

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

**SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES**

JANUARY 25, 2006 - 5:00 P.M.

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE CITY COUNCIL. AUDIO CASSETTE TAPES OF THE ACTUAL MEETING ARE AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Julie Ruelas called the meeting to order at 5:11 p.m.

The following persons were recorded as present:

PRESENT:

Council: Mayor Julie Ruelas, Mayor Pro Tem Nury Martinez, and Councilmember Dr. José Hernández

Staff: José E. Pulido, City Administrator; Anthony Alba, Police Chief; Paul Deibel, Community Development Director; Dan LaBrado, Recreation and Community Services Director; Lorena Quijano, Finance Director, Ron Ruiz, Public Works Director and, Laura Valdivia, Deputy City Clerk

ABSENT: Councilmembers Maribel De La Torre and Steven Veres.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL

None.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) APPROVAL OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONSULTANT TEAM FOR THE LOPEZ ADOBE PRESERVATION PROJECT

Community Development Director Paul Deibel presented the staff report.

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Councilmember Dr. Hernández asked about the cost to prepare construction documents, who would be doing the work, and what the work will include.

Mr. Deibel responded that the cost is for plans and specifications for the construction work to restore the Lopez Adobe. He added that a team of consultants from Historic Resources Group would be doing the work, which includes blueprints on the construction work pursuant to the Lopez Adobe Preservation Plan. He explained that the application to the California Cultural and Historic Endowment (CCHE) would be for a total of \$1,058,608 which includes both grant and matching funds to cover complete preservation of the Lopez Adobe structure and protect it for future use as a house museum.

Senior Planner Fred Ramirez added that in the preservation plan, the budget estimate for the total construction cost was \$879,000 a year and a half ago. He explained that while the City waits to do the work, prevailing wage and cost of materials continue to increase, so what is currently \$1.2 million will continue to increase if the City waits. He stated that the \$99,325 includes construction drawings and specifications, engineering work necessary to assure the building will be structurally sound, landscape design, the five-minute presentation to the CCHE Board and any additional geotechnical reports that still need to be done.

Mayor Pro Tem Martinez asked about the \$99,325 for construction plans and if there is a guarantee that we will get the funding from the endowment.

Mr. Ramirez stated that the City will still need to go through a review process for the funding, however, the construction plans are required anyway pursuant to the City's agreement with the Save America's Treasures (SAT) grant to finish the work by October of this year.

The Mayor Pro Tem also inquired if the reimbursement of \$89,000 from the HUD Special Projects Grant would be jeopardized if it were used for something else like the Lopez Adobe.

Mr. Pulido explained that approximately \$48,000 of \$89,000 had been previously appropriated from the General Fund and that portion of the grant reimbursement would be returned to the General Fund. This amount was not included in the FY 2005-06 General Fund budget and therefore can be used however the City Council wishes to designate it.

Mayor Pro Tem Martinez asked why the cost had doubled from \$51,000 to \$99,000.

Mr. Ramirez responded that staff had originally provided the Council with a cost estimate of \$51,000 based on a proposal of \$35,000 to do just the SAT work, however, because the City is now doing the entire building, including the grounds, that amount has doubled. In addition, he stated that staff would be seeking to request \$51,000 from the General Fund reserves, which would be coupled with \$48,000 in repayment funds received from Congressman Berman's Office for the now completed San Fernando Corridors Specific Plan. He explained because these funds

had not yet been allocated to a specific project, the intent would be to reinvest them into this worthwhile project and restore the Lopez Adobe.

Mayor Ruelas asked staff to explain table two.

Mr. Deibel explained that the table shows the 20% or \$110,000 of matching grant funds in addition to the CCHE funds for a total project cost of \$1,058,608.

Mayor Ruelas stated that The Friends would be providing more tours and will be extending their hours of operation, so she suggested that staff might want to include this information in the grant application.

Motion by Mayor Ruelas to approve the attached Budget Resolution allocating \$99,325 from current City resources to prepare construction documents for the planned preservation work on the Lopez Adobe and authorize the City Administrator to execute a contract for professional services with the historic preservation firm of Historic Resources Group, in association with Drisko Studio Architects, and Melvyn Green and Associates, to prepare construction documents and provide oversight of planned preservation work for the Lopez Adobe, per the approved scope of work, in an amount not to exceed \$135,005.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dr. Hernández and carried with the following vote:

AYES: Ruelas, Hernández, Martinez - 3
ABSENT: De La Torre, Veres - 2

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem Martinez thanked Public Works Director Ron Ruiz, Public Works staff, City Administrator José Pulido and Chief Alba for their quick response and outstanding work during the power outage and wind storm.

ADJOURNMENT (5:45 P.M.)

Motion by Mayor Ruelas, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Hernandez, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.