

**TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 21, 2015**

OPENING CEREMONIES

Mayor Huntington called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Denison, Leone, Lombardo, and Mayor Huntington.
Council Member Abel was absent due to a planned vacation.

Staff Members Present: Town Manager Yakimow, Deputy Town Manager Stueckle, Town Attorney Laymon, Assistant Police Chief Wilke, Finance Manager Cisneros, and Town Clerk Copeland

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Huntington.

The Invocation was led by Pastor David DiFalco, Yucca Valley Church of the Nazarene.

PRESENTATIONS, INTRODUCTIONS, RECOGNITIONS

Mayor Huntington announced a change in the agenda to add a brief report by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department.

Assistant Police Chief Wilke gave the Town Council a brief update on recent police activity in Yucca Valley.

1. Proclamation- Child Abuse Prevention Month

Mayor Huntington presented a proclamation to San Bernardino County Children's Network in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month for April 2015.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Leone moved to approve the agenda for the Town Council meeting of April 21, 2015. Council Member Denison seconded. Motion carried 4-0-1 on a roll call vote.

AYES: Council Members Denison, Leone, Lombardo and Mayor Huntington
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Council Member Abel

CONSENT AGENDA

2. **Waive** further reading of all ordinances and read by title only
3. **Approve** Final Parcel Map No. 19392, Marrone and direct the Town Clerk to forward

the map to the San Bernardino County Recorder for recordation.

- 4. **Item Pulled**
- 5. **Authorize** the Town Manager to file a claim with the San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) for Local Transportation Funds (LTF) in the amount of \$55,306. **Amend** the LTF Fund 516 budget for FY2014-15 to reflect the decrease in revenue to \$55,306 and revise expenditures to accommodate the lower revenue.
- 6. **Approve** the amendment to Contract No. 14-609 between the County of San Bernardino and the Town of Yucca Valley contracting animal shelter services for a three year contract period to include FY 2015-16, FY 2016-17, and FY 2017-18
- 7. **Receive and file** the AB1234 Reporting Requirement Schedule for the month of March 2015

Council Member Denison requested to pull Item No. 4 from the Consent Agenda.

Mayor Huntington opened public comment on the Consent Agenda items 2, 3, 5-7. With no members of the public wishing to speak, public comments were closed.

Mayor Pro Tem Leone moved to approve the Consent Agenda items 2, 3, 5-7. Council Member Lombardo seconded. Motion carried 4-0-1 on a roll call vote.

- AYES:** Council Members Denison, Leone, Lombardo and Mayor Huntington
- NOES:** None
- ABSTAIN:** None
- ABSENT:** Council Member Abel

**Item No. 4. Authorization to Release Requests for Proposals
SR 62 Median Island Landscape Maintenance**

Deputy Town Manager Stueckle presented the staff report on the item.

Mayor Huntington opened public comments. With no member of the public wishing to speak, public comments were closed.

Council Member Denison inquired on possible long-term cost savings by replacing the existing median island vegetation with stamped concrete. Denison stated he would like to see an analysis of cost for median maintenance.

Mayor Pro Tem Leone would like to keep vegetation in the islands, but use cactus and other desert plants.

Council Member Lombardo inquired if there would be a cost savings with alternative design work and would like to see options before outsourcing maintenance.

Mayor Huntington offered that the current water issues may dictate the median design and concurred with other comments to have an opportunity to review a cost analysis and possible options.

Mayor Pro Tem Leone moved to direct staff to research alternative designs for the landscaped SR 62 Median Islands and bring back to the Town Council for further consideration. Council Member Denison seconded. Motion carried 4-0-1 on a roll call vote.

- AYES:** Council Members Denison, Leone, Lombardo and Mayor Huntington
- NOES:** None
- ABSTAIN:** None
- ABSENT:** Council Member Abel

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- 8. Active Transportation Program (ATP) – Cycle 2, Call for Projects**
- June 1, 2015 Appline Deadline**
- Safe Routes to Schools Project**
- Recreational and Multi-Purpose Trail Projects**
- Trails and Bike Routes Plan**
- General Plan Policies**
- Parks and Recreation Master Plan**

Deputy Town Manager Stueckle presented the staff report giving an overview of the Active Transportation Plan with the passing of Senate Bill 99 and Assembly Bill 101. The grant application is due to the California Department of Transportation by June 1, 2015, with funds available to successful applicants after July 1, 2016. Potential Town projects to consider are focused with similarity to the recent Safe Routes to Schools project for sidewalks near area schools.

Deputy Town Manager Stueckle continued by explaining the Town’s Trails Plan, enacted by resolution in 2005, and presented challenges as many of the identified trails have right-of-way issues and also infrastructure inadequacies to accommodate recreational trails.

Mayor Huntington opened public comment.

Susan Simmons, Yucca Valley spoke in favor of recreational trails and encouraged the Town Council to begin the planning process to accommodate such trails in the community.

Jennifer Thatcher Finch, Yucca Valley addressed the Town Council with the need of safe bike trails and routes through the community.

With no other members of the public wishing to speak, Mayor Huntington closed the public comments.

Mayor Pro Tem Leone spoke in favor of public comment and added that horse riding trails are also important and would like to set aside funding to move in the direction of developing equestrian trails.

Council Member Lombardo stated he is in favor of including additional sidewalks around the schools and explore the possibility of sharing right of ways with other public easements.

Council Member Denison spoke favorably of increasing designated trails in the community for pedestrians and bike riding. Denison commented that the area along Yucca Trail would help with students traveling to and from the schools on La Contenta.

