MINUTES: of a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Redlands held in the Council Chambers, Civic Center, 35 Cajon Street, on April 6, 2010 at 3:24 P.M.

PRESENT: Pat Gilbreath, Mayor
Jerry Bean, Mayor Pro Tem
Jon Harrison, Councilmember
Mick Gallagher, Councilmember
Pete Aguilar, Councilmember

ABSENT: None

STAFF: N. Enrique Martinez, City Manager; Daniel J. McHugh, City Attorney; Sam Irwin, City Clerk; Carl Baker, Public Information Officer; Tom Fitzmaurice, Police Commander; David Hexem, Chief Information Officer; Daniel Hobbs, Redevelopment Agency Director; Rosemary Hoerning, Municipal Utilities and Engineering Director; Tina Kundig, Finance Director/City Treasurer; Jeff Frazier, Fire Chief; Oscar W. Orci, Community Development Director; Deborah Scott-Leistra, Human Resources Director; Gary Van Dorst, Quality of Life Director

The meeting was opened with an invocation by Councilmember Gallagher followed by the pledge of allegiance to the American flag.

PRESENTATIONS:

Redlands Animal Shelter - Animal Control Officer Bill Miller and Volunteer Lynda Ackerman introduced Cricket, an 8 year old male Chihuahua who is available for adoption at the Redlands Animal Shelter. Ms. Ackerman informed the Council that 31 dogs and 19 cats have been adopted since their previous meeting.

Crossing Guard of the Year – Robert Shockley was recognized for his many years of service as a crossing guard.

Fill the Boot – Nancy Monoghan, of the Muscular Dystrophy Association, recognized the efforts of the Redlands Fire Department in the last “Fill the Boot” fund raising campaign. Firemen raised $12,690.60 in two days. The next campaign is scheduled for April 16-18, 2010.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Minutes - On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Bean, seconded by Councilmember Gallagher, the City Council unanimously approved the minutes of the special and regular meetings of March 16, 2010 as submitted.
SANBAG MOU - On motion of Councilmember Harrison, seconded by Councilmember Aguilar, the City Council unanimously approved a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Redlands and San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) for the preparation of the San Bernardino County Regional Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Reduction Plan and the related environmental impact report.

Settlement Agreement – On recommendation from City Attorney McHugh, a settlement agreement between the City of Redlands and the Redlands Association pertaining to a lawsuit filed by the Redlands Association with the San Bernardino Superior Court was presented. Under the terms of the agreement, the City of Redlands will rescind entitlements previously approved for the Redlands Commons development project to convert agricultural land to residential use and pay Ninety Thousand Dollars ($90,000) to the Redlands Association’s attorneys. As a public comment, former mayor Bill Cunningham highlighted the importance of making the settlement agreement public. He believes the City of Redlands is better served without the Redlands Commons project.

Grant Application - On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Bean, seconded by Councilmember Gallagher, the City Council unanimously approved authorization to submit a grant application to the Federal Aviation Administration to facilitate receipt of the City’s allocation of approximately One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars ($150,000) under the Airport Capital Improvement Project Grant Program.

Fee Waiver - On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Bean, seconded by Councilmember Gallagher, the City Council unanimously approved a request for fee waiver from the Redlands Chamber of Commerce for the second annual Million Dollar Mutt Mansion fund raising event.

Resolution No. 6930 – Grant Application - On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Bean, seconded by Councilmember Gallagher, the City Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 6930 authorizing the submission of a grant application to the Department of Energy’s Congressionally Directed Project under the 2010 Energy and Water and Other Related Agencies Appropriations Act. If approved, the grant will provide Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars ($900,000) in the form of matching funds requiring an equal amount from the City of Redlands for a project entitled “City of Redlands Facilities Upgrades to Improve Energy Efficiency.”

COMMUNICATIONS:

Conference Report – Councilmember Harrison attended the National League of Cities Congressional Cities Conference held March 13-18, 2010 in Washington, DC. He presented a brief summary of his activities and perceptions while in
attendance at the conference. He said priorities discussed at the conference included strengthening the housing market, attaining a national transportation bill with emphasis shifting from the interstate highway system to inner city streets and non-motorized trails and continuing the energy efficiency block grant programs. A common theme among cabinet level guest speakers was interagency collaboration for sustainable communities.

