

**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF SANTA FE SPRINGS  
NOVEMBER 8, 2007**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Serrano, at 6:10 p.m., called the City Council Meeting to order.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilmembers Gonzalez, Kernes, Velasco, Mayor Serrano

Excused: Councilmember Putnam

Also present: Fred Latham, City Manager; Barbara Earl, City Clerk; Steve Skolnik, City Attorney; Paul Ashworth, Director of Planning and Development; Don Jensen, Director of Public Works; Fernando Tarin, Director of Police Services; Ana Alvarez, Director of Community Services; Jose Gomez, Director of Finance & Administrative Services; Alex Rodriguez, Fire Chief

4. **INVOCATION**

The Invocation was given by Mayor Pro Tem Ron Kernes.

5. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the VFW.

9. Recognition of Thrifty Oil/Golden West Refinery, Nobby and Deanna Schnabel, Jim Hart (retired Fire Captain), Phil Pepin (Fire Captain), Ed Andrade (Mechanic II) for Fire Truck Donation to the Boy Scouts of Forest Lawn Camp

Chairperson Serrano called upon Retired Fire Chief Nobby Schnabel to give the background on the project and to recognize all those persons who had been involved. Nobby showed a brief PowerPoint presentation. George Villalobos representing the Boy Scout Council also gave brief remarks. Chairperson Serrano presented Moshe Sassover with a thank you plaque; pictures followed.

16. **CONSENT AGENDA**

**Minutes**

A. City Council Meeting of October 25, 2007

**Recommendation:** That the City Council approve the Minutes.

B. **Conference and Meeting Reports**

(In accordance with State law, Councilmembers shall make a brief written or verbal report on any meeting/event/conference attended at City expense.)

No reports were submitted.

Councilmember Velasco moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mayor Pro Tem Kernes seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**ORDINANCE FOR INTRODUCTION**

17. Ordinance No. 984 – An Ordinance of the City of Santa Fe Springs Adopting by Reference the 2007 Edition of the California Fire Code

**Recommendation:** That the City Council pass the first reading of Ordinance No. 984 adopting the 2007 California Fire Code as amended by the City of Santa Fe Springs, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 18938 (b) and 18941.5.

City Attorney Skolnik read the ordinance by title: An Ordinance of the City of Santa Fe Springs Adopting by Reference the 2007 Edition of the California Fire Code.

Mayor Pro Tem Kernes moved to waive further reading and introduce Ordinance No. 984. Councilmember Velasco seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

18. Resolution No. 9077 – Request for Parking Restriction and Tow-Away Zone on Jordan Circle North of McCann Drive

**Recommendation:** That the City Council adopt Resolution No. 9077 restricting parking of vehicles weighing over 6,000 pounds and implementing a tow-away one on the west side of Jordan Circle from the centerline of McCann Drive to a point 380 feet north.

19. Resolution No. 9078 – Approving the Use of Community Development Commission Funds for the Heritage Park Native American Exhibit Kiche Reconstruction

**Recommendation:** That the City Council adopt Resolution No. 9078 finding that the Heritage Park Native American Exhibit Kiche Reconstruction project benefits the Consolidated Redevelopment Project Area and that no other reasonable means to complete the financing of this project is available within the community; appropriate \$42,500 from the 2007-08 General Fund Contingency Reserve to complete funding of this project; and authorize staff to negotiate a contract per City of Santa Fe Springs Code of Ordinances Section 34.19.

21. Resolution No. 9080 – Intent to Vacate a Portion of Resin Place North of Alondra Boulevard

**Recommendation:** That the City Council adopt Resolution No. 9080 declaring its intention to vacate Resin Place north of Alondra Boulevard and setting a time and place for a public hearing.

22. Addition of Neighborhood Preservation Specialist to the List of Positions Designated to Receive Bilingual Premium Pay

**Recommendation:** That the City Council approve the addition of Neighborhood Preservation Specialist to the list of positions designated to receive bilingual premium pay as listed in Personnel Policies and Procedures Section 2-2.5d.

