



**CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2015**

A regular meeting of the La Quinta City Council was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Mayor Evans.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Franklin, Osborne, Peña, Radi, Mayor Evans
 ABSENT: None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

CLOSED SESSION

1. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.8 FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT: SILVERROCK RESORT (APNS 770-200-026; 776-150-021; 776-150-023; 770-060-056; 770-060-057; 770-060-058; 770-060-059; 770-060-061; 770-060-062; 777-490-004; 777-490-006; 777-490-007; 777-490-012 AND 777-490-014)
 CITY NEGOTIATOR: FRANK J. SPEVACEK, CITY MANAGER
 NEGOTIATING PARTY: SILVERROCK DEVELOPMENT, LLC.
 UNDER NEGOTIATION: PRICE AND TERMS OF PAYMENT FOR ACQUISITION AND/OR DISPOSITION OF THE PROPERTY IDENTIFIED

2. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.8 FOR PROPERTY LOCATED: WITHIN FRITZ BURNS PARK, SOUTH OF AVENUE 52, EAST OF AVENIDA BERMUDAS, NORTH AND WEST OF TRADITIONS (PORTION OF APN 770-184-011).
 CITY NEGOTIATOR: LES JOHNSON, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
 NEGOTIATING PARTIES: DANEEN WILDER, VERIZON WIRELESS
 UNDER NEGOTIATION: PRICE AND TERMS OF PAYMENT FOR LEASE OF PROPERTY FOR CELL TOWER SITE

3. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR, TERRY DEERINGER, REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE LA QUINTA CITY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.6 MEET AND CONFER PROCESS

COUNCILMEMBER PEÑA ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAS A CONFLICT OF INTEREST REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEM NO. 2 DUE TO A BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP AS WELL AS PROXIMITY TO HIS PROPERTY AND WILL BE ABSENT DURING THE DISCUSSION AND VOTE, IF ANY, ON THIS ITEM.

COUNCIL RECESSED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 3:02 P.M.

MAYOR EVANS RECONVENED THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING AT 4:00 P.M. WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT. NO ACTIONS WERE TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION THAT REQUIRES REPORTING PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.1 (BROWN ACT).

MAYOR EVANS ANNOUNCED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL WILL RECESS AGAIN INTO CLOSED SESSION AT THE END OF THE OPEN SESSION PORTION OF THE MEETING TO FINISH THEIR DISCUSSION ON CLOSED SESSION ITEM NO. 3.

Councilmember Radi led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

PUBLIC SPEAKERS: The following speakers spoke against any proposal to euthanize a dog after the first time it bites a person:

1. Janet Litton, Palm Desert
2. Tabatha Davis, Paradise Valley
3. Kimberly Albert, La Quinta
4. Carol Brandel, La Quinta
5. Deborah Hardy Godley, La Quinta
6. Valerie Masi, Indio
7. Lisa Blodgett, La Quinta
8. Adriana Everson, La Quinta

Speakers suggested alternatives such as mandatory training; mandatory muzzling in some cases; mandatory spay/neutering and microchipping; evaluating bite incidents on a case-by-case basis; banning backyard breeders and puppy mills; forming a community task force to provide recommendations; and examining German dog laws for good examples.

Mayor Evans thanked speakers for their input and explained that the concept of euthanizing a dog after one bite was one of many proposals Council discussed at its last meeting. She asked the City Clerk to notify all the speakers when this matter is next on a Council agenda.

PUBLIC SPEAKER: Jim Mace, La Quinta – Mr. Mace spoke in favor of euthanizing dogs that bite. He also asked Council to consider restrictions on leaf blowers because they generate clouds of particles and aggravate respiratory problems.

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

City Attorney Ihrke requested that Consent Calendar Item No. 5 be pulled so he could point out minor corrections before the Council voted on the item. Council concurred.

City Clerk Maysels stated that the CV Link presentation was postponed to the August 4, 2015 agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Evans presented proclamations to outgoing board member/commissioner, Katherine Godbey (Investment Advisory Board Member) and Maria Ryser (Housing Commissioner) for their service to the City.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. **MINUTES OF JULY 7, 2015**
2. **DENY CLAIM FOR DAMAGES FILED BY ELIZABETH HAY; DATE OF LOSS - SEPTEMBER 8, 2014**
3. **AUTHORIZE OVERNIGHT TRAVEL FOR A CONTENT EDITOR/WRITER, EXECUTIVE OFFICE ASSISTANT AND THE HOUSING COORDINATOR TO ATTEND CALIFORNIA CITY CLERK'S ASSOCIATION "NUTS AND BOLTS" WORKSHOP, OCTOBER 8-9, 2015 IN BREA, CALIFORNIA**
4. **AUTHORIZE OVERNIGHT TRAVEL FOR TWO COUNCILMEMBERS, CITY MANAGER, ASSISTANT TO CITY MANAGER AND BUSINESS ANALYST TO ATTEND THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF SHOPPING CENTERS WESTERN DIVISION CONFERENCE IN SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, SEPTEMBER 16-18, 2015**
5. *pulled by City Attorney Ihrke to point out minor corrections for the record >>>*
APPROVE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT FOR FRANK J. SPEVACEK, CITY MANAGER
6. **ADOPT RESOLUTION APPROVING FINAL PARCEL MAP FOR PROPERTY LOCATED WEST OF EISENHOWER DRIVE AND NORTH OF AVENIDA FERNANDO**
[RESOLUTION 2015-034]
7. **ADOPT RESOLUTION APPROVING FINAL MAP AND SUBDIVISION IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT FOR LA QUINTA SQUARE DEVELOPMENT**
[RESOLUTION 2015-035]
8. **APPROVE DEMAND REGISTERS DATED JUNE 26, JULY 2 AND JULY 10, 2015**
9. **RECEIVE AND FILE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDED MAY 31, 2015**

