

**CITY OF WILDOMAR
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 27, 2012**

CALL TO ORDER – CLOSED SESSION - 5:30 P.M.

The closed session of June 27, 2012, of the Wildomar City Council was called to order by Mayor Benoit at 6:30 p.m. at the Wildomar Council Chambers, 23873 Clinton Keith Road, Suite 111, Wildomar, California.

City Council Roll Call showed the following Members in attendance: Mayor Benoit, Mayor Pro Tem Walker, Council Members Moore and Swanson. Members absent: Council Member Cashman.

Staff in attendance: City Manager Oviedo, City Attorney Jex, and City Clerk Lee.

Mayor Pro Tem Walker led the flag salute.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no speakers.

1.1 City of Wildomar Community Facility District No. 2012-1 (Wildomar Parks)

City Clerk Lee read the title.

Assistant City Manager Nordquist presented the staff report.

SPEAKERS:

Gil Rasmussen, Wildomar Magazine, related information regarding a previous tax measure when it was Ortega Trails, previous to Cityhood. He then related the affects of a Mello Roos assessment versus a parcel tax. He will support a parcel tax and will not support anything else.

Andria Sigler-Smalz, resident, stated there are several positive benefits to having parks in the community. She feels this is the time to try to get a tax passed.

John Lloyd, Friends For Wildomar Parks, stated he is for the parks and appreciates the Council moving forward on this. A proposed tax should be tried once again. Friends for Wildomar Parks has been doing various fundraisers to keep Marna O'Brien open, and it is a long, difficult process, so he doesn't care if it is Mello Roos or a parcel tax, the community needs something to ensure the parks are open.

Ray Addington, resident, related a story regarding a child that didn't have any place to play, so he played in a storm drainage ditch, which was fatal for the child. When the parks reopened previous to Wildomar incorporation, it was a happy day for him. When they were closed again it was devastating. He doesn't care how it happens, he just wants the parks open.

George Taylor, resident, stated the last defeated measure was not successful due to voter apathy and the Mello Roos. In moving forward the Council should take these into consideration.

Kailee Carroll, resident, stated the parks should be placed back on the ballot because the City needs parks.

Michael Blake, resident, stated he is with Friends For Wildomar Parks, but he cannot in good faith watch another Mello Roos tax get defeated. He would like to see a parcel tax instead.

JoAnn Honeycutt, resident, stated the community needs parks. She does not like what is being said on the Patch. She would like to see a parcel tax due to the foreclosure process with a CFD. When Measure D came up for vote there was no signage stating to vote yes for parks, this time she would like to see signage.

Jack Burnett, resident, stated he did not vote in favor of the last measure. He came to the City and asked for his refund due him from the previous assessment and was told the City does not have the money. Now how can the City spend another \$40,000 to try to get the tax through again. He paid for the parks when he bought his home and pays for them every year with his taxes.

Mayor Benoit explained that the City is currently awaiting a ruling from the Attorney General as to whether the City can refund money with monies from the entire community. In the last assessment the Farm community did not pay the assessment, so can we use monies that is received City-wide for an assessment refund that was not City-wide.

John Cantacessi, resident, stated he is against a Mello Roos. He is willing to pay the \$28, however not with a Mello Roos.

Dave Stahovich, Supervisor Buster's Office, read a letter from Supervisor Buster regarding the County-owned land next to Reagan Elementary School.

Theres DiCiolla, realtor and resident, stated it is harder to sell homes in a community with no parks. She has seen people willing to pay upward of \$3,000 in a Mello Roos, so not being willing to pay \$28 per year should be nothing. She is asking the Council to go with a parcel tax.

Isabel Andino, resident, stated she was sad when the measure didn't pass. She has become involved in volunteering for the parks and she would like to see this back on the ballot. She feels the word is getting out and feels this time it would pass.

James Bush, resident, stated communication is a big key to getting this tax passed. He didn't know about the last time this was on the ballot. Also, information on how much it costs to run the parks. He doesn't want Mello Roos.

City Clerk Lee stated the City Clerk's Office did receive nine emails regarding the parks issue, as well as the letter from Supervisor Buster.

Brian Gunn, resident, stated he agrees that communication is key and the HOAs need to be involved as well.

Holly Crocker, resident, stated her parents own DeJong's Dairy. It is a shame that we have a really nice animal shelter, but have no parks. She questions what people think is important.

Councilwoman Swanson stated there is no such thing as a Mello Roos tax. Those are the last names of the two men who wrote the CFD law. It doesn't matter is it is a CFD or a parcel tax, either way it is a tax and it is not a lien against your house. She would be in favor of a parcel tax if that is what people would like to do.

Mayor Benoit stated they are things you can do with a CFD that you cannot do with a tax, however, if the public is more in favor of a parcel tax, he would go along with that.

Discussion ensued regarding the last assessment lawsuit; East side park and restrictions on the property; and money to put toward a telephone survey versus just placing the measure on the ballot.

It was the consensus of the City Council to not have a CFD type tax and go with a parcel tax. Also, to have communication pieces to send out regarding the parks tax.

City Manager Oviedo stated he would like the latitude on the survey to have a not to exceed \$15,000.

A MOTION was made by Councilwoman Moore, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Walker, to:

1. The ballot measure would be a parcel tax and not a CFD;
2. Staff to bring back a budget for community communications regarding the ballot measure;
3. A not to exceed \$15,000 for the polling of voters.

MOTION carried, 4-0, with Councilman Cashman absent.

A MOTION was made by Councilwoman Swanson, seconded by Councilwoman Moore, to not adopt a Resolution to establish a CFD regarding Wildomar parks.

MOTION carried, 4-0, with Councilman Cashman absent.

ADJOURN THE CITY COUNCIL

There being no further business, Mayor Benoit declared the meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Submitted by:

Approved by:



Debbie A. Lee, CMC
City Clerk



Ben J. Benoit
Mayor