

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL**

**SPECIAL MEETING  
MINUTES**

**JUNE 29, 2006 – 9:00 A.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 Nury Martinez called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

**PRESENT:**

City Council: Mayor Nury Martinez, Mayor Pro Tem Julie Ruelas, Councilmembers Steven Veres, Maribel De La Torre (arrived at 10:12 a.m.) and Dr. José Hernández

Staff: City Administrator José E. Pulido, City Attorney Michael Estrada (via teleconference) and Deputy City Clerk Laura Valdivia

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Martinez led the pledge.

**PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 1) COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATION (CBO) GRANT EXTENSION – FRIENDS OF THE LOPEZ ADOBE

Recreation and Community Services Director Dan LaBrado presented the staff report.

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Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas clarified for the record that in the background section it should state the funds were for mothballing and not for site preparation.

Councilmember Veres stated he has concerns that this item is not in line with the intent of the CBO program, does not like the precedent that could be set and he feels uncomfortable making a policy decision that will change this program forever.

Mr. LaBrado stated that the CBO program includes language that ensures that no past bills or obligations would be paid from the program funds. He said because this is outside the original scope of services, that is why it requires City Council approval.

Mayor Martinez asked if there is any other way to address the \$7,000 besides the CBO grant. She said if the CBO grant was intended to provide services and programs then it needs to continue to do that. The Mayor said she specifically made it a point in her previous motion to have The Friends try and recover some of the costs for the foundation work and the mothballing. She asked staff how much had been appropriated to date for the foundation and mothballing of the house.

Senior Planner Fred Ramirez stated that staff had originally requested \$15,000 to do the mothballing and fencing, but City Council had decided to appropriate a minimum of \$11,403 to cover the mothballing only. He explained that the difference of \$4,322 for the fencing was to come from the \$7,000 CBO funds and the remaining \$2,688 would cover the cost for the cribbing. In response to the Mayor's question, Mr. Ramirez stated that on March 20, 2006 a total of \$23,804 was appropriated for site preparation, which including the \$7,000 would bring the total appropriation to \$42,207 to date.

Mayor Martinez asked if staff anticipated any other expenses and if there were any other recommendations for the \$7,000 because she was not comfortable with changing the scope of the CBO grant to do this.

Mr. Ramirez responded that the site work has been completed and the building is scheduled to be moved on July 10, 2006. He explained that the cribbing needs to be done at the same time as the move and that the fencing cannot be installed until after the house has been moved, that is why the grant funds need to be extended into the new fiscal year.

Mr. Pulido explained that the other recommendation would be to not fund the CBO and the City Council could then approve an appropriation from the General Fund for \$7,000.

Mayor Martinez asked if this would affect the project timeline.

Mr. Ramirez said that staff could use some of the funding already allocated for the mothballing to pay for the cribbing now, and use the fund difference once it is allocated for the move. Mr. Ramirez stated that the fees which have already been expended by The Friends for the relocation,

are under a separate contract for storage and relocation, but once it was decided that the building would be moved and there was not sufficient funds to build a permanent foundation, it would be necessary to install cribbing to create a temporary foundation for the site. It is because of the cribbing, which is outside the scope of the original contract between The Friends and the mover, that the City is obligated to pay for.

Community Development Director Paul Deibel explained that The Friends would submit their invoice to the City and the City would pay the mover.

Councilmember Veres asked that the City Attorney make sure this process is legal.

City Attorney Estrada stated the City can do this because of the nature of the project and because the Council in past action has indicated there is a public benefit.

Mayor Martinez asked the City Attorney if the Council can make a decision today on how to award the \$7,000 in order to complete the foundation work and the cribbing. City Attorney Estrada stated that they could not.

Mr. Pulido said the item could be brought back as a budget appropriation request at a future City Council meeting.

Motion by Mayor Martinez, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Hernández that the 60-day extension for The Friends of the Lopez Adobe CBO grant not be approved but instead that this item be brought back at the July 18, 2006, City Council meeting. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Martinez, Hernández, Ruelas - 3  
ABSTAIN: Veres – 1  
ABSENT: De La Torre - 1

### **CITY COUNCIL ITEMS**

#### **2) RELOCATION OF THE FARMERS MARKET**

Councilmember Steven Veres presented the report.

