

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 1, 2008**

The Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Manhattan Beach, California, was held on the 1st day of April, 2008, at the hour of 6:35 p.m., in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, at 1400 Highland Avenue, in said City.

PLEDGE TO FLAG

Finance Director Bruce Moe led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Cohen, Ward, Tell, Montgomery and Mayor Aldinger.
Absent: None.
Clerk: Tamura.

CEREMONIAL CALENDAR

04/01/08-1a. Presentation of Certificates to the Manhattan Beach American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) Girls and Boys All Stars (Under 12) in Recognition of Their Section 1 Tournament Victory

Mayor Aldinger announced that recognition of the AYSO Girls and Boys All Stars will be postponed until May 6, 2008 as they are busy practicing for this weekend's State tournament and were unable to attend tonight's meeting.

04/01/08-1b. Presentation of Commendation to Autism Specialist Sonia Dickson-Bracks in Recognition of Her Work With Special Needs Students

Ellen Schneider, Executive Director of Student Services for the Manhattan Beach Unified School District introduced **Autism Specialist Sonia Dickson-Bracks** and Mayor Aldinger, on behalf of the Council, presented her with a commendation in recognition of the important work she does with autistic children.

04/01/08-1c. Presentation of Commendation to Mike Garcia for his Educational Efforts on Environmental Issues

Mayor Aldinger, on behalf of the Council, presented a commendation to **Mike Garcia** in recognition of his many efforts to educate the public on environmental issues.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar (Item Nos. 2 through 15), consisting of items under *General Consent* and *Boards and Commissions*, was approved by motion of Councilmember Ward, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery and passed by unanimous roll call vote with the exception of Item Nos. 8, 9 and 10 which were considered later in the meeting under "*Items Removed from the Consent Calendar*".

Ayes: Cohen, Ward, Tell, Montgomery and Mayor Aldinger.
Noes: None.
Absent: None.
Abstain: None.

GENERAL CONSENT

04/01/08-2. Approve Minutes of the City Council Adjourned Regular and Regular Meeting of March 4, 2008 (Continued From the March 18, 2008 City Council Meeting)

The Council approved the subject minutes.

04/01/08-3. Approve Minutes of the City Council Regular Meeting of March 18, 2008

The Council continued the subject minutes to the April 15, 2008 City Council meeting.

04/01/08-4. Consideration of a Resolution in Opposition to Proposition 98

The Council adopted Resolution No. 6128.

RESOLUTION NO. 6128

A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO PROPOSITION 98

04/01/08-5. Approve Minutes of the Joint City Council/Parking and Public Improvements Commission Meeting of March 25, 2008

The Council approved the subject minutes.

04/01/08-6. Consideration of Financial Report: Ratification of Demands - March 20, 2008

The Council approved with no exception Warrant Register No. 20B in the amount of \$2,579,572.47 in payment of ratification of demands and claims as prepared by the Director of Finance, together with the original demands and claims as prepared by said Warrant Register.

04/01/08-7. Consideration of Fee Waiver Requests Associated with Non-Profit Special Events

The Council approved fee waivers for ten non-profit special events in 2008 and 2009 totaling \$183,418.

04/01/08-8. Three Month Progress Report for Bruce's Beach On-Leash Area for Dogs

Item No. 8 was pulled from the "CONSENT CALENDAR". Please refer to "ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR."

04/01/08-9. Approval of the Revised Strand Alcove Bench Donor Guidelines

Item No. 9 was pulled from the "CONSENT CALENDAR". Please refer to "ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR."

04/01/08-10. Appropriation of \$282,487 from the General Fund for Verizon and Time Warner Design Plans for Underground Utility Assessment Districts 12 and 14

Item No. 10 was pulled from the "CONSENT CALENDAR". Please refer to "ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR."

04/01/08-11. Award a Contract in the Net Amount of \$447,428 for the 2006-2007 Water Main Replacement/Installation Project to Robert G. Castongia General Contractors and a Professional Engineering Services Contract (\$55,000) to CBM Consulting, Inc. for Construction Management/ Inspection Services

The Council approved an award of contract in the net amount of \$447,428 for the 2006-2007 Water Main Replacement /Installation Project to Robert G. Castongia General Engineering Contractors; approved authorizing the Director of Public Works to approve additional work in an amount not-to-exceed \$45,000, if required; and approved an award of a Professional Engineering Services contract to CBM Consulting, Inc. for Construction Management/Inspection in an amount not-to-exceed \$55,000.