MOTION – A motion was made and seconded by Councilmembers Franklin/Radi to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 1-4 and 6-9 as recommended with Item Nos. 6 and 7 adopting Resolutions 2015-034 and 2015-035 respectively. Motion passed unanimously.

City Attorney Ihrke explained the minor corrections needed to the Spevacek employment agreement.

MOTION – A motion was made and seconded by Councilmembers Franklin/Radi to approve Consent Calendar Item No. 5 as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS SESSION

1. APPOINT A LA QUINTA REPRESENTATIVE TO THE COACHELLA VALLEY MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT’S BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mayor Evans thanked all the applicants for their willingness to serve the City, and explained the process Council would follow in conducting the appointment.

The following applicants gave a brief presentation on their qualifications followed by a question and answer period between Council and the applicant:

- Richard N. Gray
- Mary Ann Hackney
- Douglas D. Hassett

City Clerk Maysels collected, tabulated and announced the votes as follows:

	<u>La Quinta Rep</u>	<u>La Quinta Alternate Rep</u>
Councilmember Franklin:	Doug Hassett	Mary Ann Hackney
Councilmember Osborne:	Doug Hassett	Richard Gray
Councilmember Peña:	Doug Hassett	Mary Ann Hackney
Councilmember Radi:	Doug Hassett	Richard Gray
Mayor Evans:	Doug Hassett	Richard Gray

Councilmembers discussed and reached the consensus that a resident may serve simultaneously on an internal and an external board.

MOTION – A motion was made and seconded by Councilmembers Osborne/Radi to appoint Doug Hassett to the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District Board of Trustees to complete the term of Robert Cox expiring December 31, 2016, and to appoint Richard Gray as La Quinta’s Alternate. Motion passed unanimously.

2. RENAME FIRE STATION NO. 32 IN MEMORY OF LA QUINTA PARAMEDIC/ FIREFIGHTER CHRISTOPHER DOUGLAS

Marketing and Events Supervisor Larson presented the staff report, which is on file in the City Clerk’s Office.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS: The following speakers spoke in favor of renaming the fire station in memory of Christopher Douglas, who was a paramedic, coworker, husband and father, and active community member:

- Riverside County Fire Unit Chief John Hawkins
- Riverside County Deputy Chief Dorian Cooley
- Amy Douglas, widow of Christopher Douglas
- Patrice Healy, local teacher and mother of a firefighter

Councilmembers remembered Chris and suggested increasing the lettering size; adding Chris' badge number and the firefighters' cross above or below his name; and adding the fire station to La Quinta's places of interest.

MOTION – A motion was made by all Councilmembers simultaneously to rename Fire Station No. 32 to the “Christopher Douglas Memorial Fire Station” with the sign and dedication ceremony funded by CalFire. The City will fund any additional costs related to implementation of Council's above suggestions. Motion passed unanimously.

3. INTRODUCE ORDINANCE TO EXPEDITE PERMITTING PROCEDURES FOR SMALL RESIDENTIAL ROOFTOP SOLAR SYSTEMS AND ADD CHAPTER 8.90 TO THE LA QUINTA MUNICIPAL CODE [ORDINANCE NO. 527]

Building Official Hanada presented the staff report, which is on file in the City Clerk's Office. City Attorney Ihrke pointed out two typos to be corrected in the ordinance.

MOTION – A motion was made and seconded by Councilmembers Radi/Osborne to take up Ordinance No. 527 as corrected by title and number only and waive further reading. Motion passed unanimously.

City Clerk Maysels read the following title of Ordinance 527 in to the record:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA QUINTA, CALIFORNIA, ADDING CHAPTER 8.90 OF THE LA QUINTA MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO EXPEDITED PERMITTING PROCEDURES FOR SMALL RESIDENTIAL ROOFTOP SOLAR SYSTEMS

MOTION – A motion was made and seconded by Councilmembers Radi/Franklin to introduce at first reading, Ordinance No. 527 thereby adding Chapter 8.90 relating to expedited permitting procedures for small residential solar systems. Motion passed unanimously.

