

**LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
MINUTES
January 27, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Parris called the regular meeting of the City Council/Redevelopment Agency to order at 5:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Council Member/Agency Director: Sileo

Staff

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

INVOCATION

Pastor Chris Johnson - Grace Chapel

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Bishop Henry Hearn

PRESENTATIONS

None

AGENDA ITEMS TO BE REMOVED

None

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

On a motion by Vice Chairman Smith and seconded by Agency Director Marquez, the Redevelopment Agency approved the Agency Consent Calendar with the exception of Item No. RCC 3, which was pulled for separate discussion and action, by the following vote: 4-0-0-1; AYES: Mann, Marquez, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: Sileo.

RCC 1. MINUTES

See CC 2 for the approval of the Regular Redevelopment Agency Meeting minutes of January 13, 2009.

RCC 2. ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY

Approved an agreement for acquisition of Real Property between the Lancaster Redevelopment Agency and HSBC Bank USA, National Association, as Trustee for First NLC Trust 2005-3 as part of the approved Neighborhood Foreclosure Preservation Homeownership Program for property located at 45220 Kingtree Avenue.

RCC 3. ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY

Mayor Parris stated that he would recuse himself from this matter due to the fact that his wife owns property in this area.

On a motion by Agency Director Mann and seconded by Agency Director Marquez, the Redevelopment Agency approved an agreement for the acquisition of Real Property between the City of Lancaster and Mehrdad Taheripour for a 2.42-acre parcel that is located on 10th Street West, approximately 470 feet south of Avenue K-8, by the following vote: 3-0-1-1; AYES: Mann, Marquez, Smith; NOES: None; RECUSED: Parris; ABSENT: Sileo.

RCC 4. LETTER OF SUPPORT

Authorized the City Manager to send a letter of support for H.R. 7273, the Auto Ownership Tax Assistance Act of 2008 to Senate/House leaders.

RNB101 APPROPRIATION OF REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY FUNDS FOR ADDITIONAL PASS THRU PAYMENTS

The Finance Director presented the staff report regarding this matter.

Concerns and comments by the Redevelopment Agency included:

Once again the State is holding a gun to the heads of the cities; a message must be sent to these agencies letting them know that the City of Lancaster will expect to get the money back; encouraged staff to clearly state in the letter that the City will collect the interest as well; these actions are rapacious and pilfering.

On a motion by Vice Chairman Smith and seconded by Agency Director Marquez, the Redevelopment Agency appropriated \$783,800.00 from Lancaster Redevelopment Agency fund balance, to Account No. 901-4100-978, SB 211 Pass Thru Expense, to make additional pass through payments to various taxing entities as a result of AB 1389 calculations by the County of Los Angeles, by the following vote: 4-0-0-1; AYES: Mann, Marquez, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: Sileo.

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

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 No. CC 4 which was pulled for separate discussion and action, by the following vote: 4-0-0-1; AYES: Mann, Marquez, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: Sileo.

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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

Approved the Redevelopment Agency/City Council Regular Meeting minutes of January 13, 2009.

CC 3. WARRANT REGISTER

Approved the Check and Wire Registers (December 28, 2008 through January 10, 2009) in the amount of \$2,065,094.10.

CC 4. ORDINANCE NO. 914

An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, California, amending Chapter 6.04 of Title 6 and adding Chapter 6.08 to Title 6 of the Lancaster Municipal Code relating to Animal Control.

Council Member Sileo arrived at the meeting at 5:18 p.m.

Addressing the City Council on this matter:

Scott Pelka – People should have the right to walk down the street with their dogs; action is wrong and racist.

Mayor Parris stated that if someone is clearly in gang attire and walking vicious dogs, they are the enemy and it is time for action. The Sheriff's Department is intelligent enough to know who the true offenders are.

Lori (no last name given) – Inquired about certain sections of the ordinance pertaining to hunting dogs; concerned about working dogs; farm dogs.

The City Attorney stated that amendments to the existing ordinance could come back at a future meeting.

Mayor Parris stated that these are some excellent suggestions and suggested that the speaker work with the attorney regarding her concerns.