23. Authorize the City Manager to Convert the Part-Time Administrative Intern Position in the Human Resources Office to a Part-Time Human Resources Office Aide Position

**Recommendation:** That the City Council authorize the City Manager to convert the part-time Administrative Intern position in the Human Resources office to a part-time Human Resources Office Aide position.

24. Appointment of Councilmember Gonzalez to the Executive Committee of the Joint Powers Insurance Authority

**Recommendation:** That the City Council appoint Councilmember Gonzalez as the City's representative to the Board of Directors of the Joint Powers Insurance Authority and designate Mayor Serrano as the alternate, effective December 14, 2007.

Mayor Pro Tem Kernes moved to approve Item Nos. 18, 19, 21, 22, 23 and 24. Councilmember Velasco moved to approve the recommendation, which carried unanimously.

20. Amendment of Water Rates and Related Charges for FY 2007-2008

**Recommendation:** That the City Council direct staff to initiate proceedings in accordance with Proposition 218 to consider implementing an increase in water rates and service charges as of February 1, 2008 as recommended by staff.

City Manager Latham advised that Council had before them a Supplemental Report for Item No. 20, which reflects revised rate numbers.

Discussion ensued amongst Council and staff regarding water rates and the future of the City's water utility.

City Manager Latham requested that Council make a motion to direct staff to move in the direction outlined in the staff report.

Councilmember Velasco moved to approve Item No. 20, including the Supplemental Staff Report. Councilmember Gonzalez seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**RECESS**

Mayor Serrano, at 6:43 p.m., recessed the Council meeting to go into Closed Session for the Community Development Commission.

**RECONVENE**

Mayor Serrano, at 7:18 p.m., reconvened the Council meeting with all Councilmembers present.

**JOINT PUBLIC HEARING**

- 15. Joint Public Hearing on the Sale of a Community Development Commission-Owned Property Acquired and Renovated under the Housing Acquisition and Rehabilitation Program (HARP) Located at 11408 Clarkman Street, Approval of City Council Resolution No. 9076 and Community Development Commission Resolution No. 19-07.

**Recommendation:** That the City Council find that the proposed sale of the subject property is pursuant to and in furtherance of the Redevelopment Plan and Housing Set-Aside requirements for the Consolidated Redevelopment Project for which environmental documents were previously prepared; find that the sale of the subject property is for a consideration equal to fair market value and that such consideration is appropriate to effectuate the purposes of the Redevelopment Plan; and approve Resolution No. 9076 .

City Attorney Skolnik advised that this was a joint public hearing with the same matter also on the Community Development Commission agenda as Item No. 6A; if Council wished, they could take both items together.

Mayor Serrano opened the Public Hearing and invited interested parties to come forward to address the Council.

Having no one come forward, Mayor Serrano closed the Public Hearing.

Paul Ashworth, Community Development Commission Executive Director, commented that upon approval of the Council, escrow will be opened and the family should be in their new house by Christmas.

Councilmember Velasco moved to approve Item 15 on the Council agenda and Item 6A on the Community Development Commission agenda. Mayor Pro Tem Kernes seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

6. Representatives from the Chamber of Commerce  
Rick Landis, President of the Chamber was present.
7. Representatives from the Youth Leadership Committee  
Those representatives who were present came forward and introduced themselves.
8. New City Employees  
Paul Ashworth, Director of Planning and Development, introduced Bobby Avina, Public Works Aide, working in the County Graffiti Removal Program.
13. Red Ribbon Contest Winners  
Kim Sawyer, Public Safety Education Officer, introduced students in grades four through twelve who were winners in the "Why I Say No to Drugs" contest. Mayor Serrano gave each student a certificate; pictures with the students, their families and Council followed.
10. Presentation to Fred Rocha, Teacher of the Year for the North Orange County Community College District – School of Continuing Education  
Thaddeus McCormack, Assistant to the City Manager, introduced Mr. Rocha and gave a brief overview of his teaching achievements. Mayor Serrano presented Mr. Rocha with a plaque; pictures with Mr. Rocha, his family and Council followed.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Serrano announced that the Dedication and Re-Opening of the Rancho Santa Gertrudes Recreational Grounds was this past weekend. He further commented the event was well attended and showed the plaque, which was presented to the City by the Los Nietos School District, thanking the City for their partnership on the project.

