

**LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
AMENDED MINUTES
November 13, 2007**

CALL TO ORDER	Mayor Hearn called the regular meeting of the City Council to order at 6:02 p.m.
ROLL CALL	<p>Present: Council Members: Jeffra, Sileo, Smith, Vice Mayor Visokey, Mayor Hearn</p> <p>Absent: None</p> <p>Staff Members: City Manager, Assistant City Manager, Interim Assistant City Manager, City Attorney, Deputy City Clerk, City Clerk, Planning Director, Public Works Director, Parks, Recreation & Arts Director, Finance Director, Economic Development Director, Housing Director, Human Resources Director</p>
AGENDA ITEMS TO BE REMOVED	<p>None</p> <p>Mayor/Chairman Hearn requested that the Closed Session matter regarding: Government Code Section 54957 – Evaluation of City Manager/Contract be considered at this time.</p> <p>The City Manager requested that the Closed Session take place now rather than at the end of the meeting due to the fact that his attorney would only be available until 7:00 p.m. via speaker phone.</p> <p>Several citizens submitted speaker cards regarding this matter and out of respect for the City Manager, agreed to hold their comments until Council reconvened in open session. One citizen requested to be heard at this time.</p> <p>Addressing the Council on this matter:</p> <p>Darlene Peterson – Stated that she has watched the City Council since 1977 and is not happy with what is transpiring; pleased with the turnout at the meeting; spoke regarding the notice of intent to recall Council Member Smith.</p>

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RECESS	<p>Mayor/Chairman Hearn's recessed the Agency/Council meeting at 6:12 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a closed session regarding:</p> <p>1) Government Code Section: 54957 PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF CITY MANAGER/CONTRACT EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE</p>
RECONVENE	<p>Mayor/Chairman Hearn's reconvened the Agency/Council meeting at 7:41 p.m.</p>
STATEMENT BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/CITY MANAGER	<p>Robert LaSala stated that as most observers know, the past year has been one of great progress for the City of Lancaster and also a year of tension and difficulty. He has enjoyed the professional challenges of achieving ambitious goals set by the City Council but regrets the controversy and distraction that it has meant for the community. It is time to bring that distraction to an end and reluctantly decided that it is in the best interest of the community that he resigns his position as City Manager and allows the City Council and the community an opportunity for a fresh start. He stated that he is extremely proud of what has been accomplished during the past three years. These achievements transcend the efforts of any single individual; he has been honored to lead the City administration. He stated that he is pleased with helping to achieve the following: long term financial stability for the City including the development of a ten-year financial forecast; initiating strategic efforts with the City Council to develop long range plans for open space, economic development, transportation, capital improvements and strong neighborhoods; working with the City Council to position the City to address the suppression of crime in the community conditions that fostered criminal behavior, particularly among young people. Developing a more transparent and open administration with outreach to all segments of the community, leading to partnerships and alliances that will benefit the community for decades to come; working diligently with the City Council to foster a climate of economic prosperity and intelligent growth, resulting in the recent designation as the most business-friendly city in Los Angeles County, by the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. He stated that there have been some disappointments as well, tensions that resulted in putting Council Members at odds with one another and with the City Manager. He stated that he has tried diligently and professionally to work with the City Council but has not been able to heal the breach. He stated that he has become increasingly uncomfortable being the subject of political debate, both within the Council and the community. He stated that it has become increasingly clear that this controversy was hurting the community and his continued presence could be partially responsible for its continuation. He stated that he has negotiated satisfactory terms for the separation of his position as City Manager. He expressed his appreciation to the staff of the City of Lancaster, the City Council and those in the community who have worked hard to make the past three years a success. He stated that he would always be grateful for the support he has received.</p>

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CITY ATTORNEY ANNOUNCEMENT	<p>The City Attorney stated that as part of the Closed Session discussion, the Council did approve the separation agreement and mutual general releases. The agreement provides for the payment of the benefits Mr. LaSala is entitled to in his contract. There were some amendments made to the draft separation agreement that were presented in Closed Session and specifically, those changes were: In addition to agreeing to the terms of the statement that the City Manager made, there is an addition of one category of benefits to cover his continued membership in national and state organizations and his attendance at meetings during the severance period. Another change in the agreement is to make a cash payment to the Retiree Health Services (RHS) account on his behalf, subject to verification that it meets the requirements of the Internal Revenue Service and the provider of the health services account. He stated that a draft of the agreement will be available on the 14th of November, once the amendments are changed. He anticipated that the agreement would be signed on November 14, 2007 by all parties, with respect to the change that requires verification; this will be done in a timely manner and make a determination, whether or not that is a permissible deposit that can be made.</p>
COUNCIL COMMENTS	<p>Council Member Sileo inquired as to whether there would be a public vote regarding this matter.</p> <p>The City Attorney stated that if Council would like to take a public vote as to whether of not to accept the City Manager's resignation, they could do so, however it is not required.</p> <p>Council Member Sileo made a motion to have a public vote.</p> <p>The City Attorney stated that the motion should be subject to the terms of the separation agreement. He stated that one of the requirements of the Closed Session is to report out the vote. It would be appropriate to take a vote on the motion that was made.</p> <p>Vice Mayor Visokey asked if it was appropriate to ask the City Manager if the Council accepts the resignation.</p> <p>The City Attorney stated that this has already been determined subject to the terms of the separation agreement.</p> <p>Council Member Jeffra inquired as to whether they were talking about the individual points.</p> <p>The City Attorney stated that it was not about the individual points; it is about accepting the terms and conditions of the of the separation agreement that was reported out.</p>

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The City Attorney stated that the motion is: Should the City Council accept the resignation of the City Manager subject to the terms and conditions of the separation agreement.

Council Member Sileo stated that to his knowledge, that vote has not been taken.

Mayor Hearn offered a motion to accept the City Manager's resignation subject to the terms and conditions of the separation agreement.

Vice Mayor Visokey clarified the motion.

Council Member Smith seconded the motion.

Council Member Jeffra asked the City Manager, based on everything that has gone on, is it his intention to resign.

The City Manager confirmed that this was his intention.

Council Member Jeffra stated that the terms and conditions are done; therefore this vote would basically be personal.

Vice Mayor Visokey understood that the vote was to be about what has transpired over the last few days and last few meetings regarding this matter. This is not an endorsement or a non-endorsement for the City Manager. This vote is to approve what has taken place at those meetings.

