

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

March 1981

COMMENTS BY
CITY COUNCILMEN

CITY CLERK
DIRECTED TO
PROCEED WITH
ORAL ASSISTANCE
ONLY ON FUTURE
MUNICIPAL
ELECTIONS

RES. NO. 81-45

Following introduction of the matter by Mayor Pro Tempore Murphy, with a report regarding the subject given by City Clerk Reimche, at the request of the Council, on motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Murphy, Pinkerton second, Council adopted Resolution No. 81-45 directing the City Clerk to conduct all future elections with oral assistance only for minority languages under the Voters Rights Act (1975 Amendment). The motion carried by unanimous vote of all Council members present at the time of the action.

RESOLUTION NO. 81-45

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
LODI DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO CONDUCT ALL
FUTURE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS WITH ORAL ASSISTANCE
ONLY FOR MINORITY LANGUAGES UNDER THE VOTERS
RIGHTS ACT (1975 AMENDMENT)

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Lodi has been keenly concerned with the costs incurred in providing multi-language election material pursuant to the 1975 Amendments to the Voting Rights Act.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Lodi, over the past several years, has made a concerted effort to determine the benefits to the citizens of this community for such a costly program. In canvassing the municipal election results in this community since the enactment of this legislation, it has been determined that the Spanish language portion of the ballot has not been utilized.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Lodi directed the City Clerk of this City to correspond with the President of the United States expressing the points heretofore set forth and pleading that in view of the present economy of the nation and the financial reversals being encountered by cities throughout this nation that immediate action be taken to rescind the multi-lingual requirements of the subject act.

WHEREAS, the letter directed to President Reagan was referred to the U.S. Department of Justice and on April 13, 1981 a written response was received from David H. Hunter, Attorney, Voting Section, U.S. Justice Department, which states in part as follows:

"It is the view of the Attorney General that the Voting Rights Act does not require jurisdiction to undertake minority language electoral activities that would not further the goal of enabling minority language citizens to participate effectively in the electoral process. You may wish to consider whether given the circumstances you describe the City of Lodi might not better focus its minority language efforts on the provisions of Spanish language oral assistance in voting precincts that

have significant numbers of actual or potential voters of Spanish heritage who are not proficient in the English language and on publicity for the availability of such assistance."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Lodi does hereby direct Alice M. Reimche, City Clerk of the City of Lodi, to conduct all future Municipal elections with oral assistance only for minority languages under the Voters Rights Act (1975 Amendment).

Dated: May 6, 1981

I hereby certify that Resolution No. 81-45 was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Lodi in a regular meeting held May 6, 1981 by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmen - Murphy, Pinkerton, Katnich
and McCarty

Noes: Councilmen - None

Absent: Councilmen - Hughes



ALICE M. REIMCHE
City Clerk