
**CITY OF BIG BEAR LAKE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING
MAY 12, 2008**

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Big Bear Lake was called to order by Mayor Herrick at 6:33 p.m., Monday, May 12, 2008, at the Civic Center, 39707 Big Bear Boulevard, Big Bear Lake, California.

Moment of Silence

Flag Salute: Led by Mayor Pro Tem Jahn

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Rick Herrick
 Mayor Pro Tem Bill Jahn
 Councilmember Liz Harris
 Councilmember Michael Karp
 Councilmember Darrell Mulvihill

Councilmembers Excused: None

Others Present: Jeff Mathieu, City Manager
 Steve Deitsch, City Attorney
 Katherine E. Jefferies, City Clerk
 Kathleen Smith, Chief Operations Officer
 John Morley, Fire Chief

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CLOSED SESSION

None.

RESULTS OF CLOSED SESSION

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION pursuant to
 Government Code Section 54956.9 (a)
 Name of Parties: City of Big Bear Lake v Reed
 Case Number: VCV08343 – San Bernardino Superior Court

No reportable action.

2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION pursuant to
 Government Code Section 54956.9 (c)
 Number of Cases: 1

Tabled.

3. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION pursuant to Government Code Section 54957

Title of Position: Fire Chief

No reportable action.

4. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

Fire District Representatives: City Manager and District Counsel

Unrepresented Employee: Fire Chief

No reportable action.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion by Councilmember Harris, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jahn to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming events scheduled for the Performing Arts Center – For ticket information please contact the box office at 866-4970 or www.citybigbearlake.com

- “Stringfest 2008 – Teacher, Students & Friends” – May 16 at 7:30 p.m.
- Bear Valley Studio of the Performing Arts presents “Swingtime at the PAC” – May 17 at 7:30 p.m., & May 18 at 2:30 p.m.
- “Stringfest 2008: A String Extravaganza II” – May 22 at 6:30 p.m.
- Big Bear Performing Arts Center Foundation presents The Young Americans – May 24 at 2:00 p.m., & 7:00 p.m.
- The Big Bear High School Music Department presents “The Pirates of Penzance” – May 29 – May 31 at 7:30 p.m.

The City Council Meeting scheduled for May 26, 2008 has been cancelled in observance of the Memorial Day Holiday. City offices will also be closed that day.

Caltrans will hold a public meeting on Tuesday, May 13 at 6:00 p.m., in Hofert Hall to discuss upcoming projects in our area, the bridge replacement over the Dam project, and the ‘Safe Roads’ Campaign.

PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Herrick presented a Proclamation to Councilmember Harris in support of Big Bear's Wild West Storyfest scheduled for May 24 - 25, 2008.

PUBLIC FORUM

Thomas O'Neil, Big Bear Lake: discussed his concerns regarding the fact that many neighborhoods in the City have homes that are blighted, or in violation of various compliance codes, which detracts potential buyers from purchasing homes that are for sale. He urged the City to send out letters of compliance to those homeowners, and if the homeowner does not respond in a responsible timeframe, then the City should be prepared to clean up the property and bill the owner. He volunteered his time to help staff prepare and send out the letters.

PUBLIC FORUM RESPONSE

City Manager Mathieu responded that he would have staff look into the concerns addressed by Mr. O'Neil.

1. CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Councilmember Harris, seconded by Councilmember Karp to approve the Consent Calendar as follows:

1.1 Approval of Demands – Check Issue Date 04/22/08 through 05/05/08 – check Nos. 41416 through 41681, in the amount of \$537,020.32

Approved.

1.2 Continuance of the Declaration of the Local State of Emergency

Continued the Declaration of the Local State of Emergency due to the drought and Bark Beetle infestation.

1.3 Fireworks Ordinance

Council consideration of adopting an ordinance amending the California Fire Code, 2007 Edition, Chapter 33, regulating and governing fireworks.

Adopted the following ordinance, entitled:

preventing Quagga Mussel infestation in the lake, in an amount not to exceed \$12,000.

This item was removed from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion.

1.8 Approval of the Minutes from the Workshop Meeting of February 4, 2008 and the Special Meeting of February 25, 2008

Approved as presented.

The Consent Calendar was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Harris, Herrick, Karp, Jahn, Mulvihill
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

2. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

2.1 Solid Waste and Sanitation Charges

Council consideration of directing staff to mail a notice of public hearing to consider an ordinance approving an increase in solid waste and sanitation charges to each property owner in the City, and authorize the expenditure of approximately \$3,700, from sewer and refuse funds, for mail house services to print, distribute the notice and provide postage.

Motion by Councilmember Harris, seconded by Councilmember Karp to direct staff to mail a notice of public hearing to consider an ordinance approving an increase in solid waste and sanitation charges to each property owner in the City, and authorize the expenditure of approximately \$3,700, from sewer and refuse funds, for mail house services to print, distribute the notice and provide postage.

Said Motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Harris, Herrick, Karp, Jahn
NOES: Mulvihill
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

2.2 Nationwide Campaign to Save Tax Funds by Ending Discrimination by Bond Rating Agencies in the Grading of Municipal Bonds

Council consideration of a resolution supporting reform of the bond rating system to eliminate discrimination against municipal bonds.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Jahn, seconded by Councilmember Harris to adopt the following resolution, entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIG BEAR LAKE, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING REFORM OF THE BOND RATING SYSTEM TO ELIMINATE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST MUNICIPAL BONDS

Said Motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Harris, Herrick, Karp, Jahn, Mulvihill
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

2.3 Valley-Wide Water Summit Meeting

Council consideration of moving forward with setting a date for a Valley-wide Water Summit meeting.