Mayor Huntington inquired on the schedule of the grant's tight application schedule and spoke in favor of trying to include something useful for possible funding. Huntington is in favor with the idea of adding sidewalks near La Contenta, as well as looking at possible regional funding for trails along the Yucca Wash.

Mayor Pro Tem Leone moved to receive the presentation and direct staff to proceed with the Active Transportation Plan grant through Caltrans, with projects with high scoring potential and a benefit to the community. Council Member Lombardo seconded. Motion carried 4-0-1 on a roll call vote.

AYES: Council Members Denison, Leone, Lombardo and Mayor Huntington
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Council Member Abel

9. Town Facility Update and Award of Professional Services Contract

Town Manager Yakimow presented the staff report providing background on the Town’s current properties since the RDA dissolution, including the former Pomona First Federal Building. Yakimow explained that now that the RDA dissolution process is complete, the staff can once again begin to assess the property for usability, function and fit with the Town’s Facilities Master Plan. To effectively evaluate the best use for the property, it is recommended to engage an architectural firm to assist in determining the feasibility of utilizing the property for appropriate Town purposes, a possible lease option as a County facility or other potential uses consistent with the current municipal use designation.

Mayor Huntington opened public comment.

Susan Simmons, Yucca Valley spoke in favor of using the former PFF building as a new Town Hall and Council Chambers.

With no members of the public wishing to speak, Mayor Huntington closed public comments.

Mayor Pro Tem Leone stated he would like to see the former PFF building used for leasing to other agencies and suggested a lease to the Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) and American Automobile Association (AAA) for local services. Leone also spoke in favor of using the property for a public safety building.

Council Member Denison would like to see the building used for something that would best serve the community.

Council Member Lombardo moved to:

1. **Receive and file the status update of the prior Pomona First Federal bank building;**
2. **Authorize the award of contract to Gillis & Panichapan Architects, Incorporated for a not to exceed amount of \$60,600 for professional services related to assessments and concept activities for the existing facility, utilizing the Town’s standard contract form, and authorizing the Mayor, Town Manager and Town Attorney to execute the contract, subject to non-substantive changes;**
3. **Direct staff to work through the Town’s Public Facilities ad hoc committee for review, input and recommendations to the full Council;**
4. **Accept the offer of participation in the study from the County of San Bernardino, and direct staff to engage County staff as appropriate.**

Mayor Pro Tem Leone seconded. Motion carried 4-0-1 on a roll call vote.

AYES: Council Members Denison, Leone, Lombardo and Mayor Huntington
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Council Member Abel

10. Introduction of Ordinance No. 255 Amending Municipal Code Chapter 11.90, Relating to the Regulation of Registered Sex Offenders; CEQA Exemption 15061 (b)(3)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF TOWN MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 11.90, RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS, TO ALIGN WITH STATE LAW AND COMPLY WITH RECENT COURT DECISIONS

Town Attorney Laymon presented the staff report noting the need to update the Town’s Municipal Code to align with State laws and recent Supreme Court decisions relating to state and local regulation of sex offender residency.

Mayor Huntington opened public comment.

Susan Simmons, Yucca Valley spoke in opposition of the ordinance.

With no other members of the public wishing to speak, Mayor Huntington closed public comment.

Town Attorney Laymon explained the risk exposure if the recommended changes in the ordinance are not addressed.

Council Members Lombardo and Denison both spoke favorably of being aligned with State laws.

Mayor Pro Tem Leone moved to:

1. **Waive further reading and introduce, for first reading: “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF TOWN MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 11.90, RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS, TO ALIGN WITH STATE LAW AND COMPLY WITH RECENT COURT DECISIONS”**
2. **Finds that the project is exempt from CEQA in accordance with Section 15061 (b)(3) of the California Environmental Quality Act. The proposed amendment to revise the Town’s Municipal Code has no potential to impact the environment. The proposed amendment does not alter the existing requirements that specific development projects must comply with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act. Ordinance No. 255 meets the exemption criteria which states “that if an activity is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment and where it can be seen with**

certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA”

- 3. Take such other action as appropriate and consistent with the requirements of the law. (Alternative 3 on the staff report.)**

Council Member Lombardo seconded. Motion carried 4-0-1 on a roll call vote.

AYES: Council Members Denison, Leone, Lombardo and Mayor Huntington
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Council Member Abel

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None discussed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Huntington opened public comments.

Town Clerk Copeland announced that written correspondence has been received by Yucca Valley resident, Camille Chapell voicing opposition to Measure X.

With no other members of the public wishing to speak, Mayor Huntington closed public comments.

STAFF REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Deputy Town Manager Stueckle gave a brief update on the Dumosa signal project.

Assistant Police Chief Wilke spoke of the sex offender registry.

Town Manager Yakimow announced that the Town has a webpage dedicated to information on the upcoming special election for Measure X.

Yakimow thanked Museum Program Supervisor Stefanie Ritter and the Community Services staff for presenting a successful Earth Day Celebration.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

- 11. Council Member Lombardo thanked the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department for their work in the community.**

- 12.** Mayor Pro Tem Leone also expressed gratitude for the public safety officials at work in our Town, and thanked staff for the hard work on the Earth Day Celebration.
- 13.** Mayor Huntington thanked Town staff for the Earth Day event and gave a brief update on recent public engagements.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the Yucca Valley Town Council is scheduled for Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Yucca Valley Community Center Yucca Room

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Huntington adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lesley Copeland, CMC
Town Clerk