

**LODI CITY COUNCIL
SHIRTSLEEVE SESSION
CARNEGIE FORUM, 305 WEST PINE STREET
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2014**

A. Roll Call by City Clerk

An Informal Informational Meeting ("Shirtsleeve" Session) of the Lodi City Council was held Tuesday, February 11, 2014, commencing at 7:00 a.m.

Present: Council Member Johnson, Council Member Mounce, Council Member Nakanishi, Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, and Mayor Katzakian

Absent: None

Also Present: Interim City Manager Schwabauer, Interim City Attorney Magdich, and City Clerk Johl-Olson

B. Topic(s)

B-1 Downtown Lighting Report (EU)

Electric Utility Director Elizabeth Kirkley provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding downtown lighting. Specific topics of discussion included current conditions, potential solutions, cost estimates, comparisons with other cities, and next steps.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Ms. Kirkley stated underground wiring and conduit may be damaged due to a variety of factors including tree roots and water.

In response to Council Member Nakanishi, Electric Utility Superintendent Charles Berry stated lighting maintenance would include inspection of outlets and mechanical connections, although the wire itself would not necessarily be tested unless there was an indication that it was not working.

In response to Council Member Mounce, Ms. Kirkley confirmed that holiday lighting would continue to be available during the holiday season in downtown with any of the chosen options if the City Council so desired.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Ms. Kirkley stated there would be a need to hire a licensed electrician because the utility does not employ staff to handle this type of an electrical project.

In response to Council Member Nakanishi, Engineering and Operations Manager Jay Marchesseault stated the cost for the current lighting if it was operational would be approximately \$8,000, or three to four times the amount of the projected cost for the recommended energy efficient lighting usage as outlined in the presentation.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Ms. Kirkley stated the City Council could consider options for retaining up lights if it so desired. A brief discussion ensued amongst the City Council and Ms. Kirkley regarding maintenance and safety considerations for lights that are installed in the ground.

In response to Council Member Mounce, Lodi Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Pat Patrick stated that the vendors for the street faire and other similar events do not currently use the outlets because they are not working and are advised of the same prior to the events.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Mr. Schwabauer stated there is no longer any assessment in the downtown area. Mr. Sandelin stated the active assessment included the downtown guidelines and lighting considerations.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Construction Project Manager Gary Wiman provided an overview of the process for digging and replacing the existing wire and the cost estimate for the same, which included prevailing wage. Mr. Wiman stated he was not asked to review the Palo Alto approach to date.

In response to Council Member Nakanishi, Interim City Manager Steve Schwabauer stated the City does not have a legal obligation to provide lighting but it can do so on a voluntary basis.

The City Council provided general direction to provide lighting on School Street in downtown on a year-round basis, including during the holiday season.

Pat Patrick spoke in support of providing lighting in downtown on a year-round basis for safety and tourism purposes and encouraged the City to work with downtown property owners to find solutions for the same.

Ed Miller spoke in support of lighting in downtown on a year-round basis and encouraged staff to utilize a different design for the project to ensure that the current problems do not reoccur in the future.

Council Member Johnson, in concurrence with Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen and Council Member Mounce, requested information regarding utilizing local businesses for City projects, power washing or repainting downtown areas, and bidding for the Hutchins Street Square carpet replacement project.

In response to Council Member Nakanishi, Ms. Kirkley stated there is enough funding in the street light budget to maintain existing street lights but not decorative lighting.

C. Comments by Public on Non-Agenda Items

None.

D. Adjournment

No action was taken by the City Council. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 a.m.

ATTEST:

Randi Johl-Olson
City Clerk