6/0-40

CITY OF HOLLISTER
CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

October 10, 2005

CALL TO ORDER:

The special meeting of the City Council of the City of Hollister was called to order by Vice Mayor Scattini on October 10, 2005 at 5:35 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL: Roll was answered as follows:

PRESENT: Vice Mayor Robert Scattini, Council Members Brad Pike, and Doug Emerson, City Manager Clint Quilter, City Attorney Elaine Cass, and City Clerk Geri Johnson.

ABSENT: Mayor Pauline Valdivia and Council Member Monica Johnson.

VERIFICATION OF AGENDA POSTING:

The Agenda for the City Council of the City of Hollister special meeting of October 10, 2005, was posted on the bulletin board at City Hall on October 6, 2005, at 3:30 p.m. per Government Code Section 54956.

CLOSED SESSION:

1. Public comment for Closed Session item.

   (a) None.

2. Conference with legal Counsel - Pending Litigation - Pursuant to Government Code

Section 54956.9(a) -

Nicholson v. Hollister, Case No. CU-04-00063

3. Conference with Labor Negotiator pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6:

   Agency Negotiator: Clint Quilter
   Employee Organizations: Service Employees International Union, Local 817; Hollister firefighters Union, Local 3395; Hollister Peace Officers Association; Hollister Mid-Management Association; and un-represented employees in classifications designated as Executive Management and Confidential.

Council Member Emerson moved to adjourn to Closed Session to discuss the items listed. Motion seconded by Council Member Pike and carried by a 3-0-2 vote, Mayor Valdivia and Council Member Johnson absent. The City Council adjourned to Closed Session at 5:36 p.m.

Council Member Johnson present at 5:45 p.m.

The City Council reconvened at 6:15 p.m. All Members present per Roll Call plus Council Member Johnson.

Special City Council Meeting:

1. 2005 Hollister Independence Rally Report from the Hollister Independence Rally Committee.

   (a) Received memorandum dated October 10, 2005, 2005 Hollister Independence Rally, from City Manager Quilter.
   (b) Received oral report from Dave Wilson, a consultant hired by HIRC. He discussed the average attendance at the rally, what people spent, how many attended, the length of the attendance, etc. and what Hollister's revenue might be.
   (c) Council discussion including errors in Mr. Wilson's report. There is a concern with the credibility of the report.
   (d) Charles Scott, Hollister, CA was involved in the formation of HIRC and believes that riders will always come to Hollister. The VFW has put $80,000 or more into the community due to funds raised at the BBQ the VFW holds during every rally. Mr. Scott supports law enforcement but believes we have too many for the rally.
   (e) David Ventura, Hollister, CA is a past president of HIRC and fully believes that the rally is good for the community, but the organization got tired of paying for law enforcement. He said the rally needs to work for the City and the community.

(f) Clifford Cardoza, Hollister, CA stated the first rally was in 1947 when he was 9 years old; his father and relatives participated. He believes the community needs the economic support of the rally as businesses have benefitted. Mr. Cardoza wants the rally to have the support of the City Council, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Board of Supervisors but law enforcement wants to kill the rally. He urged the City Council to be reasonable.

(g) Ted Davis, Hollister, CA believes that the rally is not only an opportunity to raise money, but it raises a lot of problems. He feels Hollister needs a pumpkin festival or a wine and art festival. We have wineries in the County now. Mr. Davis said he loves living here but is taken aback by the rally.

(h) Bill Mifsud, Hollister, CA is a business owner downtown and has tried to rent his store front but is not on the main street; he has tried to stay open but HIRC does not work with the downtown businesses. Mr. Mifsud would be interested in knowing how many businesses close during the rally and how many stay open.

(i) Marvin L. Jones, Hollister, CA lives near the downtown area and has motorcycles back to back in front of his house and it was a nuisance. He doesn't like motorcycles but feels the rally is good for the community. He encouraged a better survey and analysis next year.

