



*NOTICE AND CALL OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
SANGER CITY COUNCIL*

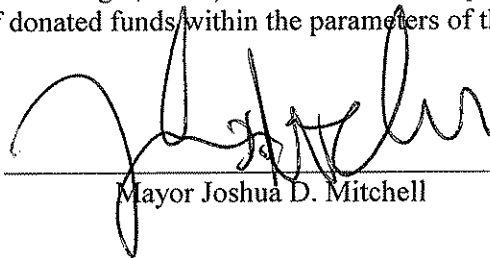
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SANGER CITY COUNCIL AND TO THE CITY CLERK:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special meeting of the City Council is hereby called for Thursday, October 20, 2011 commencing at 8:00 pm at the Sanger City Hall Council Chambers, 1700 7th Street, Sanger, California. Said special meeting shall be held to consider:

SUBJECT: Sanger Christmas Committee

RECOMMENDATION: 1) Receive and file this informational, non-action item. Or
2) The Council can chose to: a) create the Sanger Christmas Committee; b) appoint the Mayor and one other member of the City Council to the Committee and that the Mayor or his designee be the Chair of the Committee; c) appoint five members of the public to this Committee for a total membership of seven Committee members; d) direct that the Committee provide the Council with a plan for implementing a Christmas festival in downtown Sanger; and e) that the Committee provide recommendations to the Council on potential uses of donated funds within the parameters of the Christmas festival plan.

Dated: October 19, 2011



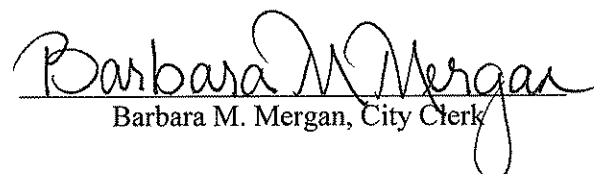
Mayor Joshua D. Mitchell

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Dated: October 19, 2011



Barbara M. Mergan, City Clerk



CITY OF SANGER

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

To: Mayor and City Council
From: Brian Haddix, City Manager
Subject: Sanger Christmas Committee
Attachments: None

CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

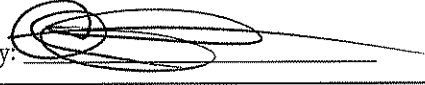
Receive and file this informational, non-action item.

Or

The Council can chose to: (1) create the Sanger Christmas Committee; (2) appoint the Mayor and one other member of the City Council to the Committee and that the Mayor or his designee be the Chair of the Committee; (3) appoint five members of the public to this Committee for a total membership of seven Committee members; (4) direct that the Committee provide the Council with a plan for implementing a Christmas festival in downtown Sanger, and; (5) that the Committee provide recommendations to the Council on potential uses of donated funds within the parameters of the Christmas festival plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In support of the City's goals of helping the downtown become vibrant, attract residents and visitors to downtown's special events, and provide increased economic opportunities for City residents through attracting visitor-serving businesses, it is proposed that a committee be created entitled, "Sanger

Prepared by:  Approved by: 

REVIEW: City Manager: CBH Finance: _____ City Attorney: JK

TYPE OF ITEM: _____ Consent _____ Info Item _____ Action Item Department Report _____ Redevelopment Agency

COUNCIL ACTION: APPROVED DENIED NO ACTION

_____ Public Hearing
_____ Matter Initiated by a Council Member
_____ Other
_____ Continued to: _____

Christmas Committee.” The purpose of the Committee would be to serve as the catalyst for creation of a community-sponsored Christmas or Winter Festival. Winter Festivals or Christmas Festivals have been implemented in other cities throughout the United States. They serve as a community activity as well as a tourist event. It is anticipated that such an event will draw the public from within Sanger and its environs into its downtown for Christmas –themed activities. It is anticipated that the Committee would work closely with the Sanger Chamber of Commerce, the Downtown Association, Service Clubs, and other community organizations and individuals in formulating and helping carry out plans for a Christmas or Winter Festival.

The Council has two options. The Sanger Christmas Committee can be set up by the Mayor or set up by the Council. The primary difference between the two is that a committee created by Council is guided by the Ralph M. Brown Act and a committee set up by the Mayor is not. There are pros and cons to either route. For example, one of the reasons for having the Mayor create this committee is to avoid conflicts of interest between the City and outside parties as the Committee solicits contributions and makes recommendations on fund allocation.

In an effort to provide structure and direction to this event, the Committee will be composed of two members of the Council, one of which is the Mayor. Should the Council chose to create the committee, it can appoint the public members, or, should the Mayor set up this committee, then he shall appoint five members of the public to this Committee. In view of the fact that the Committee is part of the City of Sanger, it is capable of accepting tax deductible donations.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Sanger is known as the Nation’s Christmas Tree City. In an effort to provide enjoyment to the community and promote the City’s signature feature: the Nation’s Christmas Tree City, it is proposed that a Christmas Committee be formed to serve as a mechanism for developing such winter activities as a snow park, Christmas tree maze, ice rink, downtown tree decorating contest, downtown store window decorating contest, to name a few.

There will be a cost associated with these activities and this Committee becomes the mechanism for the City to accept donations and offer the donors a tax deductible benefit.

According to the City Attorney, as an information item, the Mayor can create a committee on his own and determine its composition, mission and purpose. Should this be the course chosen, then the Mayor may want to: (1) create the Sanger Christmas Committee; (2) appoint the Mayor and one other member of the City Council to the Committee and that the Mayor or his designee be the Chair of the Committee; (3) appoint five members of the public to this Committee for a total membership of seven Committee members; (4) direct that the Committee provide the Council and community with a plan for implementing a Christmas Festival in downtown Sanger, and; (5) have the Committee provide recommendations to the Council on potential uses of donated funds within the parameters of the Christmas Festival.

As an action item, the Council can chose to: (1) create the Sanger Christmas Committee; (2) appoint the Mayor and one other member of the City Council to the Committee and that the Mayor or his designee be the Chair of the Committee; (3) appoint five members of the public to this Committee for a total membership of seven Committee members; (4) direct that the Committee provide the Council with a plan for implementing a Christmas festival in downtown Sanger, and; (5) have the Committee provide recommendations to the Council on potential uses of donated funds within the parameters of

the Christmas festival plan.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:

Promote tourism, attract residents and visitors to downtown's special events, and provide increased economic opportunities for City residents through attracting visitor-serving businesses; provide entertainment to the community and further the signature element of the City of Sanger: the Nation's Christmas Tree City.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None since this will be a community supported activity.

ALTERNATIVES:

Stated above.

ACTIONS FOLLOWING APPROVAL:

The Council or Mayor, based on the chosen course noted above, will create the Committee, solicit community interest in its purpose and goals, appoint its members, convene its first meeting, and keep the Council apprised of the Committee's progress.