



CITY OF CORNING
SPECIAL CLOSED MEETING SESSION
and
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2010
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
794 THIRD STREET

A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:

Council:	Vacant
	Ross Turner
	Toni Parkins
	John Leach
Mayor:	Gary Strack

All members of the Council were present with one vacancy remaining on the Council.

No one was present in the audience to comment.

C. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION: 6:31 p.m.

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR PURSUANT TO SECTION 54957.6:
Agency Negotiator: William May, Labor Relations Consultant
Management, Miscellaneous, Dispatch and Public Safety Employees
Bargaining Units

D. RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING AND REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION: 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Strack reported that the Council met in closed session with the City's Labor Negotiator and would be meeting with him again in the near future.

E. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by City Manager Stephen Kimbrough.

F. PROCLAMATIONS, RECOGNITION'S, APPOINTMENTS, PRESENTATIONS:

1. **Proclamation: Public Safety Telecommunications Week, April 11 – 17, 2010.**

Mayor Strack presented Proclamations to Chief Tony Cardenas on behalf of the Police Department Dispatchers and Chief Martin Spannaus on behalf of the Fire Dispatchers.

2. **Proclamation: April 24, 2010 as General Federation of Women's Clubs Federation Day in the City of Corning and acknowledgement of the 100th Anniversary of the Corning Maywood Women's Clubhouse.**

Mayor Strack presented the Proclamation to Wini Peterson and members of the Maywood Women's Club. A member of the Women's Club read a statement from Club President Linda Lima Daniels who was at a Regional Women's Club Meeting in Susanville.

3. **Proclamation: April 2010 "Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City of Corning.**

Mayor Strack presented the Proclamation to LaVonne Fawver, Tehama County Child Abuse Prevention Council.

G. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Mayor Strack then introduced Attorney Jody Burgess who is sitting in tonight for City Attorney Mike Fitzpatrick. He then announced that in light of the number of individuals obviously present tonight for the budget discussion, by consensus of the Council, Item No. 17, "City Program

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Reductions Needed to Balance the Budget” would be moved to the beginning of the Regular Agenda.

John Richards, (Corning Skate and Bike Park Association) thanked Councilors Leach and Turner for their donation towards Insurance coverage for the Skate and Bike Park Association skateboard demonstration during the upcoming May Madness Car Show.

H. **CONSENT AGENDA:** It is recommended that items listed on the Consent Agenda be acted on simultaneously unless a Councilmember or members of the audience requests separate discussion and/or action.

4. **Waive reading, except by title, of any Ordinance under consideration at this meeting for either introduction or passage, per Government Code Section 36934.**
5. **April 7, 2010 Claim Warrant - \$380,977.26.**
6. **April 7, 2010 Business License Report.**
7. **March 2010 Wages and Salaries - \$343,759.22.**
8. **March 2010 – Treasurer’s Report.**
9. **March 2010 Building Permit Valuation - \$97,441.99.**
10. **City of Corning Wastewater Operation Summary Report – March 2010.**
11. **Waive Recreational Use Fee for the 3rd Annual Westside American Legion Fundraiser.**

Councilor Turner moved to approve Consent Items 4-11. Councilor Parkins seconded the motion. **Ayes: Strack, Turner, Parkins and Leach. Opposed: None. Absent/Abstain: None. Motion was approved by a 4-0 vote with one Council position vacant.**

I. **ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA:** None

J. **PUBLIC HEARINGS AND MEETINGS:** None.

K. **REGULAR AGENDA:**

17. City Program Reductions Needed to Balance the Budget.

City Manager Kimbrough presented a Powerpoint Presentation on the reductions needed to balance the Budget. Following the City Manger’s presentation, the Police and Fire Chiefs both provided budget presentations for their departments. Mayor Strack then opened the floor to the public for comments.

Dean Cofer: Thanked Staff, the Police Chief and the Planning Director for their contributions towards the budget cuts. He stated that the “devil is in the details” and asked whether the move of the two fire dispatchers to Public Works is an additional cost; City Manager Kimbrough responded stating no, these positions are currently funded. He also asked what benefits the Police Chief, City Manager and Planning Director would retain under their proposed hourly cuts; City Manager Kimbrough responded stating that the City would continue to pay FICA, SDI and COBRA. Mr. Cofer then referred to the proposed budget cuts previously presented by Councilors Leach and Turner asking the status of some of those proposals. He announced that Concerned Citizens are against a reduction in Police Officers and Fire Dispatchers.

