

MINUTES
OF THE
SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
PARKING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO
SACRAMENTO CITY FINANCING AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 20, 1996

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Sacramento City Council was called to order by Mayor Serna at 7:05 p.m. on the above date in the City Council Chamber located at 915 I Street.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Cohn, Fargo, Kerth, Ortiz, Pannell, Steinberg, Waters, Yee and Mayor Serna

A motion was made by Councilmember Pannell, seconded by Councilmember, Cohn to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.. The motion carried with a 8-0 roll call vote, with Councilmember Fargo being absent.

9.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

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10.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS

NONE

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11.0 STAFF REPORTS

- 11.1 Sacramento Public Library Authority Master Plan. (cont. from 5/7/96, Item 4.7) (D-All)

Janet Larson, Assistant Library Director, presented the report. She addressed prior questions the Council had about the Master Plan. She stated the data used in preparing the report was from the Planning Council and SACOG. She said there is significant growth in the south area of the county and she spoke about projected growth and library usage.

The standard branch that is recommended for the future is to serve populations of 50,000 to 100,000, which is a 12,000 square foot owned facility. A rezoned library is recommended for large population service areas. The locations of the branches are part of the City's Master Plan.

Mayor Serna asked if the cost implications the Master Plan has for the City. Ms. Larson replied that the cost implication is the requirement for the assessment and if Council votes for the plan. Supporting the Master Plan as it stands now would only support the services as they exist, any additional service would require additional funding.

Councilman Yee asked if he supported the Master Plan would he have to support the alternative funding. Ms. Larson said there is a status quo plan and an additional funding plan. The status quo is not up for a vote today.

Councilwoman Fargo explained that the Master Plan included a fair distribution of all services to all parts of the City, and we need to separate it from funding options.

Councilman Cohn feels very comfortable with adoption of the Plan.

There was no public testimony.

A motion was made by Councilmember Fargo, seconded by Councilmember Cohn, to approve Resolution 96-312, adopting the Master Plan 1996-2010. The motion carried with a 7-1 roll call vote, with Councilmember Kerth voting no, and Councilman Pannell being absent.

RESOLUTION NO. 96-312

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE SACRAMENTO PUBLIC LIBRARY MASTER PLAN 1996-2010

11.2 Alternative Funding for the Sacramento Public Library Authority (D-All)

Janet Larson stated that the report was based on the inaction of the Board of Supervisors at a previous meeting. She introduced Lynn Gray, treasurer for "Library For Our Future". Ms. Gray said that in light of the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors action the committee did not recommend going forward with any alternate funding for the City alone, but there are people interested in trying to get the measure on the ballot. She said the committee is very appreciative of the Council's support, and requested assurance that Council wants the committee to go ahead without the County, that the library gets the 4.5 million base fund in the measure, and a promise for public support and to go ahead with the assessment once it passes by its 50.1% vote.

Mayor Serna asked if the Board turned it down because of the requirement for a two-thirds vote. Ms. Gray responded with yes. He confirmed that the City requires a majority vote because we are a Charter City and Council has authority under an ordinance. Deputy City Attorney Diane Balter confirmed that no vote is required under an ordinance of a Charter City in light of the Right To Vote Taxes Act. The Mayor confirmed that the City's present contribution to the library is 6.3 million. Susan Hildreth, Deputy Library Director, said that if they were to go forward with alternative funding, a fixed base minimum would be determined. A minimum that the City would not go below. The library has suggested a base that would be tied to the same proportion of the tax base that the County gives the library, that would translate into about 4.6 million dollars for 1996/97.

Mayor Serna requested a cut in the assessment amount, stating the City has many other obligations. Ms. Gray said she understood his concern and explained that this was a "package" that was found through a public opinion poll. The public wants to know that the funds that they support would go directly to the library, and also, existing funds would not be taken away.

Councilmembers Cohn, Fargo and Steinberg voiced their opinions that the voters should decide and stated that the County should not dictate City services.

Ms. Balter said that in order to place this on the November ballot, Council would have to adopt the final resolution by July 30th.

Councilman Yee said he supported this measure and wants a guaranteed base. He said he wants to be honest with the public and explain what the cost would be each year.