The City Attorney stated that this is to approve the City Manager's resignation subject to the terms and conditions of the separation agreement. It is a relatively straight forward vote.

Vice Mayor Visokey stated that he understands but the issue of a personal vote was brought up and this is not a personal vote. He stated that if this was a personal vote he would vote differently than he would on the resignation/terms and conditions.

Council Member Smith clarified that the motion is: Does the City Council accept the City Manager's resignation subject to the terms and conditions of the separation agreement.

Council Member Sileo reviewed the past year; joint meeting with the Planning Commission and that it was the pinnacle of bringing the community together and moving forward, involving them in the local political process so they could have a say and thought they had a say.

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Mayor Hearn stated that the City Manager has offered his resignation.

Council Member Sileo stated that he is exercising his first amendment political speech.

Council Member Smith stated that if Council was going to discuss the merits of that last meeting and all the other issues that Council Member Sileo wants to talk about, it is dilitorius and does not have anything to do with this particular motion. It is rhetoric and if he would like to place this matter at the end of the agenda under Council Comments or place it on another agenda and bring back the drawings and the issues, then it can be discussed. This is political rhetoric only and if Council Member Sileo wants to keep his first amendment rights he can go to the newspaper; have a press conference or save it for Council Comments. Council Member Smith made a motion to call for the question and have the vote taken.

Council Member Sileo requested that he be allowed to make his comments. He stated that he was simply speaking about the rationale behind how he was going to vote.

Council Member Smith withdrew his motion to call for the question.

Council Member Sileo that at the meeting from a year ago, at that time, it was perceived, at least publicly, that things were not straight up or not being reported correctly by the newspaper and this was unfortunate. This was the beginning of the end and in his opinion: this Council did not know how to present themselves to the press and he believed that Council expected the City Manager to cover this for them and the City Manager expected the Council to already know how to handle this. This set in motion feelings and emotions that were never dealt with and never settled. This was the genesis for how Council got to where they are this evening. This needs to be looked at when another City Manager comes on board – that is another issue. A couple of months after that meeting, the City Manager was evaluated in Closed Session and things were put in his review that he disagreed with. The majority of the Council chose to have another review of him, six months later and three months later – another review which Mr. LaSala chose to take out to the public because he did not feel he had anything to hide. At that time, Council should have brought forward their problems with the City Manager. Personnel sessions are private to protect the employee not the Council. It is not proper for Council to say things in closed session that they are not willing to say in open session. Additional reviews were placed on the agenda and in July it was placed on the agenda and removed. There has not been a public statement as to why that was pulled off of the agenda.

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Council Member Sileo stated that he was told that Council was going to tell Mr. LaSala what a good job he was doing, but he has difficulty believing that this evening. When he looks at the history of the events, comments were made by active people and influential people of the community and they stated that they would do everything they could to get the City Manager fired. When there are letters to the editor stating that the City Council should resign or they should fire the City Manager, he has a problem with this, when a week later his contract is on the agenda for review and the City Manager has done nothing wrong. There are allegations that the City does not move fast enough in economic development, yet the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation disagrees. He has heard that the City Manager does not communicate enough and the community at large would disagree. This City Manager reached out to the community and communicated more than any other City Manager in the history of Lancaster. This City Council did not communicate with this City Manager and if this Council as a whole or individual City Council Members had expectations of the City Manager, they should have brought those to him personally or brought them up in his review both public and private. The City Manager chose to make it public for accountability purposes, so that if there is a disconnect between one person's reasoning and another, everyone would see it and everyone could decide and make up their own mind. He stated that he is disgusted and he used to be proud to be a part of the City Council but not anymore and he is not proud to be a part of this government and what has transpired over the last nine months.

Vice Mayor Visokey stated that the majority of the Council did not put the City Manager's review on the agenda for April. That was put on in April, much to his dismay. For clarification, when the matter was placed on the agenda in July, that was for his benefit but it was to go over individual portions and give him a written evaluation so that the City Manager would have a working document, it had nothing to do with determining employment. He stated that he asked for it to be placed on the agenda but he did not ask for it to come off of the agenda. He stated that he agrees with Council Member Sileo that Council should be willing to say what happens behind closed doors, when it comes to personnel issues, he doesn't believe a personnel issue can ever be solved by having a public debate and that is why personnel issues are done in closed session. It is counterproductive to have a public debate on personnel issues. He is very disappointed in how the Council has behaved and acted over the last several months and believes there could have been discussions to work through the issues, but when members of Council rely on reporting to the press what happens in closed session, that is counterproductive and is not good government. He stated that he and the City Manager have continuously had private discussions and gone over different issues and he has done this on a regular basis.

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Vice Mayor Visokey stated that Council Member Sileo is making it sound like there are three votes to get rid of the City Manager and his hands are tied as to how much he can say. There is more to this than what is being seen on the dais – it is all very, very political. He stated that he has kept his integrity by not discussing personnel issues in the public – it is inappropriate to do this.

Mayor Hearn stated that less than one hour ago Council agreed, and Mr. LaSala asked the Council to be reasonable and not assassinate anyone.

Council Member Jeffra stated that Council is trying to deal with a legal issue and they do not want to violate it. This is the worst time he has ever seen in the City's history regarding Council/Manager relationships. Everyone can speculate; but the bottom line is simple, it does not do any good to debate this issue. He requested that Council call for the vote. The vote will be an opinion of the Council on whether they want the City Manager to leave.

Vice Mayor Visokey disagreed that Council is not voting on their opinion.

Mayor Hearn stated that Mr. LaSala read his statement and offered his resignation and prior to this, Council agreed to leave the private matters alone and leave them private.

Council Member Smith suggested that if Council Member Jeffra wants to take a vote of confidence and then make a motion first because there is a motion already on the table. The discussion is out of control; there are rules of order that are not being followed and not being enforced. There are ways of conducting business and it is not being done.

Vice Mayor Visokey stated that he would not participate in that vote; he would only participate in the motion that is currently on the table.

On a motion by Mayor Hearn and seconded by Council Member Smith, the City Council accepted the resignation of the City Manager, subject to the terms and conditions of the separation agreement, by the following vote:

3-2-0-0; AYES: Smith, Visokey, Hearn; NOES: Jeffra, Sileo; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Hearn stated that he has given almost eighteen years of his life to local city government willingly and brought the knowledge he had and he was voted in, in 1990. He stated that when a man has been as respectful as Mr. LaSala and read his resignation, sat through this entire discussion including closed session, the citizens need to be respectful as well. Mayor Hearn reviewed the different dates that Council met regarding this issue.

