

**LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY/FINANCING AUTHORITY
MINUTES
August 24, 2010**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Parris called the regular meeting of the City Council/Redevelopment Agency/Financing Authority meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members/Agency Directors/Authority Members: Crist, Mann, Marquez, Vice Mayor/Vice Chairman Smith; Mayor/Chairman Parris

Absent: None

Staff

Members: City Manager/Executive Director; Deputy City Manager/Deputy Executive Director; City Attorney/Agency/Authority Counsel; City Clerk/Agency/ Authority Secretary; Planning Director; Public Works Director; Parks, Recreation & Arts Director; Finance Director; Economic Development Director; Housing Director; Human Resources Director

INVOCATION

The invocation was not given.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member/Agency/Authority Member Mann

PRESENTATIONS

1. "Stan Chambers Day" Proclamation in honor of KTLA longtime Television Reporter – Stan Chambers

Mayor Parris stated that Mr. Chambers has been a Television Reporter for over 63 years; this was before there were any standards set and he founded it; developed it and matured with it. People owe him an incredible debt throughout the world for his incredible accomplishments. During these six decades Mr. Chambers has covered every major news event in Southern California and he has reported on over 22,000 stories since 1947. He has reported for the Tournament of Roses Parade every year since 1949; earned every news award in Southern California; set up scholarships for students interested in journalism.

Mr. Chambers thanked Mayor Parris and the City Council and stated that this is emotional and he has been lucky enough to be with KTLA at a time when television was just beginning. Every day was a new adventure and a new learning experience. In the television field you win a few, lose a few and the rest get rained out. You become a part of the city and a part of what is going on. This career has been stimulating and so rewarding and after 63 years he has enjoyed being a part of it. It is a real honor to be at the City of Lancaster receiving this proclamation; being a part of Lancaster and being a part of many lives. A brief video was shown in honor of Mr. Chambers.

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PRESENTATIONS (continued)

2. Presentation to Ron and Yvette Emard for their leadership on behalf of kids charities of the Antelope Valley

Mayor Parris stated that Ron and Yvette Emard have raised over \$2.5 million dollars for 28 local charities over the past 16 years; they are best known for “Thunder on the Lot” but what they really do is every single day of every single year they display the epitome of volunteers and what people should be doing all over the Antelope Valley.

Mr. Emard stated that it is a pleasure to be a part of the Antelope Valley and an honor to be involved in Lancaster. Lancaster has done so much to help and has taken “Thunder on the Lot” to a new level.

3. Presentation from Los Angeles County Housing Authority

Mr. Dorian Jenkins of the Los Angeles County Housing Authority presented information to the City Council. He discussed the process for terminations; fair market values; statistics for the Antelope Valley and Lancaster.

Comments; questions and concerns from the City Council included: accurately reflecting the market values; importance of having no imbalance; everyone should be treated fairly; consider bringing action against HUD; asked City Attorney to look into this. The goals should be to assist with housing not pay 100%; the frustration of the process; it’s almost an incentive to come to the Antelope Valley; the percentages do not add up. Council requested that Mr. Jenkins provide the Council with the rent surveys and also provide material well before the meetings so that Council has time to review the information. Progress is being made; they are encouraged; overall goals of the Housing Authority aren’t much different than the goals of Lancaster. They discussed comparable rates; rent surveys; being reflective of the community; reflective of the income; income base; portions paid by tenants; fair market regional areas; having two different housing authorities; discussed statistics presented by Mr. Jenkins.

AGENDA ITEMS TO BE REMOVED

None

AGENCY CONSENT CALENDAR

No action required at this time.

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**RNB 1. SUB LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANCASTER
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND LANCASTER SUBARU**

The Economic Development Director presented the staff report on this matter.

On a motion by Vice Chairman Smith and seconded by Agency Director Marquez, the Redevelopment Agency authorized the Executive Director or his designee to execute a Master Lease Agreement and a Sub Lease Agreement and/or necessary documents for 43244 Drivers Way, Lancaster, California, by the following vote:

5-0-0-0: AYES: Crist, Mann, Marquez, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

Vice Mayor Smith requested that Item Nos. CC 2 and CC 7 be pulled for separate discussion and action.

Mayor Parris requested that the minutes on each agenda be pulled for separate discussion and action to alleviate any confusion.

On a motion by Vice Mayor Smith and seconded by Council Member Marquez, the City Council approved the Council Consent Calendar with the exception of Item Nos. CC 2 and CC 7, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0: AYES: Crist, Mann, Marquez, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

CC 1. ORDINANCE WAIVER

Waived further reading of any proposed ordinances. (This permits reading the title only in lieu of reciting the entire text.)

CC 2. MINUTES

Mayor Parris and Council Member Mann abstained from voting on the minutes as they were not present at the meeting of August 10, 2010.