04/01/08-12. Disbursement of Progress Payments:

- a) Progress Payment No. 4 in the Net Amount of \$66,150 to Utility Services Company for the Elevated Water Tank Maintenance Project
- b) Progress Payment No. 2 in the Net Amount of \$40,770 to CHI Construction for the Lifeguard Storage Reconstruction Project
- c) Progress Payment No. 1 in the Net Amount of \$110,775.60 to Sully-Miller Contracting Co. for the 2005-2007 Street Reconstruction Project

The Council approved the issuance of the subject progress payments.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Cultural Arts Commission

04/01/08-13. Consideration of Draft Cultural Arts Commission Minutes – March 11, 2008

The Council received and filed the subject draft minutes.

Planning Commission

04/01/08-14. Consideration of Action Minutes, Planning Commission Meeting of March 12, 2008

The Council received and filed the subject action minutes.

04/01/08-15. Consideration of a Use Permit, Coastal Development Permit and Vesting Tentative Parcel Map 69052 for Proposed Construction of a Mixed Use Building with One Commercial Condominium Unit and Two Residential Condominium Units on the Property Located at 3920 Highland Avenue

The Council received and filed the decision of the Planning Commission.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

04/01/08-20. Dave Wachtfogel Re Recall of School Boardmember

Dave Wachtfogel, No Address Provided, urged residents to sign a petition for the recall of Manhattan Beach Unified School Boardmember Bill Eisen. He encouraged anyone wanting to know more about the issues or wanting to sign the petition to log on to www.recallbilleisen.com.

04/01/08-21. Gerry O'Connor Re Recall of School Boardmember

Gerry O'Connor, No Address Provided, also addressed the School Board recall adding that it is a Los Angeles County Registrar Recorder's petition process and that besides going to the website (www.recallbilleisen.com), interested residents can sign the petition at the weekly Farmers Market.

In response to Mayor Aldinger's question as to where those interested can get their own petitions, **Mr. O'Connor** replied that besides the website, they can call him at (310) 376-1547.

04/01/08-22. Don Gould, Manager of the Manhattan Beach Library

Los Angeles County Librarian Don Gould announced several upcoming library events including: the viewing of *The Adventure of Sherlock Holmes* on Thursday, April 3, 2008; Toddler Story Time signups April 14 - 19, 2008; Thad Kozar's preview of the arrival of 15 tall ships in Los Angeles on April 16, 2008; and DJ McHale's Pendragon series on April 17, 2008.

04/01/08-23. Sherry Kramer Re Pier-to-Pier Walkathon

Sherry Kramer, Chairperson of the Richstone Center Pier to Pier Walkathon, announced that the annual Pier-to-Pier Walkathon will take place on Saturday, April 26, 2008 starting at 7:30 a.m. at the Manhattan Beach Pier. She pointed out that the contact person for the City's team is Patricia Schilling; that the goal this year is to have 1,500 walkers and raise \$250,000; that donations can be made on line at www.richstonefamily.org; and that there will be a competition between Manhattan Beach and its neighboring cities.

04/01/08-24. Patricia Schilling Re Pier-to-Pier Walkathon

Patricia Schilling, No Address Provided, offered statistics on child abuse and urged everyone to participate in the Pier-to-Pier Walkathon sponsored by the Richstone Family Center, an organization that helps to prevent and treat child abuse. She shared that it is a 3.5 mile walk; that every participant gets a t-shirt; that water, juice and muffins will be served beforehand; and that the kids from the Center will provide entertainment.

04/01/08-25. Muriel Savikas Re Beach Cities Health District Program

Muriel Savikas, representing the Beach Cities Health District (BCHD), announced that from April 21 - 26, 2008 the BCHD will sponsor "Steppin Out", a program designed to help support local school health programs. She reported that last year "Steppin Out" raised \$11,722 and that Manhattan Beach was third in the nation and first among South Bay cities.

04/01/08-26. Councilmember Ward Re Youth Recognition Awards

Councilmember Ward thanked all the applicants who applied for the 2008 Manhattan Beach Youth Recognition Awards, Principal Enriquez Gonzales from Jefferson Alternative, Manhattan Beach Unified School Boardmember Amy Howarth and Compton Unified School District Boardmember Emma Sharif for their help. He reported that the winners will be announced at the next Council meeting on April 15, 2008 and that past and present donors will be recognized.