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<p>COUNCIL COMMENTS (continued)</p>	<p>Mayor Hearn further reviewed the process as presented from the City Council to the City Manager. The process was not working and there was a mix within the Council/Manager relationship that was not working.</p>
	<p>The City Attorney reminded the Mayor about the agreement made in closed session regarding public comments.</p>
	<p>Council Member Smith requested a brief recess to discuss this matter with the City Attorney.</p>
<p>RECESS</p>	<p>The Mayor called for a brief recess at 8:23 p.m.</p>
<p>RECONVENE</p>	<p>The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 8:26 p.m.</p>
	<p>Mayor Hearn requested that the public allow the Council to have their discussion and then public comment will be taken.</p>
	<p>Mayor Hearn stated that he was appalled at the behavior from the business and church leaders in the Chambers. He requested that everyone respect each other and respect the process.</p>
<p>PUBLIC COMMENTS</p>	<p>Addressing the Council on this matter:</p>
	<p>David Paul – Public is confused as to why the City Manager is leaving; he stated that he loves the community and wants everyone to get along; issues have not been managed well.</p>
	<p>Glenda Hartis – City Manager has done extremely well in and for the community.</p>
	<p>Lynn Harrison – Requested clarification about the administrative leave for Mr. LaSala; concerns regarding the hiring of a new City Manager.</p>
	<p>David Abber – Council Members should resign; disappointed in decision to have Mr. LaSala resign.</p>
	<p>Steve Malicott, representing the Antelope Valley Chamber of Commerce – The Chamber of Commerce will continue to support the City; believes Mr. LaSala has done great things for the City; hopes the City can move forward and continue to be a business-friendly City.</p>
	<p>Robert Yapp – Defended actions of the Council; referred to brief background/history of Mr. LaSala’s employment with Sunnyvale; citizens should not be so quick to judge.</p>

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Betty Miller – Appreciates the hard work of Council Member Jeffra and the City Manager; appreciates the improvements in her neighborhood; there has been a decrease in crime; thanked Mr. LaSala for his efforts.

Michael Wilson – City has been recreated; more involvement from the community; unfortunate that the City must pay for the exit agreement as well as a new City Manager.

Karen Wilson – Thanked the City Manager for his resignation speech; respects Council confidentiality, as it is a personnel matter; thanked Council for having so much patience with the citizens.

Arnie Rodio – Does not understand the actions of the Council; public is not fooled by the actions of the Council regarding a severance package.

PRESENTATIONS

- Presentation by eSolar – Given by Robert Rogan, Vice President of eSolar. Presentation included discussion regarding Utility-Scale Solar Power; gave a brief background; discussed solar thermal power systems; proposed site – 60th Street West and Avenue F; showcase for renewable energy project; creates jobs; millions of dollars in local spending; no air quality impact; fully funded; brief explanation of process.
- The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada’s Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the City of Lancaster’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report – presented by Barbara Boswell, Finance Director.
- Mayor Hearn stated that November 14, 2007 is World Diabetes Day and Council supported the UN Proclamation; a serious disease that has no cure; costs estimated at \$132 billion annually; importance of increasing public awareness of the risk factors and symptoms.

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<p>REQUEST BY COUNCIL MEMBER</p>	<p>Council Member Smith requested that item number NB 5 be continued to the Council meeting of December 11, 2007.</p>
<p>APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR</p>	<p>Council Member Smith requested that Council consider placing an emergency item on the agenda due to the actions taken this evening regarding Mr. LaSala (see Redevelopment Agency minutes), and appoint an Interim City Manager.</p> <p>The City Attorney stated that this is a matter that had arisen since the posting of the agenda and would require a 4/5 vote of the Council.</p> <p>On a motion by Council Member Smith and seconded by Mayor Hearn, the City Council approved placing an emergency item on the agenda, entitled NB 6, regarding the appointment of an Interim City Manager, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Jeffra, Sileo, Smith, Visokey, Hearn; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None</p>
<p>APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR</p>	<p>On a motion by Vice Mayor Visokey and seconded by Council Member Jeffra, the City Council approved the Consent Calendar with the exception of CC 2D, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Jeffra, Sileo, Smith, Visokey, Hearn; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None</p>
<p>CC 1. ORDINANCE WAIVER</p>	<p>Waived further reading of any proposed ordinances. (This permits reading the title only in lieu of reciting the entire text.)</p>
<p>CC 2. MINUTES</p>	<p>A) Approved the Special meeting minutes of October 23, 2007.</p> <p>B) Approved the Regular meeting minutes of October 23, 2007.</p> <p>C) Approved the Special meeting minutes of October 29, 2007.</p>
<p>CC 3. CHECK AND WIRE REGISTERS</p>	<p>CC 2D was pulled at the request of a speaker from the audience, however he declined to speak. Therefore, on a motion by Council Member Smith and seconded by Council Member Jeffra, the City Council approved CC 2D by the following vote: 4-1-0-0; AYES: Jeffra, Smith, Visokey, Hearn; NOES: Sileo; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None</p>
<p>CC 4. MONTHLY REPORT OF INVESTMENTS</p>	<p>Approved the Check and Wire Registers (October 7, 2007 through October 27, 2007) in the amount of \$5,361,722.12.</p>
<p>CC 4. MONTHLY REPORT OF INVESTMENTS</p>	<p>Accepted and approved the September 30, 2007 Monthly Report of Investments as submitted.</p>