Committee Report – Councilmember Harrison attended a meeting of the Santa Ana River Wash Plan Advisory Committee on March 4, 2010. He reported the Water Conservation District estimates One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000) and 12 to 15 months will be needed to complete all remaining stages of the project. The City of Redlands share of costs will be approximately Nine Thousand Dollars ($9,000).

Progress Report – Redevelopment and Economic Development Director Hobbs presented a history of the City of Redlands’ association with the Inland Valley Development Agency (IVDA) and the San Bernardino International Airport Authority (SBIAA). He presented the pros and cons of joining these agencies. As a public comment, former mayor Bill Cunningham asked if boundaries of the City of Redlands would be affected by renewed involvement with IVDA. Mike Burroughs, Deputy Director of IVDA, assured the Council no boundaries would be changed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution No. 6933 – Ballot Initiative Support - On motion of Councilmember Aguilar, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bean, the City Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 6933 in support of the Local Taxpayer, Public Safety, and Transportation Protection Act of 2010. The Act will amend the state constitution to further prevent state politicians from borrowing and taking monies from local governments.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade - On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Bean, seconded by Councilmember Gallagher, the City Council unanimously approved upgrades to the City wastewater treatment plant to convert the co-generation facility to a natural gas emergency back-up generator.

Enterprise Zone – On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Bean, seconded by Councilmember Gallagher, the City Council unanimously approved further research into the opportunities for Redlands’ possible participation in the San Bernardino Valley Enterprise Zone.

Sales Tax Increase – Dr. Timothy McLarney of True North Research, Inc. presented the findings of a survey to gauge voters’ interest in supporting a general sales tax measure and to understand the community’s priorities and needs, particularly in relation to the types of services and projects voters would
be interested in funding if such a measure were to pass. On motion of Councilmember Aguilar, seconded by Councilmember Harrison, the City Council unanimously agreed to authorize staff to work with the Council subcommittee to research and provide options for the use of any funding that may be derived from a potential November, 2010 revenue measure, and based on the timeline for such a measure, determine the appropriate scope of work for Phase II Public Opinion Outreach, for possible action at the June 15, 2010 Council meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Conditional Use Permit No. 53 – Westside Christian School – Mayor Gilbreath opened the public hearing and called for a report from Sergio Madera from the Community Development Department for background on an appeal from Westside Christian School to build an addition to an existing building at the corner of Bellevue and Olive Avenues. Neighbors of the property oppose the building addition location. Positions representing both sides of the issue were expressed by numerous public comments and the applicant. On motion of Mayor Pro Tem Bean, seconded by Councilmember Gallagher, the City Council unanimously agreed to continue the public hearing on Conditional Use Permit (CUP) No. 53 to May 18, 2010, to provide for a public hearing at the site and give adequate time for staff to prepare findings and recommendations so the Council can make a more informed decision regarding the approval of the CUP.

Resolution No. 6929 – General Plan Amendment – Laura Machala, Contract Planner for Dyett & Bahtia, outlined the changes made to the draft Housing Element of the City of Redlands’ General Plan. On motion of Councilmember Gallagher, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bean, the City Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 6929 amending the Housing Element pursuant to Section 65588 of the State Planning and Zoning Law. As a public comment, former mayor Cunningham took issue with the definition of a condominium as a single family home pointing out that such dwellings have a significant impact on services. Steve Rogers pointed out the Housing Element inclusive dates of 2006 through 2014 and indicated this amendment should have been accomplished long before 2010.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

City Employee Lay-Offs – Joni Mena, Joni Miller, Janice Falls, and Karen Kellingsworth along with Bridgette Washington, their San Bernardino Public Employees Association representative, expressed their dissatisfaction with the selection criteria and procedures used in the deletion of staff positions they had occupied with the City of Redlands. Cynthia Farquhar, Betsy Ellsworth, Adrian Asencio and Dave Ahlers, members of the Downtown Redlands Business Association, questioned why the position occupied by Joni Mena had been
deleted and appealed for reinstating the position to ensure the continued success of Market Night.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further action required, the City Council meeting adjourned at 6:30 P.M. The City Council will meet at their next regularly scheduled meeting on April 20, 2010.