Rebecca Barocas – Consider splitting the ordinance into two parts; put responsibility squarely on the shoulders of the owners; most people are in favor of passing the dangerous dog portion of the ordinance; requested that Council delay passing the breed specific portion of the ordinance.

Gail Miley – Urged the City Council to postpone the vote and meet with the Animal Control Department; many concerns such as the sections that are not enforceable; violations of constitutional laws.

CC 4. ORDINANCE NO. 914 (continued)

Mayor Parris clarified that Animal Control has a spay and neuter law for the entire County.

Vice Mayor Smith inquired whether Ms. Miley was in front of the Council as an official representative of Los Angeles County or as an individual and she stated that she was representing Los Angeles County. Vice Mayor Smith further stated that the Mayor and Council have received no communication from Supervisor Antonovich or Animal Control regarding this.

Mayor Parris explained to the audience that there is a certain protocol to be followed by the different agencies out of respect for each other and right now Council is feeling upset because those protocols have not been followed. This is a breach of protocol, no letters have been received, Council is feeling sandbagged at this point, however this does not matter because the City has been incredibly unhappy with L.A. County Animal Control for a very long time, unhappy with the way the County is billing the City of Lancaster, in which L.A. County has admitted that the billing is inflated. The County is not in the position to come in here and bushwhack the Council after all the history between the City and L.A. County Animal Control and accuse the Council of adopting unconstitutional laws.

The City Attorney stated that he agrees with the Mayor, this is a sandbag attempt and questions whether Ms. Miley has even read the latest draft of the ordinance because the comments she is making are the same comments that were made during the first draft of the ordinance. These comments were made in a very generic letter back in November and following that letter, a conference call took place and the same comments, word for word were brought up and discussed. Based on those objections, he stated that he looked at the ordinance very carefully and in some respect their points were well taken, but in most respects they were not.

The City Attorney stated that the procedures were reviewed, that were in the County ordinance dealing with potentially vicious and dangerous dogs. We reviewed the process that they followed and in fact the process that the County follows does not even match their own ordinance. They never get to the potentially dangerous dogs proceedings, they impound them under another section, hold them for a minimal amount of time, then dispose of the dog depending on the nature of what is going on with that particular animal. The City Attorney stated that the ordinance that he has crafted closely follows the state statute providing for a process for making those determinations and it is full of due process and more due process than the County now follows when they impound a dog. Under State law there is a specific process that is spelled out. The statute says that as an alternative, a local government may adopt an administrative hearing as opposed to going to a superior court and we have chose to do that, using the basic requirements and using an administrative officer who is independent of the City and the appeal is to the Superior Court. We've also imposed some additional requirements following the state's statutes of defined terms of potentially dangerous and vicious dogs.

CC 4. ORDINANCE NO. 914 (continued)

The City Attorney that there is a specific statute in state law that allows us to adopt more stringent rules. The one thing we cannot do when dealing with dangerous and vicious dogs is be breed specific. The only thing that we can do that is breed specific is to provide for spay and neutering, which we have done. Ms. Miley is giving the same comments as the first draft which was substantially different and wonders whether they are truly reviewing the document.

Mayor Parris stated that if L.A. County would put this much energy into protecting the children he would be much more sympathetic to them, but there is not a week that goes by that he does not receive some type of email where either their pet has been attacked or their child has been attacked by these pit bulls. He questioned why this level of concern at coming to meetings isn't directed at saving the children and neighbors. He stated that he feels that Ms. Miley has skewed her mission here at this meeting.

Council Member Sileo – Stated that the Council takes a lot of grief and that it takes a lot to make him angry. He quoted Ms. Miley as saying that 'the County Code has withstood the test of time' and he's sure she meant this in terms of legal challenges – this may be true; however, the County ordinance is simply not effective or else Council, and everyone else, would not be here this evening looking at all of this. If the County ordinance did its job and the Animal Control Department could fulfill what they are supposed to accomplish, we would not be here, this whole matter would be moot, and we wouldn't have children being attacked. This ordinance is more stringent than the County ordinance – there is no free bite in our ordinance.