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<p>CC 5. RESO. NOS. 07-189; 07-190; 07-191; 07-192; 07-193; 07-194; 07-195 ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTIONS FOR APRIL 8, 2008 ELECTION PROCESS</p>	<p>A) Adopted Resolution No. 07-189, calling and giving notice of the holding of a General Municipal election to be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2008, for the election of certain officers as required by the provisions of the laws of the State of California relating to general law cities.</p> <p>B) Adopted Resolution No. 07-190, requesting the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles to render specified services to the City related to the conduct of a General Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2008.</p> <p>C) Adopted Resolution No. 07-191, adopting regulations for candidates for elective office, pertaining to filing fees and candidate statements submitted to the voters at an election to be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2008.</p> <p>D) Adopted Resolution No. 07-192, providing for the conduct of a special runoff election for elective offices in the event of a tie vote at the General Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2008.</p>
<p>CC 5. RESO. NOS. 07-189; 07-190; 07-191; 07-192; 07-193; 07-194; 07-195 ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTIONS FOR APRIL 8, 2008 ELECTION PROCESS</p>	<p>E) Adopted Resolution No. 07-193, ordering the submission of an “Advisory Measure” to the qualified electors of the City, relating to the General Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2008 as called for in Resolution No. 07-189.</p> <p>F) Adopted Resolution No. 07-194, setting priorities for filing written arguments regarding the City “Advisory Measures” and directing the City Attorney to prepare an impartial analysis.</p> <p>G) Adopted Resolution No. 07-195, providing for the filing of rebuttal arguments for City Measures submitted at Municipal Elections.</p>
<p>CC 6. CANCELLATION OF APRIL 8, 2008 COUNCIL MEETING</p>	<p>Approved the cancellation of the April 8, 2008 regular City Council meeting and direct the City Clerk to post a Notice of Adjournment for the meeting.</p>
<p>CC 7. ORD. NO. 889 REGULATIONS OF SPECIAL EVENTS</p>	<p>Adopted Ordinance No. 889, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, California, adding chapter 9.40 to Title 9 of the Lancaster Municipal Code to regulate special events.</p>

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<p>CC 8. ACCEPTANCE OF WORK FOR DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS TRACT NO. 54275</p>	<p>Approved and accepted for maintenance the work and materials for the drainage improvements for Drainage Maintenance District Annexation No. 03-62, installed for Tract No. 54275, located on the southeast corner of Avenue J-8 and 65th Street West, Owner: Standard Pacific Corporation.</p>
<p>CC 9. ACCEPTANCE OF INTERIOR STREET TREES FOR MAINTENANCE TRACT NO. 060948</p>	<p>Accepted the interior street trees for maintenance by the City for Tract No. 060948, located on the northeast corner of Avenue I and 5th Street East, Owner: Avalon Meadows, LLC.</p>
<p>CC 10. ACCEPTANCE OF WORK FOR LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS TRACT NOS. 061033; 061064; 061225; 061342; 061538</p>	<p>Approved and accepted for maintenance the work and materials for the landscape improvements for Landscape Maintenance District No. 1, Annexation Nos. 316, 307, 331, 317, and 315, installed for Tract No. 061033, located on the southwest corner of 30th Street West and Avenue M, Owner: Pinnacle Quartz Hill I, Inc., Tract No. 061064, located on the northeast corner of Avenue K and 30th Street East, Owner: Western Pacific Housing, Tract No. 061225, located on the southeast corner of Lancaster Boulevard and 30th Street East, Owner: KB Home Greater Los Angeles, Inc., Tract No. 061342, located on the southeast corner of 45th Street West and Avenue M-12, Owner: Pinnacle Quartz Hill I, Inc., and Tract No. 061538, located on the southwest corner of 35th Street West and Avenue L-4, Owner: Pinnacle Quartz Hill I, Inc.</p>
<p>CC 11. ACCEPTANCE OF STREETS FOR MAINTENANCE TRACT NOS. 54197-01; 54275; 060948; PARCEL MAP NO. 60557</p>	<p>Approved the developer constructed streets and accepted the streets for maintenance by the City for Tract No. 54197-01, located on the southwest corner of 47th Street West and Avenue J, Owner: LCP Providence Ranch, LLC, Tract No. 54275, located on the southeast corner of Avenue J-8 and 65th Street West, Owner: Standard Pacific Corporation, Parcel Map No. 60557, located on the west side of 60th Street West approximately 660 feet south of Avenue K, Owner: STG Northwood, LLC, and Tract No. 060948, located on the northeast corner of Avenue I and 5th Street East, Owner: Avalon Meadows, LLC.</p>
<p>CC 12. ACCEPTANCE OF MAP AND DEDICATIONS TRACT NO. 060241</p>	<p>Approved the map and accepted the dedications as offered on the map for Tract No. 060241, located on the southwest corner of 30th Street West and Jackman Street; approved and accepted the Undertaking Agreement and Improvement Securities required as a condition of recordation of the map; made findings that this project will not violate any of the provisions of Sections 66473.5, 66474.1, and 66474.6 of the Subdivision Map Act; instructed the City Clerk to endorse on the face of the map the certificate which embodies the approval of said map and the dedications shown thereon.</p>

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<p>CC 13. ACCEPTANCE OF MAP AND DEDICATIONS PARCEL NO. 063169</p>	<p>Approved the map and accepted the dedications as offered on the map for Parcel No. 063169, located on the east side of 20th Street West and North of Avenue J-12; approved and accepted the Undertaking Agreement and Improvement Securities required as a condition of recordation of the map; made findings that this project will not violate any of the provisions of Sections 66473.5, 66474.1, and 66474.6 of the Subdivision Map Act; instructed the City Clerk to endorse on the face of the map the certificate which embodies the approval of said map and the dedications shown thereon.</p>
<p>CC 14. ACCEPTANCE OF WORK BY GPM SEALRITE, INC. FOR PWCP NO. 05-034</p>	<p>Accepted the work constructed by GPM Sealrite, Inc. for Public Works Construction Project No. 05-034, Avenue G Widening, 45th to 50th Street West; directed the City Clerk to file the Notice of Completion for the project; authorized payment of the 10 percent retention 35 days after recordation, provided no stop notices, as provided by law, have been filed.</p>
<p>CC 15. ACCEPTANCE OF WORK BY BOWE CONTRACTORS, INC. FOR PWCP NO. 06-028</p>	<p>Accepted the work constructed by Bowe Contractors, Inc. for Public Works Construction Project No. 06-028, Brierwood Mobilehome Park Improvements – Swimming Pool Repair & Clubhouse Roof Renovation; directed the City Clerk to file the Notice of Completion for the project; authorized payment of the 10 percent retention 35 days after recordation, provided no stop notices, as provided by law, have been filed.</p>
<p>CC 16. ACCEPTANCE OF WORK BY BOWE CONTRACTORS, INC. FOR PWCP NO. 07-036</p>	<p>Accepted the work constructed by Bowe Contractors, Inc. for Public Works Construction Project No. 07-036, Remodel of Lancaster University Center – Lab/Classrooms; directed the City Clerk to file the Notice of Completion for the project; authorized payment of the 10 percent retention 35 days after recordation, provided no stop notices, as provided by law, have been filed.</p>
<p>CC 17. JOINT USE AGREEMENT WITH SCE FOR TRACT NO. 060987</p>	<p>Approved the Joint Use Agreement with the Southern California Edison Company (SCE) for Tract No. 060987, located at the southwest corner of Avenue J and 52nd Street West, to provide for the relocation of existing SCE facilities necessitated by the proposed widening of Avenue J.</p>
<p>CC 18. JOINT USE AGREEMENT WITH SCE FOR TRACT NO. 061680</p>	<p>Approved the Joint Use Agreement with the Southern California Edison Company (SCE) for Tract No. 061680, located at the southwest corner of Avenue K and 60th Street West, to provide for the relocation of existing SCE facilities necessitated by the proposed widening of Avenue K and 60th Street West.</p>

