

**LODI CITY COUNCIL
SHIRTSLEEVE SESSION
CARNEGIE FORUM, 305 WEST PINE STREET
TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2009**

A. Roll Call by City Clerk

An Informal Informational Meeting ("Shirtsleeve" Session) of the Lodi City Council was held Tuesday, August 18, 2009, commencing at 7:02 a.m.

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

Absent: None

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

B. Topic(s)

B-1 Electric Utility Presentation on Solar Photovoltaic Technology (EUD)

City Manager King briefly introduced the subject matter of the solar energy report.

Electric Utility Director George Morrow provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the solar energy report. Specific topics of discussion included solar concentrating, solar photovoltaic, solar thermal "trough," sterling system, solar tower, photovoltaic history, how photovoltaic works, simple photovoltaic schematic, solar potential, photovoltaic growth, solar economics, "high gain" photovoltaic, renewable standards, California Energy Commission eligible renewables, solar in Lodi today, photovoltaic demonstration, proposals, proposed photovoltaic site near White Slough, community benefits, grapes and photovoltaic, project evaluation factors, and summary of solar energy possibilities for the City.

In response to Mayor Hansen, Mr. Morrow stated Sacramento Municipal Utility District did its project near Rancho Seco several years ago and it probably started as a demonstration of sorts.

In response to Mayor Hansen, Mr. Morrow stated concerns to surrounding property owners for reflection and aesthetics and issues of the site being along the freeway are minimal based on experts who have reviewed the proposed site.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. Morrow stated generally these types of projects are done by private parties from the outside who provide turnkey products and take care of the permitting and operations themselves. Mr. Morrow stated the process would include request for proposals, evaluation of bids and award, a consultant is not involved at this point to evaluate bids as staff should be able to evaluate the incoming bids, the City only pays if it gets electricity which serves as the incentive for the developer to construct a good project, and it is anticipated that the City should receive a good amount of interest in the proposed project.

In response to Council Member Mounce, Mr. Morrow stated at the end of the 25-year term of the agreement, if the City has not purchased the project, the developer would need to remove everything and return the site to the original condition. Mr. Morrow stated the cost of purchasing the project is based on what the market value is at the time of sale. Mr. King stated the option to purchase is seen as a benefit to the City because it can purchase the project dependent upon what the given price is at the time of purchase. Mr. King stated prices also vary depending upon how much energy is purchased.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Katzakian, Mr. Morrow stated the life span of a similar

project is averaging 25 years, although some projects have certain elements that can be replaced because technology is advancing so quickly.

In response to Council Member Mounce, Mr. Morrow stated he will research and provide a ball park figure purchase price for the proposed project by the next City Council meeting in the event that the City should desire to purchase the project in five years.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Mr. Morrow stated the City is party to the green pool for Northern California Power Agency (NCPA), research is continuing into those options, and the proposed project for the City is too small for NCPA.

Discussion ensued between Mayor Hansen, Mr. King, and Mr. Morrow regarding solar projects in differing agencies and communities and the ongoing efforts to continue incorporating additional solar energy into the communities.

In response to Mayor Hansen, Mr. Morrow stated the flat panel technology works in creating energy with both direct and indirect sunlight, while high efficiency solar rays generally use focusing technology through panels.

In response to Mayor Hansen, Mr. Morrow stated State law created some solar requirements through Senate Bill 1, which also includes a rebate program. Mr. Morrow stated by 2012 buyers will have an option to include solar energy in their newly developed homes, although Roseville may have some new construction requirements for solar already because it has made significant investment and progress in the area of solar energy.

In response to Mayor Hansen, Mr. Morrow stated that, while some thought has been given to wind energy, there does not appear to be enough wind geographically in the area to sustain long-term wind energy generation.

In response to Mayor Hansen, Interim Community Development Director Rad Bartlam stated that, while there has been some interest locally in residential windmills, the idea is not prevalent due to the suggestion that a large pole and windmill be placed in the front of a home.

In response to Mayor Hansen, Mr. Morrow stated NCPA and the City, as a member of NCPA, continue to look at wind at the geothermal site and toward the northwest areas.

In response to Mayor Hansen, Mr. Morrow stated the long-term issue of concern is solar and wind storage, which continues to evolve.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Mr. Morrow stated the proposed project will take approximately two acres near the White Slough facility.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Mr. Morrow stated the proposed project will be a relatively small part of the energy usage for White Slough, although there may be potential for more in the future.

Myrna Wetzel spoke in favor of the proposed solar energy project, stating she is generally in favor of the City utilizing solar energy.

C. Comments by Public on Non-Agenda Items

None.

D. Adjournment

No action was taken by the City Council. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 a.m.

ATTEST:

Randi Johl
City Clerk