Ms. Miley clarified that the County did not take issue with the vicious dog portion of the ordinance but with the mandatory spay and neutering of dogs, there are too many loop holes such as dogs that have hunting licenses. Anyone can get hunting licenses including gang members.

Vice Mayor Smith stated that he doubted that a gang member would be willing to go through the hunting training course to get a hunting license. He stated that this whole thing is ridiculous and having Ms. Miley come up to speak shows incompetence by her department once again. The department not only failed to take care of the City the way that it should, but to show up at the eleventh hour to address this is wrong. The City has been working with the County and stated that he wasn't even sure if Norm Hickling knew Ms. Miley was here. The County has not given any correspondence or input and this is just political posturing and completely out of line.

Judythe Coffman – The European Union is suspending their ordinance because it is not effective; this ordinance punishes the dogs not the owners.

Carol Kelly – Addressed the dangerous dog portion of the ordinance stating that this is well done; mandatory spay and neuter portion is not right; this is overkill and she is against the exemption of hunting dogs.

CC 4. ORDINANCE NO. 914 (continued)

A.J. Listman – Stated that he is against the ordinance; profiling is not allowed; he has friends that show Pit Bulls and Rottweilers.

Wayne Sirex - Concerned about the mandatory spay and neutering for dogs; this is putting a lot of responsibility on the owners; agrees dogs are a tool for the gangs but leave the other dogs alone.

Chandler Giles – Addressed the discrimination issue; ridiculous to put this on the deputies; knows many deputies of color and this is not profiling; witnessed an injured Pit Bull which was the victim of a fight and the County did nothing; supports the ordinance; has had his dog attacked by vicious dogs.

Vernon Fierre – Agrees with the ordinance; inquired about police/military dogs; spay and neutering reduces chances of cancer and it is the proper thing to do; dogs need discipline without hitting; dogs are being punished because of the negligence of the owners.

Ruth Lewis – Works with gangs, she is an ex-gang member; ordinance will not stop the gangs, they will find a new method of attack; have a meeting with them and discuss options; must work together.

Mayor Parris stated that the City is willing to work with individuals, but the moment they join a gang, they become the enemy and it is time to crush them. The people they hurt the most are the ones brought into the gangs; for every one person who is out of a gang, there are a hundred in prison. If they are in a gang, they need to get out, opportunities are given all the time, but they don't take advantage of these; the days of accommodating the gangs is over.

Council Member Marquez stated that at the last Council meeting, this ordinance was discussed and the very next day on the front page of AV Press was a story of a loose Pit Bull that mauled another dog. She received an email today from a citizen that stated that two Pit Bulls pulled her dog from her arms and killed her dog. Just as much as a few citizens want to fight for these dogs, Council is fighting because we do not want the dogs out there anymore and if L.A. County was doing their job, Council would not be working on this in the first place. L.A. County is not doing their job properly; this is not petty when there are dogs that jump fences and go after children and other dogs. There are many options in the ordinance for people who need an exemption.

Council Member Sileo – Stated that several people have mentioned profiling; people are not being profiled, it is the dogs; the goals of this Council are to make our citizens safe. There is a problem with vicious, dangerous dogs and gang bangers. This is a tool to help achieve some of our goals.

CC 4. ORDINANCE NO. 914 (continued)

Vice Mayor Smith – Thanked the Mayor for taking an aggressive stance on this matter; thanked the City Attorney; feels that the County is taking advantage of the media. This matter is not new and the City has been working on this for a very long time and it is a good ordinance. Someone mentioned loop holes – the County doesn't follow their own laws; and this ordinance is fair and focuses on the fact that we are not going to tolerate the gangs and vicious dogs.

Mayor Parris stated that he understands the position of the people who spoke; there is anger because of what the L.A. County did this evening.

On a motion by Vice Mayor Smith and seconded by Council Member Mann, the City Council adopted **Ordinance No. 914**, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, California, amending Chapter 6.04 of Title 6 and adding Chapter 6.08 to Title 6 of the Lancaster Municipal Code relating to Animal Control, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Mann, Marquez, Sileo, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

CC 5. ORDINANCE NO. 915

Adopted **Ordinance No. 915**, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, California, amending Section 2.34.010 of the Lancaster Municipal Code relating to the Architectural and Design Planning Commission.

