

## MINUTES

### GARDEN GROVE CITY COUNCIL

An Adjourned Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Garden Grove was called to order in the Founders Room of the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Avenue, on Tuesday, May 3, 2006, at 6:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: (5) MAYOR DALTON, COUNCIL MEMBERS KREBS, LEYES, NGUYEN, ROSEN

ABSENT: (0) NONE

#### DISCUSSION CONCERNING THE APPOINTMENT OF A CITY LOBBYIST (F: 55) (XR: 67.6)

Monica Miller and Ken Maddox, representing Governmental Advocates, Inc., gave the first presentation. They provided information on their background and identified the services Governmental Advocates, Inc., provides that includes: legislative and administrative monitoring; legislative and administrative advocacy; client strategy and organization; and strategic consulting.

The second presentation was given by Townsend Public Affairs, Inc. representatives Christopher Townsend, Sean Fitzgerald, Heather Dion, and Jason Quimby. They provided information on their background and noted that Townsend Public Affairs specializes in securing public sector funding, political consulting, legislative tracking, and advocacy.

Following the presentations, the City Council discussed the merits of each presentation.

Council Member Leyes commented that each company provided a good presentation. He noted that he has known Christopher Townsend for a long time. He is still not convinced that the City needs to hire a lobbyist or that the City needs to spend the money.

Council Member Krebs commented that staff is not able to spend the amount of time that is required on this type of work. He noted if

the City gets a little bit of money for libraries and infrastructure, it would be money well spent. The City has always had problems writing grants. He indicated that both companies made good presentation; and if it takes a lobbyist to get some money for the City, he was in favor of hiring a lobbyist.

Council Member Rosen agreed that both companies provided excellent presentations. He noted that politicians will tell us they like the project, but the lobbyist birddogs the politicians to get it done. He commented that the City should see results in five months, and he was in favor of hiring Townsend Public Affairs, Inc. because he felt that they would be more aggressive.

Mayor Dalton commented that he did not want to make a decision tonight, but he did want to hire someone. He noted that staff has the ability to write grants and felt that it would be better if the City could get someone to help staff. He indicated that the City could invest some money for a few months.

Council Member Nguyen commented that she was in favor of having a lobbyist to assist the City with available funding sources. Her concern is whether Townsend Public Affairs, Inc., would fight as hard for Garden Grove when they also represent adjacent cities that are all competing for the same funding sources.

After further discussion, it was agreed that consideration and selection of a lobbyist be listed on the May 9, 2006, City Council agenda.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 10:12 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

PRISCILLA STIERSTORFER  
DEPUTY CITY CLERK