04/01/08-27. Sene Gray Re Funding for Schools

Sene Gray, No Address Provided, spoke of the \$1.6 million in state budget cuts for schools and about the City helping the schools through this crisis. She referred to a general obligation bond being placed on the November ballot, the need to look for other funding and stated that the City needs the schools as much as the schools need the City.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

GENERAL BUSINESS

04/01/08-16. Consideration of the Parking and Public Improvements Commission Recommendation to Maintain the Existing "NO PARKING THIS STREET" Signs on Both Sides of the Alley Between 542 and 544 Marine Avenue (Continued from the March 18, 2008 City Council Meeting)

Traffic Engineer Erik Zandvliet addressed Council with a brief PowerPoint presentation explaining that in December of 2007 staff agreed to a request by a resident to post "NO PARKING" signs in the alley between 542 and 544 Marine Avenue because it is too narrow for parking without blocking access and/or encroaching on her private property. He explained that subsequent to the signs being placed, staff received a petition from some surrounding residents to remove the signs; however, the Parking and Public Improvements Commission upheld staff's recommendation to keep the "NO PARKING" signs.

Council held discussion with Traffic Engineer Zandvliet including how typical this type of alley is in the City; the City's liability if the signs were removed and damage occurs on the requesting resident's property; and the previous decision on this issue from 2006 not to make any changes.

The following individuals spoke on this item:

- **Loretta Wells, 500 Block of Marine Avenue**
- **Gary Kious, No Address Provided**
- **Annie McQuinty, 500 Block of Marine Avenue**
- **Jane Reitz, 500 Block of 21st Street**
- **Bev Tieterman, 500 Block of (via letter read by Ms. Reitz)**
- **Christine Kirby, , 500 Block of Marine Avenue**
- **Terry Reitz, 500 Block of 21st Street**

Council discussed at length any possible measure that could allow cars to park in the alley without blocking access or infringing on private property; however, no possible measures were established. Also discussed was the importance of maintaining consistency with the Municipal Code; not being able to use public funds on private property; and the possibility of both parties using a City contract mediator to resolve the issue.

MOTION: Councilmember Cohen moved to approve the Parking and Public Improvements Commission recommendation to maintain the existing "NO PARKING THIS STREET" signs on both sides of the alley between 542 and 544 Marine Avenue. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ward.

No roll call vote was taken as Mayor Aldinger proposed an alternate motion.

MOTION: Mayor Aldinger moved to table the matter for two weeks to allow staff to explore any other possible options.

MOTION FAILED DUE TO THE LACK OF A SECOND.

MOTION: Councilmember Cohen moved to approve the Parking and Public Improvements Commission recommendation to maintain the existing “NO PARKING THIS STREET” signs on both sides of the alley between 542 and 544 Marine Avenue. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ward and passed by the following roll call vote.

Ayes: Cohen, Ward, Tell and Montgomery. Mayor Aldinger.
Noes: Mayor Aldinger.
Abstain: None.
Absent: None.

RECESS AND RECONVENE

At 8:16 p.m. the Council recessed and reconvened at 8:24 p.m. with all Councilmembers present.

04/01/08-17. Review of Conceptual Designs for Replacement of Play Equipment in Polliwog Park Near Redondo Avenue

Parks and Recreation Director Richard Gill reviewed Council’s direction at the February 19, 2008 City Council meeting to keep more of the trees in place; incorporate a large ramp and platform piece of play equipment; design a less expensive drainage solution; include new exercise equipment; and stay as close to budget as possible. He announced that the Executive Board of the Manhattan Beach 10K Run Committee has recommended donating \$35,000 for the exercise equipment and the full board will vote on it next month. He added that the project is estimated to be completed by December of this year.

David Volz, of David Volz Design, addressed Council with a PowerPoint presentation illustrating the two revised plans (Plan A and Plan B) and possibilities for expansion in the future (Plan C). He explained that the footprint is smaller and that a plastic piping system has been designed to handle the drainage problem.

Council briefly discussed some of the features of the revised plans with **Mr. Volz.**

The following individual spoke on this item:

- **Patrick McBride, 5th Street & Peck Avenue**

In response to **Mr. McBride’s** comments, Councilmember Cohen stated, for the record, that the City has consulted with experts in regard to the equipment for special needs children.

Mayor Aldinger and Councilmember Ward acknowledged that they were very pleased with the revised Plans and reduced costs.

In regard to Plan C, Councilmember Tell voiced his concern about the site preparation cost versus the cost of the equipment and suggested that there may be ways to cut back on costs.