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<p>CC 19. CITY/COUNTY MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR DRAINAGE STRUCTURES</p>	<p>Approved the City-County Maintenance Agreement for the maintenance of drainage structures along the west side of 45th Street West, between Quartz Hill Road and Avenue M-4.</p>
<p>CC 20. AWARD OF BID NO. 521-08 TO PECK ROAD TRUCK CENTER</p>	<p>Awarded Bid No. 521-08 - 3850-4000 Gallon 6-Wheel Drive Water Truck to Peck Road Truck Center in the amount of \$159,583.00 and authorized appropriation of an additional \$14,583.00 from the Capital Replacement Fund to cover the budget shortfall.</p>
<p>CC 21. AWARD OF BID NO. 522-08 TO TRANS-WEST TRUCK CENTER</p>	<p>Awarded Bid No. 522-08 - 58,000 GVW Conventional Cab Truck with Dump Body to Trans-West Truck Center in the amount of \$121,377.66 and authorize appropriation of an additional \$11,377.66 from the Capital Replacement Fund to cover the inclusion of Option A: Steerable Push Axle.</p>
<p>CC 22. REORGANIZATION OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT</p>	<p>Approved the proposed reorganization of the Public Works Department from five to eight divisions.</p>
<p>CC 23. AGREEMENT WITH AV COLLEGE FOR USE OF LPAC</p>	<p>Approved the Agreement for use of the Performing Arts Center by the Antelope Valley College for the 2007-2008 Season.</p>

Proposed Annexations to Lancaster Drainage Benefit Assessment District

CC 24.
RESO. NOS.
07-196 AND 07-197
ANNEX. NOS.
07-35; 07-44
TO LDBAD

Annexation No. 07-35, Permit No. 07-00830, located at 45654 50th Street West. Owner: David E. Byrne and Leona Byrne, husband and wife as joint tenants.

Annexation No. 07-44, Permit No. 07-03073, located on the south side of Avenue M-8 approximately 990 feet east of 35th Street West. Owner: The Karen B. Adlhock Revocable Trust, u/d/t April 5, 2004.

A) Adopted **Resolution No. 07-196**, initiating proceedings for the annexation of territories to Lancaster Drainage Benefit Assessment District to be established pursuant to the Benefit Assessment Act of 1982 and California Constitution Article XIID (Annexation Nos. 07-35 and 07-44.)

B) Adopted **Resolution No. 07-197**, approving the Engineer's Report and the time and place for Public Hearing, and declaring its intention to annex territories into Lancaster Drainage Benefit Assessment District and to levy and collect assessments pursuant to the Benefit Assessment Act of 1982 and California Constitution Article XIID (Annexation Nos. 07-35 and 07-44.)

Proposed Annexations to Lancaster Lighting Maintenance District

CC 25.
RESO. NOS.
07-198 AND 07-199
ANNEX. NOS.
812; 822
TO LLMD

Annexation No. 812, Permit No. 07-00830, located at 45654 50th Street West. Owner: David E. Byrne and Leona Byrne, husband and wife as joint tenants.

Annexation No. 822, Permit No. 07-03073, located on the south side of Avenue M-8 approximately 990 feet east of 35th Street West. Owner: The Karen B. Adlhock Revocable Trust, u/d/t April 5, 2004.

A) Adopted **Resolution No. 07-198**, initiating proceedings for the annexation of territories into Lancaster Lighting Maintenance District, an Assessment district established pursuant to the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972 and California Constitution Article XIID (Annexation Nos. 812 and 822.)

B) Adopted **Resolution No. 07-199**, approving the Engineer's Report and the time and place for Public Hearing, and declaring its intention to annex territories into Lancaster Lighting Maintenance District and to levy and collect assessments pursuant to Part 2 of Division 15 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California and California Constitution Article XIID (Annexation Nos. 812 and 822.)

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (AMENDED)
NOVEMBER 13, 2007

<p>CPH 1. RESULTS OF LANCASTER LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 2 ELECTION</p>	<p>Mayor Hearn announced that the continued Public Hearing was open. The Public Works Director presented the staff report regarding the Lancaster Lighting Maintenance District No. 2 and announced the results of the Street Lighting Ballots. Approximately 49,428 ballots were sent out. Assessment Amount: <i>Yes</i> - \$496,301.34 (43%); <i>No</i> - \$662,248.35 (57%) Number of Ballots received: <i>Yes</i> - 4,988 (41%); <i>No</i> - 7,038 (59%)</p> <p>There being no further testimony, Mayor Hearn closed the Public Hearing. No further action is necessary as the vote was against the proposed district.</p>
<p>PH 2. RESO. NO. 07-200 CONFIRMING DIAGRAMS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR ANNEX. NOS. 07-35; 07-44 TO LDBAD</p>	<p>Mayor Hearn opened the Public Hearing. The Public Works Director presented the staff report regarding proposed annexations to the Lancaster Drainage Benefit Assessment District. There being no further testimony, Mayor Hearn closed the Public Hearing.</p> <p>On a motion by Council Member Jeffra and seconded by Mayor Hearn, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 07-200, confirming the diagrams and assessments and ordering the annexation of territories into Lancaster Drainage Benefit Assessment District and levy of assessment (Annexation Nos. 07-35 and 07-44), by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Jeffra, Sileo, Smith, Visokey, Hearn; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.</p>
<p>PH 3. RESO. NO. 07-201 CONFIRMING DIAGRAMS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR ANNEX. NOS. 812; 822 TO LLMD</p>	<p>Mayor Hearn opened the Public Hearing. The Public Works Director presented the staff report regarding proposed annexations to the Lancaster Lighting Maintenance District. There being no further testimony, Mayor Hearn closed the Public Hearing.</p> <p>On a motion by Council Member Jeffra and seconded by Mayor Hearn, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 07-201, confirming the diagrams and assessments and ordering the annexation of territories into Lancaster Lighting Maintenance District (Annexation Nos. 812 and 822), by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Jeffra, Sileo, Smith, Visokey, Hearn; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.</p>

