

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE

CITY OF COSTA MESA CITY COUNCIL

April 14, 2010

The City Council of the City of Costa Mesa, California met in a Special Meeting on Wednesday, April 14, 2010, at 6:35 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 77, Fair Drive, Costa Mesa. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mansoor.

I. ROLL CALL:

Council Members Present: Mayor Allan R. Mansoor
Mayor Pro Tem Wendy Leece
Council Member Eric R. Bever
Council Member Katrina Foley
Council Member Gary Monahan

Council Members Absent: None

Officials Present: City Manager Allan Roeder
Assistant City Manager Thomas Hatch
City Attorney Kimberly Hall Barlow
City Clerk Julie Folcik

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Sandra Genis, Costa Mesa, reminded the Council regarding the limits in scope of the discussions that may be held in closed session and that which is permissible by law. She encouraged the Council to continue their pursuits but to proceed with caution.

Reggie Mundekij, Orange, expressed appreciation and encouraged the Council to continue in their attempt to purchase the fairgrounds. She reminded the council of the example of the Anaheim Convention Center which is owned by the City of Anaheim and how it was operated by a private enterprise that has maximized its potential and has "forwarded the city's own agenda."

Greg Ridge, (no city given), encouraged the Council to proceed, noting the potential of the fairgrounds and noted that "it is legacy time". He felt that there was great potential for the community, the importance for future growth of the city, as well as economic growth.

It was unanimously agreed to take Agenda Item No. 2 out of order.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEM

2. Consideration of proposal for purchase of Orange County Fair and Exposition Center.

City Manager Allan Roeder made a presentation that highlighted the chronology of events that had transpired since May 2009 when Governor Schwarzenegger proposed to sell state assets including the Orange County Fair and Event Center. He noted the actions that have been taken by the city in its effort to preserve the fairgrounds; from its efforts to stop the sale to the current attempt to negotiate the city's acquisition of the fairgrounds and hold it in public trust. He informed that the City was granted 30 days of exclusive negotiations with a proposal due on April 21, 2010.

He noted the principles supporting the negotiations emphasizing that it would not be through the use of Costa Mesa public funds or by putting the Costa Mesa taxpayers at risk, but instead would seek to finance through a consortium of interested parties for the purchase of the property.

Council Member Gary Monahan expressed his appreciation to those involved in the preparation of the proposal thus far.

Sandra Genis, Costa Mesa, expressed her appreciation for the hard work that had gone into the negotiations and suggested that Council also establish a goal to "maintain the quality of life of the surrounding neighborhood."

III. CLOSED SESSION

1. Conference with Real Property Negotiators – Property: 88 Fair Drive. Agency Negotiator: Allan Roeder, City Manager. Negotiating parties: State of California, Under negotiation: price, terms of payment. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8.

The Mayor recessed the meeting to Conference Room 1B for the close session at 7:04 p.m.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was reconvened at 8:05 p.m. and it was announced that no action was taken. The special meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.