In reply to Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery's questions regarding the pre-cast spheres and benches, **Mr. Volz** explained that the spheres define the area and the benches are heavy concrete weighing about 600 pounds each.

Mayor Aldinger expressed that he would like to approve Plan C also and construct all of the areas at the same time to which Councilmember Tell restated his hesitancy about the cost of Plan C (one third the cost of Plan A) which would only have one small piece of equipment in it.

MOTION: Councilmember Tell moved to approve the conceptual designs for replacement of play equipment (Plans A and B) in Polliwog Park near Redondo Avenue, adding \$130,000 for Plan C. The motion was seconded by Mayor Aldinger.

Council held additional discussion with **Mr. Volz** and it was determined that some of the features of Plan C could be cut back in order to be able to construct it at the same time as Plans A and B.

City Manager Geoff Dolan clarified that adding the additional \$130,000 brings the total cost to slightly more than what is in the budget and that the excess would have to be taken from the Capital Improvement Project Fund.

MOTION: Councilmember Tell moved to approve the conceptual designs for replacement of play equipment (Plans A and B) in Polliwog Park near Redondo Avenue and approved appropriating \$130,000 for Plan C. The motion was seconded by Mayor Aldinger and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote:

Ayes: Cohen, Ward, Tell, Montgomery and Mayor Aldinger.
Noes: None.
Abstain: None.
Absent: None.

04/01/08-18. Discuss the Postponement of the Information and Outreach Effort and Subsequent Library Facility Improvement Ballot Measure Project

City Manager Geoff Dolan reviewed the Council's adoption of the Community Facilities Strategic Plan after working on it for the last year and a half; that it has become a blueprint for the future of the community; and that hopefully some of it will be implemented in the future. He explained that after an evaluation of the community in late 2007, staff thought that there was support for a library and that with implementing an outreach and information program they might meet the two-thirds threshold needed to win a ballot issue. He reported that in the intervening time the City has realized additional budget challenges; that the School District is experiencing substantial budget cuts; and there is a real possibility that the Manhattan Beach Unified School District will have a measure on the November ballot. He pointed out that, in light of the current budget situation, having both a school parcel tax and library measure on the November ballot may lead to the defeat of both. City Manager Dolan further commented that cancelling the **Lew Edwards Group** contract at this time would save \$100,000.

The following individuals spoke on this item:

- **Gary Osterhout, 500 Block of 31st Street**
- **Sene Gray, No Address Provided**
- **Patrick McBride, 5th Street & Peck Avenue**

Councilmember Tell expressed that he was hopeful that after working on the Community Facilities Strategic Plan for 18 months they would be able to proceed with the first project; however the school budget crisis is a higher priority right now. He commented that **Johnson Favaro** provided exactly what the community wanted - a plan that can be implemented in phases and emphasized that schools are an asset to the community. He spoke of the need to either use some surplus monies to maintain and improve City facilities or to put those monies into a savings account.

Commenting that he understands the school's financial issues, Mayor Aldinger expressed his concern not to postpone the Library Facility Improvement because it will ultimately cost more to build it later. He agreed that schools are the priority; however, their budget is still unknown at this time. He emphasized that continuing to do something with the Facility Strategic Plan, such as moving forward with the outreach and information effort and more polling of the community is needed, because once it is stopped, it is much more difficult to initiate again.

Councilmember Cohen asserted that the Community Facilities Strategic Plan effort was very worthwhile and she did not view it as something that had to be implemented right away, but as a blueprint for the future. She stated that the current sense of urgency in the community is the schools and that the City needs to rally around the School District. She remarked that the City needs to focus its efforts and resources and work with the schools to come up with at least a short term solution, until they craft a long term solution to their financial situation and that implementing the first phase of the Community Facilities Strategic Plan should be postponed.

Councilmember Ward stated that the Council decision will be a clear example of proactively stepping in to address a situation affecting the whole town. He stated that it is not the responsibility of the City Council to "keep an eye out" or run the School District; however, it is the Council's responsibility to look out for every entity. He added that this is not the time to jeopardize schools over the library and referred to the Public Safety Facility and Metlox site as examples of how various entities came together. He expressed concern that there may not be full support of the community for a library at this time because the immediate focus is on the schools.

