

**LODI CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CARNEGIE FORUM, 305 WEST PINE STREET
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2005**

A. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The Special City Council meeting of February 15, 2005, was called to order by Mayor Beckman at 7:02 a.m.

Present: Council Members – Hansen, Hitchcock, Johnson, Mounce, and Mayor Beckman

Absent: Council Members – None

Also Present: City Manager King, City Attorney Schwabauer, and City Clerk Blackston

B. REGULAR CALENDAR

B-1 “Discussion regarding budget schedule and public forum”

City Manager King reviewed the 2005-06 budget schedule as presented in the staff report. The first draft of the comprehensive one-year budget is anticipated to ready by March 15. A town hall meeting will be held on March 30, at which a board game will be played called “Balance or Bust.” Mr. King explained that the game was developed by the city of Cupertino and is designed to be an interactive way to help citizens understand the budget process and trade offs that result from various actions. Following the board game, staff will give a presentation on the City of Lodi’s 2005-06 budget. During the month of May, Tuesday morning meetings will be held regarding the budget, with June 1 as the target date for adoption.

Council Member Johnson voiced his desire that outreach in the community be as broad as possible.

Council Member Hansen felt that it would be important to set clear expectations for participants, i.e. that it would be an educational exercise and is not intended to formulate decisions about the budget.

Council Member Mounce noted that the budget was serious business and pointed out that there were employees at the end of the numbers, which are very important to the Council. She hoped the public would not think otherwise, because a game was being played.

Mayor Pro Tempore Hitchcock felt that Tuesday morning meetings were not convenient for the public.

Mayor Beckman suggested that budget discussions begin at the first regularly scheduled meeting in May to allow for greater public participation.

MOTION / VOTE:

There was no Council action taken on this matter.

B-2 “Discussion and appropriate action regarding proposed City Council team-building session”

City Manager King noted that at a previous meeting Council brought up the issue of holding a team-building session. At the Mayor’s request, staff contacted Pastor Dale Edwards who offered his services to conduct the session on March 5 from 8:00 to 12:00 p.m.

Council Member Johnson recalled that only Mayor Pro Tempore Hitchcock and Mayor Beckman had requested the team-building session. Mr. Johnson stated that he was not in favor of it; however, he would participate if Council chose to proceed.

Council Member Mounce expressed a neutral opinion about the concept.

Council Member Hansen recalled that the recommendation for a team-building session first arose in 2004 during a volatile, contentious time on the Council. Due to changes that have occurred since then, he no longer felt there was a need.

Mayor Pro Tempore Hitchcock stated that team-building should be done before problems arise in an effort to avoid them. She stated that it helps to understand, value, and appreciate differences in others. She felt that working together as a group could be more effective than working together individually.

Council Member Johnson countered that as a Council Member he makes his own decisions and did not necessarily wish to be part of a team. Each Member looks at things independently, in different ways, and there is an advantage to that.

Mayor Beckman stated that he felt neutral about the concept of a team-building session and asked City Manager King to communicate with Pastor Edwards that the Council will decline his offer at this time.

MOTION / VOTE:

There was no Council action taken on this matter.

C. CLOSED SESSION

The following Closed Session matters were cancelled and not discussed.

- C-1 Actual Litigation: Government Code §54956.9(a); one case; City of Lodi v. City of Stockton, et al., San Joaquin County Superior Court, Stockton Branch, Case No. CV024720
- C-2 Actual Litigation: Government Code §54956.9(a); one case; City of Stockton v. City of Lodi, San Joaquin County Superior Court, Stockton Branch, Case No. CV024859
- C-3 Actual Litigation: Government Code §54956.9(a); one case; Stockton Family Farmers Coalition v. City of Lodi, et al., San Joaquin County Superior Court, Stockton Branch, Case No. CV024860
- C-4 Actual litigation: Government Code §54956.9(a); one case; City of Lodi, a California Municipal Corporation, and Lodi Financing Corporation, a California nonprofit corporation v. Lehman Brothers, Inc. and US Bank National Association, United States District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. CIV. S-04-0606 MCE-KJM
- C-5 Actual litigation: Government Code §54956.9(a); one case; Lehman Brothers Inc., v. City of Lodi and Lodi Financing Corporation, United States District Court, Eastern District of California Case No. CIV-S-04-0850 FCD/JFM

D. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION / DISCLOSURE OF ACTION – N/A

E. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:41 a.m.

ATTEST:

Susan J. Blackston
City Clerk