



AGENDA

JOINT MEETING OF THE HEMET CITY COUNCIL, THE HEMET REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY, THE HEMET HOUSING AUTHORITY AND THE HEMET UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD

September 29, 2009

6:00 pm

www.cityofhemet.org

Hemet Unified School District

Professional Development Service Center Board Room

1791 W. Acacia Avenue

Please silence all cell phones

Call to Order

Mayor McBride called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The meetings of the Hemet City Council, the Hemet Redevelopment Agency and the Hemet Housing Authority all ran concurrently.

Roll Call

PRESENT: Council Members Foreman, Lowe, Youssef, Vice Mayor Franchville, and Mayor McBride

ABSENT: None

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted followed by a moment of silence.

Communications From the Public

Dallas Montgomery, Hemet, Cawston Elementary School Student. Presented a petition signed by 100 residents requesting sidewalks on the south side of Esplanade near Stoney Mountain Ranch.

Work Study Session

Discussion regarding the following items, with possible direction to staff.

1. Current Happenings of Mutual Interest

A. Hemet Elementary School

Phil Pendley, School Superintendent, the school site for Hemet Elementary is sinking along with a larger area of downtown Hemet. The School District is requesting that any knowledge be shared so that an appropriate long term solution can be determined.

Mike Gow, Public Works Director/City Engineer, Hemet Elementary is not the first building in this area. Buildings have sunk due to compaction and settlement issues. There have been claims against the City that have been dealt with on a case by case basis.

Council Member Lowe, City Hall on Florida is dealing with it. A liquifaction report was prepared and reviewed by Engineering. The report might be with the City's Building Official. Jim Calkin's the architect of City Hall might also be of assistance.

B. Growth / Demographics

Phil Pendley, the total enrollment for the school district is down 600 students. There were 1,500 new enrollments this year, with 2,400 students leaving the school district. The demographics are changing the parents are poorer and less educated.

Mayor McBride, the 2010 Census should give us more up to date information on the demographics.

Deanna Elliano, Planning Manager staff has identified 5,000 new addresses and new construction to be included in the 2010 census.

Board Member Sanborn, there are some things that are done by the City of Hemet that effect the schools, such as the location of the dog park. Board Member Sanborn expressed concern with the senior developments converting to family without mitigating the impacts on the schools. Staff from both the School District and the City should work together on these types of issues.

Council Member Lowe, the City would welcome the School District's help. Past attempts at getting legislation through regarding the conversion of senior housing has failed. The State accuses the agencies of trying to discourage low income housing.

Vice President Wojkic, asked about the crime statistics based on the change in demographics.

Richard Dana, Chief of Police, there has been a 5% reduction in crime. There is an increase in crime against property. There are 2,000 gang members living in Hemet, however, no gang turf has been established. The City has a close relationship with the School District and the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program is working well.

2. Present and Future Partnership

A. School Resources Officer Program

Phil Pendley, concurred that the SRO program works well. The Officers are a part of the staff and the culture at the schools.

Vice Mayor Franchville, noted that the School District is getting a great deal from the City of Hemet for the SRO's. The program is very important, there is no plan to increase the cost of the Officers.

Council Member Foreman, as a former SRO, the program is a benefit.

Board Member Jones, noted that the County of Riverside provides SRO's to the School District for 80% of the cost of the Officer.

B. Possible Use of School Sites as Parks

Phil Pendley, recommended that the City of Hemet and the School District work collectively toward sharing green spaces. The combined use of space for public safety and schools should also be considered.

The City Council agreed. This should be a consideration with the update of the General Plan.

3. Joint Planning

A. Inclusion of School Sites in City Master Plan

Richard Beck, Assistant Superintendent, recommended that school sites be considered during the update of the General Plan. The School District updates their school facility master plan annually.

B. Traffic Flow Around School (Pedestrian and Vehicular)

Phil Pendley, the City and the School District work together well on the development of new facilities. There are still streets you don't want to be on at the beginning or ending of the school day. We need to work together on traffic solutions at the new Hemet Elementary School site. The financial situation and reduction in bus services requires children to walk further to school with difficult situations.

Mayor McBride, noted that a resident commented that kids are no longer being bused from McSweeney Farms. The pedestrian traffic after school near West Valley is insane.

