

**CITY OF ESCONDIDO
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
7:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2009
STATE OF THE CITY
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

Following a musical presentation by Bear Valley Middle School Chorus, the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Escondido, California, was called to order on Wednesday, February 11, 2009 in the Council Chambers with Mayor Pfeiler presiding.

BLESSING AND FLAG SALUTE

The Thai Buddhist Temple of Escondido offered a Blessing. Escondido Girl Scout Troop 4167 and 4392 led the flag salute. The Chorus sang the "Star Spangled Banner", followed by "One Nation".

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present: Abed, Daniels, Diaz, and Pfeiler. Waldron absent. Quorum present.

Mayor Pfeiler welcomed those in attendance and expressed appreciation to the Thai Buddhist Temple of Escondido, Escondido Girl Scout Troup 4167 and 4392, and the Bear Valley Middle School Chorus, who performed at the meeting.

RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY AND STAFF

The following employees were acknowledged for their service to the City of Escondido.

Service Awards for Staff

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Jonathan Berlinguette...</i> | <i>25 years</i> |
| <i>Lora Grabinski.....</i> | <i>25 years</i> |
| <i>James Larzalere.....</i> | <i>25 years</i> |
| <i>John Peters.....</i> | <i>25 years</i> |
| <i>Dean Cornell.....</i> | <i>30 years</i> |
| <i>Bruce Grafrath.....</i> | <i>30 years</i> |
| <i>Jo Ann Greenberg.....</i> | <i>30 years</i> |
| <i>Henry Leso.....</i> | <i>30 years</i> |
| <i>Michael O'Connor.....</i> | <i>30 years</i> |
| <i>Frank Schmitz.....</i> | <i>30 years</i> |
| <i>Richard Walker.....</i> | <i>35 years</i> |
| <i>Michael White.....</i> | <i>35 years</i> |

Escondido City Council Awards were presented by Mayor Pfeiler and members of the Council to the following:

| <u>Recipient</u> | <u>Category</u> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Phyllis Savin | Arts |
| Daniel Perez | Charity |
| Hector Morales | Community Beautification |
| Greta Kertz | Community Involvement |
| Eric Siaca | Compassion |
| John Lawson | Education |
| Harold J. Stueven | Historic Preservation |
| Pat Heggy | Humanity |
| Patricia Conway | Leadership |
| Lorraine Boyce | Service to Children |
| Randy Eldred | Service to Youth |
| Kathy Rubesha | Spirit of Escondido |
| Jerry Davis and Delores McQuiston | Watchful Eye |

MAYOR'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Mayor Pfeiler indicated there were many challenges facing the City of Escondido since we were in the worst economic crisis since the great depression. The City revenues continue to decline with great uncertainty about how far they will fall before leveling out. The State's staggering deficit and the inability of our legislators to demonstrate the leadership needed to get California back on its feet was an additional obstacle. She indicated that she was very optimistic about our ability to face a crisis and that the citizens of Escondido would weather this urgent situation and come through even stronger than before. We will endure sacrifices and figure out how to avoid disruptions in City services. The City has been focusing its efforts on new sources of revenue to give a more stable income stream in the future. We have been successful in enticing new businesses and to redevelop our central core by use of the Economic Development Incentive Fund. She mentioned the shortage of water and the difficulty of importing water from the Sacramento Delta. We live in a desert and everyone should consider changing the way they landscape in order to save water.

Stating that not all the news was bad, Mayor Pfeiler indicated that the City of Escondido will host the 2009 Amgen Tour of California. This is a Tour de France style road race which draws the top professional cycling teams to compete in a demanding 800 mile course from Sacramento to Escondido. The final leg of the race will be run from Rancho Bernardo to Escondido on Sunday, February 22, 2009. The finish will be located downtown at the corner of Grand Avenue and Broadway. She invited everyone to pick up a brochure that outlined all the significant achievements in Escondido in 2008. Specifically, three new fire stations were opened and Oceanside, Vista, San Marcos and Encinitas have used our anti-graffiti program as a model for their cities. The General Plan is scheduled to be updated in the future. Residents will be asked to give their input on the revision of the plan.

Mayor Pfeiler concluded by stating it would not be easy in the coming year, but as individuals we needed to draw on our character, our courage and our faith. We would need to be resourceful, more efficient and as a community we should recognize that extraordinary times require extraordinary actions. She asked everyone to put aside their differences and their fears and continue to build a community that works together.

ADJOURNMENT & REFRESHMENTS

Mayor Pfeiler adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m., which was followed with refreshments.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK

MINUTES CLERK