

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF SANTA FE SPRINGS
MARCH 13, 2008**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Velasco, at 6:12 p.m., called the City Council meeting to order.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilmembers Gonzalez, Rounds, Serrano, Mayor Velasco

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

13. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes

A. City Council Meeting of February 28, 2008

B. Budget Study Session of February 26, 2008

C. **Conference and Meeting Reports**

No reports were submitted.

New Business

D. Resolution Nos. 9093, 9094 and 9095 – Authorizing Submittal of Applications for the Allocation of Funding for the Valley View Avenue Grade Separation Project

Recommendation: That the City Council adopt Resolution No. 9093 authorizing submittal of an application to the California Department of Transportation for the allocation of funding from the State Grade Separation Program (Section 190); adopt Resolution No. 9094 authorizing the submittal of an application to the California Transportation Commission for the allocation of funding from the Trade Corridors Improvement Fund; adopt Resolution No. 9095 authorizing the submittal of an application to the California Transportation Commission for the allocation of funding from the Highway-Railway Crossing Safety Account.

E. Authorization to Plant a Rose Bush in Memory of Tom Yarwood

Recommendation: That the City Council authorize planting a rose bush in Heritage Park in the memory of Tom Yarwood, long-time Photographer and Historian of the City of Santa Fe Springs.

Councilmember Rounds moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Item Nos. 13A-13E. Councilmember Serrano seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE FOR PASSAGE

14. Ordinance No. 989 – An Ordinance of the City of Santa Fe Springs Adding New Chapter 100 to the City Code Regarding Fire Alarms

Recommendation: That the City Council waive further reading and adopt Ordinance No. 989.

City Attorney Skolnik read Ordinance No. 989 by title as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SANTA FE SPRINGS ADDING NEW CHAPTER 100 TO THE CITY CODE REGARDING FIRE ALARMS

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez moved to waive further reading and adopt Ordinance NO. 989. Councilmember Rounds seconded the motion, which carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Gonzalez, Rounds, Serrano, Mayor Velasco

NOES:

ABSENT: Putnam

ABSTAIN:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

15. Mid-Year Budget Review – FY 2007-08

Recommendation: That the City Council approve the “Proposed Modifications to Departmental Expenditure Appropriations” as set forth herein and detailed in Exhibit A; and authorize the list of “Vacant and Frozen City Personnel Positions” as set forth in Exhibit B and, in so doing, authorize the City Manager, as he may deem appropriate, to leave unfilled, “frozen,” those additional vacancies as may occur prior to June 30, 2008.

City Manager Latham requested that Council defer action on Item No. 15 until after the Closed Session.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez stated that he did have some questions regarding the proposed modifications.

City Manager Latham suggested that Council take action on all program modifications with the exception of the personnel-related items until after the Closed Session. He took Council through them, item by item, as follows:

Department Recognitions – Modified from \$15,000 in savings to \$13,300 in savings.

Council action: No objections.

YIISEP – Modified from \$12,000 saving to \$6,000 in savings.

Councilmember Serrano made a motion to retain the program at \$12,000. Ms. Alvarez suggested that \$2,000 could be saved in marketing costs bringing the program to \$10,000.

Council Action: Councilmember Serrano moved to reduce the marketing costs and allot \$10,000 to the program. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Senior Seasonal Theme Celebrations – Modified from \$16,700 savings to \$6,100 in savings.

Council Action: No objections.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez requested assurance from staff that the program would maintain the high quality that the seniors are used to.

Senior Weekly Dances at the Neighborhood Center – Modified from \$4,400 savings to \$1,100 in savings.

Council Action: No objections.

Council again sought assurance that the dances would be of high quality.

Heritage Park Docent Activities – Modified from \$14,800 savings to \$7,600 in savings.

Council Action: No objections.

First Fridays – Modified from \$4,500 savings to \$1,500 in savings.

Council Action: No objections.

Middle School Dances – Proposed savings was \$2,200 and it is recommended that the savings be eliminated.

Council Action: No objections.

SFS Days @ the Ballgame - Modified from \$20,000 savings to *Option 1* save \$15,000 (Recommended) or *Option 2* save \$10,000.

Council Action: Councilmember Serrano moved Option #2. After much discussion, the motion died for lack of a second.

Councilmember Rounds moved Option #1. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez seconded the motion, which carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Gonzalez, Rounds, Mayor Velasco

NOES: Serrano

ABSENT: Putnam

ABSTAIN:

Batting Cages Hours of Operation - Modified from \$2,200 to \$1,100 in savings.

Council Action: No objections.

