specific plans; considering matters regarding rezoning, conditional use permits, design review permits, subdivision applications, and City's Capital Improvement Program; promoting the City's goals for quality of life, balanced community, citizen involvement, and customer focus; and reviewing City projects.

A brief discussion ensued regarding working toward meeting the goals outlined in the City's Housing Element.

d. How the City Council wishes to work with the Planning Commission.

The City Council discussed the appeal process for decisions by the Planning Commission, and the understanding that the City Council has the ultimate decision making authority.

City Attorney Karl H. Berger responded to the discussion by stating that the Planning Department is charged with enforcing the adopted regulations, and if there is a problem or a perceived problem with those regulations, then the recommended course of action is to ask for a policy decision from the City Council. He further stated that the City Council could explore having an interlocutory appeal process, and consider whether the appeals process should be changed. He responded to a question regarding whether the Planning Commission could postpone a decision by asking the City Council for a policy decision by stating that this could be done as an interlocutory appeal; however, there is no mechanism in place for this process at this time. Also, the City is subject to the Permit Streamlining Act that requires decisions on particular projects within a specific amount of time. Further, if there is no time limit requirement, the Planning Commission may table an item for further consideration.

Councilmember Cook stepped out of the Council Chambers at 7:59 p.m., and returned at 8:01 p.m.

A discussion ensued regarding the Citywide Community Visioning process and ensuring that the Planning Commission, other boards and commissions, and developers have an understanding on what the visioning will be.

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz stepped out of the Council Chambers at 8:06 p.m. and returned at 8:07 p.m. Councilmember Luna stepped out of the Council Chambers at 8:07 p.m.

A discussion ensued regarding communicating to staff in order to receive quality projects.

RECESS TO A BREAK

Mayor Procter recessed the City Council to a break at 8:10 p.m. The Planning Commission was excused for the remainder of the meeting.

RECONVENE TO MEETING

Mayor Procter reconvened the City Council at 8:20 p.m. Councilmember Luna returned to the Council Chambers.

A. Request for Santa Paula Memorial Hospital and the County of Ventura to Resume Affiliation Negotiations and Accept Offer of Cities of Santa Paula and Fillmore to Fund Mediation Services

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz reported that Santa Paula Memorial Hospital and the County of Ventura are willing to continue affiliation negotiations, and that the Santa Paula and Fillmore Councils will consider resolutions to fund mediation services.

Diana Loncar, resident of Westlake Village, asked for the criteria for the mediator and the reason the negotiations are strictly with the County of Ventura. The City Council responded that the hospital board met with other medical facilities and chose to partner with the County of Ventura. Further, both parties will decide on the mediator based on trust, impartiality, and fairness.

Ms. Loncar expressed her concern with the provision of health care and the financial crisis being faced by rural hospitals and counties.

A discussion ensued regarding the unresolved issue with the Vehicle License Tax, concerns with the allocation to fund mediation services, and the desire to ensure healthcare in the Santa Clara River Valley.

It was moved by Councilmember Krause, seconded by Vice Mayor Aguirre, to adopt Resolution No. 6040 requesting both parties to resume affiliation negotiations, accept offer of cities to fund mediation services up to \$25,000 total with cities dividing costs 60% Santa Paula and 40% Fillmore, and requesting each City Council to appoint one representative and one alternate representative to mediation team.

It was moved by Councilmember Cook, seconded by Vice Mayor Aguirre, to amend the motion in order to appoint Councilmember Mary Ann Krause as the representative and Councilmember Ray C. Luna as the alternate to the mediation team.

There was no opposition, and the motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 6040

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING REPRESENTATIVES OF SANTA PAULA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AND THE COUNTY OF VENTURA RESUME AFFILIATION NEGOTIATIONS AND ACCEPT OFFERS OF CITIES OF SANTA PAULA AND FILLMORE TO FUND MEDIATION SERVICES

CITY COMMUNICATIONS

City Attorney Karl H. Berger noted that during the Closed Session held at 5:30 p.m. regarding existing litigation between the People of the State of California versus Santa Paula Memorial Hospital, the City Council was informed that the Attorney General declined to take any action with regard to the hospital board. By unanimous vote, the City Council decided to shelve any further efforts with regard to litigation pending the outcome of any mediation efforts for the hospital.

Councilmember Cook mentioned that Water Distribution Worker Doug Araiza was stricken ill with an obstructed artery, and is recuperating comfortably at the hospital following angioplasty surgery

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no Future Agenda Items.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Procter adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

Steven J. Salas
City Clerk