

TO: James L. App, City Manager
FROM: Doug Monn, Public Works Director
SUBJECT: July 4, 2012 Barney Schwartz Park Fireworks Celebration
DATE: April 17, 2012

NEEDS: For the City Council to consider a request by the Paso Robles 4th of July Fireworks Committee to again stage a community fireworks celebration at Barney Schwartz Park on July 4, 2012.

FACTS:

1. The City co-sponsored July 4th fireworks celebrations at Barney Schwartz Park from 2002 through 2008 with pyrotechnics funding provided by Chemron. The City provided staff support. In 2009, when City budget constraints threatened cancellation of the celebration, the community donated \$81,426.86, covering the cost of the event. Donations were again solicited in 2010, but were insufficient to cover event costs and the event was cancelled.
2. In 2011, the Paso Robles 4th of July Fireworks Committee was formed to solicit funding and logistics support for the event. The Committee raised \$59,577.76 from community donations, which combined with the previous account balance of \$14,171.51, made \$73,749.27 available to fund the celebration. Actual events costs totaled \$62,202.57, leaving \$11,546.70 available for future celebrations.
3. The 4th of July Fireworks Committee proposes to again solicit funds from the community to cover all costs of the 2012 event, recruit volunteers, and solicit in-kind donations for needed services and equipment.
4. City staff support will mirror 2011 arrangements:
 - Private security will be required for event security and traffic management.
 - Emergency Services can commit 3 people and an engine for the event. If additional resources are needed, they will be delayed by the travel time from outlying locations. This will leave a single engine to cover the City for the duration of the event.
 - Event support, set-up and clean-up staffing from LRS and Public Works is very limited.

ANALYSIS &

CONCLUSION: Time is of the essence. Full funding, staffing and logistics support by the 4th of July Fireworks Committee is needed to support a full-day of activities at Barney Schwartz Park culminating in the fireworks display. City staff and Fireworks Committee volunteers must work together to fulfill all public safety requirements and operational necessities.

FISCAL

IMPACT: Event costs are projected to total more than \$60,000.00. The City cannot fund or adequately staff the event. All expenses, including City overtime, are reimbursed by the 4th of July Fireworks Committee

OPTIONS:

- a.) Adopt the attached resolution authorizing the use of Barney Schwartz Park for a Fireworks Celebration scheduled for July 4, 2012.
- b.) Amend, modify, or reject the above option.

Prepared by:
Freda Berman, Events Manager

Attachments:
1. Resolution

RESOLUTION NO.12-xxx

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASO ROBLES
AUTHORIZING USE OF BARNEY SCHWARTZ PARK FOR A JULY 4, 2012
FIREWORKS CELEBRATION

WHEREAS, the Paso Robles 4th of July Fireworks Committee proposes to stage a community fireworks celebration at Barney Schwartz Park on July 4, 2012; and

WHEREAS, event costs are projected to exceed \$60,000.00, of which \$11,546.70 currently resides in a dedicated event account; and

WHEREAS, the 4th of July Fireworks Committee commits to solicit funds, donations and volunteers from the community to facilitate and operate the event; and

WHEREAS, available City staff support is very limited.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles does hereby authorize the use of Barney Schwartz Park for a July 4, 2012 Fireworks Celebration.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Paso Robles this 17th day of April 2012 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Duane Picanco, Mayor

ATTEST:

Caryn Jackson, Deputy City Clerk