



**Wednesday, September 6, 2017**  
**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A Regular Meeting of the South Pasadena City Council was called to order by Mayor Cacciotti on Wednesday, September 6, 2017, at 7:45 p.m., in the Amedee O. "Dick" Richards, Jr., Council Chamber, located at 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, California.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Councilmembers Joe, Khubesrian, and Mahmud; Mayor Pro Tem Schneider; and Mayor Cacciotti.

**Absent:** None.

**City Staff**

**Present:** Elaine Aguilar, Interim City Manager; Teresa L. Highsmith, City Attorney; Evelyn G. Zneimer, City Clerk; and Anthony J. Mejia, Chief City Clerk were present at Roll Call. Other staff members presented reports or responded to questions as indicated in the minutes.

**INVOCATION**

Father Dennis, Holy Family Catholic Church, gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Cacciotti led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**1. Closed Session Announcements**

The Special Closed Session of the City Council of September 6, 2017, was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Schneider at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting convened into Closed Session to discuss the following items as listed on the Closed Session Regular Meeting Agenda:

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – LABOR NEGOTIATIONS, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6:

City Negotiators: Interim City Manager Elaine Aguilar, Human Resources Manager Mariam Lee Ko, City Attorney Teresa L. Highsmith; and Attorney Steve Berliner

Represented Employee Organizations: Firefighters' Association (FFA)

B. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8:

Properties: 1500 El Centro Street (5315-003-901) and easement known as "Edison Lane" (No APN)

Agency Negotiators: Interim City Manager Elaine Aguilar; City Attorney Teresa L. Highsmith

Negotiating Party: Citizens Business Bank

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms

C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – INITIATION OF LITIGATION, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(4):

Number of Cases: 2

D. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – INITIATION OF LITIGATION, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(4):

Number of Cases: 1

City Attorney Highsmith reported that the City Council received briefings and provided direction to staff regarding the agenda items, but did not take any reportable action.

## PRESENTATIONS

### **2. Presentation by the Pasadena Humane Society on Available Animal Adoptions**

Julie Bank, Pasadena Humane Society (PHS) President/CEO, encouraged residents to visit the adoption center; noted that low cost vaccinations and spay and neuter services are available at the Shelter.

**3. Introduction of Park Supervisor David Niznik**

Public Works Director Toor introduced newly hired Park Supervisor David Niznik.

**4. Certificate of Appreciation to Outgoing Commissioner Deborah Howell-Ardila for Service on the Cultural Heritage Commission**

Mayor Cacciotti presented a Certificate of Appreciation to outgoing Commissioner Deborah Howell-Ardila for her service on the Cultural Heritage Commission.

**4a. Presentation of a Proclamation Declaring September 10-16, 2017 as “Suicide Prevention Week” in the City of South Pasadena**

Mayor Cacciotti presented a Proclamation to Val Uchendu, representing the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, declaring September 10-16, 2017 as “Suicide Prevention Week” in South Pasadena.

**5. Status Report on Metro Gold Line Security by a Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department Representative**

Lieutenant Art Chavez, representing Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, provided a status report regarding security on the Metro Gold Line. The City Council requested that LASD provide security staffing information for the Gold Line.

**6. Fiscal Year 2016-17 Annual Report of the Finance Commission**

Frank Catania, Chair of the Finance Commission (FC), provided the Fiscal Year 2016-17 FC Annual Report.

**7. Fiscal Year 2016-17 Annual Report of the Freeway & Transportation Commission**

Richard Helgeson, Chair of the Freeway and Transportation Commission (FTC), provided the Fiscal Year 2016-17 FTC Annual Report.

**COMMUNICATIONS****8. Councilmembers Communications**

Mayor Pro Tem Schneider reported that the Finance Commission has expressed concern regarding the City’s fiscal sustainability and recommends that the City take action to seek new or to increase revenue sources; suggested that City staff advise demolition and tree removal permit applicants regarding potential Natural Resources and Environmental Commission and Cultural Heritage Commission review upon first contact; noted that the City of Claremont offers residents the option to pay for early tree trimming and issues citations for failure to water trees.

Councilmember Mahmud reported on her attendance at regional meetings regarding local water resources and storm water compliance; advised that the South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce is discussing the possibility of developing a bicycle friendly business district; spoke on the Public Safety Commission's community forum regarding immigration policies.