Ms. Balter confirmed that Council can approve the assessment before the vote, but if the voters do not approve it on the November 5th ballot, it is automatically canceled.

Ben Firschein, library volunteer, urged Council to not pass this item. His recommendation was for the City to guarantee a fixed percentage of the General Fund support for libraries and to allow the public to vote on it.

NOTE: Mayor Serna announced that item 11.4 will be continued to July 30, 1996 at the recommendation of staff.

Councilwoman Fargo asked why four weeks, stating it was too far away. Terry Moore, Special Project Manager, said that there would be a one hour workshop for public testimony. He said that within the next month, there would be numerous meetings with Fish and Wildlife Service, for discussion of differences. Councilwoman Fargo disagreed, and said that the majority of Council has never heard a presentation on this item. Mr. Moore said that July 30th would be the soonest.

A motion was made by Councilmember Fargo, seconded by Councilmember Cohn, to continue the meeting to 10:00 p.m. The motion carried with a 5-4 roll call vote with Councilmembers Pannell, Waters, Yee and Serna voting no.

This item (11.2) was for Council information only and will return July 30th.

11.3 1996/97 Proposed Budget Recap (D-All)

Betty Masuoka, Deputy City Manager, presented a quick recap on action that has been taken, to date, plus three new items. The actual adoption of the budget will be on Tuesday, June 25th.

Action taken on the utility rates is for an increase on water, sewer and storm drainage by three percent, and reducing the solid waste rate by five percent.

New item #1 is the "brown out" of the downtown Fire Station #1. Upon trying to follow Council's direction, the proposed budget has been amended to eliminate the "brown out". The full cost would be \$360,000. \$170,000 would be absorbed by the general fund, the remainder will come from carry over funds and savings from the Fire Department.

New item #2 is the McClatchy Library repairs. Estimates have ranged from \$300 to about \$1.2 million. \$350,000 from the General Fund is proposed to go towards the repair.

New item #3 is the reduction in the solid waste fee, which will be \$130,000 revenue lost from the General Fund.

These three items add up to \$3.65 million dollars. The proposed solution included in the budget resolution will be to continue with the \$2.5 million dollar transfer from Risk Management Fund, and continue with the transfer of the \$250,000 from SHRA.

Police revenues are being adjusted with \$545,000 being generated from various fees. \$355,000 from the current year's training plan shall go towards these critical issues.

Ms. Masuoka also noted other changes to the CIP Budget.

Mayor Serna requested for Council members not to have any fundamental questions left after this evening.

Councilman Yee asked about a Risk Management Fund rebate to which Ms. Masuoka identified these "reserve" funds as a rebate back to the General Fund.

Councilman Kerth requested changes to Exhibit F-1 order of #2, A,B,C. Gary Little, Neighborhood Services Department, commented about the computer system that will allow for a reservation system for Parks.

Citizens Kay Neprath and Alice La Vine spoke in support of McClatchy.

This item was for Council information only.

11.4 North Natomas Workshop - Natomas Basin Habitat Conservation Plan and Implementation Agreement (D-1)

NOTE: Mayor Serna stated that he would allow one hour only for this item. The meeting will not continue after 10:00 p.m. If it is not finished, it will be continued to sometime in August.

Terry Moore, Special Projects Manager, reported that the purpose of the workshop was to discuss the habitat plan and implementation. He said that the business plan would be adopted towards the end of the year. He gave a brief history: In April copies of the Implementation Agreement, Habitat Plan, and a support document published by EPS which is the economic analysis of the Habitat Plan, were distributed. He said he is working with SAFCA and the Department of Fish and Wildlife Services to "iron out" certain issues that are in both documents, primarily the Implementation Agreement. He reviewed the upcoming schedule of dates that included assessment and application preparation. Since this is a workshop, there will be no action tonight. There will be a resolution on next week's Consent Calendar, asking the City Manager to make application to Fish and Wildlife and Fish and Game. If it's necessary to report back on major policy revisions that have been made because of negotiations, it will be done towards the end of July.

