

**CITY OF WILDOMAR
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JULY 7, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER – CLOSED SESSION - 3:30 P.M.

The special meeting of July 7, 2011, of the Wildomar City Council was called to order by Mayor Swanson at 3:30 p.m.

City Council Roll Call showed the following Members in attendance: Mayor Swanson, Council Members Cashman, Moore, and Walker. Members absent: Mayor Pro Tem Benoit.

City Clerk Lee announced the following:

The City Council will meet in closed session pursuant to the provisions of Government Code Section 54956(c) to confer with legal counsel regarding potential initiation of litigation. The facts and circumstances for this closed session relate to the recent approval by the State of California of SB 89.

At 4:30 p.m. the City Council reconvened into open session, with Mayor Pro Tem Benoit absent, making no announcements.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gil Rasmussen, Wildomar Magazine, stated last week three of the Council Members went to the press conference of Supervisor Stone regarding his idea of a Southern California succession from the State of California. Because that was not discussed in an open public session the Council Members represented that Wildomar was in favor of this idea. He has no confidence in the Council.

Sheryl Ade, resident, stated she did not appreciate the three Council Members representing the City at the Supervisor Stone press conference. The Council does not represent her on that matter. There was no discussion at an open public meeting before the Council did that.

1.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

A MOTION was made by Councilwoman Moore, seconded by Councilman Walker, to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

MOTION carried, 4-0, with Mayor Pro Tem Benoit absent.

1.1 Ratify Lobbying Contract with Gonsalves & Sons

Ratified a contract with Gonsalves & Sons for State lobbying services.

2.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

2.1 Senate Bill 89 Fiscal Impact Discussion

City Clerk Lee read the title.

City Manager Oviedo presented the staff report giving a brief synopsis of that has transpired since June 29 and the passage of SB 89.

Gil Rasmussen, Wildomar Magazine, stated he said under public comments that he has no confidence in the Council, he would like to correct that and state that he does have confidence in Councilman Cashman. In terms of what the City can do in wake of SB 89, cut the police contract, stop fighting the marijuana clinic, cut the animal control contract, and move City Hall to Marna O'Brien in some modular buildings so there would be no more lease payments.

Sheryl Ade, resident, using time donated by George Taylor, stated having this is devastating to the City, but remember when considering the cuts, they are just temporary. It may take a while, but it won't be forever. Cut the police and animal contracts, because if the worst happens and the City is no longer a City and reverts back to the County, they will get nothing. That is the leverage. Keep the fire contract in tact due to our high fire area. Go to basic health coverage. Relocate City Hall and find out if there is somewhere the City can go that is much cheaper. She and Mr. Rasmussen have been in contact with Supervisor Buster's office regarding the \$186,000. They are researching this and it may be possible to have a community center and the City Hall could be there. No new hiring or contract employees. She will work part-time for the City at no compensation if that is possible.

City Manager Oviedo read a letter into the record from Mayor Pro Tem Benoit regarding his absence at the meeting.

Councilman Walker stated he would like the Staff to look into a reduction in the Sheriff's costs. The Fire contract should also be looked at even though it is fire season right now. Unfortunately these are the two highest costs of the budget.

Councilman Cashman stated maybe the Council could go to meeting just once per month. Could there also be some legal savings if we just met once per month. For code enforcement, could we outline just the one thing we want focused on and only do that until such time as we have cash. That would cut back on the hours of code enforcement. We haven't really solved the parks issues, but could we contract community services differently and realize savings there. The Sheriff's contract has to be cut and we need to renegotiate the contract. In regards to the parks, cut down the grass areas so there isn't as much to keep up. We also need to look into putting a well in at Marna O'Brien.

Councilman Walker stated we have a contractor who is checking out the well for us.

City Manager Oviedo stated that Staff has worked with a contractor and have received a verbal estimate of \$70,000 to put a new well in at Marna O'Brien.

Councilman Cashman stated he would like to again suggest cutting 10% across the board. This is what is done where he works. He would like to cut Council travel back and cut health benefits to the Council as well.

Councilwoman Moore stated in regards to code enforcement, some people say we have too much, others say we don't have enough. We only have one code enforcement officer, so that would need to be considered. Instead of just looking at just the community services contract, we need to look at all contracts, such as Interwest, the attorney, all across the board.

Mayor Swanson stated she would like to commend the City Manager and Assistant City Manager for staying on top of this situation. So far she hasn't heard any new ideas that Staff hasn't already come forward with or is working on. She thanked Ms. Ade for her comment that this situation is only temporary, because that is exactly what is. Staff and Council are doing an excellent job at looking at every suggestion. One suggestion was to have Council meetings during the day when contract Staff is here so there are no added costs. No matter what we do we are going to do we are going to stay a City, there are no doubts about that. Also, there is a big misunderstanding about why Council Members were with Supervisor Stone at the press conference. It had nothing at all to do with succession. It had to do with SB 89 and you never heard the Council speak of succession. The Council only spoke about SB 89 and nothing else. Now is the time to come together and not argue and fight. Even if the Council and Staff worked for free and took no insurance, it wouldn't be \$1.8

million. There are bigger cuts that need to be made. Wildomar will not be the same City it was one year ago, but we will be a City and want local control.

Councilman Walker stated Supervisor Stone was being interviewed about his succession idea before everyone got there. He was being interviewed separately about that and was only for him, not the Council Members who were there from the affected cities of SB 89. When the press conference started regarding SB 89, what he saw was a Supervisor fighting for one of his cities, Menifee, and he added Wildomar into it. He has not seen Wildomar's Supervisor come forward and fight for Wildomar. Supervisor Buster is not answering phone calls or talking with Wildomar at all.

Mayor Swanson inquired if Staff has enough direction.

City Manager Oviedo stated Staff is hearing everything and will be looking into the suggestions made.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, at 5:15 p.m. Mayor Swanson declared the meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:

Approved by:



Debbie A. Lee, CMC
City Clerk



Marsha Swanson
Mayor