CC 6. MONUMENTATION WORK

Approved the monumentation work for Tract No. 061905, located on the southeast corner of Avenue K-8 and 27th Street West, Owner: RCDR VI, a Limited Liability Company.

CC 7. COMPLETED SEWER SYSTEM

Approved the completed sewer system installed by the developer of Tract No. 061064, located on the northeast corner of Avenue K and 30th Street East, Owner: Western Pacific Housing, Inc.

CC 8. ACCEPTANCE OF STREETS FOR MAINTENANCE

Approved the developer constructed streets and accepted the streets for maintenance by the City for: Tract No. 060198, located on the southeast corner of Avenue M-8 and 45th Street West, Owner: Pulte Home Corporation.

CC 9. ACCEPTANCE OF AMENDMENT TO EXISTING SUBDIVISION UNDERTAKING AGREEMENT – TRACT MAP NO. 060524

Approved and accepted the amendment to the existing Subdivision Undertaking Agreement submitted by Richmond American Homes of Maryland Inc. for Tract Map No. 060524 and the creation of Phases 1 and 2 of the subject map, located on the east side of 60th Street West, approximately 300 feet south of Avenue K-8.

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CC 10. ACCEPTANCE OF AMENDMENT TO EXISTING SUBDIVISION UNDERTAKING AGREEMENT – TRACT MAP NO. 060811

Approved and accepted the amendment to the existing Subdivision Undertaking Agreement submitted by Richmond American Homes of Maryland Inc., for Tract Map No. 060811 and the creation of Phases 1 and 2 of the subject map, located on the northeast corner of 60th Street West and Avenue K-12.

CC 11. ACCEPTANCE OF AMENDMENT TO EXISTING SUBDIVISION UNDERTAKING AGREEMENT – TRACT MAP NO. 060943

Approved and accepted the amendment to the existing Subdivision Undertaking Agreement submitted by Richmond American Homes of Maryland Inc. for Tract Map No. 060943 and the creation of Phases 1 and 2 of the subject map, located on the south side of Avenue K-8, approximately 660 feet east of Challenger Way.

CC 12. ACCEPTANCE OF AMENDMENT TO EXISTING SUBDIVISION UNDERTAKING AGREEMENT – TRACT MAP NO. 061078

Approved and accepted the amendment to the existing Subdivision Undertaking Agreement submitted by Richmond American Homes of Maryland Inc. for Tract Map No. 061078 and the creation of Phases 1 and 2 of the subject map, located on the northwest corner of 15th Street East and Avenue K-8.

CC 13. ACCEPTANCE OF AMENDMENT TO EXISTING SUBDIVISION UNDERTAKING AGREEMENT – TRACT MAP NO. 54369

Approved and accepted the amendment to the existing Subdivision Undertaking Agreement submitted by Richmond American Homes of Maryland Inc. for Tract Map No. 54369 and the creation of Phases 1 and 2 of the subject map, located on the southwest corner of 70th Street West and Avenue L.

CC 14. ACCEPTANCE OF AMENDMENT TO EXISTING SUBDIVISION UNDERTAKING AGREEMENT – TRACT MAP NO. 54370-01

Approved and accepted the amendment to the existing Subdivision Undertaking Agreement submitted by Richmond American Homes of Maryland Inc. for Tract Map No. 54370-01 and the creation of Phases 1 and 2 of the subject map, located on the northwest corner of 70th West and Avenue L-8.

CC 15. ACCEPTANCE OF SUBSTITUTION OF SUBDIVISION UNDERTAKING AGREEMENT – TRACT MAP NO. 061278

Approved and accepted the substitution of the Subdivision Undertaking Agreement and securities submitted by Plum Canyon Investments, LLC in place of the Subdivision Undertaking and securities submitted by Richmond American Homes for Tract Map No. 061278 and accepted the Maintenance Agreement and Maintenance Security submitted by Plum Canyon Investments, LLC, located on the northeast corner of Avenue K-8 and Challenger Way.