Concurring with Council, Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery stressed that every School District in California is struggling with budget cuts, many much worse than Manhattan Beach. He spoke of how he and Councilmember Cohen were tasked to look at the best options for moving forward on the Community Facilities Strategic Plan, before the bad State economy and School District issues were known, and that with advice from the consultants sent out mailers. He agreed that the right thing to do is to postpone the outreach effort for the Library Facility Improvement and that the worst thing that could possibly happen is to have two measures on the ballot at the same time.

Council held discussion regarding postponing the Library Facility Improvement and whether to use money already set aside to augment existing facilities for the short term.

MOTION: Councilmember Ward moved to postpone the Information and Outreach Effort and subsequent Library Facility Improvement Ballot Measure Project to a future date. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery.

Council continued discussion regarding priorities; the possibility of helping schools; continuing the library outreach; and placing a joint City/School Board measure on the November ballot.

MOTION: Councilmember Ward moved to end discussion and call for the vote. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery and passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Ward, Tell, Montgomery and Mayor Aldinger.
Noes: Cohen.
Abstain: None.
Absent: None.

MOTION: Councilmember Ward moved to postpone the Information and Outreach Effort and subsequent Library Facility Improvement Ballot Measure Project to a future date. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery and passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Cohen, Ward, Tell and Montgomery.
Noes: Mayor Aldinger.
Abstain: None.
Absent: None.

04/01/08-19. Consideration of the Upcoming City Council Regular Meeting Schedule and the Cancellation of a Summer and Winter Meeting

Assistant to the City Manager Lindy Coe-Juell addressed Council regarding the consideration to cancel one City Council meeting in the summer and one during the holiday season. She acknowledged the Council's adoption of an Ordinance providing flexibility to cancel a Council meeting by minute action and Council's direction to bring any requests to cancel a meeting as far in advance as possible. She reviewed that last year Council cancelled the second meeting in August and the first meeting in January and provided a calendar for Council to review and consider any cancellations for the upcoming summer and holiday seasons.

Councilmember Cohen brought up the Work Plan discussion to increase Study Sessions and Joint Council/Commission meetings.

City Manager Geoff Dolan added that whether or not the Council chooses to cancel either of these meetings, it is the Council's practice to generally keep non Council Tuesdays' available.

The following individuals spoke on this item:

- **Gary Osterhout, 500 Block of 31st Street**
- **Gerry O'Connor, No Address Provided**
- **Paul Gross, No Address Provided**

Councilmember Cohen stated that she would support "going dark" for one meeting in the summer and one during the holiday season if the Council would make a commitment to hold Study Sessions and Joint Council/Commission meetings as necessary on alternate Tuesdays.

Councilmember Ward commented that, as a business owner, there are only a couple times a year when it is possible to get away and around the New Year and just before children go back to school in August are the optimal times. He stated that he is not in favor of adding Study Sessions to make up for any canceled Council meetings unless they are necessary and that the efficiency of meetings is more important.

Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery concurred with Councilmembers Cohen and Ward and confirmed with City Manager Dolan that the issue of the length of Council meetings will be addressed on the next agenda.

Mayor Aldinger stressed that Study Sessions should take place in the Council Chambers and be televised; that the Work Plan meeting should also be televised; that it is necessary to call Special meetings at times and there may be very little advanced notice; and that he is in support of reducing the length of Council meetings. Mayor Aldinger pointed out that there are already three weeks between the second meeting in July and first meeting in August and second meeting in December and first meeting in January.

Councilmember Ward emphasized that the point is that a large number of residents are on vacation themselves at that time and that the public is not being fully served by holding meetings when they are not here.

Councilmember Tell pointed out that it is the second meeting in August, not July that the Council canceled last year.

Councilmember Cohen asserted that she is not convinced that the current Council meeting process is inefficient and that the public benefits from a thorough discussion.

Council briefly discussed ways to improve the efficiency of meetings.

MOTION: Councilmember Tell moved to cancel the August 19, 2008 City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery and passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Cohen, Ward, Tell and Montgomery.
Noes: Mayor Aldinger.
Abstain: None.
Absent: None.

MOTION: Councilmember Ward moved to cancel the December 16, 2008 City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery and passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Ward, Tell and Montgomery.
Noes: Cohen and Mayor Aldinger.
Abstain: None.
Absent: None.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

04/01/08-8. Three Month Progress Report for Bruce's Beach On-Leash Area for Dogs

Councilmember Tell pulled this item off the Consent Calendar to clarify whether there is an issue with dog waste as has been reported on some of the surveys.

Parks and Recreation Director Richard Gill responded that although 44% of the 57 responses complained of dog feces, staff has not found that to be the case.