On a motion by Vice Mayor Smith and seconded by Council Member Crist, the City Council approved the City Council/Redevelopment Agency/Financing Authority Regular Meeting minutes of August 10, 2010, by the following vote: 3-0-2-0: AYES: Crist, Marquez, Smith; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: Mann, Parris; ABSENT: None

CC 3. WARRANT REGISTER

Approved the Check and Wire Registers for July 25, 2010 through August 7, 2010 in the amount of \$5,001,254.01.

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CC 4. ORDINANCE NO. 950

Adopted **Ordinance No. 950**, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, California, modifying Section 17.40.210 of the Lancaster Municipal Code to establish requirements for the installation and operation of Digital Advertising Displays for off-premises advertising.

CC 5. PROJECT NO. 10-HNRD207

Awarded **Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Construction Project No. 10-HNRD207**, North Downtown Transit Village Neighborhood Improvement Project to MJS Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$224,000.00 (plus a 20% contingency) and authorized the City Manager, or his designee, to sign all documents.

CC 6. PROJECT NO. 10-HNRD208

Awarded **Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Construction Project No. 10-HNRD208**, Trend Neighborhood Improvement Project to Pacific Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$156,308.00 (plus a 10% contingency) and authorized the City Manager, or his designee, to sign all documents.

CC 7. RESOLUTION NO. 10-62 (New number: 10-66)

Addressing the City Council on this matter:

Ron Teidel – stated that the number of the resolution is incorrect as it has already been assigned to a previous resolution.

Staff will correct this and the number reassignment will be **Resolution No. 10-66**.

Ron Teidel – Requested a no vote on the grant; when he hears about sustainable communities he thinks about Agenda 21 and Agenda L-8. Both represent unprecedented government control; unsustainable regulations and spiraling costs and taxation. It may seem innocuous to apply for a grant but it is not a no-strings attached grant. He presented a brief overview of Agenda 21; grant money does not come without a hitch; this grant money will come from Proposition 84 which was passed in 2006. We were warned that this would be a slush fund with very limited oversight as to how it was spent. In any event, both resolutions put us in compliance with federal government and complicate our beholding to the state. He inquired as to the position of the City Council on Agenda 21; AB 32 and Proposition 23.

The City Manager stated that there are deadlines to submit grant applications; this particular deadline is August 31, 2010; grant money to do plans, is a little different than with respect to strings attached grants. The City can submit it; it does not mean the City must implement it. The City has done plans for North Downtown and several areas in the community and it can match the requirements and wishes of the community. If this is not approved today, the City will miss the opportunity to get this Planning grant.

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CC 7. RESOLUTION NO. 10-62 (continued)

Mayor Parris stated that he does not want to miss the opportunity to apply for this grant.

The City Manager stated that he would be happy to meet with Mr. Teidel and report back with his individual concerns.

Vice Mayor Smith stated that if the City does apply for the grant and receives the award, this does not mean the City has to accept it.

Mayor Parris agreed to this possibility and directed the City Manager to schedule a meeting with Mr. Teidel.

On a motion by Vice Mayor Smith and seconded by Council Member Marquez, the City Council adopted **Resolution No. 10-66**, authorizing the City Manager to apply for a Sustainable Communities Planning Grant from the State of California, Strategic Growth Council for the Yucca District Specific Plan, and authorizing the City Manager or his designee to execute all documents relative to the grant, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0: AYES: Crist, Mann, Marquez, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

CC 8. 2010 L.A. COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN

Endorsed the 2010 Los Angeles County Strategic Plan for Economic Development and authorized the City Manager or his designee to execute the document.

CC 9. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR JAG

Approved allocation of funds for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG).

NB 1. AMENDMENT TO SECTION 10.04.020 OF THE LANCASTER MUNICIPAL CODE TO ESTABLISH SPEED LIMITS ALONG LANCASTER BOULEVARD BETWEEN 10TH STREET WEST AND YUCCA AVENUE

It was the consensus of the City Council to waive the presentation on this matter.

On a motion by Vice Mayor Smith and seconded by Council Member Mann, the City Council introduced **Ordinance No. 951**, establishing speed limits on Lancaster Boulevard between 10th Street West and Yucca Avenue, based upon the Engineering and Traffic Survey Report dated August 10, 2010, and amending Section 10.04.020, Subparagraph D of the Lancaster Municipal Code, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0: AYES: Crist, Mann, Marquez, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

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NB 2. JOINT APPLICATIONS WITH THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AND THE CITY OF PALMDALE FOR STATE ENTERPRISE ZONE DESIGNATION

It was the consensus of the City Council to waive the presentation on this matter.

