



Wednesday, March 20, 2019
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 Khubesrian on Wednesday, March 20, 2019, at 7:38 p.m., in the Amedee O. "Dick" Richards, Jr., Council Chamber, located at 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, California.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None.

City Staff

Present: City Manager DeWolfe; City Attorney Highsmith; and Chief City Clerk Donohue were present at Roll Call. Other staff members presented reports or responded to questions as indicated in the minutes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Mahmud led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Evette Kim, Senator Portantino's Office, announced that she has accepted a new position elsewhere; said her goodbyes to the City Council, staff, and community.

Sean Abajian, South Pasadena Resident, discussed minimum wage; the Caltrans homes; requested increased communication from the City regarding the Caltrans homes.

John Srebalus, South Pasadena Resident, discussed minimum wage.

Mary Ferrero, South Pasadena Resident, discussed the traffic conditions on Fremont Avenue.

Roberto Flores, South Pasadena Resident, discussed the Caltrans homes and minimum wage.

Mike Cheikosman, South Pasadena Resident, discussed an encounter he had with the South Pasadena Police Department.

Jake Manzo, South Pasadena Resident, discussed minimum wage.

Emelia Lomeli-Fannon, South Pasadena Resident, requested increased communication from the City regarding the Caltrans homes.

1. CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Labor Negotiations

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

Conference with Labor Negotiators regarding labor negotiations with the following groups:

- Unrepresented Management Employees
- South Pasadena Police Officers' Association
- South Pasadena Firefighters' Association
- South Pasadena Public Service Employees' Association
- South Pasadena Public Service Part Time Employees' Association

City Negotiators: City Manager Stephanie DeWolfe and Teresa L. Highsmith City Attorney

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

PRESENTATIONS

2. Arts Invocation – Presentation of Framed “Ode to South Pasadena”

Ron Koertge, South Pasadena Poet Laureate, presented a framed “Ode to South Pasadena” to Mayor Khubesrian.

3. Merchant Minute – Dual Crossroads

Laurie Wheeler, South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce, introduced Jennifer Maimone with Dual Crossroads.

Ms. Maimone discussed her business and shared photos.

4. Certificates of Appreciation – Nature Park Volunteers

Mayor Khubesrian presented certificates of appreciation to Nature Park Volunteers Katherine Hashimoto and Randy Caruso.

5. Recognition of Art Gallery Participants

Mayor Khubesrian presented certificates of recognition to Kathleen Laraia McLaughlin and Laurie Hendricks who participated in the SPARC Art Gallery at City Hall.

6. Red Cross Month Proclamation

Mayor Khubesrian presented the proclamation for Red Cross Month to American Red Cross San Gabriel Pomona Valley Chapter Board Member Frank Medina.

7. Library Volunteer Day Proclamation

Mayor Khubesrian presented the proclamation for Library Volunteer Day to President of the Library Board of Trustees David R. Uwins.

COMMUNICATIONS**8. Councilmembers Communications**

Councilmember Schneider expressed his support for the recognition given to the Nature Park Volunteers; thanked Councilmember Cacciotti for establishing the Nature Park many years ago.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHNEIDER, SECOND BY MAYOR KHUBESRIAN, to direct staff to work with the Cities of Pasadena and Alhambra to put together a response letter to Caltrans District 7 Director John Bulinski regarding the potential removal of the SR-710 stubs in Alhambra and Pasadena.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHNEIDER, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, to direct staff to draft a letter to Metro regarding the early action projects.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHNEIDER, SECOND BY MAHMUD, to direct staff to draft a letter to the California Public Utilities Commission regarding tree trimming.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHNEIDER, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, to include the discussion of potentially adding minimum wage to the strategic plan at the April 17th City Council meeting.

Councilmember Mahmud noted that the City has a small staff is sometimes not able to take on additional items; she noted that she requested a seismic reinforcement ordinance over a year ago; she reminded the community to still conserve water; she discussed the importance of where to plant trees in the community.

Councilmember Cacciotti shared photos from a recent City of San Fernando City Council meeting; a recent City of Diamond Bar City Council meeting; a recent dinner with the Chinese American Educators Association; residents running and biking in the park; his bike on the metrolink train.

Mayor Pro Tem Joe noted that he prefers a staff report for items of importance that go before the City Council.

