

TOWN OF SAN ANSELMO

Minutes of the Town Council meeting of September 27, 1988.

Mayor Sharp convened the meeting at 8:00 p.m., following a closed session regarding a personnel matter, and pending litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a), Yeakey vs. Town of San Anselmo, with Councilmembers Chignell, Colteaux, Walsh and Zaharoff present.

2. OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION

Town Administrator Dickens reported that a request for Town Council co-sponsorship of the American Legion Post 179's Octoberfest on October 9 had been received today. He noted that the need to take action on this item arose following posting of the agenda.

M/S, Walsh/Zaharoff, to place the request on the agenda, following item #6. Motion passed unanimously.

3. PRESENTATION OF CALIFORNIA STATE AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AWARD.

Gerald W. Maurer, District Manager of the California State Automobile Association, presented the Town with a 1987 Pedestrian Safety Award.

4. PRESENTATION REGARDING MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT (MMWD) FIRE PROTECTION FUND, BY PATRICIA YATES OF MMWD BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Yates provided background on the long-standing agreement between the cities and towns in Marin County and the Water District for the MMWD to collect revenue to provide water lines for fire protection service throughout the County. She said the Water District is not obligated by state law to raise this revenue, that it is the responsibility of each jurisdiction, but that traditionally MMWD has agreed to provide this service and has collected the funds through customer water bills.

After MMWD stopped collecting funds for fire protection as a separate line item on the bills, the Board of Directors decided to designate an annual contribution towards fire protection out of its budget. The water district worked with local fire chiefs to prioritize fire protection service projects. This year, faced with a deficit, and demands by commercial interests to replace and install new large transmission lines in business districts, the directors have decided that they can no longer commit to financing the priority list submitted by the fire chiefs. Therefore, local jurisdictions may find themselves in the position of financing the installation and replacement of transmission lines when the current agreement with MMWD expires in 1989.

Ross Valley Fire Chief Mollenkopf commented that local fire chiefs and city managers are currently looking into this issue, and that jurisdictions may have to look at other funding mechanisms.

5. DISCUSSION REGARDING LONG-TERM FINANCES.

Concerning the decision-making process involved in the Town's long-term financial situation, Town Administrator Dickens reported that he had spoken with the city managers of Mill Valley and Novato, who have had experience with public participation on finance issues. Mill Valley's recommendations included developing a good public education program before conducting any surveys, and Novato's recommendation was to use a public opinion firm rather than in-house staff for surveying. Dickens submitted a draft "problem statement" and questionnaire, and recommended the Council consider developing an overall strategy for obtaining public opinion, such as through the formation of a blue ribbon

citizens committee, and obtain advice from jurisdictions with experience on this issue.

Sharp reported that he and Dickens had a meeting scheduled with the Mayor and City Manager of Mill Valley, who have had experience with unsuccessful and successful ballot measures to finance capital reconstruction. He suggested the Town take advantage of other towns' experiences.

Walsh commented that she liked the questionnaire, and she did not object to discussing it further, but was opposed to dragging out the discussion process.

Colteaux said the Council should formulate a recommendation on expenditure cuts and/or revenue increases before sending out a questionnaire to the public.

Zaharoff said that after information is received from the meeting with Mill Valley, she would like to discuss formation of a committee consisting of councilmembers and possibly citizens.

Chignell said he thought there should be a formal subcommittee and possibly an advisory group, adding that the purpose of the process was to open the issue up to community input. He asked that the item be placed on the next agenda, and suggested that the Ross Valley School District be contacted for advice on its recent parcel tax ballot measure.

6. APPOINTMENTS: TAX EQUITY BOARD.

The incumbent and three other residents have applied for appointment. It was the consensus of the Council to direct staff to schedule interviews on the next regular agenda.

7. REQUEST FOR CO-SPONSORSHIP OF AMERICAN LEGION POST 179 OCTOBERFEST.

Police Chief Del Santo reported that the American Legion has been cooperative in arrangements for this event, which will take place October 9. No Town funds or services were being requested in sponsorship of the event.

M/S, Walsh/Colteaux, to co-sponsor the event. Motion passed unanimously.

7. CONSENT AGENDA.

- (a) Approve Minutes: September 13, 1988.
- (b) Accept Report on County Fees for Waste Management Planning and Household Hazardous Waste Collection.
- (c) Appeal of Planning Commission's approval of V-2172, Libby Hayes, 14 Elm Court, A/P No. 7-081-15, a variance for an accessory structure within rear and side setbacks.

CONTINUED TO OCTOBER 11, 1988.

M/S, Colteaux/Walsh, to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

8. COUNCIL REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS, COMMENTS AND DIRECTION TO STAFF; STAFF MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Tree Committee - Colteaux inquired about the status of his request that the Council be given information on the formation of a tree advisory committee. Dickens responded that staff was still in the process of working on it.

Thanksgiving - Lew Tremaine, editor of The Fax, asked the Council to consider co-sponsoring the annual community Thanksgiving dinner on its next agenda.

9. ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.