Mayor Herrick discussed the importance of moving forward with a Valley-wide water summit meeting and the importance of the entire Council being involved in the process.

Councilmember Karp discussed that he would prefer that discussions begin between the City, DWP, and Big Bear City Community Services District prior to meeting with other representatives from the valley.

Mayor Pro Tem Jahn responded that he felt that discussions should not be limited to just the City, the DWP, and the Big Bear City Community Services District, as the list is ready to be discussed by all of the agencies in the Valley.

Steve Foulkes, Department of Water & Power Chair: discussed his concerns that a Valley-wide meeting at this point in time is premature. He stated that the 19 water source ideas and suggestions that came out of the joint City Council and DWP meeting should be discussed and evaluated by staff prior to discussions with the other agencies. He urged the council to allow the DWP staff three or four months to research the ideas and prepare recommendations for each of the items.

Councilmember Harris stated that she would agree to give the DWP time to develop a report and recommendations prior to scheduling the summit. She also recommended that an outside consultant be hired to facilitate the meeting.

Councilmember Mulvihill concurred with Councilmember Harris but asked that the other agencies be asked to share in the cost of the facilitator.

Motion by Councilmember Harris, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jahn to allow the Department of Water & Power time to review and evaluate the list of water source ideas and to prepare a report with recommendations to the City Council within three to four months.

Said Motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Harris, Herrick, Karp, Jahn, Mulvihill
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

At the hour of 7:48 p.m., Council adjourned to the Improvement Agency.

IMPROVEMENT AGENCY

Improvement Agency proceedings are contained in separate minutes.

At the hour of 8:40 p.m., the Improvement Agency adjourned to the Fire Protection District.

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Fire Protection District proceedings are contained in separate minutes.

At the hour of 8:42 p.m., the Fire Protection District adjourned to Regular Council Session.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

1.4 Department of Water & Power Water Standby Fees

Council consideration of a resolution initiating proceedings to adopt a Standby Charge for properties without water service within the Department of Water & Power's service area and setting the Public Hearing for June 9, 2008.

Motion by Councilmember Mulvihill, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jahn to adopt the following resolution, entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-10

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BIG BEAR LAKE, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, INITIATING PROCEEDINGS TO READOPT THE STANDBY CHARGE FOR UNDEVELOPED PROPERTY WITHIN THE SERVICE AREA OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER AND SETTING A DATE FOR THE HEARING PROTESTS

Said Motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Harris, Herrick, Karp, Jahn, Mulvihill
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

1.7 Request for Financial Assistance from Big Bear Municipal Water District to Prevent Quagga Mussel Infestation in Lake

Council consideration of approving a request from Big Bear Municipal Water District for financial assistance for part-time weekend inspectors to aid in preventing Quagga Mussel infestation in the lake, in an amount not to exceed \$12,000.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Jahn, seconded by Councilmember Harris to approve a request from Big Bear Municipal Water District for financial assistance for part-time weekend inspectors to aid in preventing Quagga Mussel infestation in the lake, in an amount not to exceed \$12,000.

Said Motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Harris, Herrick, Karp, Jahn, Mulvihill
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Councilmember Karp asked for a future discussion item on the various ways the City and Council can relay information and interface with the general public, such as through meetings; electronic newsletters, and website blogs, in order to create a more open government.

COMMITTEE REPORT/COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Harris reported that she plans to attend a meeting scheduled by Bear Valley Electric regarding their proposed rate increase to cover capital, regulatory and cost of living increases.

Mayor Pro Tem Jahn reported that he and Mayor Herrick met with the Veterans Committee to finalize the details for the unveiling of the Memorial Wall for the Fallen Warriors of Big Bear Valley. He stated that a Memorial Day ceremony will take place at 10:00 a.m., on May 26th, and encouraged everyone to attend. He reported that he attended a SCAG meeting and participated in a tour of the Port of Long Beach to see the process on how freight and cargo arrive into Southern California. He also reported on the recent SANBAG meeting that he attended and stated that SANBAG has taken an official position of "No" on Proposition 98, and "Yes" on Proposition 99.

Councilmember Karp reported on the Mojave Desert/Mtn. Integrated Waste JPA quarterly meeting that he had attended and discussed that emphasis is being placed on the reduction of plastic shopping bags going to the landfills.

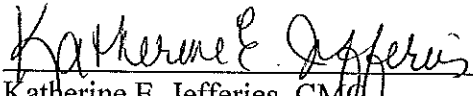
Mayor Herrick reported that he recently had an opportunity to meet the Pacific Southwest Regional Forester Randy Morris who stopped by Big Bear during a tour of our local forest. He stated that Forester Morris spoke with confidence that the region is prepared to respond to wildfires and assist our fire personnel.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

City Manager Mathieu reported that on May 13th at 6:00 p.m., in Hofert Hall, Caltrans would be presenting the status of the bridge replacement program over the dam and encouraged the council and public to attend.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council at this session, Mayor Herrick adjourned the meeting at 9:12 p.m.



Katherine E. Jefferies, CMAA
City Clerk

APPROVED AT THE MEETING OF: August 25, 2008_____