

**LODI CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CARNEGIE FORUM, 305 WEST PINE STREET  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2004**

A. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The Special City Council meeting of December 14, 2004, was called to order by Mayor Beckman at 7:04 a.m.

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

Absent: Council Members – None

Also Present: Interim City Manager Keeter, City Attorney Schwabauer, and City Clerk Blackston

NOTE: The following items were discussed and acted upon out of order.

C. CLOSED SESSION

At 7:04 a.m., Mayor Beckman adjourned the Special City Council meeting to a Closed Session to discuss the following matters:

C-1 Public employment – Council Appointee – Job Title, City Manager – pursuant to Government Code §54957

C-2 Conference with Labor Negotiator, Kris Kristensen – Government Code §54957.6 – Unrepresented Employee – City Manager

The Closed Session adjourned at 7:26 a.m.

D. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION / DISCLOSURE OF ACTION

At 7:29 a.m., Mayor Beckman reconvened the Special City Council meeting, and City Attorney Schwabauer announced that there was no reportable action taken in closed session.

B. REGULAR CALENDAR

B-1 “Appointments of City Council Members to fill vacancies, expiring terms, and consider reassignments on various boards, commissions, and committees”

The following appointments were recommended by Mayor Beckman and voted on as noted:

- Greater Lodi Area Youth Commission – JoAnne Mounce
- Lodi 2x2 Committee – JoAnne Mounce and Bob Johnson
- San Joaquin County Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Service Authority – JoAnne Mounce
- San Joaquin County Community Development Block Grant Program – JoAnne Mounce
- San Joaquin Council of Governments – Larry Hansen, Delegate, and Susan Hitchcock, Alternate
- San Joaquin Partnership – Bob Johnson, Alternate
- Smart Growth Task Force – Bob Johnson, Delegate
- Transmission Agency of Northern California – Larry Hansen, Delegate

Interim City Manager Keeter stated that Council received a “blue sheet” (filed) communication from the San Joaquin Council of Governments informing Council of a vacancy on the Delta Protection Commission. Mayor Beckman asked that a response letter be sent offering his interest in serving on the Commission.

Council Member Mounce expressed her interest in serving as an advisory member of the Eastside Improvement Committee (EIC), to which City Attorney Schwabauer explained that it would require an amendment of the existing EIC bylaws. Following discussion, Ms. Mounce was encouraged to attend the EIC meetings on an informal basis until the matter of amending the bylaws was addressed by the Committee.

City Clerk Blackston noted that the Greenbelt 2x2x2 Committee was no longer viable and would be removed from the roster.

MOTION / VOTE:

The City Council, on motion of Council Member Hansen, Hitchcock second, unanimously concurred with the recommended appointments noted above.

B-2 "Discussion and appropriate action regarding a proposed Budget Committee"

Interim City Manager Keeter reminded Council that a Budget Advisory Committee was formed to provide input on the 2004-05 Financial Plan and Budget. She noted that former City Manager Flynn had selected the following individuals to serve on that Committee: Randy Snider, Annette Murdaca, Kent Steinwert, Dennis Bennett, Joanne Mounce, Debbie Olsen, Bob Wheeler, Leon Zimmerman, and Bill Huyett. Ms. Keeter offered three options for Council to consider in forming a Budget Committee: 1) each Council Member could recommend one member to Council for appointment; 2) accept applications from interested members of the public and Mayor Beckman would make member recommendations to the Council for appointment; or 3) a combination method using both options one and two. Ms. Keeter also suggested that Council consider including labor representatives on the Committee and have it staffed formally by the City Manager and Finance Director.

Mayor Beckman suggested that a standing, ongoing Budget Commission be formed that would meet as needed in regard to preparation of the budget each year and to follow up to ensure that the budget is being implemented appropriately. He recommended that it be comprised of five members, selected from an open application process. Each Council Member would review the applications and make one recommendation. Each Commissioner's term would coincide with the Council Member's term in office. The Commission would work in conjunction with the City Manager and Finance Director to develop a budget to recommend to Council.

Mayor Pro Tempore Hitchcock preferred an application process and felt that representatives from each bargaining group should also serve on the Budget Committee.

Council Member Hansen also favored an application process. He suggested that there be no more than two labor representatives and one management representative, as he felt it was important to keep the size of the Committee manageable. He preferred that the members serve a set four-year term, rather than being tied to Council Member's terms in office. He believed it would be imperative to give clear direction on what the Committee was assigned to accomplish.

Council Member Mounce suggested that members of the Budget Committee serve three-year terms on a trial basis. In addition, she recommended that labor group representatives rotate annually.

Council Member Johnson recalled that a similar concept was attempted previously (i.e. the Efficiency Committee), which was unsuccessful. He agreed that clarification on the Budget Committee's mission would be crucial. He asked whether the recently conducted community survey addressed the public's priorities for City services as they relate to the budget.

Ms. Keeter replied that the survey did rank the public's priorities of City services, programs, and projects. She reported that DataCycles, who conducted the survey, established a database of citizens willing to participate in future surveys. DataCycles could conduct an additional survey of these citizens for \$3,000.

Council Member Hansen suggested that a presentation be given at a future Council meeting on the survey results, as a refresher and for benefit of new Council Members.

Finance Director Krueger cautioned that if the Budget Committee were comprised of a large group it could cause difficulties. He stated that it would be important for the Committee to have a strategic, long-term view for potential expansion of services in the future and in the short-term to be in a tactical "retraction" mode. He noted that if labor representatives were included in the Committee it would serve as a good educational opportunity for them to hear about issues faced in each department as well as an overall City view. He recommended that Council decide specifically what it wants the Committee to accomplish.

Council Member Hansen pointed out that there may not be enough time to form a Committee for the 2005-06 budget. He suggested that a plan be developed outlining goals and objectives for the Committee. It could then review the budget process for 2005-06 and begin operating for the 2006-07 budget.

Mayor Pro Tempore Hitchcock agreed with Mr. Hansen's comments and suggested that the Council could serve as the Budget Committee in the meantime.

MOTION / VOTE:

There was no Council action taken on this matter.

E. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 a.m.

ATTEST:

Susan J. Blackston  
City Clerk