11. Presentation to County Sanitation Districts' "Good Corporate Citizens"  
Anita Jimenez, Environmental Programs Coordinator, introduced Diego Alvizo and Wyman Wynn of Electromatic. Mayor Serrano presented them with a Certificate of Appreciation; pictures with Council followed.
12. Excellence Award Presentation to Vicente Gil for His Idea to Install "Break-Off Check Valves" on Fire Hydrants  
Don Jensen, Director of Public Works, gave an overview of the invention and introduced Mr. Gil. Mayor Serrano presented Mr. Gil with a certificate and a check; pictures with family and Council followed.

14. Proclaiming November 15, 2007 as "America Recycles Day in Santa Fe Springs"  
Mayor Serrano called upon City Clerk Barbara Earl to read the Proclamation.

27. **EXECUTIVE TEAM REPORTS**

Fernando Tarin, Director of Police Services, advised that the Police Services Center will be closed for fumigation November 22-25; all necessary information regarding the closure had been communicated to the residents.

Don Jensen, Director of Public works, advised that there will be median modification work in the vicinity of Florence and Orr & Day in conjunction with the Florence Foursquare Church project following work by the gas company; it is expected the work should take between two and two-and-a-half months.

Chief Gomez announced that the new fire engine for Station #4 was parked out front and thanked Council for their support. He also announced that two more will be coming in the next few months. He advised that a large contingency of firefighters were helping to combat fires around the area and showed a DVD of their efforts.

Ana Alvarez, Director of Community Services, advised that staff had participated in a cultural event at the Hollywood Cemetery on October 31<sup>st</sup> where they were able to recruit 450 volunteers to decorate the Rose Float. She reported that the roster was now at 1100 and staff expected it to keep growing.

Councilmember Velasco requested that staff respond to the editorial in the Whittier Daily News about the theme of the Rose Float.

Ms. Alvarez stated that educational pamphlets had been put at each of the City's facilities along with a color rendering of the float.

Mayor Pro Tem Kernes congratulated Mayor Serrano on his re-election.

Mr. Latham also congratulated Mayor Serrano and Councilmember-Elect Rounds and reminded Council that the swearing-in ceremony will take place on Thursday, December 13. He also gave kudos to Kim Sawyer on the Red Ribbon Program; Anita Jimenez on the City's recycling programs; and Mike Mendez, Ted Spaseff, Tom Lopez and Noe Negrete on the Re-Opening of the Rancho Santa Gertrudes Recreational Grounds.

Councilmember Velasco suggested donating the scarecrow dolls on the dais to either LACADA or the Salvation Army for the children.

Mr. Latham assured him that staff would see to it that was done.

25. **APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS**  
Councilmember Gonzalez appointed Jeanneth Guerrero to the Youth Leadership Committee. He also removed Francis and Michele Carbajal from the Sister City Committee.

26. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**  
Mayor Serrano opened Oral Communications and invited interested parties to come forward to address the Council.

Tammy Hill, Santa Fe Springs Christian School, invited Council to a Veterans' Day assembly on November 9 at 2:00 in the school gym.

**RECESS**

Mayor Serrano, at 7:18 p.m., recessed the City Council meeting in the memory of Clarence Johnson, long-time resident and ex-City employee, to go into Closed Session.

3. **CLOSED SESSION**  
CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION  
City of Santa Fe Springs v. Spicy Gentlemen's Club

28. **RECONVENE/ADJOURNMENT**  
Mayor Serrano, at 9:15 p.m., reconvened the City Council meeting and immediately adjourned it.

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Joseph D. Serrano, Sr.  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Barbara Earl, CMC  
City Clerk