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (AMENDED)
NOVEMBER 13, 2007

<p>NB 1. PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE AND CULTURAL MASTER PLAN</p>	<p>The Parks, Recreation and Arts Director presented the staff report regarding the Lancaster Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Cultural Master Plan. Consultants from MIG made an additional power point presentation. The presentation included: purpose of the Master Plan; what the plan will do – such as determining the future needs for parks, open space, recreation and cultural services; identify operation needs, such as program staff and maintenance; determine how to fund improvements; conform with General Plan; Integration with Citywide Planning; involvement of the community through the Poppy Festival, Community Advisory Committee, focus groups, telephone survey and from all of this, learned that commuters want close to home, informal recreation opportunities; health and fitness is a priority; residents want to feel safe in their parks. Discussed the fact that parks, recreation and arts are the heart of the City – helps to build the community. Presented the vision, values and goals of Parks, Recreation and Arts; presented policy highlights.</p> <p>On a motion by Council Member Sileo and seconded by Council Member Jeffra, the City Council approved the Lancaster Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Cultural Master Plan, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Jeffra, Sileo, Smith, Visokey, Hearn; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.</p>
<p>NB 2. EXTENSION OF TERM OF GROUND LEASE AGREEMENT WITH YMCA</p>	<p>The Parks, Recreation and Arts Director presented the staff report regarding the Extension of Section 1.4 (Term) of the ground lease agreement between the City of Lancaster and YMCA of Metropolitan Los Angeles.</p> <p>Council Member Sileo inquired that other than the start date for construction; all other deal points remain the same.</p> <p>The Parks, Recreation and Arts Director confirmed this.</p> <p>On a motion by Council Member Jeffra and seconded by Council Member Sileo, the City Council approved the extension of Section 1.4 (Term) of the ground lease agreement between the City of Lancaster and YMCA of Metropolitan Los Angeles for an initial period of three (3) years through December 10, 2008 for completion of plans and specifications and December 10, 2010 for completion of construction, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Jeffra, Sileo, Smith, Visokey, Hearn; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.</p>

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (AMENDED)
NOVEMBER 13, 2007

<p>NB 3. RESO. NO. 07-202 AND ORD. NO. 890 PERTAINING TO MODIFICATIONS OF THE 2007 CALIFORNIA BUILDING, ELECTRICAL AND PLUMBING CODES</p>	<p>The Public Works Director presented the findings for modifying the 2007 California Building, Electrical and Plumbing Codes.</p> <p>On a motion by Council Member Sileo and seconded by Council Member Jeffra, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 07-202, presenting findings for modifying the 2007 California Building, Electrical and Plumbing Codes which are reasonably necessary due to local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Jeffra, Sileo, Smith, Visokey, Hearn; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.</p> <p>On a motion by Council Member Sileo and seconded by Council Member Jeffra, the City Council introduced Ordinance No. 890, adopting the 2007 Edition of the California Building Code; the 2007 Edition of the California Electrical Code; the 2007 edition of the California Mechanical Code; the 2007 Edition of the California Plumbing Code; the 2007 Edition of the California Energy Code; the 2008 edition of the Los Angeles County Building Code, Chapter 67, the 2006 Edition of the International Property Maintenance Code; and the 2008 Edition of the Los Angeles County Fire Code all pertaining to life and safety and to the construction, alteration, moving demolition, repair, maintenance, and use of buildings, structures, and properties within the City, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Jeffra, Sileo, Smith, Visokey, Hearn; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.</p>
<p>NB 4. PARTNERSHIP WITH THE AV UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT AND CENTER FOR NEIGHBORHOOD ENTERPRISE</p>	<p>The Assistant City Manager presented the staff report regarding consideration of a Partnership with the Antelope Valley Union High School District (AVUHSD) and the Center For Neighborhood Enterprise (CNE) to implement, on a pilot basis, the CNE Violence Free Zone Initiative (VFZ) at a Public High School within the City. Captain Deeley also made some additional comments regarding this matter.</p> <p>Addressing the Council on this matter:</p> <p>Dixie Eliopoulos – Encouraged Council to approve this project; gave a brief background on CNE; importance of involving the non-profit organizations; importance of seeking grant funding.</p>

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (AMENDED)
NOVEMBER 13, 2007

<p>NB 4. PARTNERSHIP WITH THE AV UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT AND CENTER FOR NEIGHBORHOOD ENTERPRISE (continued)</p>	<p>On a motion by Mayor Hearn and seconded by Council Member Sileo, the City Council took the following action by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Jeffra, Sileo, Smith, Visokey, Hearn; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.</p> <p>1) Directed staff to negotiate with the Antelope Valley Union High School District (AVUHSD) and the Center for Neighborhood Enterprise (CNE) to implement, on a pilot basis, the CNE Violence Free Zone Initiative (VFZ) at a public high school within the City.</p> <p>2) Directed staff to return to Council with an agreement consistent with the above direction utilizing City funds not to exceed \$150,000.00.</p> <p>3) Directed staff to explore grant opportunities jointly with AVUHSD and CNE to offset the cost to the City in implementing this program.</p>
<p>NB 5. ORD. NO. 884 ADDING A CHAPTER TO THE LMC RELATING TO LOBBYIST REGISTRATION</p>	<p>Due to action taken by the City Council earlier in the evening, this item was continued to the City Council meeting of December 11, 2007.</p>
<p>NB 6. EMERGENCY ITEM APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM CITY MANAGER</p>	<p>On a motion by Council Member Smith and seconded by Mayor Hearn, the City Council appointed Assistant City Manager, Mark Bozigian as Interim City Manager starting December 1, 2007; added an item to the agenda for December 11, 2007 approving a resolution to raise his salary and pay him commissary pay for the position he will hold, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Jeffra, Sileo, Smith, Visokey, Hearn; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.</p> <p>Assistant City Manager Mark Bozigian stated that he knows this is a very difficult time, he has the utmost respect for Mr. LaSala, but there are also approximately 500 employees and this will be done as a team. The most important thing this team does is deliver service to the public and those employees are still going to have the same issues and passions for what they do and the citizens expect their government to work. This is a great team that he appreciates and will live up to what has been done all along.</p>

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (AMENDED)
NOVEMBER 13, 2007

CA 1.
DISCUSSION
REGARDING
FACILITATOR
CONTRACT AND
CITY MANAGER
BUYOUT

Council Member Sileo led a discussion regarding the construction, scope and oversight of the facilitator contract (Mathis and Associates), as well as discussion regarding the buyout offer from the facilitator to the City Manager.