(j) Charisse Tyson, Hollister, CA said she respects the Chief but feels his report given last week was one sided but she does agree with the Chief regarding the appalling tee shirts. She does not tolerate flashing. She stated that both the Hells Angels and the Mongols want to keep the rally going. Salinas had five murders last weekend and they are not canceling their annual parade. Ms. Tyson urged the City to get behind the rally and support it, maybe even have a venue at the airport. She believes the rally puts Hollister on the map and she gives back to the community. If the rally is canceled she believes the bikers will come to Hollister anyway and will then cause problems.

(k) Roseanne McLean, Hollister, CA stated other cities are not off the beaten path, Hollister is isolated. People who come will come back and people won't come if there is no rally. She also believes that the rally puts Hollister on the map. Ms. McLean informed the Council that regular meetings are held between HIRC and the police - and that was not mentioned. There is too much law enforcement.

(l) Anne Hall, Hollister, CA does not really care for the rally as it is not a family event. Her family lives downtown. She stated that if the City benefits from the rally then she can put up with it but she is not very confident that the City is benefitting. Ms. Hall is concerned with the safety issue.

(m) Frankie Valent, Hollister, CA urged the Council to make prudent financial decisions as the community needs the rally. She wants the rally to continue. As a marketing person she believes the City Council should have reviewed the presentation before it was given. She also urged the City to evaluate the various

venues in the County.

(n) Mary Encinias, Hollister, CA can't believe the negative comments from some Council Members and some police officers. She was worked in the hospitality booth for years and believes that law enforcement is just waiting for people to do something bad. They don't smile and they're not nice. She feel that no credit has been given to HIRC for the money brought in and given to volunteer organizations. Mrs. Encinias read a letter in support of the rally from Rachel Flores who has worked with student volunteer for the rally and feels the rally is a good educational experience as the students enjoy the people, food, and various cultures. Mrs. Encinias also read a letter of support from Roxy's Restaurant who stayed open and was very happy with the business.

(o) Cliff Cardoza, Hollister, CA was in Aruba in May, met some people, and knew about the rally when Mr. Cardoza told him where he lived. He told the City Council to prepare an action plan if there is no rally as several thousand would come to Hollister.

(p) Mark Maxwell, Hollister, CA stated that a vast majority is in favor of the rally and law enforcement has always been opposed to it. History was made in 1947. People come to Hollister to see part of American history. HIRC was formed to take care of the logistics as the City could not. He believes that law enforcement should be critiqued and they have been conspiring to kill the rally for years except during the Pierpoint years. Mr. Maxwell stated the rally is a good thing for the community - we've had 9 years of nothing, plus the year before.

(q) Rod Nelson, San Juan Bautista, CA lives in Hollister, is the president of a company, has a Harley, and probably spends over $500.00 during the rally weekend. He urged the City Council to keep the rally as it allows him to spread the Word of God.

(r) John Lloyd, Hollister, CA presented a packet of information from HIRC including the Economic Impact Study, Profit and Loss Statement for 2005, 2006 budget with and with City projected expenses, and a spread sheet showing differences between 2004 and 2005 and said they are dealing with solid numbers except a few small glitches in the analysis by Dave Wilson. HIRC would like a new contract with various changes.

(s) Helen Nelson, Hollister, CA responded to last week's report that HIRC was not given an opportunity to respond. Their contracts with vendors do not allow the trash (lewd tee-shirts) and the photos of the trash were taken on private property where HIRC has no control. HIRC has meetings with the police all during the rally and would appreciate an opportunity to deal with this issue instead of being blind sided.

(t) Council discussion.

(u) Dave Ventura suggested that the City do another year of the rally and then put it

to a vote of the people.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the City Council of the City of Hollister, the special meeting of October 10, 2005, was adjourned by Council Member Emerson at 9:17 p.m. Motion seconded by Council Member Pike and carried by a 4-0-1 vote Mayor Valdivia absent.

Respectfully submitted,

Geri Johnson, CMC
City Clerk