

# CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Friday, December 26, 2003 3:00 P.M.

## EMERGENCY MEETING

PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.5

MEETING LOCATION: PASO ROBLES LIBRARY/CITY HALL  
CONFERENCE CENTER, 1000 SPRING STREET

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### 3:00 PM – CONVENED SPECIAL MEETING

**CALL TO ORDER** – Downstairs Conference Center

**ROLL CALL** Councilmembers George Finigan, Jim Heggarty, Gary Nemeth, Duane Picanco and Mayor Frank Mecham

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

*Mayor Mecham asked the audience to join him in a moment of silent prayer in remembrance of the neighbors who lost their lives in Monday's earthquake.*

*Mayor Mecham encouraged any residents with questions concerning building damages to call the City Building Division.*

*City Manager Jim App announced the recommendation of Emergency Services Chief Ken Johnson that residents contact a certified chimney technician to inspect their chimneys for possible damage prior to usage.*

## 1. Declaration of State of Emergency

J. App, City Manager

Take actions confirming and relating to the Declaration of Local Emergency.

Mayor Mecham opened the public hearing. There were no comments from the public, either written or oral, and the public discussion was closed.

Councilmember Nemeth, seconded by Councilmember Heggarty, moved to adopt Resolution No. 03-241 confirming the City Manager/Director of Emergency Services' Proclamation of Existence of a Local Emergency.

Motion passed by the following unanimous roll call vote:

AYES: Finigan, Heggarty, Nemeth, Picanco and Mecham  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

Councilmember Picanco, seconded by Councilmember Finigan, moved to adopt a revised version of Resolution No. 03-242 regarding Workers' Compensation benefits for registered volunteer "Disaster Service Workers.

Motion passed by the following unanimous roll call vote:

AYES: Finigan, Heggarty, Nemeth, Picanco and Mecham  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

Councilmember Nemeth, seconded by Councilmember Heggarty, moved to adopt Emergency Ordinance No. 869 N.S. suspending automatic approval deadlines for all land use, subdivision, and zoning applications.

Motion passed by the following unanimous roll call vote:

AYES: Finigan, Heggarty, Nemeth, Picanco and Mecham  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

Councilmember Heggarty, seconded by Councilmember Finigan, moved to adopt Resolution No. 03-243 declaring necessity for the immediate expenditure of public money to safeguard life, health and property.

Motion passed by the following unanimous roll call vote:

AYES: Finigan, Heggarty, Nemeth, Picanco and Mecham  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

## 2. Emergency Status Update

J. App, City Manager

Briefing by City staff on status of current conditions and anticipated courses of action.

Mayor Mecham opened the public hearing. There were no comments from the public, either written or oral, and the public discussion was closed.

City Manager Jim App briefed Council on the status of current conditions and anticipated courses of action. It was the consensus of the Council to receive and file the report.

## 3. Interim Facilities for Downtown Businesses

R. Lata, Community Development Director

Consider directing staff to investigate the feasibility, cost, and parameters for establishing interim facilities for businesses to operate in the Downtown area.

Mayor Mecham opened the public hearing. Speaking from the public were Kyle Gardner and Ali Salmanzadeh. There were no further comments from the public, either written or oral, and the public discussion was closed.

Councilmember Picanco, seconded by Councilmember Heggarty, moved to direct staff to investigate the range of potential options for interim facilities, including but not limited to a “tent city” in City Park.

Motion passed by the following unanimous roll call vote:

AYES: Finigan, Heggarty, Nemeth, Picanco and Mecham  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

*Councilmember Nemeth expressed Council’s thoughts and prayers for the families of those who lost their lives in Monday’s earthquake—Marilyn Zafuto and Jennifer Myrick.*

*Mayor Mecham announced that Mission Bank has set up temporarily at MidState Bank. He suggested that any banking questions be referred to them. Heritage Oaks Bank has also volunteered their expertise to answer financial questions during this time.s*

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Nick Sherwin (Pan Jewelers) announced that Main Street has established an emergency relief fund at Santa Lucia Bank and anyone wishing to donate money can contact the bank.
- Norma Moyer (Main Street) asked that all property owners and downtown business owners come to a meeting at noon on Monday, December 29<sup>th</sup>, at which time people from the State Historic Preservation Society will be sharing information.
- Commissioner Nick Ferravanti inquired about preparation of a financial report regarding infrastructure repairs and questioned the possibility of bonding or increasing sales tax in the City to assist with rebuilding efforts.
- Penny Johnson commented on the possible use of portable construction trailers rather than tents as an option for temporary quarters for downtown businesses.
- Coralli McMillan suggested that the Building Division be expanded during this emergency, so that the normal business of the Division would not have to be suspended.
- Brian Beckham (Hastings enterprises) suggested that there be a coordinated effort to put together a master list of names of people/businesses that have suffered loss.
- Tom Johnson suggested having a US Geological Survey done if there is increased geothermal activity in different locations within the City.

*By unanimous voice vote, Council moved to adjourn at 3:55 PM on Friday, December 26, 2003.*

**ADJOURNMENT:** TO A MEETING FOR DOWNTOWN BUSINESS OWNERS AT 5:00 AND 5:30 PM ON DECEMBER 26, 2003, AT THE PARK CINEMAS, 1100 PINE STREET, PASO ROBLES, CINEMAS; TO A MEETING FOR DOWNTOWN BUSINESS OWNERS AT NOON ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2003, AT THE LIBRARY/CITY HALL CONFERENCE CENTER, 1000 SPRING STREET; AND TO THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING AT 7:30 PM ON TUESDAY, AT JANUARY 6, 2003, AT THE LIBRARY/CITY HALL CONFERENCE CENTER, 1000 SPRING STREET.

Submitted:

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Sharilyn M. Ryan, Deputy City Clerk  
Approved: January 20, 2004