On a motion by Vice Mayor Smith and seconded by Council Member Crist, the City Council adopted **Resolution No. 10-63**, authorizing the submittal of an application by the City of Lancaster, whereby the City of Palmdale and the County of Los Angeles are co-applicants, to the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development for State Enterprise Zone designation and authorized the City Manager or his designee to execute all documents related thereto, by the following vote:

5-0-0-0: AYES: Crist, Mann, Marquez, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

NB 3. CO-NAMING LANCASTER BOULEVARD AS THE BLVD BETWEEN SIERRA HIGHWAY AND 10TH STREET WEST AND ELM STREET AS EHRlich AVENUE BETWEEN KETTERING STREET AND MILLING STREET IN DOWNTOWN LANCASTER

The Economic Development Director presented the staff report on this matter; presented a brief slide presentation of accomplishments by Scott Ehrlich beginning with Arbor Courts which used to be the old Essex House; Arbor Lofts; Brooklyn Deli; BeX/Roshambo Lounge.

Scott Ehrlich – Stated that \$31,767,634.00 has been spent to date, over the last three years employing predominantly local people within a half-mile range of where City Hall is. That is 400-500 people that have been employed in construction. \$224,000 is the monthly payroll for permanent jobs – this is in addition to the construction jobs. In a very short period of time the projects will generate over \$1 million in new sales tax for the City.

He stated that thirteen local mom and pop businesses have been micro-financed; these are local people who had a dream to become entrepreneurs. He listed several new businesses that will be coming to the area or are already here, such as: Brooklyn Deli; Chow-Bella (high-end dog grooming); Five & Dime Candy (old fashion candy store); Zzyzx (novelty store); Hotties Donuts; XOgurt (yogurt store); Bandstand Coffee; MGS Custom Bike Apparel; KiKis Boutique; Simply Spoiled; Simmonitti's; Underground Bowl and BeX.

He stated that this had everything to do with the partnership with the City and he could not have gone to any other city and achieved what has been achieved here. Without the vision of this City Council none of this would have happened and what is being done is absolutely amazing. The gift that is being given to him he bestows upon his father and to have a street named after his father is a gift of immortality and he thanked the City.

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NB 3. CO-NAMING LANCASTER BOULEVARD AS THE BLVD BETWEEN SIERRA HIGHWAY AND 10TH STREET WEST AND ELM STREET AS EHRLICH AVENUE BETWEEN KETTERING STREET AND MILLING STREET IN DOWNTOWN LANCASTER (continued)

Mayor Parris stated that a lot of people do a lot of things for the valley but he doesn't know anyone who has created so much for the valley. This is raw creation and it doesn't undermine what so many others have done but there is a special place in our heart for Mr. Ehrlich. Mr. Ehrlich is clearly the most creative person he has ever had the pleasure of meeting and the City is honored to have him here.

Vice Mayor Smith stated that where the City is actually naming this, besides THE BLVD, this is ground zero where there is this explosion of creativity that is envisioned and it is more than a risk. There were ideas, and things were started but government cannot do it all, it takes that independent entrepreneur to take that risk and make change. There isn't anyone who doesn't feel and see the change that is taking place for the positive.

Council Member Marquez stated that ever since she has known Mr. Ehrlich and observed what he has done, it is clear that he puts his heart and soul into everything and she really appreciates it.

Council Member Crist inquired as to whether the City had a process for naming.

The City Manager stated that the Council adopted a naming policy in 2007 that goes more towards parks facilities and as with any Council policy, it is a guideline but Council makes the ultimate rules.

Council Member Crist stated that Mr. Ehrlich has done an absolutely wonderful job and he would be glad to support calling it Ehrlich Blvd.

On a motion by Council Member Crist and seconded by Vice Mayor Smith, the City Council adopted the following resolutions, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0: AYES: Crist, Mann, Marquez, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

- A. Resolution No. 10-64**, declaring that portion of Lancaster Blvd between Sierra Hwy and 10th Street West be co-named THE BLVD.
- B. Resolution No. 10-65**, declaring that portion of Elm Avenue between Kettering Street and Milling Street be co-named Ehrlich Avenue.

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**NB 4. AUTHORIZATION TO INVITE THE CITY OF HUAINAN, CHINA TO
BECOME A SISTER CITY TO THE CITY OF LANCASTER**

The Economic Development Director presented the staff report on this matter.

