



Wednesday, February 3, 2021
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 Mahmud on Wednesday, February 3, 2021, at 7:40 p.m., in the Council Chamber, located at 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, California.

ROLL CALL

Present via Zoom: Councilmembers Donovan, Primuth and Zneimer; Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti; and Mayor Mahmud.

Absent: None

City Staff Present: Interim City Manager Sean Joyce (in attendance via Zoom); City Attorney Teresa Highsmith (in attendance via Zoom); and Chief City Clerk Ayala were present at Roll Call.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Zneimer led the flag salute.

1. Closed Session Announcements

Special Closed Session:

A. EXISTING LITIGATION
(Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1))

One Case:

1. *Smith v. City of South Pasadena*

City Attorney Highsmith reported that Council reviewed *Smith v. City of South Pasadena* which was continued for further discussion following the Regular Meeting of the City Council this evening.

Following are the names of those who submitted public comment via e-mail (these comments were not read, but are added to the official final record of the meeting and are available under

the meeting's Additional Documents):

- Chris Bray
- Stephen Rossi

B. ANTICIPATED LITIGATION CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

Anticipated Litigation, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)

Number of Potential Cases: 1

City Attorney Highsmith reported the last item listed was not discussed.

Regular Closed Session:

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: Interim City Manager Sean Joyce; and Human Resources Manager Michael Casalou

City Attorney Highsmith reported that Council met in Closed Session to receive a briefing from its Labor Negotiator regarding the status of labor negotiations. She noted direction was provided to the Labor Negotiator but no action was taken in the closed session.

2. Public Comments - General

Mayor Mahmud announced public comments are intended to address matters not on the agenda for the meeting. Citizens have the option of emailing or leaving a voice mail for the Council but the Council prefers either one or the other.

Chief City Clerk Ayala announced the names of those who submitted public comment via e-mail (these comments were not read, but are added to the official final record of the meeting and are available under the meeting's Additional Documents):

- Johnathan Hawes
- Ella Hushagen

PRESENTATIONS

3. February 2021 as Black History Month Proclamation

Mayor Mahmud read the proclamation declaring February 2021 as Black History Month. She announced South Pasadena Public Library will co-sponsoring a video chat with Richard Rothstein to discuss his book *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America* on February 4, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. and noted additional details can be found on the City's website.

4. Eagle Scout Award Certificate of Achievement for Michael R. Johnston

Mayor Mahmud presented the Eagle Scout Award Certificate to Michael R. Johnston (in attendance via Zoom) and provided remarks. Mr. Johnston thanked City Council and noted his project was to update the Aquatic Center at the East Los Angeles Boys and Girls Club and provide much-needed safety equipment.

5. Metro Gold Line Presentation – Paul Leon, Mayor for City of Ontario

Mayor Paul Leon, City of Ontario, clarified he is the City's representative to the Gold Line Construction Authority. He reported construction is complete through the Azusa-Pacific/Citrus Station. He noted the next station to be completed is Glendora and advised construction is fully-funded through Pomona. Lastly, he noted the goal is to get the Gold Line to Ontario Airport.

Mayor Leon reported there were 21 at grade crossings that require major utilities rerouting and upgrades. He anticipates construction through Pomona will be completed in 2024. He reported an additional \$450 million will be required to extend the Gold Line from Pomona to Claremont and an additional \$15 million will be required to extend to Montclair. He expressed confidence the funding will be found to extend through Montclair.

Councilmember Primuth requested Mayor Leon provide some video of the construction to highlight the work being done. Mayor Leon noted he will provide a video compilation to the City Council.

Mayor Mahmud expressed her support for extending the Gold Line to Ontario Airport.

COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

6. Authorize Commission Appointments

Mayor Mahmud presented the item.

No public comment provided.

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER PRIMUTH, CARRIED 5-0, to

1. Reappoint the following resident to a three-year term ending December 31, 2023:

- John Lesak, Planning Commission
2. Appoint the following resident to a vacant unexpired term ending December 31, 2021:
 - Barbara Klein, Senior Citizen Commission
 3. Appoint the following residents to unexpired terms ending June 30, 2021:
 - Jake Wong, Youth Commission
 - Eliana Andrea, Youth Commission
 - Yousef Khan, Youth Commission
 - Nadeem Mallet, Youth Commission
 4. Correct the following previously appointed terms to correct term expiration dates:
 - Laura Dahl, Planning Commission, current term to expire December 31, 2021 (appointed to unexpired term)
 - Frank Catania, Public Works Commission, current term to expire December 31, 2021 (appointed to unexpired term)

COMMUNICATIONS

7. Councilmembers Communications

Councilmember Primuth reported attendance at the retirement drive-by for Liliana Torres and wished her well. He also reported attendance at the Ad Hoc Finance Committee meeting. He thanked Interim City Manager Sean Joyce for including community discussion on CalTrans homes on Bonita Drive. He encouraged City Council to move to convene a subcommittee to create a Core Value Statement that would be adopted by the City and would be part and parcel of how the City Manager is evaluated.

Mayor Mahmud explained the Brown Act compliance requirements if a subcommittee were to be created. Mayor Mahmud suggested two members of the City Council work informally to develop such a statement and then have the statement circulated for review by other Councilmembers. Councilmember Primuth concurred with Mayor Mahmud's suggestion.

Councilmember Donovan stressed the importance of residents wearing face masks and encouraged the community to look into obtaining the COVID-19 vaccine. He reported attendance at the recent Youth Commission meeting and noted they intend to meet regularly. He reported the Chamber of Commerce and the City are still discussing a joint proposal which is planned to be presented to City Council on February 16th.

