



Wednesday, January 15, 2020
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 Joe on Wednesday, January 15, 2020, at 7:41 p.m., in the Council Chamber, located at 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, California.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Richard D. Schneider led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Certificate Merchant Minute – ACE Hardware

South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce President Laurie Wheeler, introduced Carlos Andrade, General Manager, and Jodie Williams, Commercial Service Specialist.

Mr. Andrade and Ms. Williams provided photos and information about the new Ace Hardware in South Pasadena.

2. Pink Patch Project Check Presentation to City of Hope - South Pasadena Fire and Police Associations

Police Officers Michael Palmieri and Arthur Burgos, Fire Battalion Chief Eric Zanteson, and Fire Engineer Justin Miller presented a check to Steve Scott, Sr. Director of Development for City of Hope.

Mr. Scott expressed gratitude for the contribution towards City of Hope's cancer research efforts.

COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

3. Authorize Commission Appointments

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBSERIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, CARRIED 5-0, to:

1. Appoint the following residents to three-year terms ending December 31, 2022:
 - Melissa Hon Tsai, Design Review Board
 - Rachel Fox, Senior Citizen Commission

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Eric Reese - Shared various ideas on how the City can increase efforts in environmental preservation to improve quality of life in the City.

Councilmember Schneider requested that staff provide a report to Council on the advantages and disadvantages of "reflective payment". Councilmember Cacciotti provided a second.

- Brian Bright - Shared about recent traffic collision on Fremont Ave.; concerns over other traffic safety issues on Fremont Ave. and Meridian Ave.; suggests other measures the City can implement to increase traffic safety in these areas.
- Sherry Plotkin - Announced Annual "For Love of Chocolate" fundraising event sponsored by the Women's Club of South Pasadena to sponsor high school seniors for college scholarships.
- Beatrice Simpson - Shared concerns over City's efforts in assisting homeless individuals suffering with mental illnesses within the City.
- Ron Rosen - Commented on the public comment period for the City's General Plan and the importance of allowing ample time for the community as well as considering extending it to June 15th.

City Manager DeWolfe announced that the comment period has been extended to February 12th, and there will be two upcoming public forums, Tuesday, January 28th at 6:30 p.m. and Saturday, February 1st at 10 a.m.

- Mary Urquhart - Commented on the City's public comment for the General Plan, the need for a public forum, and the importance of the community's input; expressed excitement about development within the City and asks for appropriate parking coordination; expressed concerns about City leadership.
- Delaine Shane – Expressed concerns over traffic problems and safety issues on Fremont Ave. and Meridian Ave., and supports a 6-month extension on the General Plan Update.
- Josh Albrektson – Expressed concerns over treatment of homeless City residents; asks the City to consider additional assistance to the homeless residents in the City.

Mayor Pro Tem Mahmud asked Mr. Albrektson to provide additional information to the Police Department as they are working with various cities to address homelessness issues.

Councilmember Cacciotti also commented on how cities do make efforts to assist the homeless population, which, unfortunately, are sometimes declined.

- Denise Philley – Expressed concerns regarding traffic safety on Fremont Ave. and Meridian Ave. and asked the City to consider putting additional stop signs.

Mayor Joe requested that staff provide a report on the traffic safety efforts for the two areas. Councilmember Schneider provided a second.

City Manager DeWolfe provided information on the City's current traffic study.

Councilmember Schneider requested that an agenda item be added in the future to discuss traffic safety on Meridian Ave. and Fremont Ave. Councilmember Cacciotti provided a second.

- Mary Ferrero – Expressed various concerns over traffic safety on Fremont Ave.
- Kay Mouradian – Expressed concerns over the direction the City is moving in with the General Plan; City's financial stability; and questions regarding "outsourcing".
- Andrea Fox - Expressed various concerns over traffic safety on Fremont Ave. and asks that the City consider allocating funding specifically for implementing traffic safety measures.
- Rafael Lopez – Expressed various concerns over traffic safety on Fremont Ave.
- Shlemo Nitzani - Asks the City to consider placement of speed bumps to address the traffic concerns on Fremont Ave.; shared various concerns over peafowl within the City.

