

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fernandez called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., Deacon Al Guilin led the invocation and Vice Mayor Cook led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Councilmember Robert S. Gonzales, Councilmember Martin F. Hernandez, Councilmember James A. Tovias, Vice Mayor Richard C. Cook, and Mayor Ralph J. Fernandez responded to roll call. Acting City Manager Fire Chief Richard Araiza, City Attorney John C. Cotti, City Clerk Judy Rice, and Deputy City Clerk Lucy Blanco were also present.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

No reportable actions.

PRESENTATIONS

A. **Introduction of New Firefighters by Chief Araiza**

Fire Captain Jerry Byrum introduced the five new firefighters and spoke regarding the California Fire Fighters joint apprenticeship committee (Jack Program), a joint effort to standardize training.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Lazenby, 1485 Ojai Rd., Santa Paula spoke regarding the Santa Paula Fire Community Emergency Responst Team (CERT) Program and invited all City residents to attend the six week program. The numbers to call are 933-4297 24hrs answering machine or 933-254, ext. 254.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Fernandez informed the City Council on the progress of the Steckel Park Aviary and the need for donations and volunteers.

APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA

It was moved by Councilmember Gonzales, seconded by Vice Mayor Cook to approve the final agenda as presented. All were in favor under roll call vote and the motion carried.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Hernandez pulled Item 10D. It was moved by Councilmember Hernandez, seconded by Councilmember Gonzales to approve the Consent Calendar as amended. All were in favor under roll call vote, and the motion carried.

- A. **Waiver of Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions** – Waive reading of Ordinances and Resolutions appearing on the Agenda.
- B. **Receive and File Reimbursement Reports** - In accordance with Government Code §§ 53232.2, 53232.3, and Resolution No. 6258, receive and file reimbursement reports as specified.
- C. **Warrants and Certifications** – Review, approve, and file the attached warrants and certifications. Finance Director Sandra K. Easley's reports dated December 19, 2012.

CONSENT CALENDAR (SEPARATE ACTION ITEMS)

- D. **Request for Legal Opinion on Potential Conflict of Interest** – It is recommended that the City Council direct the City Attorney to prepare a formal opinion on potential conflict of interest issues relative to newly elected Councilmember Hernandez. City Manager Jaime M. Fontes' report dated January 2, 2013.

Rita Stafford, 827 Roger Rd, Santa Paula, spoke in regards to the lack of City staff communication with regards to the LAFCo issue and whether Councilmember Hernandez has a conflict of interest. She expressed her opinion that the Council should have discussed this issue prior to the Council meeting.

All were in favor under roll call vote to direct the City Attorney to prepare a formal opinion on potential conflict of interest issues relative to newly elected Councilmember Hernandez, and the motion carried.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- A. **Appointment of Member to Planning Commission** City Manager Jaime M. Fontes' report dated January 2, 2013.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Cook seconded by Councilmember Tovias to nominate Fred W. Robinson as member to the Planning Commission. Under roll call vote, Councilmember Gonzalez abstained. Councilmember Hernandez was opposed. Mayor Fernandez, Vice Mayor Cook and Councilmember Tovias were in favor. The motion carried.

- B. **Appointment to Mayor's Standing Committees and City Council Ad Hoc Committees** –City Managers Jaime M. Fontes' report dated January 2, 2013.

It was moved by Councilmember Gonzales seconded by Councilmember Tovias to direct Council to make appointments to the Mayor's Standing Committees and the Council's Ad Hoc Committees and receive and file the report. All were in favor under roll call vote and the motion carried.

- C. **Formation of Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee for the 2013/14 Application Cycle** –City Manager Jaime M. Fontes and Assistant to the City Manager Elisabeth Amador's report dated January 1, 2013.

It was moved Councilmember Gonzales, seconded by Councilmember Hernandez that the Council contact the representative they each select and report to Mr. Fontes prior to January 16, 2012. All were in favor under roll call vote and the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Councilmember Gonzales, spoke in regards to the LAFCo hearing and asked that the Council be prepared to represent the interests of the citizens of Santa Paula, include the interested property owners and possibly ask for a continuance of the public hearing to a later date.

Councilmember Cook communicated that he would be absent during the Council meeting of January 22, 2013.

Councilmember Hernandez communicated that he had attended an introductory lunch meeting with the SEIU group.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

It was moved by Councilmember Cook, seconded by Councilmember Tovas that Mr. Fontes provide regular updates on labor negotiations. All were in favor under roll call vote, and the motion carried.

It was moved by Councilmember Hernandez, seconded by Councilmember Tovas that Mr. Fontes update the council on the status of hiring a Chief of Police. All were in favor under roll call vote, and the motion carried.

It was moved by Councilmember Hernandez, seconded by Councilmember Tovas that Mr. Fontes update the council on the progress of the water and sewer rates sub-committee. All were in favor under roll call vote, and the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Gonzales adjourned the Regular Meeting at 7:43 p.m.

ATTEST:

Judy Rice
City Clerk