Mayor Pro Tem Schneider requested that the City Council agenda discussion of the Monterey Road lane reconfiguration, seconded by Councilmember Mahmud. In response to City Council inquiries, Planning and Building Director Watkins advised that the General Plan's Circulation Element will include a Complete Streets Policy. Public Works Director Toor provided an update regarding the next phase of Monterey Road street improvements. Councilmembers Khubesrian and Mahmud suggested that discussion of Monterey Road's reconfiguration should wait until development of an overarching Complete Streets Policy. Councilmember Mahmud withdrew her second.

Councilmember Joe noted that Congresswoman Judy Chu held a community forum at the Senior Center to discuss the future of the Affordable Care Act.

Councilmember Khubesrian reported on her attendance at regional meetings, City Commission meetings, and community events; noted that the City is looking to develop a list of priority transportation projects and encouraged City staff to work with the City of Pasadena.

Mayor Cacciotti requested that the City Council agenda consideration of allocating \$300 of his discretionary fund towards Timothy Okitsu's Eagle Scout Project to install an interpretive sign at the entrance of the Nature Park; suggested that City staff consider the possibility of relocating the City's Maintenance Yard to the vacant lot at Arroyo Seco Park near the batting cages.

## **9. City Manager Communications**

City Manager Aguilar announced current vacancies for Boards and Commissions; invited the community to attend the Clean Air Car Show & Green Living Expo on September 10, 2017, Community Forum on By-District Elections on September 16, 2017, and Police and Fire Departments Open House and Cruz'n for South Pasadena Tournament of Roses Hot Rod & Classic Car Show on September 17, 2017.

## **10. Reordering of and Additions to the Agenda**

None.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Monica Kelly, South Pasadena resident, requested that the City lay mulch at the Nature Park to help prevent weed and reduce ash dust.

Public Works Director Toor advised that City staff will try to accommodate the request to place mulch at the Nature Park by November 2017.

Shlomo Nitzani, South Pasadena resident, voiced concern that the City Council is spending too much time on special presentations, thereby causing delays for the scheduled public hearings and discussion items; noted that Southern California Edison (SCE) is upgrading their facilities in his neighborhood, opining that SCE should be required to repave Camino Lindo.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM SCHNEIDER, CARRIED 5-0, to approve the Consent Calendar Item Nos. 11-17; with Item No. 18 pulled for separate discussion.

### **11. Minutes of the City Council Meeting of August 16, 2017**

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM SCHNEIDER, CARRIED 5-0, to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2017 City Council Meeting.

### **12. Prepaid Warrants, General City Warrants, and Payroll**

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM SCHNEIDER, CARRIED 5-0, to approve the City of South Pasadena Prepaid Warrants Nos. 199653 through 199727 in the amount of \$977,095.67; General City Warrants Nos. 199728 through 199894 in the amount of \$2,347,689.47; and Payroll dated August 25, 2017, in the amount of \$539,737.95.

### **13. Adoption of a Resolution Approving the City of South Pasadena Investment Policy for Fiscal Year 2017-18**

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM SCHNEIDER, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Resolution No. 7529 entitled "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Pasadena, California, adopting an Investment Policy for Fiscal Year 2017-18."

### **14. Adoption of a Resolution Adopting a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of South Pasadena and the South Pasadena Police Officers' Association**

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM SCHNEIDER, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Resolution No. 7530 entitled "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Pasadena, California, adopting a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of South Pasadena and the South Pasadena Police Officers' Association superseding Resolution No. 7381 and Resolution No. 7467."

**15. Adoption of a Resolution to Purge Expired Records, Per the City of South Pasadena's Record Retention Schedule**

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM SCHNEIDER, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Resolution No. 7531 entitled "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Pasadena, California, approving the destruction of certain City records from the Community Services Department."

**16. Declare Unusable City Property as Surplus and Direct Staff to Dispose of Accumulated Scrap Metal**

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM SCHNEIDER, CARRIED 5-0, to declare accumulated scrap metal from the Water Department as surplus property and instruct staff to dispose of the items in accordance with the City of South Pasadena Disposal Policy.

**17. Authorize Purchase of a Special Events Insurance Policy for the South Pasadena Tournament of Roses Cruz'n for Roses Hot Rod & Classic Car Show and South Pasadena Police and Fire Department Open House**

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM SCHNEIDER, CARRIED 5-0, to authorize the purchase of a Special Events Insurance Policy for the South Pasadena Tournament of Roses Cruz'n for Roses Hot Rod & Classic Car Show and Police and Fire Department Open House.

**ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION**

**18. Receive and File the Year End Financial Report for the Arroyo Seco Golf Course**

In response to City Council inquiry, Community Services Director Pautsch explained that increased and unanticipated maintenance costs and restaurant losses caused a decrease in revenues for the Arroyo Seco Golf Course; advised that the City could issue a Request for Proposal for a food and beverage concessionaires.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, CARRIED 5-0, to agendize discussion of food and beverage concessionaire options for the Arroyo Seco Golf Course restaurant.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER JOE, CARRIED 5-0, to receive and file the Year End Financial Report for the Arroyo Seco Golf Course.

**PUBLIC HEARING****19. Public Hearing to Receive Input from the Community Regarding the Creation of a City Council District-Based Electoral System Pursuant to Elections Code Section 10010**

Chief City Clerk Mejia narrated a PowerPoint presentation entitled “Developing Boundaries for a District-Based Electoral System” and responded to City Council inquiries.

Mayor Cacciotti opened the Public Hearing.

Brandy Guenveur, South Pasadena resident, recommended that the City Council include a provision which requires the City to revert back to at-large elections in the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) in amended.

Sheila Rossi, South Pasadena resident, opined that continuity of office should not be a consideration in drafting the district maps; suggested that the district boundaries should be focused on neighborhood characteristics such as parks, traffic patterns, parking, walkability, and schools; recommended that at least two districts intersect at major streets.

Linda Krausen, South Pasadena resident, submitted a draft map outlining her neighborhood which is on file with the City Clerk.

Lawrence Quinones, South Pasadena resident, voiced opposition to transitioning to by-district elections; questioned the procedures when no candidate runs for a particular district.

In response to public comment, Chief City Clerk Mejia advised that the enacting ordinance will include an intent statement that the City Council desires to revert back to at-large elections if so enabled; explained that the California Elections Code contains provisions in the event that no candidate runs for a particular district, including authorization for the City Council to make an appointment.

Ellen Wood, South Pasadena resident, questioned the procedures when no candidate runs for office nor wants to be appointed to the position.

Bianca Richards, South Pasadena resident, suggested that the districts should be walkable and compact utilizing major streets such as Huntington Drive, Monterey Road, and Fair Oaks Avenue as borders; agreed that old Monterey Hills and the Altos should be in separate districts.

There being no others desiring to speak on this item, Mayor Cacciotti closed the Public Hearing period.

Following discussion, the City Council agreed that districts should include a mix of land uses such as single-family residential, multi-family residential, and commercial and consideration should be given to continuity of office.

**ACTION/DISCUSSION****20. Set a Public Hearing Date for the Proposed Water and Sewer Rates on November 1, 2017 and approve the Publication of the Proposition 218 Notice**

Public Works Director Toor narrated a PowerPoint presentation entitled “Water and Sewer Rate Study” and responded to City Council inquiries.

Mayor Cacciotti opened the Public Comment period.

Kim Hughes, South Pasadena resident, noted that the water rate increase will allow the City to address deferred water infrastructure maintenance; pointed out that the San Juan Capistrano case no longer allows cities to reward conservation efforts through water rates.

There being no others desiring to speak on this item, Mayor Cacciotti closed the Public Comment period.

The City Council expressed gratitude to the residents that served on the Water and Sewer Rate Ad Hoc Committee; noted that the increased rates will allow the City to address deferred infrastructure maintenance and upgrades to reservoirs and pipelines.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER JOE, CARRIED 5-0, to:

1. Set a Public Hearing date of November 1, 2017, to consider the proposed water and sewer rates.
2. Approve the publication of the Proposition 218 notice for the year 2018 through 2022 water and sewer rates.

**21. First Reading and Introduction of an Ordinance to Amend the South Pasadena Municipal Code to Establish City Campaign Contribution Regulations**

This matter was continued to a future City Council meeting, without discussion.


**22. Discretionary Fund Request from Mayor Cacciotti in the Amount of \$7,500 for the Purpose of Installing an Electrical Vehicle Charging Station at the Hope Street/Mound Avenue Public Parking Lot and Direction Regarding Project Funding**

This matter was continued to a future City Council meeting, without discussion.



**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Cacciotti adjourned the City Council Meeting at 11:30 p.m.

  
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Evelyn G. Zneimer  
City Clerk

  
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Michael A. Cacciotti  
Mayor

Minutes approved by the South Pasadena City Council on October 4, 2017.