



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF SOLVANG

Council Chambers
1644 Oak Street
Solvang, Ca. 93463

June 28, 2010
7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Richardson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Richardson, Council Members Duus, Jamieson, Palmer and Skytt

STAFF: Brad Vidro, City Manager; Roy Hanley, City Attorney; Dana Waite, Finance Director; Tully Clifford, Public Works Director; Lt. Julie McCammon; Mary Ellen Rio, City Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Led by Council Member Palmer.

PRESENTATION

Mayor Richardson presented a proclamation recognizing June as Muscular Dystrophy Association Fire Fighter Appreciation Month to Parvaneh Givi, Executive Director of MDA.

CITY MANAGER'S STATUS REPORT

Informational report only.

1. **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS - WRITTEN OR VERBAL**

Sam Cohen

- ❖ Thanked the City for the magnanimous letter of thanks as the party planner for the League of California Cities dinner; would also like to thank the rest of your staff, Dana Waite, Diana Richardson, Debbie Elliott, Julie Glendinning and Maricela Flores instrumental in making the event such a huge success
- ❖ Tribe has applied to extend its liquor license to the sit down buffet and to the Samala Showroom when sit down dinners are held; this item was heard before the Board of Supervisors last week and as I am sure you are aware, Mayor Richardson was in attendance and protested the liquor license

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- ❖ Needless to say, we were very surprised as Mayor Richardson did not protest when the liquor license was transferred from the Royal Scandinavian Inn to the Tribe and he has not protested any of the tasting room licenses in the City of Solvang
- ❖ We are all trying to work together to market the Santa Ynez Valley, the winemakers are marketing their wines and tasting rooms, Solvang is marketing its rich Danish heritage and the Tribe is marketing its casino and Solvang hotel; we are hoping that working together we will succeed and divided we will fail. We look forward to working again with you in the future

Richard Nelson

- ❖ Witnessed over the years constant speeders by commuters on Pine Street
- ❖ Several homeowners in the area have to back out of their driveways and with obstructed views, narrow road with no sidewalks and the speeders it is an unsafe condition
- ❖ Have talked to the sheriff and agree with them that it will slow traffic only when they see the patrol car
- ❖ Would like to see speed bumps installed, and a 4 way stop at Laurel and Pine as these will be the only conditions to slow down the traffic

City Manager stated that there is a speed bump policy and this area does not qualify under this policy. Suggested stepped up patrol of the area was agreed to by Lt. McCammon.

Dean Palius

- ❖ Social Host Ordinance was unanimously adopted by the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
- ❖ Am asking the City to put an agenda item on in the near future for the adoption of an ordinance
- ❖ Working with adjoining cities to do the same

Seeing a consensus of Council, City Manager agreed to bring the item back at the July 12, 2010 meeting.

Leo Mathiasen

- ❖ While I think the 1st Street Improvement Project was good, have a few concerns
- ❖ No property owner participation on this project, 10's of thousands of dollars was spent on bricks with nothing from property owners while on Copenhagen Drive property owners had to invest in the red bricks in front of their property or have plain concrete, you've created two classes of citizens
- ❖ The trees in town were the original trees planted, they are heritage trees. You can make all kinds of excuses why they have to come down, but something could always be done about them. Some of the excellent specimens have been taken down
- ❖ Feel the ramps and rails for handicap access at the old pharmacy building is a nightmare. It is not the responsibility of the City to install this, it belongs to the property owners
- ❖ In the future, look at your plans carefully, save the trees if you can and treat everyone equitably

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Tracy Farhad

- ❖ Distributed a Danish article which is one of many written by one of the journalists hosted by the SCVB
- ❖ Other journalists have requested visits
- ❖ 60% increase in the number of visitors in May at the Visitors Center over prior year

2. COUNCIL COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

Jamieson

- ❖ Attended the taxpayers association luncheon at which Sheriff Bill Brown spoke on the need for a North County jail and the sales tax they would like to place on the ballot once the present tax sunsets off; we all need to study and be aware of this
- ❖ Inquired about informational packets being given to those applying for new business certificates; have received complaints from a few businesses who received letters about their illegal signs and who were unaware they were illegal

Duus

- ❖ Attended The Market in Dallas last week and this is the worst I have ever seen it; all types of businesses are down; people are doing whatever they can do to survive, thinking out of the box
- ❖ We have our issues here and are dealing the best way we can, we need to make this work for the whole Santa Ynez Valley

