

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

City Council Regular Meeting
2212 Beach Boulevard
Pacifica, CA 94044

December 12, 2012

Mayor DeJarnatt called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and acknowledged various dignitaries present.

Present: Councilmembers: Jaquith, Nihart, Digre, Stone and DeJarnatt.
Excused: Councilmembers: None.

Staff Present: Steve Rhodes, City Manager; Kathy O'Connell, City Clerk.

Boy Scout Troop 264 led the Salute to the Flag.

Commission Liaison: None.
Chamber Liaison: None.

Mayor DeJarnatt mentioned that there were a lot of people present, including City employees. There was also Katrina from Jackie Speier's office, Leslie from Jerry Hill's office, and Chris Hunter from Don Horsley's office, adding that Don wanted to be present but just had surgery. He welcomed all of them.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Outgoing Mayor's Remarks and Presentation to Outgoing Mayor:

Mayor DeJarnatt stated that he didn't write speeches well, and he just had a few notes. He stated that most of his comments involve thanking people, specifically, his partner Diane who has supported him over the 16 years and his family. He commented that he spent a lot of time worrying initially but got over that, stating that you have to or you won't survive. He thanked the City Council for electing him as mayor, and also thanked past Council members. He felt everyone he served with taught him something. He stated that he probably would do the same thing again, although he acknowledged that some times were extremely difficult. He felt they got a lot done. He appreciated staff, stating that they did a great job with little resources. He stated that Pacifica was a good place to live and he will probably always live here because he loves the place. He was thankful for the City Manager, mentioning that he was retiring at the end of the fiscal year. He felt that he was the best City Manager and human being with whom he has ever worked. He also appreciated how most everyone in Pacifica has treated him. He has a good sense of accomplishment, enjoying a lot of it and some not so much, but he was pleased that he did it. He stated that he will still be involved, but not in the limelight, with which he never really felt comfortable. He hoped he made a positive contribution, thanking the voters for their faith in him by electing him four times.

Councilmember Digre commented that both Councilmember Jaquith and Mayor DeJarnatt were extraordinary individuals, dedicated and steadfast and she appreciated that. She stated that, during the 12 years she has been on Council, the Mayor has had personal attacks and still hung in there. She stated that public service was difficult, especially during economic challenges. She felt the attacks that came incessantly had to be hard for his informed family and she appreciated them. She referred to his appreciation of the public and stated that, in spite of the recalls and

accusations, they knew that it was nonsense. She stated that he was steady, did his homework, was judicious and listened before making decisions. She felt doing that while under constant attack deserved appreciation and admiration. She felt there were big shoes to fill, adding that she hoped the rest of them won't have to go through that and that it will be beyond us. She reiterated that she appreciated him and felt he was a great asset to the community and Council. She added that she also appreciated Councilmember Jaquith.

Mayor DeJarnatt also thanked Councilmember Jaquith, stating that she has done a fabulous job and he was very pleased. He felt she was a pro, and reiterated that he appreciated the great job she has done.

Councilmember Nihart mentioned that Mayor DeJarnatt was working on Concerned Manor Residents in the early 1990s. She knew the members of his first Council, and she knew he made a tremendous impact. She stated that she watched him struggle with his decision to run the last time, but she felt he was better for it as well as the city.

Mayor pro Tem Stone stated that, while he wasn't active in politics throughout the Mayor's political career, he felt that, after serving with him the last two years, they were going to miss having someone with his longevity. He felt his wisdom helped them in going in their specific directions. He felt it was a feat to be elected as many times as he was elected, adding that he appreciated his service.

Councilmember Jaquith stated that she spent time on the Council in prior years, and she marveled at his 16 years of service to the community. She felt everyone in the community appreciates it as she does.

Mayor pro Tem Stone presented the Mayor with a plaque for his year of service as Mayor. He then presented him with a parting gift.

Presentations to Councilmember Jaquith:

Councilmember Jaquith stated that she was honored to be selected to serve in the interim capacity, hoping that she has made a contribution to the Council and the community. She thanked her fellow Councilmembers, as well as the City Manager, City Clerk and all city staff, adding that they were the backbone of the Council. She thanked all the community volunteers who gave of their time for the betterment of Pacifica. She thanked Robin for putting up with her. She enjoyed the experience and was looking forward to contributing in community service in another capacity.

Councilmember Nihart commented that Councilmember Jaquith was the first councilmember she met when moving to Pacifica. She stated that, when they needed someone to step in who values the city and service, she couldn't think of another person. She was honored to serve with her and she thanked her very much.

Mayor pro Tem Stone mentioned the trying times for Council when it was difficult to get a quorum, etc., but they agreed unanimously on appointing her. He felt she brought a sense of perspective and steadfastness. He felt her experience was invaluable, adding that he couldn't imagine anyone else being able to do the job as well, and he appreciated her service.

Councilmember Digre stated that she would repeat that Councilmember Jaquith was a quality person, community oriented and open-minded. She appreciated her steadiness, adding that she saved them a lot of money by being the right person at the right time.

Mayor DeJarnatt appreciated everything she has done.

Mayor pro Tem Stone presented her with a parting gift. He stated that it was from a local artist, Sharon Walker, whose passion was to take beautiful pictures of Pacifica.

Katrina Rill, from Congresswoman Jackie Speier's office, offered Mayor DeJarnatt and Councilmember Jaquith thanks from the Congresswoman and presented them with a congressional record highlighting their accomplishments and love for Pacifica. She stated that both have done so much to enhance the feeling of community and preserve the quality of life on the coast, thanking the Mayor for his many projects and thanking the Councilmember for her many projects, as well as stepping up to the plate when needed for this interim term. She felt there was no doubt that Pacifica was a better place for everyone because of them.