Council Member Sileo stated that the subject matter is a bit moot but does not feel that the process is. After considerable discussion, Council chose to retain the services of a facilitator. This Council came to a decision about what they wanted to do and what the scope of authority was.

Council Member Smith stated that he thought this was part of the Closed Session matter and Mayor Hearn agreed.

The City Attorney stated that his understanding was that it was regarding the performance of the City Attorney in relationship to this item. This item has been on the agenda as an open session item and Council Member Sileo can pursue this in open session.

Council Member Sileo quoted the verbatim transcript of August 28, 2007 and in that transcript, Council chose to retain the services of a facilitator and his activities were to meet with each Council Member one on one and meet with the City Manager. Everyone agreed, yet somehow it went from there to developing an exit strategy for the City Manager and that concept was never discussed by the Council. He would like to discuss how to keep this from happening again. He asked the City Attorney if it would be possible to formulate a policy; as, in this case, authority was given to the Mayor to enter into a contract with some guidelines, however those guidelines were exceeded.

Mayor Hearn stated that it was his understanding that all members of the Council received a copy of the contract before the facilitator interviewed anyone.

Council Member Jeffra stated that he travels extensively and placing paperwork in his in-box is not satisfactory and he did not receive a copy of the contract. He requested that when it comes to highly sensitive, important matters, these items should be sent to him via e-mail.

Mayor Hearn stated that everyone else received this contract as well as the City Attorney and all members knew what this was about.

Council Member Sileo stated that he made mention of this and did not see the contract until after it had been signed. The contract proposal exceeded what the Council had authorized.

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (AMENDED)
NOVEMBER 13, 2007

CA 1.
DISCUSSION
REGARDING
FACILITATOR
CONTRACT AND
CITY MANAGER
BUYOUT
(continued)

Mayor Hearn reiterated again that everyone had a copy of the contract and any member of the Council could have come to him and discussed this matter.

Council Member Sileo stated that he had a problem with the fact that the contract was already signed before he reviewed it and there was no chance to pull this matter from an agenda of any kind for discussion. He stated that he did not have any idea about the activities of Mr. Mathis until an e-mail went out from the City Attorney.

Council Member Smith inquired if Council Member Sileo received a copy of the contract in his mailbox. He further asked the City Attorney, if one of the items Council Member Sileo is referring to is the performance item, couldn't that have been changed and renegotiated with the outside contractor because it had to do with specific performances that the facilitator brought up, but it could have been part of the negotiations.

The Mayor and City Attorney agreed.

Council Member Sileo stated that he placed this on the agenda after all of the discussions had taken place. He stated that he brought his concerns to the Mayor and to the facilitator.

Council Member Smith inquired as to why Council Member Sileo didn't place this on the agenda before all discussions took place, if he had a problem with it. He stated that he felt that Council Member Sileo instead, went to the press with his concerns just to stir the pot and chose not to take official action on this matter until there was an opportune time for his own political purposes.

Council Member Sileo stated that he went to the Mayor after meeting with the facilitator and nothing was accomplished.

Mayor Hearn stated that he cleared this with everyone, he apologized that Council Member Jeffra did not receive his copy, however, everyone else did and the secretary verified this.

Council Member Smith stated that he called the facilitator after he saw that this was on the agenda. The facilitator stated that he suggested this and he always suggest this because when he comes into a situation, part of what he wants to do is protect the professionalism of the City Manager. He stated that the facilitator further stated that if he finds that is not going to work and publicly that was what was said in the newspaper from the facilitator's memo, he wants to then try to do the best he can for the City Manager so that it does not get ugly or anything else. This is wording that Mr. Mathis put in the agreement as part of standard procedure.

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (AMENDED)
NOVEMBER 13, 2007

CA 1.
DISCUSSION
REGARDING
FACILITATOR
CONTRACT AND
CITY MANAGER
BUYOUT
(continued)

Council Member Smith stated that this would be the same as anybody who would come in and say – if it is not working, what do we do from here? There has been mention that the facilitator did this automatically and made the assessment to make more money. He does not make more money on the settlement agreement. That is something that the City Attorney worked on. Mr. Mathis chose not to drag this out. Council Member Smith stated that if Council Member Sileo did not like the language he could have gone to the Mayor or another Council Member and expressed his feelings. This could have even been put on in Closed Session since it had to do with the City Manager.

Council Member Jeffra stated that if the facilitator did this, he overstepped his bounds tremendously. It is important to contact all the Council Members; who authorized the facilitator to add the language; why wasn't he in front of the Council telling the Council, this is not working. He did not fulfill his obligation. If a strategy is developed – make it fair across the board. Make sure every single Council Member is contacted.

Mayor Hearn stated that he wrote a letter to the Council and stated that progress was not being made with the facilitator. He stated that everyone was aware and everyone made the decision. He stated that he should have made a stronger effort to get the agreement to Council Member Jeffra.

The City Attorney stated that the only way to develop a policy, rather than delegate similar types of contracts, could simply be to bring every contract to the Council agenda and that would be a simple policy. However, once Council starts to think about that policy and all the examples it would apply to, Council could have second thoughts about this. It is very difficult to come up with an iron-clad policy.

Council Member Jeffra stated that the bottom-line is, when there is something that is this important; make sure each and every one of the Council is contacted.

Council Member Sileo stated that he did not examine the contract close enough and this is his own fault.

Mayor Hearn stated that everyone is busy and works and he does everything he can to bring about a peaceful environment among the Council. He wrote in that letter that he missed having that and feels very bad that Council cannot work in harmony.