Palmer

- ❖ Thanked Mr. Cohen for helping him with his remarks regarding Mayor Richardson's comments made at the Board of Supervisors meeting; Mayor Richardson stated he made a disclaimer however, none of the papers printed this disclaimer
- ❖ We need to get along and work together; Supervisor Gray said it best when she stated had this been an issue with anyone other than the Chumash Indians this would have gone unnoticed
- ❖ The Casino is not going anywhere and we must support one another
- ❖ I apologize that anything that comes up with Casino always ends up in some sort of unpleasant reaction
- ❖ Mr. Nelson thank you for your concern about Pine Street, something does need to be done; would like street width checked, some shrubs removed and the trash cans being left in the street investigated
- ❖ James Madison one of our founder fathers once said that when a person becomes an elected official they cease speaking as a private citizen

Skytt

- ❖ Have been talking with the City Engineer and CalTrans about placing a radar speed limit sign coming up the hill from Alamo Pintado to Pine Street; they seem to be effective in slowing traffic
- ❖ Visited with some tourists at a local restaurant and learned they were visiting as a result of an article written by one of the journalists who had been hosted here
- ❖ Regarding trash cans left in the street, we recently passed an ordinance and maybe we can see that is enforced

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- ❖ In regards to Mayor Richardson's comments at the Board of Supervisors meeting stating it was his own personal opinion, my opinion differs as I always understood once you are elected to a position, you give up a part of your freedom of speech voluntarily as you are always representing an organization
- ❖ I have had discussions with Chairman Armenta on occasion and have not always been in agreement however I have not openly expressed my opinion one way or another as I feel it always reflects on my position on the City Council

Richardson

- ❖ Reminded Council Member Skytt about his comments in an article regarding the Humane Society

Council Member Skytt said he had never spoken to anyone at or about the Humane Society and is unaware of any article, if you could provide that I will have them refute it

- ❖ Sam Cohen is aware that before the license can go before the Alcohol and Beverage Control Board it must be protested by the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors protested the license so the Tribe could place conditions on the license
- ❖ One of the conditions which I protested, as a private citizen, is the fact that there are 18 year olds in the Casino and because I am in support of the Social Host Ordinance I am not convinced that serving of minors will be monitored carefully
- ❖ I am proud of the work the Tribe does with our City but as a private citizen I think I can speak out about things I do not go along with
- ❖ Mr. Nelson, as a part of the Capital Improvement Project, sidewalks are scheduled for Pine Street however it will be quite a few years in the future
- ❖ Manny's Restaurant will be have its grand opening on July 4th

Mayor Richardson requested the minutes reflect that the article with comments attributed to Council Member Skytt was in error and he had apologized to him.

3. JUNE 14, 2010 CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Motion was made by Council Member Jamieson, seconded by Council Member Duus to approve minutes as presented. **Motion carried** with a verbal response of 5 ayes.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda read by City Clerk.

- a. Approval of pre-issued warrants dated June 9, 11, 16, 22, 23, 2010
- b. Approval of warrant register dated June 28, 2010
- c. Approve Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Solvang and the City of Buellton for recreational services

Motion was made by Council Member Skytt, seconded by Council Member Richardson to approve the consent agenda as presented. **Motion carried** with a roll call vote of 5 ayes.

REGULAR AGENDA

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5. ADOPTION OF BUDGET

Due to the discussion on the budget for the Solvang Conference and Visitors Bureau Council Member Skytt left Council Chambers due to a possible conflict of interest.

Staff report by Finance Director

- ❖ At presentation of the preliminary budget the discussion on agency funding was referred back to the Finance Committee
- ❖ As a result the Finance Committee recommended funding an additional \$30,000 to the SCVB for a total one time increase to \$50,000, and adding an additional \$10,000 to the Centennial Celebration line item for expenses by the City

Public Comment:

Tracy Farhad

- ❖ The SCVB thanks you for accepting their full request
- ❖ We hope to be able to prove to you and show some numbers with the results

Motion was made by Council Member Palmer, seconded by Council Member Jamieson to approve the budget for the SCVB as presented. **Motion carried** with a roll call vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent with Council Member Skytt absent.

Council Member Duus stressed that this is a onetime funding increase and will not affect future budgets.

Council Member Skytt returned to Council Chambers.