A short discussion took place regarding finding a better methodology for gaining resident input and it was agreed upon that staff would obtain feedback from the surrounding residents.

MOTION: Councilmember Tell moved to receive and file the three month progress report for the Bruce's Beach on-leash dog area. The motion was seconded by Mayor Aldinger and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote:

Ayes: Cohen, Ward, Tell, Montgomery and Mayor Aldinger.
Noes: None.
Abstain: None.
Absent: None.

04/01/08-9. Approval of the Revised Strand Alcove Bench Donor Guidelines

A member of the audience pulled this item from the Consent Calendar for Council discussion.

The following individual spoke on this item:

- **Robert Bush, No Address Provided**

In response to **Mr. Bush's** comments about the new Strand benches, Cultural Arts Manager Juanita Purner explained that they were not purchased with taxpayer funds and that donors have the option to use one of the pre-approved benches or design their own to be approved.

Council briefly discussed floor design elements for the Strand alcove benches.

City Manager Geoff Dolan reiterated his recollection that the majority of the Council did not want any additional surface on the floor of the alcove; however, a future donor could propose some type of flooring to the Cultural Arts Commission.

Council continued discussion regarding the benches, flooring and policies for future benches which lead to the following motion.

MOTION: Councilmember Tell moved to approve the revisions to the Strand Alcove Bench Donor Guidelines with the amendment that the Cultural Arts Commission will return to the Council with any requests for flooring by a bench donor. The motion was seconded by Mayor Aldinger and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote:

Ayes: Cohen, Ward, Tell, Montgomery and Mayor Aldinger.
Noes: None.
Abstain: None.
Absent: None.

04/01/08-10. Appropriation of \$282,487 from the General Fund for Verizon and Time Warner Design Plans for Underground Utility Assessment Districts 12 and 14

A member of the audience pulled this item from the Consent Calendar for Council discussion.

The following individuals spoke on this item:

- **Esther Besbris, No Address Provided**
- **Robert Bush, No Address Provided**
- **Arnold Sachs, No Address Provided**
- **Jacque May, No Address Provided**

Mayor Aldinger acknowledged a recent conversation he had with Assembly Member Ted Lieu regarding Southern California Edison's commitment to spending more on maintenance in El Segundo and Manhattan Beach.

MOTION: Mayor Aldinger moved to approve and appropriate \$282,487 from the General Fund Reserves for Verizon and Time Warner for their engineering services for Underground Utility Assessment Districts 12 and 14. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery. Councilmember Ward clarified that approving this item does not approve the District; it is just the next step for the individuals to form the District.

Mayor Aldinger pointed out that these Districts are among the least expensive to Underground.

Councilmember Tell added that the City is not placing any additional debt on residents; they are taking it upon themselves.

Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery also pointed out that if these Districts pass, this money will be 100% reimbursable to the City.

Mayor Aldinger called for the vote.

MOTION: Mayor Aldinger moved to approve and appropriate \$282,487 from the General Fund Reserves for Verizon and Time Warner for their engineering services for Underground Utility Assessment Districts 12 and 14. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery and passed by the following unanimous roll call vote:

Ayes: Cohen, Ward, Tell, Montgomery and Mayor Aldinger.
Noes: None.
Abstain: None.
Absent: None.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

04/01/08-28. Patrick McBride Re Senior Transportation

Patrick McBride, 5th Street & Peck Avenue, declared that in comparison, the City's Dial-A-Ride transportation costs the City 5 times as much as a taxi would and that a lot of the statements made at a recent Council meeting regarding the use of cabs were false.

Mr. McBride also thanked Councilmember Tell for his comment about taking care of the facilities we currently have.

CITY MANAGER REPORT(S)

None.

OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS, COMMITTEE AND TRAVEL REPORTS

04/01/08-29. Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery Re ICA Conference

Mayor Pro Tem Montgomery announced that the Independent Cities Association has invited City Manager Dolan and several Department Heads to present the City's "Green Report" at one of their summer meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:33 p.m., the meeting was duly adjourned, in memory of Phyllis Cohen Edwards, to the 5:30 p.m. Adjourned Regular Meeting to be followed by the 6:30 p.m. Regular City Council Meeting on Tuesday, April 15, 2008, in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 1400 Highland Avenue, in said City.

Terri Aliabadi
Recording Secretary

Jim Aldinger
Mayor

ATTEST:

Liza Tamura
City Clerk