

CITY OF PASADENA
City Council Minutes
March 27, 2000 - 5:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chamber

SPECIAL MEETING

OPENING: Mayor Bogaard called the special meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:
Councilmembers:

Mayor Bill Bogaard
Vice Mayor Joyce Streater
Councilmember William Crowfoot (Arrived at 5:34 p.m.)
Councilmember Steve Haderlein
Councilmember Chris Holden
Councilmember Paul Little
Councilmember Steve Madison
Councilmember Sidney F. Tyler, Jr.

Staff:

City Manager Cynthia J. Kurtz
City Attorney Michele Beal Bagneris
City Clerk Jane L. Rodriguez

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment

CITY DELIVERY OF CABLE SERVICE

Councilmember Crowfoot
arrived at 5:34 p.m.

The City Manager provided an overview of the agenda item, and responded to questions.

Mr. Robert Person, Assistant to the City Manager, summarized the advantages and disadvantages/risks of the City becoming a cable provider, and responded to questions.

Discussion ensued regarding emerging technologies, whether there is a role the City may have to choose, different from what it has traditionally offered, by offering cable service or in setting up a competitive environment that would benefit current cable customers.

Following the discussion, Councilmember Holden, with the consensus of the Council, requested staff provide to Council, at a future meeting, some type of direction to respond to, and to continue to study new technologies to keep the Council in a position that would allow staff the freedom to look at and entertain a variety of options in terms of providing services, through our utility, to our customers.

CABLE FRANCHISE RENEWAL WITH CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS

The City Manager briefly updated the Council on the status of renewal discussions, and Mr. Robert Person reviewed the revised franchise renewal time line.

Following discussion, staff was directed to provide a prioritized list of negotiation items to all Councilmembers.

The City Manager stated the list would be provided to Council in closed session in April.

Councilmember Madison was excused at 6:12 p.m.

FUTURE ROLE OF PASADENA COMMUNITY ACCESS CORPORATION (PCAC)

Councilmember Crowfoot, Chair of the Business Enterprise Committee, summarized the Committee's discussions on this matter, and indicated the direction the Committee is proposing is one of recasting the role of PCAC from a community TV operating company to one of resource allocator, with the responsibility to effectively allocate that portion of the franchise fee designated for public access. He noted a document in the agenda packet from PCAC which embraces the recasting proposal.

Mayor Bogaard stated he understood the PCAC representatives had a memorandum to present which outlines a different slant of the issues than the staff presented in the agenda packet.

Ms. Sara Smith Orr, PCAC Vice Chair, distributed the memorandum referred to by the Mayor, and noted while there was approval in concept of the proposed new role for PCAC at the Business Enterprise Committee meeting, there was also a request for PCAC to go back and examine the functionality of the model that was presented to the Committee. She reported that after examination of the options, it was determined that the "Community TV Operating Company" model is the optimal choice of PCAC, with three modifications, as outlined in the memorandum.

Councilmember Crowfoot expressed his concern with being presented with PCAC's memorandum in the middle of this discussion and stated the Business Enterprise Committee had spent hours discussing this issue and questioned why this memorandum was not presented to staff earlier.

Following discussion, the City Manager suggested the need for one more Business Enterprise Committee meeting and then come back to the Council with a specific recommendation.

Councilmember Crowfoot stated the conceptual paper the Mayor distributed on February 22, 2000, is the document the Committee discussed and was comfortable with. He indicated the City Manager's suggestion that the process come back with a concrete set of recommendations is the way to go.

The following individuals spoke to this item:

Councilmember Madison
returned at 6:26 p.m.

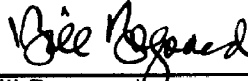
Ms. Robbie Davis, President of the League of Women Voters, submitted a letter re-emphasizing its commitment to public access.

Mr. Larry Mantle, Pasadena resident, echoed Ms. Davis' comments.

UPDATE ON COMMISSION REVIEWS

Due to time constraints, the Mayor suggested Committee Chairs report on this item during the regular Council meeting.

On order of the Mayor, the special meeting of the City Council adjourned at 6:37 p.m.



Bill Bogaard
Mayor

ATTEST:



Jane L. Rodriguez
City Clerk
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