Staff report continued by Finance Director

- ❖ Reviewed other changes that had occurred since the preliminary budget was presented

Council Member Jamieson expressed her disappointment that her suggestion for purchasing computers for Council was never discussed, that we are paying more for the Sheriff's contract each year and do not have a full time person for Solvang and questions the rational of the large overhead for a department that is bringing in very little revenue. Perhaps we should look into contracting with the county for building and planning.

Public Comment:

Willi Campbell

- ❖ I wanted to make sure you are aware of what we all appreciate and recognize as a Human Services Budget
- ❖ While all the service agencies are worthy, do good things and could all use more funding, we are very appreciative of what we received

- ❖ I am proud of the City's good financial position
- ❖ You are doing a magnificent job and it does not go unnoticed

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Council Member Palmer asked Council to consider his previous suggestion for establishing a policy for funding the service agencies. City Manager responded that the Finance Director informed him years ago there had been a Human Services Commission who made these determinations.

Motion was made by Council Member Skytt, seconded by Council Member Palmer to adopt Resolution No. 10-____, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Solvang adopting a budget for the Fiscal Year 2010/11. **Motion carried** with a roll call vote of 5 ayes.

6. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REQUEST FOR SIDEWALK SALE

Staff report by City Manager

- ❖ At a prior meeting two Chamber of Commerce members placed a request for a one time only sidewalk sale to take place in August 18
- ❖ The Municipal Code allows for the City Manager to approve a onetime only sale however I feel the Council should discuss this, as other than the one time only exemption our code does not allow for sidewalk sales and requires this type of enterprise be held within an enclosed building
- ❖ Public Works and the Planning Department had a few conditions they felt needed to be stipulated in connection with a sidewalk sale

Public Comment:

Susan Williams, representing the Solvang Chamber of Commerce

- ❖ Don't know if this would be an ongoing event, would like to try it out to see how it goes
- ❖ Had talked about making it a much larger event later on
- ❖ Hoped that you would allow us to work with the City Manager for a onetime event

Tracy Farhad

- ❖ SCVB supports this event; Farmer's Market in San Luis Obispo is very profitable for local businesses and I hope this will be allowed
- ❖ Happy to assist in promoting

Council Members discussed the length of time for the event, suggesting possibly hours that coincide with Farmer's Market hours, and inquired how the businesses on Mission Drive could participate. Expressed some concern about the quality of merchandise and how it would be displayed. We have improved upon our image and do not want to go backwards.

Motion was made by Council Member Duus, seconded by Council Member Palmer to allow this one time sidewalk sale supporting the 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. hours. **Motion carried** with a roll call vote of 4 ayes, 1 no, with Council Member Skytt voting no.

7. RESOLUTION APPROVING CITY OF SOLVANG CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Staff report by Public Works Director

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- ❖ Initial CIP approved by City Council in 2006
- ❖ Reviewed the specifics of the program
- ❖ Ten year plan allows for a long-term look at the City's capital needs
- ❖ Update allows for cost increases and changes in priorities

Mayor Richardson opened the Public Hearing at 8:24 p.m. and closed at 8:25 p.m. due to lack of public input.

Motion was made by Council Member Skytt, seconded by Council Member Duus to adopt Resolution No. 10-_____, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Solvang approving the updated Ten Year Capital Improvement Program. **Motion carried** with a roll call vote of 5 ayes.

8. DESIGNATION OF VOTING DELEGATES TO LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Staff report by City Clerk

- ❖ This is a request required annually for the League's annual conference
- ❖ Mayor Richardson and Council Member Skytt are the only two who have registered for the conference
- ❖ Requesting a voting delegate and possibly two alternates

Public Comment: None

Mayor Richardson and Council Member Skytt responded that their transportation departs prior to the business meeting so would be unable to be considered.

Motion was made by Council Member Skytt, seconded by Council Member Palmer to table this item to the meeting of August 9, 2010 allowing time for other Council Members who might like to attend to be considered. **Motion carried** with a verbal response of 5 ayes.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Oral reports)

- SBCAG
Council Member Skytt reported that a vote was taken on the Maintenance of Effort in two parts, first was to accept the Maintenance of Effort amounts that were in the original Measure A and two was to accept the formulation of the amounts for the remainder of Measure A

10. ADJOURNMENT Mayor Richardson adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.


Mary Ellen Rio, City Clerk