Councilmember Jaquith explained for the public that it was a piece out of the Congressional record about each of them.

Leslie Guevara, from State Senator Jerry Hill's office, stated that she was present to convey Senator Hill's congratulations to the Council, but especially to Mayor DeJarnatt and Councilmember Jaquith, and presented a resolution for each of them from the California legislature to commend them for their extraordinary service, commitment and leadership in Pacifica and his deep appreciation for the grace with which their duties were carried out during an interesting time.

Oath of Office:

City Clerk O'Connell stated that, once they take the oath of office, she had certificates of election for newly elected individuals on behalf of the Chief Election Officer of San Mateo County.

Councilmember Jaquith stated that she, along with Will Dyer Meadow, a campaign worker for Councilmember Nihart, had the pleasure of swearing her in. She first made a few brief comments acknowledging Councilmember Nihart's contributions of expertise and leadership to Pacifica, and she then administered the oath of office.

Chris Peterson, Karen Ervin's brother, stated that her family and all her friends were very proud of her and excited at her present direction. He briefly mentioned that, from her youth, she has always been the kind of person who looks at a problem and tries to figure out the best solution, and he then administered the oath of office.

Sean O'Neill administered the oath of office to Mike O'Neill.

Councilmember Nihart thanked everyone who worked on her campaign and the people who supported her. She appreciated the opportunity to continue what they started. She stated that she invited Will to stand with her because he didn't quit, even when she was exhausted, and she got choked up with that kind of dedication. She stated that she loved Pacifica and the opportunity to move the City forward, and she thanked everyone for putting her back on Council one more time. She was excited about the new Council.

Councilmember O'Neill thanked everyone who helped him in the campaign, especially his family who helped him with the school board and were on the "E" ticket ride with him now. He thanked the voters for voting him in. He looked forward to making Pacifica a high performing city just as they have a high performing school district. He reiterated his thanks to his family and campaign workers.

Councilmember Ervin stated that it was an honor and privilege to be serving Pacifica. She stated that she has grown up in Pacifica and never imagined that she would be on Council today, which was because of all the voters, as well as family and friends. She feels gratitude to everyone. She thanked Pete DeJarnatt for his 16 years, stating that it was truly inspiring. She also has had the pleasure of working with Ginny Jaquith on the Pacificans Care board, adding that she is an amazing individual and has done so much for the city in various capacities. She thanked both of them for all they have done, adding that they were big shoes to fill and she hoped to do the best for them.

Councilmember Digre congratulated the newly elected councilmembers, adding that they were quality people and she looked forward to working with them. She stated that it was not easy to step forward and be a candidate and she encouraged the other candidates who ran to continue to be involved. She reiterated that it was not an easy job and she thanked them and looked forward to working with all of them.

Mayor pro Tem Stone congratulated all three candidates, stating that Councilmember Nihart has done a great job over the past four years and he looked forward to the next few years. He also congratulated Councilmembers O'Neill and Ervin, adding that they did a good job on their campaign. He looked forward to working with them in trying to build consensus and do the best for Pacifica. He mentioned that he has worked with them in different volunteer capacities and he thought they would make fantastic members.

Mayor pro Tem Stone declared the nomination for Mayor open.

Councilmember Nihart nominated Mayor pro Tem Stone for Mayor; seconded by Councilmember O'Neill.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Councilmembers: O'Neill, Ervin, Nihart, Digre and Stone.

Noes: Councilmembers: None.

Motion passed: 5-0.

Councilmember O'Neill nominated Councilmember Nihart for Mayor pro Tem; seconded by Councilmember Ervin.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Councilmembers: O'Neill, Ervin, Nihart, Digre and Stone.

Noes: Councilmembers: None.

Motion passed: 5-0.

Mayor Stone thanked the Council for the great honor. He appreciated the vote of confidence and he looked forward to working with all of them. He felt it was an exciting time. He acknowledged family members in attendance, specifically his parents, his brother Zac, mother-in-law Sally, and the most important person, his wife Jessica. He stated that she is the newly elected

president of the Mother's Club and it will be a busy year for them. He appreciated her support through the ups and downs, and she was his rock. He stated that he was a lucky man to have her as his wife. He reiterated that it was an extremely exciting time for the City, with City income dropping, etc., and he has seen momentum and community consensus over the last couple of years as to where they should go. He felt they had a tremendous opportunity as a group to take another step forward. He thought Pacifica has been in search of balance and sustainability. He felt they had done a fantastic job over the years in protecting the environment, open space, clean and accessible beaches, trail systems. He felt that having all the programs and activities that we hold as valuable would take us focusing our energies and putting heads together to work as a Council and community on the next step. He didn't think there was ever so much support in the community to go forward with economic development and really be a sustainable city. He was excited about the prospects. He looked forward to getting the City on the right track to sustainability. He felt there was a lot of work that needed to happen in the background, which means financial stability, consensus on the road to the future to get to that next phase and seeing the fruits of our labor which was what he was committed to for the coming year. He mentioned some of the plans under consideration such as the Chamber site, Palmetto Avenue, library, etc. He referred to his desire to be accessible to the community, mentioning his "coffee with Councilman" in the beginning of his term which were fantastic prior to his hiatus following his second child's birth. He stated that he will be reinstating that as it was where the best progress came. He also would reinstate the mayor's walks, which was requested by the business community, and had been so successful during Councilmember Nihart's time as mayor. He again thanked the Council for this great honor and he looked forward to working with each of them. He felt there would be a direct correlation between their ability to achieve their highest priorities and their ability to work together. He then invited everyone to join them for refreshments.

Mayor Stone adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Transcribed by Barbara Medina, Public Meeting Stenographer.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy O'Connell, City Clerk

APPROVED:

Len Stone, Mayor