Teresa Smith: Asked if the City Manager would go from an “At-Will Employee” to a “Contract Employee”, she was informed yes, however whether an “At-will or Contract Employee” there would be a termination clause provided in the contract. Ms. Smith made the statement that if

the Council starts messing with the Fire Department it will "stir up a hornet's nest". She further stated her belief that there are other positions within the City that could be cut back before focusing on the Fire Department.

Gary Kreamer (Fire Chief - Orland Fire Department): Stated that station record keeping and maintenance will fall behind should Corning Fire Dispatch be dismantled, also there will be no administrative time to seek grants. He also stressed that in the event that both police and fire simultaneously have an incident, it is natural for police dispatchers to favor the police dispatching needs over the fire.

Bill Boot: Stated that he recently needed to call the Fire Department and they responded within minutes, he would hate to see the Fire Department lose that.

A member of the audience and county resident commended the City's Fire Department and stated she does not favor cuts in Police or Fire Dispatch.

Councilor Leach: Stated that the presentation was a lot to digest tonight and he does not want to lose any Police Officers or the Fire Dispatchers.

Councilor Turner: Thanked Staff for their suggestions and stated that he believes the Council needs to look through this proposal and the economics will have to be defined.

Councilor Parkins: Thanked Tony Cardenas, John Stoufer and Steve Kimbrough, acknowledging that their contribution is huge. She stated that she could go along with all of this except the reduction of Fire Dispatch. She asked the City Manager if there was any other way; City Manager Kimbrough stated in order to stay out of the red, these proposed cuts would need to be made.

Strack: Acknowledged and credited Staff for their proposals. He stated that he doesn't want to lose Police Officers, Fire Dispatch or Recreation, however he fills that we need to move forward with the proposals presented tonight and if we can change it in June, then all the better. He stated his belief that this is something that we have to look towards in order to move forward.

Councilor Leach asked Chief Cardenas whether the City could save by cutting one Officer, or would it cost more in the long run in overtime. Chief Cardenas responded stating that it would cost more in overtime.

Councilor Parkins asked for a Council Consensus for no deletion of Officers at this time, and for Chief Cardenas to move to part-time. She also proposed dropping the Recreation Program in favor of our Fire Dispatchers as much as she hates it. Councilor Turner stated he thinks no decisions should be made tonight, that the proposals presented need to be reviewed further. Mayor Strack stated that he didn't want to throw out any of the proposals presented.

Doug Oiler: Asked how much remained in the reserve budget; he was informed \$800,000. He then asked why don't we use that.

Mr. Kimbrough stated that Staff didn't expect Council to make a decision based upon an oral presentation tonight. He did state that Staff would like some direction. Councilor Turner asked if it would be possible to hold a special meeting to discuss only the budget, rather than discussing it at the next meeting on April 27th. After some discussion, Council decided that the items to be listed on the April 27th Council Meeting Agenda would be the Proclamations, Consent Agenda and the Budget only.

A motion was made to move the meeting up to 7:00 p.m. by Councilor Turner and seconded by Councilor Leach. **Ayes: Strack, Turner, Parkins and Leach. Opposed: None. Absent/Abstain: None. Motion was approved by a 4-0 vote with one Council position**

vacant. No final decisions were made on the budget, discussion is carried over to the April 27, 2010 City Council Meeting.

12. Public Invitation to attend the Saturday, May 15th Airport Re-Dedication Event and acknowledgement of \$1,000 donation from Wadell Engineering Corporation for Re-Dedication Event.

Mayor Strack introduced this item by title and Barbara Boot outlined the activities planned stating there will be a pancake breakfast prepared by the Corning Fire Department and in conjunction with "Learn to Fly Day", there will be free flights (with parental permission) offered for youngsters ages 8-17. Public Works Director John Brewer stated that he wouldn't be surprised if Teichert Construction also made a donation. Council also discussed, and by consensus, stated that they had no problem with RV's parked at the Airport during the event.