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CC 16. ACCEPTANCE OF SUBDIVISION UNDERTAKING AGREEMENT – TRACT MAP NO. 060524

Approved and accepted the Subdivision Undertaking Agreement, Maintenance Agreement, and securities submitted by Plum Canyon Investments, LLC, for Tract Map No. 060524, located on the east side of 60th Street West, approximately 300 feet south of Avenue K-8.

CC 17. ACCEPTANCE OF SUBDIVISION UNDERTAKING AGREEMENT – TRACT MAP NO. 060811

Approved and accepted the Subdivision Undertaking Agreement, Maintenance Agreement, and securities submitted by Plum Canyon Investments, LLC, for Tract Map No. 060811, located on the northeast corner of 60th Street West and Avenue K-12.

CC 18. ACCEPTANCE OF SUBDIVISION UNDERTAKING AGREEMENT – TRACT MAP NO. 060943

Approved and accepted the Subdivision Undertaking Agreement, Maintenance Agreement, and securities submitted by Plum Canyon Investments, LLC, for Tract Map No. 060943, located on the south side of Avenue K-8, approximately 660 feet east of Challenger Way.

CC 19. ACCEPTANCE OF SUBDIVISION UNDERTAKING AGREEMENT – TRACT MAP NO. 061078

Approved and accepted the Subdivision Undertaking Agreement, Maintenance Agreement, and securities submitted by Plum Canyon Investments, LLC, for Tract Map No. 061078, located on the northwest corner of 15th Street East and Avenue K-8.

CC 20. ACCEPTANCE OF SUBDIVISION UNDERTAKING AGREEMENT – TRACT MAP NO. 54369

Approved and accepted the Subdivision Undertaking Agreement, Maintenance Agreement, and securities submitted by Plum Canyon Investments, LLC, for Tract Map No. 54369, located on the southwest corner of 70th Street West and Avenue L.

CC 21. ACCEPTANCE OF SUBDIVISION UNDERTAKING AGREEMENT – TRACT MAP NO. 54370-01

Approved and accepted the Subdivision Undertaking Agreement, Maintenance Agreement, and securities submitted by Plum Canyon Investments, LLC, for Tract Map No. 54370-01, located on the northwest corner of 70th Street West and Avenue L-8.

CC 22. RESOLUTION NO. 09-06

Adopted **Resolution No. 09-06**, a resolution of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, CA approving the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Lancaster and the Lancaster Code Enforcement Officers Association.

PH 1. RESOLUTION NO. 09-05 - ADJUSTMENT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE FEES.

Mayor Parris opened the Public Hearing. The Planning Director presented the staff report regarding the adjustment to the Los Angeles County Fire Fees.

Hearing no further testimony, Mayor Parris closed the Public Hearing.

On a motion by Council Member Sileo and seconded by Vice Mayor Smith, the City Council adopted **Resolution No. 09-05**, a resolution of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, adopting the Capital Improvement Plan of the Consolidated Fire Protection District and the annual adjustment of fire protection fees, by the following vote:

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

NB 1. ORDINANCE NO. 916 - RELATING TO NOISE REGULATIONS

The Public Works Director presented the staff report regarding the introduction of **Ordinance No. 916**, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, California, amending Sections 8.24.020 and 8.24.040 of the Lancaster Municipal Code relating to noise regulations and allowable working hours, an Amendment to Title 8 of the Lancaster Municipal Code (Noise Regulations).

On a motion by Vice Mayor Smith and seconded by Council Member Sileo, the City Council introduced Ordinance No. 916, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, California, amending Sections 8.24.020 and 8.24.040 of the Lancaster Municipal Code relating to noise regulations and allowable working hours, an Amendment to Title 8 of the Lancaster Municipal Code (Noise Regulations), by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Mann, Marquez, Sileo, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

NB 2. ORDINANCE NO. 917 - RELATING TO THE SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE

The Public Works Director presented the staff report regarding **Ordinance No. 917**, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, California, amending Sections 16.20.060 and 16.20.080 of the Lancaster Municipal Code relating to the requirements for improvements beyond centerline on arterial streets, an Amendment to Title 16 of the Lancaster Municipal Code (Subdivision Ordinance.)