STUDY SESSION

1. LOGO REFINEMENT DISCUSSION

Marketing & Events Supervisor Larson presented the staff report, which is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Councilmembers discussed a general disappointment in all options; reasons for not including the tag line: *Gem of the Desert* in the logo; how to convey the meaning of the gem graphic so it does not come across as a jewelry store logo; requirement of different specs when the logo is to be used on paper versus an electronic medium, and; general support for the new font with the thicker lines but not the gem graphic.

By consensus of Council, staff was directed to give Graphtek free reign to provide five to ten logo options using only the preferred new thick-lined font as a starting point.

2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

Business Analyst Shove presented the staff report, which is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Councilmembers discussed their appreciation for the tactical plan and its measurable aspect; the understanding that economic development is a long-term endeavor; the need for La Quinta to stand out among neighboring cities that are all attempting to be business and permit-friendly; avenues for citizen input; importance of focusing on sectors and segments of the economy that have an affinity for this environment, e.g. retail; the need to address incentives to attract businesses; openness to land banking opportunities; partnership with regional organizations with like goals and objectives; wish list for types of businesses to attract; and need to consider surveying all those who hold business licenses to gauge their satisfaction in doing business with the City.

3. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT CODE TUNE UP

Planning Manager Perez presented the staff report, which is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Councilmembers discussed networking with other cities using the same permitting software; possibility of integrating approvals required from other agencies; importance of public input received and need to continue to seek it; support for the planned mix of ad hoc committees, outreach to stakeholders, and face-to-face meetings; recommendation to conduct a blind consumer test by sending a novice through the permit process; the advantage of feedback from local development professionals who are able to compare La Quinta with other communities in which they work; importance of maintaining La Quinta's high quality of residential and commercial development, which cannot be lost in streamlining effort; possibility of holding the community meeting at a local business; and the aggressiveness of the proposed implementation timeline.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 526 AMENDING SEVERAL CHAPTERS OF TITLE 5 RELATING TO BUSINESS REGULATIONS AND DELETING CHAPTERS 5.16, 5.28, 5.44, 5.52, AND 11.60

City Clerk Maysels presented the staff report, which is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

MAYOR EVANS DECLARED THE PUBLIC HEARING OPEN AT 6:50 P.M.

PUBLIC SPEAKER: None

MAYOR EVANS DECLARED THE PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 6:50 P.M.

MOTION – A motion was made and seconded by Councilmembers Osborne/Radi to adopt Ordinance No. 526. Motion passed unanimously.

>>> COUNCILMEMBER PEÑA LEFT THE MEETING AT 6:51 P.M.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Department Reports were received and filed. Copies are available in the City Clerk's Office.

Regarding the marketing report, Mayor Evans requested that the Time Warner Cable ads be shown to Council, and next year's ads, released before or during the Goldenvoice concerts, include La Quinta hotels.

Regarding the police quarterly report, Mayor Evans committed to assist with the promotion of the new NIXLE alert system whereby residents text "LQPD" to the number 88877 for active information on their cellular phones about road closures, emergencies, or community messages as they occur. Mayor Evans also congratulated LQPD staff for the growth in the Citizens on Patrol program and the phenomenal Cadet Academy.

Regarding the fire department quarterly report, Mayor Evans expressed support for exploring collaborative permitting.

MAYOR'S AND COUNCIL MEMBER'S ITEMS

Councilmember Osborne commented on the wonderful success of the Cadet Academy program, and reported on his attendance at the Coachella Valley Economic Partnership as representative of his firm.

Mayor Evans promoted the Salton Sea license plate fundraiser, and the July 22, 2015 blood drive at Embassy Suites. She also commented on the Palm Springs International Airport minutes, which cite statistics showing the majority of visitors to California are coming from Mexico and China. This supports the targeting of Mexico and China with campaigns to bring more of those visitors to the Coachella Valley.

REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

La Quinta's representative for 2015, Councilmember Franklin, reported on her participation in the following organizations' meetings:

- SUNLINE
- COACHELLA VALLEY MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
- JACQUELINE COCHRAN REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

La Quinta's representative for 2015, Councilmember Osborne, reported on his participation in the following organizations' meetings:

- CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INFO EXCHANGE COMMITTEE
- EAST VALLEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COALITION
- LA QUINTA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE

La Quinta's representative for 2015, Councilmember Radi, reported on his participation in the following organization's meeting:

- RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

COUNCIL RECESSED AGAIN INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 7:15 P.M.

COUNCIL RECONVENED THE MEETING AT 8:02 P.M. WITH FOUR MEMBERS PRESENT AND COUNCILMEMBER PEÑA ABSENT. NO ACTIONS WERE TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION THAT REQUIRES REPORTING PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.1 (BROWN ACT).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded by Councilmembers Osborne/Franklin to adjourn at 8:03 p.m. Motion passed: Ayes 4, noes 0, absent 1 (Peña).

Respectfully submitted,

SUSAN MAYSELS, City Clerk
City of La Quinta, California