



Minutes of Ridgecrest's City Organization and Services Committee

City Council Chambers
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, California 93555

December 13, 2007
5:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER – 5:05p.m.

PRESENT: Council Members: Mayor Chip Holloway and Vice Mayor Tom Wiknich
Planning Commissioners: Nellavan Jeglum

ABSENT: Lois Beres

STAFF: Mike Avery, Assistant City Manager; Jim Winegardner, Administrative Services Director; Dennis Speer, Public Works Director; Ron Strand, Deputy Chief of Police; Tess Sloan, Finance Manager; Paul Wheeler, Sergeant; Craig Bradley, IT Supervisor; Nancy Young, P.A.C.T. Coordinator; Eva Peterson, Executive Secretary

OTHER ATTENDEES: Nathaniel Liedl, Daily Independent; Marilyn Jones, Epler Company

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Moved by Vice Mayor Wiknich, 2nd by Mayor Holloway

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Moved by Mayor Holloway, 2nd by Nellavan Jeglum

ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA:

Introduction of P.A.C.T. Coordinators

Addition of Public Comments Hereafter on Agenda

ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES:

OPEB Actuarial Study – Jim Winegardner began by stating that this is the “Other Post Employee Benefits” report other than pension. The City offers a small amount compared to other cities. Agencies with over 100 employees, an actuarial study must be done and Marilyn Jones with Epler Company explained how the plan works. Marilyn Jones is VP at Eplar Company, and was previously with a Big Four company. She has over 18 years of experience in her field. The three areas she will focus on today will be ARC (Annual Required Contribution), Net OPEB, and AAL (Actual Accrued Liability).

Marilyn Jones used the GASB 45 Actuarial Valuation hand-out prepared by Epler Company to present the purpose of the actuarial presentation. The purpose of the actuarial valuation was to estimate liability for retiree health benefits and to determine the impact of new accounting standards (GASB45) applicable to retiree health benefits. (See Jim Winegardner for GASB 45 detailed requirements). Mayor Holloway asked how many City retirees are currently enrolled in the plan and J. Winegardner replied we have 20 retirees enrolled. Some members of PEAR can

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go outside the CalPers plan and the City is still obligated to them due to their provision in the MOU.

Miscellaneous employees have to be enrolled in the CalPers plan. N. Jeglum asked if they do not choose this option, what do employees receive and J. Winegardner replied, “nothing”. M. Avery stated not all employees have elected to pick up this plan. Marilyn Jones stated that the assumption is that 50% of employees would elect this benefit. Mayor Holloway asked J. Winegardner if he recommend funding \$77,000? J. Winegardner, stated, “Yes.” Nellavan Jeglum questioned if this money is out of general funds and J. Winegardner stated it is out of payroll.

Website Update – M. Avery began stating discussion next week with military. Discussions will provide the committee with additional information on this topic at next’s months meeting. C. Bradley stated that the work on the website is vast and we do not have a dedicated webmaster. Therefore, the approach IT has taken is to dole out sections of the website content management to various City departments to handle. IT was approached by Cerro Coso Community College in the Spring of 2007 to have their students create a web design in HTML. It was a 6 week virtual class which taught the students how to communicate with their client, develop a website, do R&D, design, and produce ideas – everything but implementation. Mayor Holloway asked that some of the designs and ideas by the students be e-mailed to him. C. Bradley stated the City focuses on content and form and that even today IT held a training class. Tom Wiknich stated that individual Council pages and department head pages should have the ability for the public to interact. C. Bradley stated they are working on a new web version that will have more enhancements including blogs. M. Avery mentioned a meeting with the military is coming up and he will report what they come up with.

Introduction of P.A.C.T. Coordinators –M. Avery introduced Sergeant Paul Wheeler and P.A.C.T. Coordinator Nancy Young to the Committee. Nancy Young reported that P.A.C.T. will be working with Code Enforcement to assist in their efforts. P.A.C.T. has put in a total of 9,740 volunteers hours in various community volunteer activities such as animal welfare, nuisance abatement, patrol and other administrative duties. Nancy stated the 1st neighborhood watch meeting will take place next week and they have identified officers to attend the meeting. Graffiti removal will begin again. Training will begin to determine how volunteers can assist code enforcement. T. Wiknich asked if we can get a listing of neighborhood watch areas. M. Avery stated that the 9,740 of work by P.A.C.T. equates to \$180,000 dollars saved by the City of Ridgecrest. N. Jeglum asked how you can get a message to an officer in your district and Paul Wheeler stated you can call dispatch and they will get your message to the officer’s in-box.

New Potential Bus Route Program – D. Speer began by stating that the Ridgecrest Transit System is currently working at 4.2 farebox ratio and we can have our funding pulled if we are working below 10%. The Transit Development Plan that was prepared for Ridgecrest had various options developed which included:

- Our current service
- Flex service route
- Fixed service route

