

**LODI CITY COUNCIL
SHIRTSLEEVE SESSION
CARNEGIE FORUM, 305 WEST PINE STREET
TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2011**

A. Roll Call by City Clerk

An Informal Informational Meeting ("Shirtsleeve" Session) of the Lodi City Council was held Tuesday, August 3, 2011, commencing at 7:00 a.m.

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

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager Bartlam, City Attorney Schwabauer, and City Clerk Johl

B. Topic(s)

B-1 Update of City of Lodi Radio Master Plan (FD)

City Manager Bartlam provided a brief introduction to the subject matter of the Radio Master Plan.

Battalion Chief Jeff Larson and Engineer Jack Casey provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Radio Master Plan (RMP). Specific topics of discussion included the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) mandate, RMP goals, background efforts since 2008, current assets in Police, Fire, Public Works, Electric Utility, and Parks and Recreation, update on the status of the plan including infrastructure improvements, implementation of narrow-banding, current radio inventory and needs, RMP time line, regional progress on the plan, County efforts, costs associated with implementation, equipment needs, potential cost savings, and staff recommendation regarding the RMP.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Larson stated the federal mandate associated with the RMP was unfunded.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Larson stated there has been a reduction in radio interference from other agencies with modern technology but some interference still exists.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. Larson stated licenses and fees for usage are provided through the FCC and it has the ability to shut down frequencies.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Larson stated individuals do have the ability currently with technology to listen and monitor radio calls although that will become more difficult with the new RMP.

In response to Myrna Wetzel, Mr. Larson stated the City will be using analog instead of digital.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Larson stated the Police Department has two channels and four frequencies.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. Larson stated the newly purchased radios are useless until the RMP is implemented. He stated public safety has done a good job at utilizing the full lifespan of radio equipment and in many cases exceeding the suggested lifespan.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Larson stated the mandate is to go to narrow-band and not necessarily to go to UHF. He stated for the City it is better to go to UHF because there is

better communication with all departments and other agencies within the County.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Larson stated the bandwidth will be narrowed on both UHF frequencies.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. Larson stated the City will need to become compliant and change over relatively soon because the City will need to communicate with the County, which has set a go live date.

In response to Council Member Nakanishi, Mr. Casey stated CalFire and American Medical Response are likely using VHF instead of UHF due to costs and the ability to have more coverage in rural areas versus urban settings.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. Casey stated Fire will have to maintain both UHF and VHF to adequately communicate with other agencies, including the County.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Larson stated Fire currently does not have UHF capabilities but will have the ability after the switch and the new Police portable radios will be compatible with UHF.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Mr. Larson stated that, with respect to contingencies, the radios will be placed in strategic locations versus with individuals to keep the costs down.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Mounce, Mr. Larson stated the recommendation to eliminate the radios from Hutchins Street Square, but not Public Works and Electric Utility, is based on the smaller area for usage with the Community Center versus throughout the City for Public Works and Electric Utility.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Bartlam stated the County is within six to eight months of going live and therefore it is important for the City to have this discussion with implementation for Police and Fire occurring as a priority while the assessment for Public Works and Electric Utility is completed.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Johnson, Mr. Larson stated the County received an unknown amount of federal homeland security funding for the project as did the City. He stated part of the challenge for the City is knowing its needs and the related costs in order to obtain funding.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. Casey stated there was an unsuccessful effort at the federal level to move to 700 MHz, which is the military band.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Larson stated that, while there was some discussions about satellite usage, the talks were limited because the project would be cost prohibitive.

In response to Myrna Wetzel, Mr. Larson stated he is not familiar with the specific security near towers but there is likely standard barbed-wire security fencing around the towers.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Larson stated the maintenance of the equipment in the future would be similar to the current practice of maintenance through a service contract on the equipment.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Lieutenant Steve Carillo stated the newer equipment will be under warranty and require less maintenance than the current equipment resulting in a cost savings for the first year or so.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Mounce, Mr. Carillo stated the new portable equipment is under a six-month warranty.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Sandelin stated fleet services can help with the installation of the new equipment.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. Bartlam stated there are grant writing specialists on the market with expertise although it is unlikely that they are aware of any additional existing grants that are unknown to the individuals doing grants in each department.

In response to Mayor Johnson, Mr. Larson stated a RMP committee still exists at the County level and staff could continue working with that committee while resurrecting the City's own committee to assess the needs of the City and its departments.

In response to Council Member Hansen, Mr. Larson and Mr. Bartlam confirmed that Public Works is on the same 2013 mandate although purchasing and implementation is priority for public safety.

In response to Council Member Katzakian, Mr. Bartlam stated other communities in the County are having the same challenges with the County going live.

In response to Council Member Nakanishi and Mayor Pro Tempore Mounce, Mr. Larson and Mr. Bartlam confirmed that there is some money budgeted in the current year in capital improvement and the departmental budgets for the project although additional funds will be needed through other funding sources such as grants for the back-fill.

Ed Miller suggested a slide be used to track how much the project will cost, what funding is currently available, and the additional funds that are needed to complete the project.

C. Comments by Public on Non-Agenda Items

None.

D. Adjournment

No action was taken by the City Council. The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 a.m.

ATTEST:

Randi Johl
City Clerk