

City Council, Special Meeting  
Civic Center Council Chambers  
777 Cypress Avenue  
Redding, California  
January 25, 2010 5:15 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jones with the following Council Members present: Dickerson, McArthur, and Stegall. Council Member Bosetti was absent.

Also present were City Manager Starman, City Attorney Duvernay, Assistant City Manager Tippin, Community Services Director Niemer, Deputy City Clerk Mize, and Executive Assistant Stockwell.

At the hour of 6:00 p.m., Mayor Jones convened the Special Meeting of the Redding City Council for a joint meeting with the Redding Municipal Library Board.

SHASTA PUBLIC LIBRARIES OPERATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE AGREEMENT

(L-050/L-050-010)

Community Services Director Niemer recalled that in 2003, through a state library bond, Shasta County received the funding to construct a new main library in Redding, and in March 2006, the City of Redding (COR) and County of Shasta (COS) agreed to transfer ownership of the new Redding Municipal Library (RML) and governance of the Burney and Anderson libraries to the COR.

Ms. Niemer added that a sole proposal from Library Systems and Services, LLC (LSSI) was received in response to solicitation for the management and operation of the Shasta Public Libraries, and that said proposal and subsequent contract was approved with a term commencing September 5, 2006, and ending June 30, 2010. She stated that in September 2007, city oversight of the contract was transferred to the Community Services Department, and that she and the Shasta Public Library Citizens Advisory Committee (SPLCAC) meet monthly to review activities and initiatives of the Shasta Public Libraries (Libraries).

In addition, Community Services Director Niemer commented on the overall success of the Libraries under the direction of LSSI and suggested, along with SPLCAC, COS, and the City of Anderson (COA), that LSSI continue to operate and administer the Libraries. She stated that LSSI is interested in maintaining its relationship with the COR, and that the options for vendors who provide similar library services is minimal.

Ms. Niemer advised that with the current contract with LSSI expiring the end of this fiscal year, it would be appropriate for the City Council (Council) and Redding Municipal Library Board of Trustees (Board) to provide staff with direction, and recommended that the Council and Board direct staff to negotiate a new and improved agreement for the operation and administration of the Libraries exclusively with LSSI or seek proposals from other vendors for library services.

Patte Jelavich, SPLCAC Chairperson, supported renewing the contract for the management and operation of the Libraries with LSSI. Ms. Jelavich added that the Libraries computer usage translates to approximately 11,000 sign-ons per month, and that the initial concerns for privatization of the operation of the Libraries are no more given that volunteers donate more than 20,000 hours of service to the Libraries.

In response to President/Mayor Jones, Ms. Niemer advised that the current contract with LSSI provides for a 2.6% cost-of-living increase which is equal to roughly \$16,000.00, and is tied to the CPI. She added that with the Council/Board's direction, this would be an opportune time for staff to negotiate a better contract to keep contract rates under control while setting performance measurements for LSSI. President/Mayor Jones expressed his concern that such an increase may be perceived as inequitable to public safety members given the COR's current economic challenges, but supported staff's recommendation.

Vice President/Vice Mayor McArthur supported staff's recommendation to negotiate a new contract with LSSI.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Council Member McArthur, seconded by Council Member Stegall authorizing staff to negotiate a new agreement with Library Systems and Services, Inc., for the operation and administration of the Shasta Public Libraries.

The Vote:

AYES: Council Members - Dickerson, McArthur, Stegall, and Jones

NOES: Council Members - None

ABSTAIN: Council Members - None

ABSENT: Council Members - Bosetti

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, at the hour of 6:12 p.m., Mayor Jones declared the Special meeting of the Redding City Council adjourned.

APPROVED:

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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Deputy City Clerk