Phil Pendley, fencing along the median is the only way to channel the pedestrian traffic.

Board Member DeForest, expressed concern with the 50 mph speed limit on the south side of Esplanade and noted that San Jacinto has a 40 mph speed limit on the north side. Ms. DeForest also asked about planned improvements.

Mike Gow, explained that the City of Hemet aggressively goes after funding for sidewalks. On the average about 1 mile of sidewalks are constructed or repaired annually. Mr. Gow explained the future plans for widening Esplanade and that the funding sources do not provide for sidewalks. The estimated cost for the improvements is \$5 million. Funding will have to be identified for sidewalks after the completion of the widening. The Government Code governs the setting of speed limits. The speed limit must be set at the speed that 85% of the vehicles travel when surveyed.

President Figgins, requested that the City of Hemet plan to provide sidewalks for pedestrian travel to and from current and future school sites. Sidewalks should be constructed prior to the development of the property, taxing the property owner through an L&LMD.

Mayor McBride, recommended that bus service be extended to rural areas that don't have safe pedestrian travel ways.

Council Member Lowe, noted that State Laws prohibit the City of Hemet from charging taxes for improvements. The City of Hemet applies for all possible funding sources and receives its fair share. The safety of all residents is a concern. We need to work together so schools don't get built before road improvements. Residents that purchase homes in rural communities sometimes have some give and takes associated with that type of development.

C. Flood Control Issues

Phil Pendley, the School District staff is looking forward to working with the City of Hemet on these future issues to help come up with solutions.

D. City / School Facilities

Phil Pendley, joint future planning would be encouraged to make better use of the limited financial resources.

4. Economic/Community Development & K-12 Education

A. Joint Promotion of our Schools & Communities

Brian Nakamura, City Manager, both agencies need to focus on each others resources. On October 7, 2009 one of many meetings is scheduled with Roger Schultz, MSJC; Jeff Leatherman, Valley Wide Recreation; Phil and myself.

Phil Pendley, the School District can be a part of promoting the Valley.

Council Member Youssef, asked the Board's thoughts on Charter and Specialty Schools.

Board Member Sanborn, over the last couple of years the School District has expanded their out of the box schools. The School District is looking forward to the Development of a Science based school with the Western Center.

Phil Pendley, updated the City Council on the development of the Western Center Academy.

B. Workforce Development

Phil Pendley, encouraged continued communication regarding workforce development. If the School District is aware of the upcoming workforce, we can train the employees. Helen Hunt is working with trade schools to provide work related training for the students.

Board Member Jones, recommended that representatives from San Jacinto, the County of Riverside and the Water Districts be included occasionally in the proposed meetings.

President Figgins, explained the differences between the charter schools that are operated by a school district and the ones that are not.

Mayor McBride, RTA has a program that allows students to ride the bus for free with Mt. San Jacinto College. The college pays a minimal fee for this program. HUSD might consider working with RTA to provide a similar program to the High School students.

5. Redevelopment & K-12 Education

A. Joint Benefits

Phil Pendley, Steve, Brian and I have meet and are looking into opportunities to do some improvements to the older schools. We are willing to work as partners where joint planning opportunities and mutual benefits are available.

Brian Nakamura, explained that there are some tax increments that can be used to improve infrastructure in the City. The growth and the demographics of the City will continue to change. The City has to deal with the housing, both median and affordable. The City of Hemet is looking forward to a partnership with the School District.

Council Member Youssef, asked about the school district's potential loss with AB 26.

Phil Pendley, the School District does stand to lose a substantial amount. The planning of new facilities will have to slow down. The State will have to pay it back eventually.

B. Possible Joint Projects

Brian Nakamura, there are a lot of obstacles facing us. The State take is approximately \$4 million in redevelopment funding and \$1.2 million in property tax. The City is hoping that the borrow will be bonded by a Securitization Loan. All public agencies are facing tough economic times.

President Figgins, thanked the City Council for their participation in this joint meeting.
Mayor McBride, thanked the School Board for the invitation and their hospitality.

Future Agenda Items

Request to meet semi-annually.

Adjournment

Adjourned at 7:42 p.m. to Tuesday, October 13, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.