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (AMENDED)
NOVEMBER 13, 2007

<p>CA 1. DISCUSSION REGARDING FACILITATOR CONTRACT AND CITY MANAGER BUYOUT (continued)</p>	<p>Mayor Hearn stated that he has worked very hard for this City for 18 years to bring this City and community together as one; important to pull together both cities on issues that benefit the cities; worked with every business group in the valley to bring about unity. He stated that it didn't come together the way he had envisioned and he does not believe Council can continue to fight among themselves and still say that they love the City. This will not bring about a good relationship. He further spoke to the former Council Members in the audience and reminded them of how difficult it is to sit in this position and keep harmony. The City Council should be able to do their job the way that it should be done.</p>
	<p>Council Member Sileo requested that the matter on Closed Session regarding the performance of the City Attorney be removed from the agenda.</p>
	<p>Addressing the Council on this matter:</p>
	<p>Denise Latanzi – Concerned about the failure of leadership on the Council's part; thanked the City Manager for his hard work.</p>
	<p>Lynn Harrison – Council needs serious training in parliamentary procedure, for example, Council should not take a vote before public comment.</p>
<p>CITY MANAGER ANNOUNCEMENTS</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>CITY CLERK ANNOUNCEMENT</p>	<p>The City Clerk provided the public with the procedure to address the City Council regarding non-agendized items.</p>
<p>PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR NON-AGENDIZED</p>	<p>Addressing the Council at this time:</p>
	<p>David Abber – Took issue with Council, commenting on each member of the Council; arguing must stop; get on with business; took issue with performance of City Attorney.</p>
	<p>Cleo Goss – Concerns regarding a proposed supercenter at 60th St. West and Avenue L; crime comes to areas where there are supercenters.</p>
	<p>Richard Hecker - Concerns regarding a proposed supercenter at 60th St. West and Avenue L; crime comes to areas where there are supercenters; disappointed in Council actions.</p>
	<p>Jason Smith – Announced that there is a Fundraising Event for Protective Science Dynamics on November 20, 2007 at Hometown Buffet.</p>

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (AMENDED)
NOVEMBER 13, 2007

<p>PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR NON-AGENDIZED (continued)</p>	<p>Gary Burgess – Asked Council to consider signing for important documents that they must have, this will verify that they received them; commended the Council for their hard work; commended the City Manager for his hard work.</p> <p>Karen Wilson – Commended the Council and the City Attorney for their hard work, stating that she backs them all the way.</p>
<p>COUNCIL COMMENTS</p>	<p>Vice Mayor Visokey stated that this is a very difficult time for the City Manager; City Council. Stated that he has been in the area since the beginning; attended public schools here; lives here not because he has to but because he wants to; worships and serves his Lord here; he is not serving on the Council for political gain and anyone who thinks otherwise has a lot to learn about people. He has dedicated sixteen years to public service, not just as a school board member and for the City Council but for many of the community's non-profit organizations. His commitment to the public is that he will never do less than what he believes is right for the community he loves. There is a lot of political maneuvering going on in the community and he does not want any part of it and he is tired of it. This was an unfortunate night and it is a shame that the leadership could not get where they wanted to get. He assured everyone, that people get their perceptions and make judgments about individuals based on what they read. This deeply saddens him, this is a \$600.00 per month job and he has no desires to run for the state assembly or any higher political office. He will not sit up here at the dais and compromise his honor and integrity and people have a lot to learn.</p> <p>Council Member Jeffra – Stated that he didn't take this job for the money; members take the job because they want to be effective; want to do it the right way; want to deal with the crime issues; people are upset, the staff suffers and the citizens suffer. When this happens, Council is ineffective and when a Council is ineffective it is inappropriate and time to go. Picking at all of this does not accomplish anything at all and it is time to focus on the business at hand.</p> <p>Council Member Sileo – Thanked the Department Heads and the City Attorney for putting up with everything over the last several months; thanked everyone for the extra amount of work that has gone into this. The Departments have grown; the Department Heads have grown and are better leaders and appreciates all the efforts by everyone.</p>

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (AMENDED)
NOVEMBER 13, 2007

CLOSED SESSION
ANNOUNCEMENT
FROM
CITY ATTORNEY

Report on November 6, 2007 Closed Session meeting.

The City Attorney stated that earlier in the meeting Council approved the minutes of this particular meeting which reflected the conduct of that meeting. The meeting was noticed for the City Council Conference Room on the second floor of City Hall, not for the Council Chambers, so contrary to some of the comments that were made in the press, the meeting was not noticed for the Council Chambers and could not have been convened in the Council Chambers. That does not mean there was not a mistake made – there was. The meeting should have been opened in open session in the second floor conference room; those people attending in the Chambers should have been directed to the upstairs conference room for the opening of that meeting. He stated that he takes complete responsibility for not assuring that this happened and he guaranteed that this would not happen again. He stated that he takes very seriously the importance of enforcing rules and he will continue to do this as long as Council wants him as their City Attorney. He stated that Ms. Harrison is correct, Council should go overboard for the next several months on procedures, but Council should go overboard period for compliance with the Brown Act. It is there for a reason and it is not always obvious how it gets applied. There were certain actions discussed in that meeting that might have prevented Council from moving forward with the continued negotiations and there was no reportable action taken at the meeting of November 6, 2007. He stated that he has made efforts to contact the District Attorney, he will continue those efforts, and he has spoken with both the person in charge of that division and also the District Attorney that is in charge of reviewing any Brown Act violations. He will continue to have these discussions and he will report back when that is finished.

The Mayor and Council thanked Mr. McEwen for his honesty and appreciated his hard work.

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (AMENDED)
NOVEMBER 13, 2007

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Hearn announced: Pursuant to action taken by the City Council on August 14, 2007, there would not be a City Council meeting on November 27, 2007.

A Special Joint meeting with the Antelope Valley Union High School District will take place on Thursday, November 15, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. at the School District Board Room to receive a presentation/proposal from the Center for Neighborhood Enterprises.

Mayor Hearn adjourned the meeting at 11:10 p.m. in memory of former Mayor Jack Murphy and announced the next regular meeting of the City Council would be held on Tuesday, December 11, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

GERI K. BRYAN, CMC
City Clerk
City of Lancaster

HENRY W. HEARNS
Mayor
City of Lancaster

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) ss
CITY OF LANCASTER)

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL

I, _____, _____ of the City of Lancaster, CA, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the original City Council Minutes, for which the original is on file in my office.

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

(seal)
