

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Procter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Councilmember Krause 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, Acting 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 on "Earth Day"

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz introduced the presentation on Saturday's Earth Day and Easter Egg Hunt event.

Ed Mount, Recreation Supervisor, outlined the activities for the 18th Annual Easter Celebration to be held April 19, 2003 at Glen City School.

Anthony Emmert, Public Works Superintendent, outlined the activities promoting Earth Day, which would be held in conjunction with the Easter Egg Hunt Celebration.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Salas, 1203 Hawthorn, representing the California School Board Association and the Santa Paula Union High School Board of Trustees, invited the City Council to the Countywide Leadership Meeting on April 29, 2003. He distributed a flyer containing information on the meeting, and spoke briefly on the implementation of joint services.

CITY COUNCIL, STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Councilmember Cook mentioned that he would not be able to attend the Countywide Leadership Meeting on April 29, 2003, due to a prior commitment.

APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA

It was the consensus of the City Council to approve the agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Councilmember Krause, seconded by Councilmember Cook, to waive the reading of Ordinances and Resolutions appearing on the Consent Calendar; to waive the reading of all other Resolutions appearing on the Agenda; to read all other Ordinances appearing on the Agenda, in title only; and to adopt the Consent Calendar as amended. There was no opposition. The Consent Calendar was adopted.

- A. Waiver of Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions – Approved waiver of the reading of Ordinances and Resolutions appearing on the Consent Calendar; waiver of the reading of all other Resolutions appearing on the Agenda; and reading all other Ordinances appearing on the Agenda, in title only.
- B. Memorandum of Understanding with Ventura County Professional Firefighters Association (VCPFA) for Contract Years 2003-2004 – 1) Approved by Resolution No. 5567 the Memorandum of Understanding with the Ventura County Professional Firefighters Association (VCPFA) for Contract Years 2003-2004. **RESOLUTION NO. 5567**, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA PAULA ADOPTING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE CONTRACT YEARS OF 2003-2004 BETWEEN THE CITY OF SANTA PAULA AND THE VENTURA COUNTY PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION (VCPFA); 2) directed staff to amend the Salary Plan and Scheduled to accommodate the 12% salary increase for Fire Captain and 7% salary increase for Fire Engineers and Firefighters; and 3) authorized staff to process budget adjustments to the 2002-03 Fiscal Year Budget as required. City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz's report dated April 4, 2003.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz suggested that the City Council consider Item 8C first.

- C. Citywide Employee Customer Service Committee –

Assistant to the City Manager Melissa Grisales' report dated April 7, 2003.

A discussion ensued regarding concerns with providing employee-issued cell phone numbers to the public; implementing a policy so that employees will update their voice mail introductory remarks to advise the public whether they are in the office on a given day; exploring a new phone system; and creating a directory which lists every employee and a summary of their job duties.

It was moved by Councilmember Krause, seconded by Vice Mayor Aguirre, to receive the report and ask staff to report around September 1. There was no opposition, and the motion carried.

A. Skate Park Construction and Fundraising

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz presented the report dated April 8, 2003.

Marisue Eastlake, 1216 Laurel Road, presented a revised memorandum regarding proposed contributions for skate park fundraising and a proposed donor recognition plan. She noted that the Santa Paula Community Fund has agreed to accept donations under their umbrella to receive tax deductible donations for the skate park.

A discussion ensued regarding concerns received from veteran groups with the possibility that naming the skate park could take away from the name "Veterans Memorial Park", and a discussion regarding seeking corporate sponsorships to assist with funding.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Aguirre, seconded by Councilmember Luna, to 1) approve the plans and specifications for skate park and advertising for bids; 2) approve the request by Santa Paula Association of Skaters (SPAS) in their revised memorandum dated April 14, 2003 for assistance in fundraising; and 3) approve the designed project as Master Plan for the skate park. There was no opposition, and the motion carried.

B. Final Report – Customer Service Citizens Task Force

Jim Garfield, Chair of the Customer Service Citizens Task Force, presented the report dated April 8, 2003.

A discussion ensued regarding comments received from the public on zoning and land use, signs, and landscaping codes, reviewing codes for changes or flexibility in enforcement, and ensuring that everyone is treated equally.

Denise Gallion, 610 N. Sixth Street, shared her experience in which she was required to pull a permit to replace an existing window in her home and questioned the need for the permit.

Jeff Novak, Member on the Customer Service Citizens Task Force, emphasized the need for a customer service survey card, an updated phone system, and a referral process so that the City can refer applicants to a member of the Chamber of the Commerce for assistance on their projects.

City Council discussed the committee's recommendation to appoint an ombudsman who would provide objectivity and conflict resolution. The City Council also discussed the need for City departments to be customer-friendly, informative, and flexible, and commented on the need to update the phone system. The City Council also noted that many complaints were received from unlicensed contractors without the appropriate training.

It was moved by Councilmember Cook, seconded by Councilmember Krause, for staff to come back in eight weeks on how staff intends to address the recommendations of the committee and letting the City Council know what cannot be done.

A discussion ensued on exploring the use of an ombudsman and how conflict resolution will work.

There was no opposition, and the motion carried.

RECESS TO A BREAK

Mayor Procter recessed the City Council to a break at 7:41 p.m.

RECONVENE TO REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Procter reconvened the City Council at 7:53 p.m.

C. Open Space District Advisory Committee (OSDAC) Recommendations

Planning Director Thomas M. Bartlett's report dated April 8, 2003.

After a discussion regarding the geographical funding distribution within each of the three areas and the objective of the Regional Open Space District, it was moved by Vice Mayor Aguirre, seconded by Councilmember Krause, to approve the draft Open Space District Advisory Committee (OSDAC) Assessment and Recommendations, and direct the City Manager to prepare a position letter indicating such Council approval, with said letter to be signed by the Mayor. Councilmember Krause, Vice Mayor Aguirre, and Mayor Procter were in favor. Councilmember Cook and Councilmember Luna were opposed. The motion carried.

Acting City Attorney Karl H. Berger was excused from the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

E. FY 2003/04 Budget Preparation Update

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz provided a Power Point Presentation. He responded to a question regarding franchise in-lieu of fee for enterprise by explaining that the City

may levy a franchise fee, which goes to the general fund, in return for allowing a firm to provide refuse, water, and wastewater services. He further noted that the City is currently not collecting a franchise fee for wastewater and refuse, and that the City Attorney is researching this matter. He also responded to a question regarding whether the City's budget would be presented on June 2, 2003 by stating that the City's budget must be adopted by June 30 regardless of the State's budget, and that staff is reviewing all options and possible cuts.

The report was received and filed.

CITY COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz mentioned that Hospital Board Trustee Marsha Rea provided an update at the Rotary Club Meeting on the hospital's selection of an affiliate partner.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

It was moved by Vice Mayor Aguirre, seconded by Councilmember Krause, for a progress report on the acquisition of the Middle Road Mutual Water Company. There was no opposition, and the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Procter adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

ATTEST:

Josephine G. Herrera
Deputy City Clerk