

SPECIAL SONORA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINI RETREAT MINUTES NOVEMBER 5th, 2007

A Special meeting of the City Council of the City of Sonora was held this date at the Sonora Fire Station, 201 South Shepherd Street, commencing at 8:30 a.m., with the following members present: Mayor Hank Russell, Mayor Pro-Tem Ron Stearn, Councilmembers Gary Anderson, David Sheppard and Bill Canning, City Administrator Greg Applegate, Police Chief Mace McIntosh, Fire Chief Mike Barrows, Community Development Director Ed Wyllie, Finance Director Karen Stark, Grants/Redevelopment Program Manager Rachelle Kellogg. Absent: City Clerk Marijane Cassinetto. Note: City Planning Commission Members Dwain McDonald and John Andersen attended all sessions, City Planning Commission Members George Segarini and John Richardson attended a few of the sessions, City Attorney Richard Matranga was present for his afternoon session, and City Engineer Gerard Fuccillo attended an afternoon session.

CITY CLERK'S POSTING OF THE AGENDA

City Administrator Greg Applegate advised the Council that at 8:35 a.m., on Tuesday, November 1st, 2007, the Agenda for the Special City Council Mini Retreat, scheduled for Monday, November 5th, 2007, was posted at City Hall for public review.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Jerry David, 938 Highlands View Drive, Sonora, introduced himself as a new resident who recently moved to Sonora from the City of Mountain View. Mr. David presented Councilmembers with a 1991 Vesting Tentative Map of Sunrise Hills Unit 1 and indicated some preliminary concerns with the possibility of Tower Investment Company purchasing the map and building 80 new homes adjacent to his home. Ed Wyllie and Greg Applegate provided Councilmembers with an update as to several recent meetings with Tower Investment representatives, but as of this date there had not been an application submitted. There was a consensus by Councilmembers that this item would be referred to the City's Community Development Committee when new information has been received by City Staff.

NEW BUSINESS

The Council engaged in the following discussions, training and/or actions:

- Mayor Hank Russell conducted a "Quality Circle" discussion to kick-off the Annual City Council Mini Retreat. This year's discussion was on "Economic Development/Infrastructure" with Councilmembers, Staff, and members of the public participating. The Mayor began the session with a definition of "Economic Development" and then solicited feedback from circle participants on various aspects of economic development. The goal of this session was to stimulate thought and discussion on the future role the City will play with respect to "Economic Development". There was a consensus that the City will continue to pursue a partnership with Tuolumne County to form a joint economic development program.
- Administrator Greg Applegate conducted a session regarding "Succession Planning". The goal of this session was to educate Councilmembers and the public on the growing need for the City of Sonora to develop a Succession Plan for future recruitment and retention of City employees. The second goal of this session was to provide an opportunity to receive feedback from Councilmembers before staff began to formalize a draft Plan for City Council consideration. Greg went over an outline that had been developed from a Succession Planning Session which was held at the recent City Department Head Staff retreat. After

the presentation, Councilmembers were in agreement that staff should move forward with drafting a Succession Plan.

- Community Development Director Ed Wyllie presented a discussion entitled, “What Are We Doing To Reduce Our Carbon Footprint?”. This topic was prompted by a recent article in the League of California Cities Western Cities magazine. This article was a follow-up to Governor Schwarzenegger signing of the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. After presenting the Global Warming Act and the Carbon Footprint handouts, Ed facilitated a discussion to receive feedback on ideas for the City to save energy. These ideas will be discussed further at a later date, as the City prepares for future state regulations that will inevitably be mandated on cities and counties.
- Community Development Director Ed Wyllie presented his second topic entitled “Zoning Ordinance Update”. Ed indicated that with the completion of the General Plan Update project on May 30th, 2007, the City now needs to move into the implementation phase of the document. By Law, the Zoning Ordinance Update is required to maintain consistency between the General Plan and Zoning. Ed went over the hand-out entitled “Updating the Zoning Code - A Briefing for Decision-Makers” by Paul Crawford FAICP, and Susan Clark, AICP. Ed highlighted the Zoning Code Components, zoning map, zoning districts, development standards, permitting and development review procedures, rules for zoning code administration and zoning code update issues. After fielding several questions by Councilmembers, Ed concluded his presentation.
- City Attorney Richard Matranga gave a presentation that provided an update on the State of California’s Open Meeting Laws (Brown Act) and an update of the State’s Conflict of Interest laws. After reviewing two fictitious scenarios on whether or not there were Brown Act or Conflict of Interest violations, Richard then provided time for questions and answers.
- Grants/Redevelopment Program Manager Rachelle Kellogg and City Engineer Gerard Fuccillo presented for Council consideration the “Safe Routes to School” grant that is being prepared for Sonora High School sidewalk and safety improvements. Rachelle went over the process for filing the grant and provided an overview of the project. Gerard went over the details of the project, including Phase 1, which will replace the existing pedestrian crossing in front of the High School with a pedestrian activated signalized crossing and Phase 2, which will encompass 3900 LF of sidewalk/curb/gutter starting at the north end of the High School along the west side of Shaws Flat Road to the end of the City Limits at Roble Road. Additionally, Gerard went over the estimated project costs totaling \$1,122,000. The grant is being submitted for \$900,000, with the remaining dollars being a City match. A motion was made by Councilmember Stearn, which was seconded by Councilmember Canning, and unanimously approved by Councilmembers to approve Resolution 11-05-2007-A, a Resolution approving an Application to the California’s Safe Routes to School program and approved the execution of a Grant Agreement and any Associated Documentation thereof.
- Fire Chief Mike Barrows made a presentation on vegetation/fuel management. Mike provided a power point presentation that compared historical photographs with recent photographs of the same location that were taken in and around the City. Council discussion ensued. Councilmembers requested that the City Administrator, Fire Chief and Councilmember Anderson work with Cal Sierra Disposal to see what the next step would be in pursuing green waste alternatives for City residents.
- Finance Director Karen Stark gave a presentation on Gas Tax Revenue Redistribution. Karen briefed Councilmembers on how the price of gasoline affects all of us when we pay for gas at the pump. Karen went over supporting charts and schedule attachments to provide information on the

complicated gasoline tax structure and allocation process. Karen fielded questions from Councilmembers and was complimented on a very thorough analysis of Gas Tax Revenue.

- City Administrator Greg Applegate gave a brief wrap-up of the City Council Mini Retreat's day long sessions and thanked Councilmembers, Planning Commissioners, Staff and the Public for their time, effort, and valuable input.
- Pacific Gas and Electric Company employees Leesa Miner and Mark Jensen appeared at 3:25 p.m. and provided Councilmembers with an update on the City's Phase I Street Light Replacement project. Leesa indicated that crews were painting the light poles this date and that the brackets and lights would begin to be installed on Saturday, November 10th. Leesa indicated that if all goes as planned, Phase I would be completed on or before Monday, November 19th, 2007. Councilmembers asked several questions and indicated that they appreciated the update and looked forward to Phase I being completed before the annual Christmas Parade event.

ADJOURN. The Special Sonora City Council Mini Retreat meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m., to the next Regular Council meeting to be held on Monday, November 19th, 2007, at 5:00 p.m., in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Greg Applegate, City Administrator