Mayor Khubesrian discussed a recent wildfire prevention meeting; she shared information and videos from the San Gabriel Valley Mosquitos and Vector Control website.

MOTION BY MAYOR KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHNEIDER, to draft a letter to Southern California Edison regarding engaging with City Staff on specific plans in South Pasadena, how much tree trimming is going to take place, meeting safety goals, and notification of tree trimming to the community.

MOTION BY MAYOR KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, to create a community presentation on vector control awareness.

MOTION BY MAYOR KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, to adjourn the meeting in memory of the lives lost during the terrorist attacks in New Zealand.

9. City Manager Communications

City Manager DeWolfe announced the hiring of the new South Pasadena Police Chief, Joe Ortiz; noted that he'll be starting with the City on April 1st; thanked Acting Police Chief Solinsky for his service while he was Acting Police Chief.

10. Reordering of and Additions to the Agenda

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Mahmud pulled Item No. 13 for separate discussion.

Item No. 14 was pulled for separate discussion by a member of the public.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, CARRIED 5-0, to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 11-12, 15-18.

11. Minutes of the City Council Meeting on February 28, 2019, March 1, 2019, and March 6, 2019

Approved the minutes of the February 28, 2019, the March 1, 2019, and the March 6, 2019 City Council Meetings.

12. Prepaid Warrants, General City Warrants, and Payroll

Approved the City of South Pasadena Prepaid Warrants Nos. 206197 through 206202 in the amount of \$1,053,570.88; General City Warrants Nos. 206293 through 206376 in the amount of \$292,076.13; and Payroll dated March 3, 2019, in the amount of \$556, 441.03.

15. Adoption of a Resolution Initiating the Proceedings and Ordering of the Preparation of the Engineer's Report for Fiscal Year 2019-20 Lighting and Landscaping Maintenance District

1. Adopted the attached resolution initiating the proceedings for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-20 Lighting and Landscaping Maintenance District (LLMD); and
2. Authorized the preparation of the Engineer's Report for the annual levy and collection of assessments.

16. Discretionary Fund Request from Councilmember Schneider for the Purpose of Promotional Items for the "Be Kind to Animals" Event

Approved a Discretionary Fund request by Councilmember Schneider designating \$100 to the Animal Commission for the purpose of helping fund the purchase of promotional items to be distributed at the "Be Kind to Animals" Event.

17. Discretionary Fund Request from Councilmember Cacciotti, Councilmember Schneider, Mayor Pro Tem Joe, and Mayor Khubesrian for the Purpose of the Festival of Balloons Event

Approved a Discretionary Fund request by Councilmember Cacciotti, Councilmember Schneider, and Mayor Khubesrian, designating \$1,000 each, and Mayor Pro Tem Joe designating \$500, for the purpose of assisting with the cost of fireworks for the Festival of Balloons event.

18. Monthly Investment Reports for January 2019

Received and filed the monthly investment reports for January 2019.

ITEMS PULLED FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION

13. Authorize a Letter of Support for Senate Bill 355 (Portantino) Regarding the Requirement that the Designed Alternate Member of the Legislative Body of the Joint Powers Agency also be a Member of the Legislative Body of a Member Local Agency

Councilmember Mahmud requested additional language be added to the letter of support.

Mayor Khubesrian opened the public comment period.

There being no one desiring to speak on this item, Mayor Khubesrian closed the public comment period.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM JOE, CARRIED 5-0, to authorize a letter of support for Senate Bill (SB) 355 (Portantino) regarding the requirement that the designed alternate member of the legislative body of the joint powers agency also be a member of the legislative body of a member local agency, as amended.

14. Authorize Letters of Support for Assembly Bill 29 to Remove the State Route 710 North of State Route 10 from the State Highway Code and Senate Bill 7 to Relinquish the Surplus State Route 710 Land to the Local Jurisdictions at Fair Market Value Based on

the Current Use and Prohibit the State Route 710 Rehabilitation Account Funds to be Used for any State Route 710 Freeway Project

Mayor Khubesian opened the public comment period.

Chris Sutton, Member of the Public, stated that the two bills don't go far enough to protect the existing residents in the Caltrans homes.