Mr. Moore continued with the history of the giant garter snake in the Natomas Basin. He said that originally in 1986 a form of the Habitat Conservation Plan to protect the giant garter snake and Swainson's Hawk was created. This was not a new issue. In October 1993 the Department of the Interior finally issued rules and regulations and listed the giant garter snake as a threatened species. Certain findings found that state and local ordinances did not adequately protect the species when development occurred. The result of findings was that prior to issuance of future permits that would affect the species in the critical habitat, consultation with Fish and Wildlife would be required.

In April 1994, when SAFCA was requesting a No.404 Federal Permit, they were required to have a consultation with Fish and Wildlife. That consultation was prepared on March 11, 1994. Findings were the local project would provide a 200 year flood protection for the basin. Flood protection would result in intensive urbanization of the basin and absent mitigation measures of flood control project and consequent urban development could extricate the giant garter snake from the habitat. They considered the impacts of the urbanization threats and they projected that ten of the thirteen known populations of snakes were imminently imperiled.

Mr. Moore reviewed the proposed schedule for the Plan and agreement.

Councilman Steinberg asked if wildlife is expected to move from where land is to be developed to the land that has been set aside for mitigation. Mr. Moore explained that the intent would be to establish large parcels of land, and not try to replace land by every time one acre was developed to replace it with one-half acre. The initial purchase would be 400 acres in existing habitat or in a high producing rice area where there would be income from the land that could be used for the O & M Conservacy. Bill Edgar, City Manger, added that there are two ways to approach mitigation for habitat: Either project by project or the Habitat Conservation Plan where everybody decides. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife has made a compromise saying that the replacement value will be less than normal, if we call the entire basin "habitat".

Councilman Steinberg asked whether snakes die or do they move. Mr. Moore said that they will propigate in the habitat that has been provided for them. The new habitat would include marsh land that will allow them to move over the entire surface of the graound rather than just the canals. Rice check dams can be made into habitat. By farming rice and using marsh, we create a habitat that they will thrive in.

Councilman Yee asked, if endangered species are currently existing in areas that we are currently cultivating, why do we need to change it into marsh land. Mr. Moore responded that 75% will be rice farming and 25% marsh. The conversion to marsh is to enhance the habitat. There is land that is not currently productive for rice farming, it will be used for marsh land.

Tina Thomas, member of a law firm representing AKT Development, supports Mr. Moore's report.

Greg Thatch, North Natomas Landowners Association, supports multi-species plan. He said that snakes migrate through canal systems and there are three hundred miles of canal in North Natomas.

This item was for Council information only.

12.0 S.H.R.A.

NONE

13.0 CITIZENS ADDRESSING COUNCIL AGENCY OR AUTHORITIES BY PERSONAL APPEARANCE OR TELEPHONICALLY ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

(For those wishing to phone in to address the Council, the number is 264-TALK (8255); a three minute time limit is imposed on all speakers addressing the Council under this heading.)

None

14.0 COUNCIL IDEAS AND QUESTIONS

14.1 Bill Edgar, City Manager, recommended moving the Natomas Basin Habitat Conservation Plan item, from Consent Calendar to evening Staff Report for the meeting of June 25th. Diane Guzman, Planning & Development Director, stated she had sent a letter to the City Clerk recommending a continuance of hearing items, Crystal Ice and R Street Corridor, to August 13th, because of the full agenda on June 25th.

- 14.2 Councilwoman Fargo requested staff come back with a response to the issues raised tonight by environmentalists about the mitigation plan for the Natomas Basin Habitat Conservation Plan.
- 14.3 Councilman Pannell announced Laguna Park's Grand Opening this Saturday.
- 14.4 Mr. Pannell requested Council place on the agenda and take a position on the school board bond initiative in the month of August.
- 14.5 Councilman Cohn announced the second east Sacramento "Pops In The Park" event.

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15.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

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ADJOURNMENT

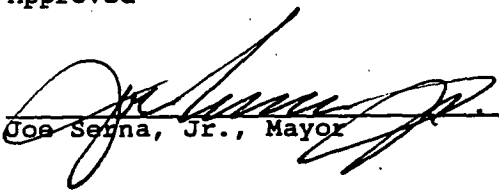
There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at the hour of 10:05 p.m.

Submitted



Valerie A. Burrowes, City Clerk

Approved



Joe Selna, Jr., Mayor