On a motion by Vice Mayor Smith and seconded by Council Member Marquez, the City Council introduced **Ordinance No. 917**, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, California, amending Sections 16.20.060 and 16.20.080 of the Lancaster Municipal Code relating to the requirements for improvements beyond centerline on arterial streets, an amendment to Title 16 of the Lancaster Municipal Code (Subdivision Ordinance), by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Mann, Marquez, Sileo, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

CITY MANAGER'S / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

None

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Discussion of laws applicable to Pawn Shops.
This item was not discussed.

CITY CLERK / AGENCY SECRETARY ANNOUNCEMENT

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 Council/Agency at this time:

David Paul – the budget is being hit; sand bagging by L.A. County; concerned with the processing of rape kits; Part One Crimes are down except with this matter; proud of the City Council; sees problems going on and on and the rape kit issue is just an example of something we couldn't fix when we had the money so how are we going to fix it now. Human Accountability is so vital, now more than ever. People want to know that government "gets it"; importance of pay cuts; 100 percent decrease across the board of the County elected officials.

Harold Ray – Stated the constitutional rights of a man to protect his property, privacy, keep order, speak his mind and bear arms. Complained about vehicles taken from private properties without a warrant or a court order and discussed a court order signed by a prominent attorney in the Antelope Valley.

Mayor Parris questioned a document submitted by Mr. Ray and stated that he also received this same document in an email and took it as a threat. Mayor Parris stated that he never wanted to see Mr. Ray around his house or his office, ever again and no matter what function he is holding at his home or office, Mr. Ray is not invited or welcome.

Scott Pelka – Stated that it was wrong for Council Member Marquez to profile people who are walking their Pit Bulls down the street; no way to know if these dogs are vicious.

Council Member Marquez clarified that what she said was that she observed a man and did not profile him, but observed that he was walking two Pit Bulls down the street and that those dogs had so much power that if they wanted to get away from the man they could easily have done so and the man would have been powerless.

Gary Burgess – Thanked the City Council for all their efforts over the past six months; the City is heading in a good direction; thanked City staff for an excellent job, especially in public safety; pleased that Ordinance No. 917 was introduced.

Henry Hearn – Wished everyone a happy new year; appreciates what the City Council is doing; very proud of them, thankful for their hard work.

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COUNCIL REPORTS

Vice Mayor Smith reported on the most recent meeting with the Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District (AVAQMD.)

At the January 20, 2009 meeting, the Governing Board adopted the following significant recommendations of the AVAQMD's staff:

- City Council Member Sherry Marquez was voted in as the new Vice Chair of the Board.
- Fee Analysis. Staff recommended the AVAQMD revise its fee structure to align with other regional air districts, significantly increasing local permit application and renewal fees. The Board felt this was good direction, however do not want to increase fees to an irrelevant standard, especially during current economic conditions. Mr. Smith questioned why legislation has not been initiated mandating these revisions, commenting that people should pay their fair share and the only way to ensure this was through legislation. Both staff and the Board agreed to pursue this further with Sen. Runner's office.
- Honda Hydrogen Cell Pilot Project. The Board recommended efforts be made by staff and representatives of both cities in order to convince Honda that the Antelope Valley is a more appropriate location for their hydrogen cell pilot project because (1) the number of commuters residing in the Valley, and (2) Robertson Honda has an existing uncertified CNG fill station that could be reconfigured to accommodate hydrogen cell vehicles.

COUNCIL / AGENCY COMMENTS

Council Member Marquez stated that she feels the pain of the citizens; the national budget is not balanced; the State budget is not balanced and she would like to see the State go after offenders of Section 8; people who are not in this country legally and there are many other areas of concern that need to be dealt with.

CLOSED SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Parris adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m. in memory of Bois Malcolm Roof, a United States Marine Veteran and friend, who worked for the Southern California Gas Company for thirty-three years; announced that the next regular meeting of the City Council/Redevelopment Agency would take place on Tuesday, February 10, 2009 - 5:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

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

R. REX PARRIS
MAYOR/CHAIRMAN
Lancaster, CA

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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 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)
