

MINUTES: of a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Redlands held in the Council Chambers, Civic Center, 35 Cajon Street, on June 25, 2012 at 5:32 P.M.

PRESENT: Pete Aguilar, Mayor
Paul Foster, Mayor Pro Tem
Jon Harrison, Councilmember
Jerry Bean, Councilmember
Bob Gardner, Councilmember

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Enrique Martinez, City Manager; Dan McHugh, City Attorney; Sam Irwin, City Clerk; Carl Baker, Public Information Officer; Jeff Frazier, Fire Chief; Mark Garcia, Police Chief; Phil Mielke, Innovation and Technology Department; Fred Mousavipour, Municipal Utilities and Engineering Director; Fred Cardenas, Quality of Life Director; Tina Kundig, Finance Director/City Treasurer; Tom Steele, Assistant Finance Director; Oscar Orci, Development Services Director; Debbie Scott-Leistra, Human Resources Director

Mayor Aguilar called the meeting to order and offered those present the opportunity to provide public comment on any item to be discussed in closed session.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Fees Impact – Steve Rogers read an article from the newspaper entitled *Never Do Business in California*.

Builders' Perspective - John Heimann, from the Baldy View Chapter of Building Industry Association of Southern California, Inc., asked for a delay in implementation of fee increases due to the currently depressed economic conditions in the Inland Empire, grandfathering of projects already in progress, and a phased in approach to the increases.

Businessman's Perspective – Don Gee, of the Redlands Chamber of Commerce, presented a letter for the record. He said the Chamber had formed a task force to analyze the fee study recommendations and requested time for dialogue with staff before the City Council votes on the proposed fee schedule.

Resident's Perspective – Bill Cunningham identified concerns about some items on the proposed fee schedule. Specifically, he said he thought increases in fees for dog adoption and tree trimming would have negative impacts. He said the schedule for inspections fees didn't make sense.

FEE STUDY WORKSHOP:

Consultant Presentation – City Treasurer Tina Kundig introduced Mike Adams, from MGT of America, Inc., who presented a summary of the handouts produced to answer City Council requests generated at a May 24, 2012 special meeting fee study workshop. Many questions and discussion from the Council centered on the methodology used in the study and the magnitude of the increases recommended. Consensus supported subsidies rather than full cost recovery for recreation programs, dog and bicycle licensing, tree trimming and removal for residents and historical resource designations. Mayor Aguilar summarized the workshop discussion by identifying the need for implementation options to ease the impacts of any fee increases. Staff was tasked to provide proposals for logical break points for grandfathering of projects in progress, to provide schedule options for phased implementation of fee increases, and to add indexing into the fee schedule. Staff was also tasked to work with the Chamber of Commerce to specifically address the questions in the letter they submitted. To increase confidence in the methodology used for the fee study, the Council asked for specific examples of how some of the larger fee increases are justified.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None forthcoming.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 P.M. The next regular City Council meeting is scheduled for July 3, 2012.