- Brandon Yung - Commented on various areas of the General Plan; encourages multi-family housing within the City.
- Steve Stafford - Commented on possible locations for homeless shelters within the City.
- Alan Ehrlich - Shared concerns over safety traffic issues on Fremont Ave.; public comment process for the General Plan; suggested that the City consider creating an ad hoc commission to address the various issues on Fremont Ave. and Meridian Ave.

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Initiation of Litigation

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—Initiation of Litigation, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4):

Number of Potential Cases: 1

B. Anticipated Litigation

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – Anticipated Litigation, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2):

Number of Potential Cases: 2

C. Public Employee Performance Evaluation

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b)(1):

Title: City Manager

City Attorney Highsmith reported the following:

Item A – City Council received a briefing from legal counsel regarding a matter of potential initiation of litigation; the matter was continued by City Council.

Item B – City Council received a briefing from legal counsel on two separate matters of potential litigation. No action was taken by City Council.

Item C – City Council met for the performance evaluation of the City Manager.

COMMUNICATIONS

4. Councilmembers Communications

Councilmember Cacciotti provided photos for his comments regarding: the City's annual tree trimming and tree planting program; South Pasadena Tournament of Roses Committee Crunch Party and float decorating; Irwindale Gold Line Station; AQMD presentation at the City of Industry Council Meeting; attending the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority meeting and a picture of their model of the Gold Line; picture of the agenda for that evening's meeting and item regarding SB 50 (encouraged other elected officials to voice concerns and increase outreach regarding SB 50); and pictures of heavy-duty trucks that have been converted to energy efficiency vehicles through AQMD funding.

Councilmember Khubesrian wished everybody a Happy New Year and asked if staff could provide information regarding the City's paramedic program subscription for ambulance services.

Division Chief Eric Zanteson provided information regarding the program and the costs associated with it.

Additionally, Councilmember Khubesrian announced that South Pasadena Tournament of Roses Committee float for the 2020 Parade was awarded the Mayor's Award. The 2021 theme will be "Education: The Ability of Education to Open Doors, Open Minds, and Change Lives" and the Committee is already working on developing design ideas for submittal prior to the January 21st deadline.

Councilmember Schneider reported on: attending the WISPPA meeting regarding the City's General Plan; attended a *Families on Fremont* Meeting and heard their concerns over traffic safety; and also attended the recent Planning Commission meeting where various presentations on General Plan topics were presented.

Mayor Pro Tem Mahmud reported on the following: attended the recent Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System workshop regarding a Clean Water Act permit compliance and cost; Chaired the San Gabriel Valley Water Policy Committee meeting where presentations were heard on scientific study proposals to help cities properly identify most efficient ways of achieving permit compliance; attended the recent WISPPA meeting and explained the legal time constraints involved with the General Plan and how they impact the public comment timeline; also attended the Planning Commission meeting, and encouraged the community to view the meeting recording on the City's website as it focused on "planning" elements of the General Plan; Chaired last week's Clean Power Alliance Board Meeting which discussed time-of-use pricing, and explained the ability of an individual to reduce energy use during peak periods and lowering their energy bill; reported on her recent experience with water utility billing contractor, MuniBilling, and encouraged the community to create and access online water billing and payment; and also reported on her experiences with traffic concerns and requested the portable speed sign be placed at Meridian and Fremont.

Mayor Joe recognized the upcoming Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday and why this is an important holiday.

5. City Manager Communications

City Manager DeWolfe reported on the City's recent transition to the new water billing service, MuniBilling; and announced the extension of the General Plan public comment period to February 12th, and that two public forums scheduled for January 28th and February 1st, and also announced that there will be presentations on the General Plan at every Planning Commission meeting from now until June; announced City Hall being closed in observance of the Martin Luther King Holiday and the City Library Martin Luther King, Jr. book exhibit. City Manager further explained that the City has funding available for transportation projects, however those monies are regulated by grant goals and objectives.

6. Reordering of and Additions to the Agenda

Mayor Joe requested that Agenda Item No. 14, regarding the Climate Action Plan, be considered at this time.

14. Climate Action Plan (Presentation Only)

Public Works Director Shahid Abbas provided a PowerPoint presentation. Rincon Consultants, Inc. representatives, Lexi Journey and Hannah Mize also reported from the PowerPoint presentation.

City Council had various questions regarding the Climate Action Plan. Ms. Journey and Ms. Mize responded accordingly.