Councilmember Dr. Hernández stated he was very much in support of the relocation and time change. He asked why there is a need for a police officer if it is located next to the police station; if the banner over South Brand Boulevard would be moved to Maclay Street; and who decides that security is needed.

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas stated she did not see how moving the Market to lot 6N would help; discussed the visibility issue; asked which portion of Lot 6N would be used and how many spaces would be designated for shoppers;

Councilmember Veres stated that the prominence of lot 6N, especially on a Thursday afternoon at the tail end of rush hour and the opportunity to have advertising posted at the Metrolink increases visibility tremendously. Councilmember Veres also stated that the Market is now accepting WIC and that WIC coupons have made up almost half of all recent purchases.

Mayor Martinez asked if the Farmers Market had paid any of the outstanding invoices to the Police Department or business licenses. Finance Director Lorena Quijano responded that they had not.

Councilmember Veres stated that Farmers are licensed by the state and coordinated by the county and that many other cities have created umbrella permits for their Markets.

*Councilmember De La Torre arrived at this time.*

Discussion ensued regarding the requirement by the City to have security by sworn police officers at certain events and the Mayor stated the City needs to look at the bigger picture to evaluate the fairness.

Motion by Councilmember Dr. Hernández, seconded by Mayor Martinez to approve the relocation request from the San Fernando Chamber of Commerce for the Farmers Market from City Parking Lot No. 10 to City Parking Lot No. 6N and also approve the time and date change from Saturday to Thursday.

Councilmember Veres amended the motion to instruct staff to work with the Farmer's Market on the remaining issues of the police officer situation; creating an umbrella permit process for business licenses, adding a healthy cities component; and attempt to be consistent with the way Farmer's Markets are dealt with countywide.

Mayor Martinez also amended the motion to direct staff to look into the outstanding invoice from the police department and to also look into how the City deals with special events and City sponsored events and what is required for police patrol. The motion and amendments carried unanimously.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember De La Torre: 1) requesting that whenever the entire City Council is invited to an event or whenever there are committee forums, that the notices be provided in written format to the entire Council; 2) asked the City Attorney if her request that all Councilmember's names and phone numbers be included on future community forum fliers needs to be agendized; and 3)

requested that any meetings that are City sponsored be placed on the City calendar and for the Council to receive copies of all fliers that go out.

Councilmember Dr. Hernández confirming that the status of the pool project will be on the next Council agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas: 1) stating that Mission College's lease at their site on Maclay Street is expiring in September and asked staff if the City can offer another location where the same programs can continue to be offered; 2) stating in the past she has placed notices in the Council's mailboxes but since she made an announcement about the community forum at the last meeting to the entire City Council, she did not distribute the notice; and 3) if future community forums are made open to all of the Councilmembers, then it would need to be posted as a Council meeting.

Councilmember Veres: 1) stating that it is more appropriate to have staff members' phone numbers associated with those types of meetings rather than Councilmembers'; 2) requested that Council be provided with information on the topics listed on the community forum agendas; and 3) that staff start running a cost total for the Lopez Villegas house and all projects the City has in process.

Mayor Martinez: 1) apologized that she did not relay the invitation from Sue Shannon to the Council but it was not her intent to keep the Council from attending the meeting; 2) stated she attended the community forum and would like staff to get a newsletter out to the residents on an ongoing basis to update them on all the various projects and to bring this back as a future agenda item; and 3) would like a community meeting conducted in the near future specifically on the aquatic facility to discuss timelines, anticipated completion dates, etc.

### **STAFF COMMUNICATION**

Responding to Councilmember De La Torre inquiry if her request to place Councilmember's names and phone numbers on future community forum fliers required agendaing, City Attorney Estrada stated that yes it does.

Mr. LaBrado invited everyone to attend the July 4<sup>th</sup> annual fireworks celebration at the park and the annual Relay for Life event at the middle school on July 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. He stated that the Relay is a great fundraiser and phenomenal event for the American Cancer Society and this year there are more teams than ever before, entertainment, and food starting Saturday at 9 a.m.

### **ADJOURN TO STUDY SESSION (10:45 A.M.)**

By consensus, the meeting was adjourned to the Study Session regarding Mayoral Control of LAUSD.