Linda Krausen, South Pasadena Resident, reiterated Mr. Sutton's comments; expressed concern that mosquitos might be breeding in pools of vacant Caltrans homes.

Emelia Lomeli-Fannon, South Pasadena Resident, reiterated Mr. Sutton's comments; expressed concern of how Caltrans determines fair market value for the homes they own in the City; asked the City Council to adhere to the three minute limit during the Councilmember Comments portion of the agenda.

Roberto Flores, South Pasadena Resident, stated that current tenants of the Caltrans homes will not be able to afford an inflated price to purchase the homes; requested that SB 7 be expanded to include additional protection for the current tenants of the Caltrans homes.

There being no one else desiring to speak on this item, Mayor Khubesian closed the public comment period.

The City Council discussed the item at length and staff answered related questions.

MOTION BY MAYOR KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, CARRIED 5-0, to authorize letters of support for:

1. Assembly Bill 29 (AB 29, Holden) to remove the State Route 710 (SR-710) north of State Route 10 (SR-10) from the Streets and Highways Code; and
2. Senate Bill 7 (SB 7, Portantino) to relinquish surplus SR-710 property to nonprofit organizations or cities at Fair Market Value based on the current use; and prohibit the use of SR-710 Rehabilitation Account funds to be used for any SR-710 freeway projects.

ACTION/DISCUSSION

19. First Reading and Introduction of an Ordinance to the South Pasadena Municipal Code Amending the Chapter 24 ("Nuisances") to Streamline the Procedures for Abatement of Public Nuisances

Interim Planning & Building Director Bergman summarized the staff report and responded to City Council inquiries.

Mayor Khubesian opened the public comment period.

There being no one desiring to speak on this item, Mayor Khubesian closed the public comment period.

The City Council discussed the item at length and Councilmember Mahmud recommended the following changes to the ordinance:

1. In section "24.04. Declaration of nuisance", add the word "ensuing" before cost incurred on behalf of the City; and
2. To delete the last sentence in section "24.08 Hearing"; and
3. Define the term "the officer" in section "24.09 Exchange of information"; and
4. In section "24.10 Administrative hearing-procedures", require that the person appealing the matter be required to attend the hearing.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, CARRIED 5-0, to read by title only for the first reading, waiving further reading, and introduce an Ordinance to the South Pasadena Municipal Code (SPMC) Amending Chapter 24 ("Nuisances), Sections 24.04 through 24.11 Streamlining the Procedures for Abatement of Public Nuisances, as amended.

20. Receive and File Update on the 1,2,3-TCP Water Regulations Compliance Cost and Directing Staff to Forward the Information Presented to the State Water Resources Control Board and Appropriate Legislatures

Interim Public Works Director Ojeda and Water Operations Manager Tesfaye summarized the staff report and responded to City Council inquiries.

Mayor Khubesrian opened the public comment period.

There being no one desiring to speak on this item, Mayor Khubesrian closed the public comment period.

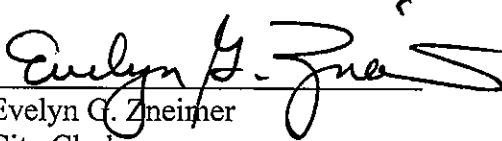
Councilmember Mahmud requested that an accurate cost estimate of staff time be included in any information sent to the State Water Resources Control Board; requested that the City take a letter of support for AB 1204 at a future City Council meeting.

MOTION BY MAYOR KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, CARRIED 5-0, to receive and file the update on the 1,2,3-TCP Water Regulations Compliance Cost and direct staff to forward the information presented to the State Water Resources Control Board and appropriate Legislatures.

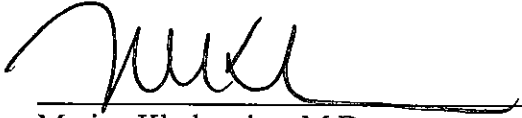
MOTION BY MAYOR KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, to direct staff to look into vacant Caltrans homes that might have a pool to ensure that mosquitos are not breeding in the pool water.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Khubesian adjourned the City Council Meeting in memory of the lives taken in New Zealand at 10:05 p.m.



Evelyn G. Zneimer
City Clerk



Marina Khubesian, M.D.
Mayor

Minutes approved by the South Pasadena City Council on April 17, 2019.