CONSENT CALENDAR

No public comment on Consent Calendar.

Councilmember Schneider pulled Agenda Item No. 12 from the Consent Calendar.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 5-0, to approve Consent Calendar Items Nos. 7 through 11.

7. Minutes for the Special City Council Meeting on November 20, 2019

Approved the Minutes of the City Council Meeting on November 20, 2020

8. Approve Prepaid Warrants in the Amount of \$247,133.60 less \$1,885.40 in Voids. General City Warrants in the Amount of \$396,630.30.

Approved Warrants as presented.

9. Adoption of Resolution No. 7636 Authorizing Signatories on City Banking Accounts and Related Banking Documents

Adopted a resolution superseding Resolution No. 7619, Authorizing Signatures on City Bank Accounts

10. Implementation of New Sales Tax (Measure A) with the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration

Approved:

1. Adopt **Resolution No. 7637** authorizing the City Manager to execute agreements with the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) for the implementation of a local transactions and use tax (Measure A); and
2. Adopt **Resolution No. 7638** authorizing City representatives and sale tax consultant to examine sales, transactions and use tax records pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code Section 7056.

11. Authorize the Second Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with Interwest Incorporated for Assistant Planner Staffing Services for a Total Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$97,100

Authorized the City Manager to execute the second amendment to the Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Interwest Incorporated (Interwest) to extend the term of the PSA by three months and increase the contract amount by \$39,000 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$97,100 to continue providing the City with assistant planner staffing services.

City Council next discussed Agenda Item No. 12.

12. Approval of Mayor's List of City Council Liaison and Regional Group Appointments and Adoption of a Resolution Appointing Delegates, Representatives, and Alternates to Various Agencies and Organizations

Council had questions and discussion regarding the listed Mobility & Transportation Infrastructure Commission. City Manager DeWolfe provided additional clarification.

Councilmember Schneider requested that City Council send a letter to SCAG regarding the 710 Freeway Development as legislation has recently changed. City Manager DeWolfe confirmed that the City was already working on drafting such a letter.

Mayor Joe clarified appointments for the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, CARRIED 5-0, to include appointment of Mayor Pro Tem Mahmud (Delegate) and Councilmember Cacciotti (Alternate) to the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, and that Mobility and Transportation Infrastructure Commission would be removed, with Freeway and Transportation Commission remaining on the list until further official action is taken, and

1. Approve the Mayor's list of City Council Liaison and Regional Group Appointments to various commission, boards, and committees

2. Adopt **Resolution No. 7641** appointing delegates, representatives, and alternates as official representatives of the City of South Pasadena.

ACTION/DISCUSSION

13. Adoption of an Urgency Ordinance and First Reading and Introduction of an Ordinance Adopting by Reference the 2019 California Fire Code with Certain Amendments, Additions, and Deletions thereto Amending Chapter 14 of the South Pasadena Municipal Code

Staff Report was presented by Fire Division Chief Eric Zanteson.

City Council had various questions on the proposed ordinance and urgency ordinance. Fire Division Chief Zanteson responded accordingly.

Chief City Clerk Ayala read the titles to the proposed ordinances.

No public comment provided.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 5-0, to:

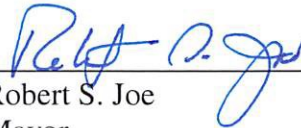
1. Introduce for first reading by title only and waive further reading of an ordinance adopting by reference and amending the 2019 California Fire Code; and
2. Schedule a public hearing on February 5, 2020 to consider adoption and second reading of the ordinance; and
3. Read by title only and waive further reading of **Urgency Ordinance No. 2340** adopting by reference and amending the 2019 California Fire Code to include modifications to Section 14.1.1 (to include division map identifying high-risk fire risk area in the City as part of the urgency ordinance, and amend the definition to clarify that the "western area" extends to the western and southern boundary of the City.)

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Joe adjourned the meeting in Memory of Raymond Remy and recognized his accomplishments serving various organizations and associations for the State of California. Mayor Joe announced the next regular City Council Meeting on February 5th. There being no further business, at 10:06 p.m. Mayor Joe adjourned the meeting.



Evelyn G. Zheimer
City Clerk



Robert S. Joe
Mayor