On a motion by Vice Mayor Smith and seconded by Council Member Mann, the City Council authorized the invitation to the City of Huainan, China to become a Sister City and authorized Mayor R. Rex Parris to execute all appropriate documents designating this relationship, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0: AYES: Crist, Mann, Marquez, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

**CA1. NOMINATIONS TO THE LANCASTER MUSEUM/ART GALLERY
ASSOCIATES**

Mayor Parris stated that the Lancaster Museum and Art Gallery Foundation has changed their bylaws to be in line with the LPAC Foundation. As such, it is incumbent upon the Mayor to nominate and appoint people who have expressed an interest in being on this board. He encouraged the City Council and citizens to submit any names to him before the next Council Meeting. At the next meeting he will consider nominating: Ralph Bozigian; Ingrid Chapman; Ed Cox; Marilyn Dalrymple; Sue Dell; Yvette Emard; Al Hoffman; Ramon Ramirez; Bridget Razo; Robert Regalado; Michelle Shaver.

**CA 2. CONSIDER NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF SANDRA PURSLEY
TO THE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN PLANNING COMMISSION**

Mayor Parris requested consideration of Sandra Pursley to the Architectural Design Planning Commission.

On a motion by Council Member Mann and seconded by Vice Mayor Smith, the City Council approved the nomination and appointment of Sandra Pursley to the Architectural Design Planning Commission, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0: AYES: Crist, Mann, Marquez, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

At this time the City Clerk administered the oath of office to Ms. Pursley.

CITY MANAGER'S / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The City Manager commended staff and the Chamber of Commerce for putting on an excellent parade. There were some challenges in the early planning stages but it was probably one of the most enjoyable parades he had ever attended.

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CITY MANAGER'S / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT (continued)

The City Manager stated that on behalf of staff, action taken by Council this evening was truly appreciated; there isn't a person more worthy of having a street named after him than Mr. Ehrlich and working with Mr. Ehrlich has been a joy. There are times when we should listen to the naysayers because you can then tell that you are doing the right thing. There are different stages that naysayers go through. A lot of naysayers start with: well, it will never get done. Then they go to: well, it is getting done but why are we doing it? The third stage is: yes it's nice but it's too expensive. The fourth stage is: well, there is not enough parking. And at some point, stage five will be: well, it was my idea all along. Mr. Ehrlich does not define himself by naysayers, he is a visionary, and it is a pleasure to work with him.

CITY CLERK / AGENCY / AUTHORITY SECRETARY ANNOUNCEMENT

The City Clerk provided the public with the procedure to address the City Council/Redevelopment Agency regarding non-agendized items.

PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR - NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

Addressing the City Council at this time:

David Paul – stated that it is a pleasure to be at the meeting; discussed the issue of outside contractors; Lancaster is trying to do something and they will at least go down fighting.

Roy Ramirez – stated that he is against action taken by the City Council on July 13, 2010 to adopt Resolution No. 10-54. It is Anti-American; Anti-Hispanic; gave a brief history of immigration in this country.

Kimiko Ford-Chambers – discussed two properties in her neighborhood that are an eyesore; owned by the Redevelopment Agency; would like to have the City consider having these buildings used for a program she is offering which is called the Leadership, Education and Recreation Network (L.E.A.R.N.) These two facilities would be a perfect place for the group and it would be an asset to the community.

Mayor Parris suggested that Ms. Ford-Chambers get the most credentialed people in her group; he will meet with them and take a look at what they want to do.

Reverend Hilde Brooks, representing the Antelope Valley Interfaith Council invited the City Council to attend the 9/11 Memorial and Unity Service on September 11, 2010 at First Church of Christ from 6-7 p.m.

Jonathon Ervin – stated that as a Charter City, the City Council should consider Campaign Finance Reform and presented documentation with his ideas.

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COUNCIL REPORTS

None

COUNCIL / AGENCY COMMENTS

Council Member Crist stated that there would be a moment of silence on August 30, 2010 at 4:43 p.m. in memory of the two firefighters (Ted Hall and Arnie Quinones) who lost their lives in the Station Fire.

LANCASTER FINANCING AUTHORITY

No action required at this time.

CLOSED SESSION

RECESS Mayor Parris recessed the City Council meeting at 6:20 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a Closed Session regarding the following matter:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION
(Government Code Sect 54956.9(a))
Palmdale et al v. Lancaster et al, BC443280

RECONVENE Mayor Parris reconvened the City Council meeting at 6:29 p.m.

CITY ATTORNEY ANNOUNCEMENT

The City Attorney stated that the City Council met under the aforementioned matter and gave direction to legal counsel.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Parris adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and announced that the next meeting of the City Council/Redevelopment Agency/Financing Authority would take place on Tuesday, September 14, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

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PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this _____day of _____, 2010, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

GERI K. BRYAN, CMC
CITY CLERK/AGENCY/
AUTHORITY SECRETARY
Lancaster, CA

R. REX PARRIS
MAYOR/CHAIRMAN
Lancaster, CA

**CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES
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I, _____, _____ of the City of Lancaster, CA, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the original City Council/Redevelopment Agency/Financing Authority minutes, for which the original is on file in my office.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, CA on this _____ day of _____, _____.

(seal)
