

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**2:00 P.M., Monday, August 29, 2011**  
**City Council Chambers, Legislative Building, 745 Fourth Street, Sparks, Nevada**

**1. \*Call to Order** (Time: 2:01:46 p.m.)

The special meeting of the Sparks City Council was called to order by Mayor Geno Martini at 2:02 p.m.

**2. \*Roll Call** (Time: 2:01:55 p.m.)

Mayor Geno Martini, City Clerk Linda Patterson, Council Members Julia Ratti, Ed Lawson, Ron Smith, Mike Carrigan, Ron Schmitt, City Manager Shaun Carey, City Attorney Chet Adams, PRESENT.

Staff Present: Jim Rundle, Armando Ornelas, Steve Driscoll, Steve Keefer.

**Pledge of Allegiance** (Time: 2:02:10 p.m.)

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Senior Planner Jim Rundle.

**\*Comments from the Public** (Time: 2:02:44 p.m.)

None

**Approval of the Agenda** (Time: 2:02:54 p.m.)

Consideration of taking items out of sequence, deleting items and adding items which require action upon a finding that an emergency exists.

A motion was made by Council Member Smith, seconded by Council Member Carrigan, to approve the agenda as posted. Council Members Ratti, Lawson, Smith, Carrigan, Schmitt, YES. Motion carried.

**3. Recommendation to Approve Minutes:** None.

**4. Announcements, Presentations, Recognition Items and Items of Special Interest:**  
None.

**5. Consent Items:** None.

**6. General Business:**

**6.1 Presentation, discussion and direction on redrawing City Council ward boundaries based on the 2010 U.S. Census** (Time: 2:04:04 p.m.)

Senior Planner Jim Rundle stated that at the August 9<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting staff presented three concepts for redrawing the ward boundaries. Based on the discussion from that meeting, staff and after input from the Sparks Citizens Advisory Committee (SCAC), staff focused on Concept 1 and developed two concepts—1A and 1B.

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At the August 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Council requested staff look at the following:

- Putting homeowners associations into one ward, including the Vistas and Wingfield Springs
- Keeping Pioneer Meadows in ward 4
- Adjusting ward 2 to include the Pyramid corridor from the Pyramid Way/McCarran Boulevard intersection, north into the Spanish Springs valley
- Adjust Talladega Drive so that the entire street was within one single ward
- Incorporate the area southwest of Los Altos Boulevard into ward 4
- Incorporate the area on the southwest side of Vista and Baring into ward 3

Mr. Rundle asked the Council to keep in mind that staff has to ensure that:

- the city council person's residence remains within their ward
- the ward boundaries are contiguous
- whenever possible we follow major arterials

He noted that as directed by the Council, staff held a Sparks Citizens Advisory Committee (SCAC) meeting on August 11<sup>th</sup>. The Citizens at the meeting reviewed the same boundary concepts that the Council reviewed on August 9<sup>th</sup>. The SCAC essentially liked concept 2, which was the linear north/south wards because it incorporated a lot of the city into each ward. However, they felt the best fit was concept 1, because it kept the boundaries closer to what they were in the past.

After considering all the input, staff ultimately came up with Concept 1A and 1B. Mr. Rundle stated that unfortunately he was unable to incorporate all the council's request into one map. He noted that Concept 1A has moved ward 2 north into the Spanish Springs valley along Pyramid Highway and put the Vistas into ward 4, leaving Desert Highlands in ward 3. However, because of population, it moved Cimarron out of ward 4.

Concept 1B includes the request to keep Pioneer Meadows in ward 4 and Cimarron goes back into ward 4. But then the Vistas get split and ward 2 doesn't move north. 1B also incorporates some of the area along Baring and Vista into ward 3.

Council Member Smith stated that map 1B is "doable", but he would like to see the section of the Vistas, going up Los Altos, moved back into ward 4, with Vista Heights in ward 3 to make the numbers balance.

Council Member Carrigan stated he preferred the Vistas homeowners association to be in one ward, because then they would have only one council person to go to. He said Miramonte can go in ward 3, along with Vista Heights and Pioneer Meadows can go in to ward 5. Tierra del sol needs to be in his ward because he is the one who went to court on the Lazy 8 issue and it is owned by Wingfield Springs, which he also represents. The Council then discussed various ward boundary scenarios.

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Mr. Rundle cautioned that although it seemed simple to just move the boundary one street over, he had to follow the census lines in order to balance the population numbers and the census lines did not follow the lines the Council wanted to change. He emphasized that he would do his best to accommodate Council requests, but the computer calculated population by census blocks, not by streets, and he might not be able to split the blocks exactly how the Council wanted them.

Mr. Rundle noted that on option 1C, staff was able to move ward 2 to the north, as requested, and have four of the wards come together at Greenbrae and McCarran. This moved ward 1 north to Greenbrae, as opposed to Oddie.

Council Member Schmitt asked what the target number for population was for each ward. Mr. Rundle stated the target number is 18,211 people, with no greater than a 5% variation from highest to lowest in all wards.

Council Member Smith commented that option 1C was pretty close for him.

Council Member Lawson stated it made no difference to him which scenario was selected, they all worked for him.

It was noted that the final selection would be brought back to the Council as an ordinance change with the first reading scheduled for September 12<sup>th</sup> and the second reading and public hearing on September 26<sup>th</sup>.

Council Member Lawson requested that the map be reworked to better delineate the new ward lines so they are easier to see. He also requested that the colors used for each ward contrast more, so that he could see them.

Mr. Rundle summed up Council requests for changes as follows:

- Look at adding Stonebrooke to ward 4
- Moving Tierra del Sol (the Tourist Commercial designated area) back into ward 4 and leaving the residential in ward 5
- Potentially looking at where the Vistas are split and adding Siltstone back into ward 3 if the population numbers don't work out

7. **Public Hearings and Action Items Unrelated to Planning and Zoning:** None.

8. **Planning and Zoning Public Hearings and Action Items:** None.

9. **Comments:**

9.1 **\*From the Council and City Manager** (Time: 3:27:12 p.m.)

Council Member Smith asked where we are on weed abatement at Vista and Sparks Boulevard? City Manager Carey stated he would check on this and e-mail him and update.

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**9.2 \*Comments from the Public** (Time: 2:27:03 p.m.)

None.

**10. \*Adjournment** (Time: 2:28:03 p.m.)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

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Mayor

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City Clerk

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