Councilmember Serrano made a motion to monitor the cages for the next two weeks, specifically the weekends. If staff finds they are not busy after 6:00 p.m., to shut them down for an additional cost savings. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez seconded the motion, which carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Gonzalez, Rounds, Serrano, Mayor Velasco

NOES:

ABSENT: Putnam

ABSTAIN:

Police Services Center Hours of Weekend Operation – Savings of \$4,300

Council Action: Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez moved to immediately close the Police Service Center on Sundays and for staff to come back during the 2008-09 review of the budget to discuss whether it should be closed on Saturdays. Councilmember Rounds seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Cesar Chavez Reception – It is recommended that this event not be held the night before the Luncheon. In so doing, \$2,500 in costs would not be incurred. Photo displays would be exhibited at the Luncheon.

Council Action: No objections.

RECESS

Mayor Velasco, at 7:08 p.m., recessed the City Council meeting.

RECONVENE

Mayor Velasco, at 7:25 p.m., reconvened the City Council meeting with all Councilmembers present.

4. **INVOCATION**

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez gave the Invocation.

5. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilmember Rounds led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTIONS

6. Representatives from the Chamber of Commerce

Marc Essensa of Mckesson was present representing the Chamber.

7. Representatives from the Youth Leadership Committee

Those representatives who were present came forward and introduced themselves.

8. Introduction of New Santa Fe Springs Policing Team Members

Captain Petropolus introduced Officer Mike Nurre, Corporal Chris Silva and Assistant Veronica Walsh. Mayor Velasco welcomed them to the Santa Fe Springs family and wished them well with their careers.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez announced that Mayor Velasco will be celebrating his birthday on March 20. A birthday cake was brought out. Everyone present stood and sang Happy Birthday.

PRESENTATION

9. Proclaiming January-March, 2008 as "Girl Scout 'Cookie Campaign' Months"

Mayor Velasco requested City Clerk Barbara Earl to read the proclamation. Leaders Mike Rosales and Gracie Pareda along with Girl Scout Troop 51 came forward and accepted the proclamation and presented Council with boxes of cookies. Pictures with Council followed.

10. Presentation to Whittier Police Officer Chad Hoepfner

Fernando Tarin, Director of Police Services, recognized Officer Hoepfner for his efforts and commitment to the residents of Santa Fe Springs while serving as a member of the City's Problem-Oriented Policing (POP) Team. Mayor Velasco presented him with a framed letter of appreciation; pictures with Council followed.

11. 2007 California Park & Recreation Society Awards of Excellence Presentation

Ana Alvarez, Director of Community Services, called upon Helen Hernandez, Vice-President of CPRS District No. 13, to present the Society's Awards of Excellence to the City and participating volunteers in recognition of its 2007 Fiestas Patrias. Pictures with Council followed. Ms. Alvarez also recognized staff

members who had key roles in the Fiestas and presented them with Certificates of Appreciation.

12. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cherie Blake, Public Relations Technician, updated the Community Events Calendar.

Anita Jimenez, Project Coordinator, gave an overview of Earth Day events scheduled to take place on March 22 in conjunction with the Easter Egg Hunt activities.

16. **APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS**

Councilmember Rounds appointed Art Escobedo to the Historical Committee.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez withdrew his appointment of Janet Martinez-Sanchez to the Sister City Committee.

17. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Mayor Velasco opened Oral Communications and invited interested parties to come forward to address the Council.

Steve Madrid, 9133 Arlee, Santa Fe Springs, inquired as to whether the camera on the utility pole in the vicinity of Broaded and Millergrove was working on March 3rd.

Mr. Latham responded that staff would be happy to speak to him after the meeting.

18. **EXECUTIVE TEAM REPORTS**

No reports were given.

RECESS

Mayor Velasco, at 8:10 p.m., recessed the City Council meeting to go into Closed Session.

3. **CLOSED SESSION**

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

TITLE: Various Classifications

19. **RECONVENE**

Mayor Velasco, at 11:23 p.m., reconvened the City Council meeting.

City Manager Latham reported out that the following action was taken in Closed Session: Mayor Velasco moved and Councilmember Serrano seconded the recommendation in Item No. 15, Mid-Year Budget Review – FY 2007-08, to authorize the list of “Vacant and Frozen City Personnel Positions” as set forth in

Exhibit B and, in so doing, authorize the City Manager, as he may deem appropriate, to leave unfilled, "frozen," those additional vacancies as may occur prior to June 30, 2008.

RECESS

Mayor Velasco, at 11:25 p.m., adjourned the City Council meeting in the memory of Josephine Serrano, long-time Santa Fe Springs resident, to 4:30 p.m., March 27, 2008, for a Capital Improvement Plan Study Session, to be held in Council Chambers, 11710 Telegraph Road, Santa Fe Springs.

Gustavo R. Velasco
Mayor

ATTEST:

Barbara Earl, CMC
City Clerk