

**City Council Special Meeting
January 13, 2005**

**SOLEDAD COMMUNITY CENTER
560 NORTH WALKER DRIVE**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Juan Saavedra called the Special Meeting of the City Council to order at the Soledad Community Center at 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present when the meeting was called to order were Councilmembers: Bourke, De La Rosa, Stephens and Mayor Pro Tem Juan Saavedra. Mayor Ortiz was absent due to a previous commitment.

PRESENTATION

Presentation by Police Chief Richard Cox on the accomplishments of the Police Department for the year 2004

Police Chief Richard Cox marked his one-year anniversary by sponsoring a dinner to celebrate the occasion and to honor the families for their support. He assessed the department's budget and surveyed the officers as to what it was that they wanted to change within the department. The responses he received became the foundation for the changes that took place over the past year. The officers wanted a better relationship with the City Council and a better public image.

Chief Cox presented a power point presentation on each police officer with a brief biography for each officer. He gave a power point presentation on the accomplishments of the Police Department in 2004, the department's goals for 2005 and implementing a 3-5 year goal plan. Chief Cox also recognized several members of the Police Department for their completion on projects, which need to be in compliance with state and federal requirements.

Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra thanked and praised Chief of Police Richard Cox for his work and his department's efforts and hard work and recognized the Police Department accomplishments and in moving forward.

Chief Cox stated that when he arrived there were three to five cases a week from the Soledad Department that were being rejected by the Monterey County District Attorneys (DA) Office. Since his arrival, cases are no longer being kicked back from the DA's Office.

This year the Police Department has received several pieces of new equipment including matching holsters and guns with interchangeable ammunition and a new work schedule for the employees. The Department has also received new police cruisers, radar guns, crowd control equipment and updated its information systems. Chief Cox stated that the quality of investigation and dedication of the officers is incredible.

Soledad Police Officer's Association (SPOA) President Abe Aguayo and Vice President Jose Rodriguez, Jr., made a presentation by the SPOA to Chief Cox for his hard work and dedication. Chief Cox was presented with a crystal plaque thanking him for his leadership and for moving the Department in a forward direction and not looking back.

The SPOA also presented Investigator Mark Hartunian a crystal plaque for his effort and hard work during his short time at the department.

The SPOA presented all the police officers with personalized pens with "Soledad Police Department" engraved on each pen. All members were also recognized for all their hard work and team effort this past year.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Council, Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra adjourned the special meeting at 9:30 pm.

JUAN SAAVEDRA, Mayor Pro Tem

Approved: February 16, 2005

NOELIA F. CHAPA, City Clerk