Councilor Parkins moved to accept the donation by Wadell Engineering with the City reimbursing the local Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) for approved expenditures associated with the re-dedication event. Councilor Turner seconded the motion. **Ayes: Strack, Turner, Parkins and Leach. Opposed: None. Absent/Abstain: None. Motion was approved by a 4-0 vote with one Council position vacant.**

13. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2010-2015 Five-Year CEDS Plan Update: Establish priority projects to be included in the 3CORE Economic Development District's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

Councilor Turner moved to approve the CEDS Priority Project List as recommended by Staff. Councilor Parkins seconded the motion. **Ayes: Strack, Turner, Parkins and Leach. Opposed: None. Absent/Abstain: None. Motion was approved by a 4-0 vote with one Council position vacant.**

14. Approve Purchase Agreement to sell a portion of City owned property at 1558 Houghton Avenue, consider Optional Agreement for the City to purchase property at 1485 Toomes Avenue and authorize the Mayor to:

- a. **Sign Residential Purchase Agreement for the sale of a portion of the property located at 1558 Houghton Avenue, and**
- b. **Sign the Optional Agreement for the City to purchase the property located at 1485 Toomes Avenue.**

Mayor Strack introduced this item by title. Planning Director John Stoufer stated Staff is proposing to sell 1.72 acres of the property located at 1558 Houghton Avenue (including the existing residence and the two outbuildings) to Paul and Patricia Seligman for \$125,000 (offsetting the purchase price of the entire parcel purchased by the City in December of 2009) while retaining 2.13 acres of this property for possible future extension of Fig Lane or for park property. The Optional Agreement would allow for the City to purchase the Seligman's 7.15-acre parcel that is contiguous to the western property line of the City owned parcel contingent upon the City's receipt of Prop. 84 Grant Funding.

Councilor Parkins moved to approve the Residential Purchase Agreement for the sale of a portion of the property located at 1558 Houghton Avenue and authorize the Mayor to sign the Option Agreement for the City to purchase the property located at 1485 Toomes Avenue. Councilor Leach seconded the motion. **Ayes: Strack, Turner, Parkins and Leach. Opposed: None. Absent/Abstain: None. Motion was approved by a 4-0 vote with one Council position vacant.**

John Richards asked Mr. Stoufer about the status of the Prop. 84 Grant Application. Mr. Stoufer stated that the only information he has received to date is the number of applications the State received. Mr. Richards asked if there would be any Park Development Fee Fund Revenue for construction after the purchase of the property should no Prop 84 funds come through? He was

informed that it was unknown at this time how much revenue would remain in the account following the purchase of the property.

Councilor Leach complimented the Skateboard Park Committee and Mr. Richards for their commitment to this project.

15. Policy Statement Regarding Public Works Department Removal of Curbside Prunings, Clippings, and Bulky Items.

Mayor Strack introduced by title. After some discussion, Councilor Parkins moved to:

- Adopt the "Greenwaste and Bulky Appliance" Policy Statements and direct Staff to advise the public via the one page policy insert (printed on blue paper with one side in English and the other in Spanish) that will be inserted for mailing to all residents in the Yearly Annual Water Report; and
- This will go into effect on July 1, 2010.

Councilor Leach seconded the motion. **Ayes: Strack, Turner, Parkins and Leach. Opposed: None. Absent/Abstain: None. Motion was approved by a 4-0 vote with one Council position vacant.**

16. Request to Reduce Day Use Fees for Yost Park Ballfield.

Mayor Strack introduced by title and City Manager Kimbrough briefly outlined the proposed fees. Councilor Turner moved to set the interim Yost Park Fees at \$30 per day with a \$75 refundable Clean-up Deposit and a \$25 refundable Key Deposit. Councilor Leach seconded the motion. **Ayes: Strack, Turner, Parkins and Leach. Opposed: None. Absent/Abstain: None. Motion was approved by a 4-0 vote with one Council position vacant.**

L. ITEMS PLACED ON THE AGENDA FROM THE FLOOR: None.

M. COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION:

City Clerk Lisa Linnet read a thank you card to the City Council, Planning Commission, and City Staff that was received from Michael and Leslie Moller of Moller Realty for the Easement Improvements at 2001 and 2003 Solano Street. Mayor Strack also announced that the City had received two letters requesting that the Council not consider closing the City Pool this summer, and one in support of the Recreation Department.

N. REPORTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- 18. **Turner:** Reported on the Women's Club Clubhouse dedication on April 10th.
- 19. **Parkins:** Nothing
- 20. **Leach:** Nothing
- 21. **Strack:** Thanked the three Staff members (City Manager Kimbrough, Police Chief Cardenas and Planning Director John Stoufer) for their contribution and all of the City Staff for fulfilling his faith in them, stating that they came through for us (Council).

O. ADJOURNMENT!: 10:13 p.m.

Lisa M. Linnet, City Clerk