



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SOLVANG CITY COUNCIL

Council Chambers
1644 Oak Street
Solvang, Ca. 93463

September 26, 2011

7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Pro Tem Wood called the meeting to order 7:00 pm

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem Wood, Council Members Duus, Jamieson and Palmer
Mayor Richardson absent.

STAFF: Matt van der Linden, Acting City Manager; Roy Hanley, City Attorney;
Arleen Pelster, Planning/Community Development Director; Lt. Julie
McCammon; Mary Ellen Rio, City Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Led by Council Member Duus.

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

Tracy Farhad

- Bus check will be taking place this weekend at Buell Flats
- Large increase in number of visitors at the visitors center over Danish Days
- Along with the visit by Alborg's Mayor and Councilor, the SCVB hosted the Team Solvang 100 with many welcoming events
- Hosted a press conference for the group of educators that will be bringing the Danish students here to study
- Distributed a report from Atlantic Link with advertising statistics
- Yulefest is coming with many exciting events taking place
- Working with a research firm gathering information about visiting tourists
- Web site visitors has surpassed previous years
- Utilizing Facebook page to keep the Centennial Celebration going by implementing a program called 100 reasons to Smile in honor of the last 100 days of our Centennial Year

2. COUNCIL REQUESTS

City Council Member Duus requested a future agenda item to look at the outdoor restaurant seating on Copenhagen. Seems to be the cost for the seating that is keeping this from happening.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED

City Attorney requested that Consent Agenda **item 5d** be tabled to the next meeting when the City Manager and Mayor are present for the discussion. Consensus was received.

No changes to the order of the agenda.

4. SEPTEMBER 12, 2011 CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Motion was made by Council Member Jamieson, seconded by Council Member Duus to approve minutes as presented. **Motion carried** with a roll call vote of 3 ayes, 1 abstention, and 1 absent; Council Member Palmer abstaining and Mayor Richardson absent.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda read by the City Clerk.

- a. Approval of pre-issued warrants dated September 7, 9, 12, 13, 15, 2011
- b. Approval of warrant register dated September 26, 2011
- c. Receive and file Sheriff's report for the month of August 2011
- d. Approval of revised agreement for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
- e. Award Professional Services Agreement for engineering services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Percolation Pond Slope Protection Project and authorize Mayor to execute
- f. Approval of Amendment No. 1 with Impact Sciences, Inc. for preparation of Environmental Impact Report and authorize Mayor to execute upon approval of City Attorney

Item **5d** tabled. **Motion** was made by Council Member Duus, seconded by Council Member Jamieson to approve Consent Agenda **items 5a through 5c and 5e and 5f** as presented. **Motion carried** with a roll call vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent with Mayor Richardson absent.

REGULAR AGENDA

6. REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF SEWER AND WATER CONNECTION FEES FOR A SECOND UNIT AT 937 ASKOV PLACE

Staff report by Planning/Community Development Director

- Applicant requesting a waiver of connection fees for water and sewer
- Because the unit is connected to the main house applicant chose not to install a separate meter

- Municipal Code allows for a small reduction if a meter is not installed as part of the connections
- Applicant was provided with information about fees however feels since an additional meter was not installed that these fees should be waived

Public Comment:

Buster Huffman, applicant

- My understanding is that these fees are collected when the building is constructed
- In my case, we did not construct a new second unit but merely split our existing home
- Fees don't correlate with the costs to the city

David Fleming

- Being new to the area and familiar with the construction industry, I always thought the water & affluent usage was based on the number of bedrooms
- I do not see how usage increases by making two units from one
- I do understand impact fees and maybe that is what we are talking about here

Council Member Palmer asked the Public Works Director to explain that these fees are not for connecting to the systems, but are actually impact fees. Public Works Director responded that when the original building was built and planned as two units the fees would have been collected at that time, because it was done at a later date, the fees still must be collected. Council Member Palmer explained that impact fees (connection fees) are placed in a reserve fund to improve the system. The additional use impacts the system.

Motion was made by Council Member Jamieson, seconded by Council Member Palmer to deny waiving of the connection fees, but to allow an acceptable payment plan of the fees. City Attorney asked that the motion include bringing the payment plan back for Council approval; this inclusion was approved by the maker of the motion. **Motion carried** with a roll call vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent with Mayor Richardson absent.

7. **INSTALLATION OF 4-WAY STOP AT THE INTERSECTION OF ALAMO PINTADO ROAD AND OLD MISSION DRIVE**

Staff report by Public Works Director

- A workshop was held in August discussing this intersection
- Consultants provided information on their analysis and provided three options
- Staff was directed at the workshop to proceed with engineering work for a 4-way stop

Public Comment:

Steve Orosz, Orosz Engineering

- Reviewed the warrant standards in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices

- This project meets one of the warrant requirements
- In response to the concern about u turns, enough space exists to warrant this

Motion was made by Council Member Jamieson, seconded by Council Member Duus to accept the report and move ahead with the installation of a 4-way STOP at the intersection of Alamo Pintado Road and Old Mission Drive, to be installed by city employees. Council Member Palmer asked that the **motion be amended** to state the funding would come from traffic mitigation funds and that employees not be involved in the installation, Public Works Director responded that this is a relatively small job that could easily be handled by city staff. Council Member Palmer **withdrew his amendment** and the original motion remained. **Motion carried** with a roll call vote of 3 ayes, 1 no and 1 absent. Mayor Pro Tem Wood voting no and Mayor Richardson absent.

8. **INTRODUCTION FOR FIRST READING, BY TITLE ONLY, AN ORDINANCE REVISING WATER AND WASTEWATER CODES IN REGARDS TO THE PROCEDURE FOR SETTING RATES**

Staff report by City Attorney

- Proposed code changes are for procedure only, the rates are not on the agenda. For many years rates had to be set by ordinance however when Prop 218 passed, the procedures changed and with the protest hearing taking place in October we will be setting rates by resolution.
- Many times when rates are in Ordinance form, it will refer to annual increases, but will not be reflected in the rates shown as they would have changed over time and can be confusing for those reading the ordinance
- Setting by resolution will allow us to follow Prop 218 procedures.

Public Comment: None

Motion was made by Council Member Duus, seconded by Council Member Palmer to introduce for first reading, by title only, Ordinance No. 11-_____, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Solvang revising the water and wastewater codes in regards to the procedure for setting rates. **Motion carried** with a roll call vote of 4 ayes, 1 absent with Mayor Richardson absent.

9. **COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS (Oral reports: Each Council Member will give oral reports on their activities in relation to the following committee or agencies. In addition, each member may report on items that will be included on the agenda for such committee or agency and seek guidance from the Council as a whole on such items, including on what position to take on behalf of the City)**

- CENTENNIAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
Council Member Jamieson reported that the Centennial Committee is winding down, however there still are events coming up such as placing the time capsule

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on January 6, 2012 in Centennial Plaza, followed by the tree burn and possibly a party. Also there are 3 more heritage trail sites to be designated to complete the Heritage Trail

- Santa Barbara County Association of Governments
- Air Pollution Control Board
- Joint Wastewater Committee
- Finance Committee
- Water Committee

10. ADJOURNMENT Mayor Pro Tem Wood adjourned the meeting at 8:14 pm


Mary Ellen Rio, City Clerk