

# CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE

## City Council Minutes

### Adjourned Regular Meeting - February 24, 1994

An Adjourned Regular Meeting of the San Clemente City Council was called to order on February 24, 1994 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, located at 100 Avenida Presidio, San Clemente, California.

**PRESENT**            ANDERSON, BENEDICT, HAGGARD, LORCH, MAYOR DIEHL

**ABSENT**            NONE

**STAFF PRESENT**   Michael Parness, City Manager; Myrna Erway, City Clerk.

1.    **Discussion of Process Utilized by the Orange County Fire Department in Conducting a Study to Address the Possibility of Providing Contracted Fire Protection Service to the City of San Clemente**

Chief Larry Holmes, of the Orange County Fire Department, presented a video which explained fire protection services provided by the OCFD to sixteen cities in the County; advised that Battalion Chief Mark Kramer has been assigned to work with the City in developing a proposal for the provision of fire protection services to San Clemente; advised that in the event a joint decision is made to contract, the County would look forward to the City's personnel joining the OCFD; stated that Battalion Chief Kramer and he will work with the City Manager and Interim Fire Chief to formulate a work plan and develop a proposal; stated the City will be provided with three options that identify varying levels of service, adding that the bottom level of protection will be equivalent or higher than the service the City presently receives; stressed that the OCFD will not offer an option lower than its baseline level of service; stated the OCFD has reviewed the City's Master Plan and has prepared preliminary estimates; projected that a draft proposal will be submitted to the City by May 1, 1994.

In response to an inquiry posed by City Manager Parness, Chief Holmes relayed his belief that the discussion of a potential Joint Powers Agreement that is taking place among various cities will not impact the viability of the County's proposal; confirmed that the proposal will be contingent upon approval of the cities served as well as the County.

Interim Fire Chief Begnell explained that the County's report will be compiled into a matrix to aid in comparing the three alternatives with the City's Master Plan; stated the analysis will include ancillary functions, such as CARES, Communications, etc.

2. **Update on the Alternative Study Concerning the Possibility of Regional Fire Protection in South Orange County**

Interim Fire Chief Begnell reviewed the alternatives for a Sub-Regional Fire Department (consisting of San Clemente, SONGS, Laguna Beach, Dana Point and San Juan Capistrano) as well as the possibility of establishing a Regional Fire Department with the sixteen cities under contract with the County (i.e., JPA option); provided a written document on the regionalization issue, dated February 17, 1994, which is on file in the City Clerk's Department; explained that the sub-regional approach to fire service represents a potential savings of up to \$3.6 million across the five agencies. With respect to the issue of a Regional Fire Department, Interim Chief Begnell advised that City Managers from Irvine south have expressed varying degrees of receptiveness to the regionalization concept; advised that the regionalization approach will continue to be analyzed, noting that the study will address liability issues, funding sources, asset transfers and one-time costs.

In response to Council inquiry, Chief Holmes estimated that an answer will be reached by the end of the summer as to whether a JPA will be implemented; relayed his belief that in the event the JPA fails, another approach will be developed to the satisfaction of the cities and the County.

City Manager Parness explained that the City Manager of Laguna Beach has indicated his belief that the Laguna Beach City Council is committed to maintaining its status as a full-service City and hence is unlikely to pursue regional fire service.

3. **Public Input**

Karoline Koester, San Clemente, stated she has opposed JPA's in the past due to her perception that it represents another layer of government; spoke in support of retaining as much local control as possible; urged that issues relating to a possible JPA be aired openly.

4. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Hearing Concerning Proposed Regulations Regarding the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta Estuary

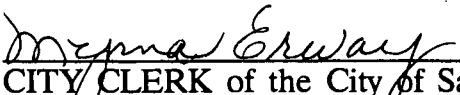
MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HAGGARD, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER BENEDICT, CARRIED 5-0 to agendaize consideration of an EPA hearing on February 28, 1994, since the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

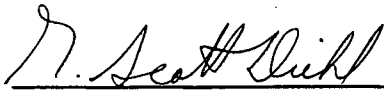
MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HAGGARD, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON, CARRIED 3-2 (COUNCILMEMBERS BENEDICT AND LORCH VOTING NOE), to appoint Councilmember Benedict to speak at the Environmental Protection Agency hearing in Irvine on February 28, 1994 relative to the importance of the Bay-Delta reservoir to Southern California's water system.

5. Adjournment

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HAGGARD, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON, CARRIED 5-0, to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.

The next Regular Council Meeting will be held on March 2, 1994 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, located at 100 Avenida Presidio, San Clemente, California.

  
CITY CLERK of the City of San  
Clemente, California

  
MAYOR of the City of  
San Clemente, California