Councilmember Zneimer reported attendance at a meeting with the Anti-Racism Committee of South Pasadena (ARC) where they expressed concern regarding the Police Chief recruitment effort and conduct of certain police officers. She reported ARC requests a resolution from South Pasadena acknowledging the City was once a Sundown Town. She thanked Wes Reutimann from Active San Gabriel Valley for the presentation he will be making this evening. She reported she met with Sierra Madre Mayor Rachele Arizmendi who is the Chair for the Foothill Economic Development Consortium.

Mayor Mahmud seconded Councilmember Zneimer's request for Council consideration of a resolution acknowledging South Pasadena as a former Sundown Town.

Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti reported attendance at the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission (NREC) meeting. He thanked Interim City Manager Joyce for facilitating a meeting with Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis and Los Angeles City Council Member Kevin de León to discuss CalTrans vacant properties. He presented photos of various community activities.

Mayor Mahmud requested a second for the City to send a letter of support asking the County to adopt recommendations contained in a white paper on the administration of homeless funds prepared by the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) which recommends more flexibility in the allocation of funding. Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti seconded Mayor Mahmud's request.

Mayor Mahmud reported attendance at a Special Meeting of the Planning Commission regarding consideration of an Inclusionary Ordinance. She reported Los Angeles County has approved the reopening of outdoor dining. She encouraged residents to wear a mask while participating in outdoor dining. She encouraged residents to visit vaccinatelacounty.com to register for a vaccine and/or receive email updates.

8. City Manager Communications

Interim City Manager Joyce encouraged residents to participate in the South Pasadena Public Library's Black History Month offerings throughout February. He reported the Senior Center will host a Fraud Scam Seminar on February 11th and will be led by Micki Nozaki, Director of the California Senior Medicare Patrol Project. Lastly, he reported the Planning Division will be sharing draft proposals with the community to amend the Zoning Code's regulations for building accessory dwelling units (ADUs) at a virtual meeting on February 10th, 2021, and recommended residents RSVP for the event by emailing housingelement@southpasadenaca.gov but noted RSVPs are not required for attendance. He suggested Item No. 15 be pulled for City Council consideration.

9. Reordering of and Additions to the Agenda

Mayor Mahmud announced the applicant requested Item No. 17 be continued to March 3rd. In response to Mayor Mahmud's inquiry, Interim City Manager Joyce advised public comment received on Item No. 17 will be retained and heard on March 3rd.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Interim City Manager Joyce pulled Item No. 15 for discussion.

Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti pulled Item Nos. 12 and 13 for discussion.

No public comments provided on remaining consent calendar item.

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ZNEIMER, CARRIED 5-0, to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 10, 11, 14 and 16.

10. Approval of Prepaid Warrants in the amount of \$28,998.18; Prepaid Warrant Voids in the Amount (\$389.00); General City Warrants in the Amount of \$495,272.01; Payroll in the Amount of \$567,638.44; Transfers in the Amount of \$6,756,000.00; Supplemental ACH Payments in the Amount of \$1,412.94

City Council approved all Warrants as presented.

11. Adoption of Resolution Nos. 7698 and 7699 Authorizing Signatories on City Banking Accounts and Related Banking Documents

City Council:

1. Approved Resolution No. 7698 superseding Resolution No. 7636, Authorizing Signatures on City Bank Accounts; and
2. Approved Resolution No. 7699 superseding Resolution No.7620, Authorizing Signatures on the City's Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) Account.

14. Authorize a Contract Amendment with Interwest Consulting Group for On-Call Transportation Project Management Services in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$25,000, for a Total Not-to-Exceed Contract Amount of \$48,925

City Council authorized the Interim City Manager to execute a Contract Amendment with Interwest Consulting Group for on-call transportation project management services in an amount not-to-exceed \$25,000, for a total not-to-exceed contract amount of \$48,925.

16. Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance No. 2352 of the City Council of the City of South Pasadena Amending Chapter 2 (Administration), Article IVB (Public Safety Commission) of the South Pasadena Municipal Code

City Council read by title only and adopted Ordinance No. 2352 entitled "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of South Pasadena, California, amending Chapter 2 (Administration), Article IVB. (Public Safety Commission) of the South Pasadena Municipal Code" (SPMC).

ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

12. Adoption of Resolution No. 7700 Condemning the January 6, 2021 Insurrection and Violence at the U.S. Capitol

Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti thanked staff for their work and City Council for seconding the item. He noted it was appropriate for City Council to adopt the resolution as a tribute to slain United States Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick who was laid to rest today. He paid tribute to the officers who were injured during the insurgence on the U.S. Capitol.

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ZNEIMER, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Resolution No. 7700 entitled "A Resolution of the City

Council of the City of South Pasadena Condemning the January 6, 2021 Insurrection and Violence at the U.S. Capitol.”

13. Adoption of Resolution No. 7701 Authorizing the County of Los Angeles Agriculture Commissioner to Inspect and Abate Weeds, Brush and Native Vegetation Declared to be an Existing or Potential Fire Hazard, and Schedule a Public Hearing to be Held on February 17, 2021 to Hear Objections or Protests to the Vegetation Management Program

Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti reminded staff this contract expires July 1, 2021, and requested it is negotiated and renewed as soon as possible. Fire Chief Paul Riddle reported staff is already working with the County to renew the contract in July.

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ZNEIMER, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Resolution No. 7701 authorizing the County of Los Angeles Agriculture Commissioner to inspect and abate weeds, brush and native vegetation declared to be an existing or potential fire hazard, and schedule a Public Hearing to be held on February 17, 2021, to hear objections or protests to the vegetation management program.

15. Authorize the Interim City Manager to Request Authorization from Metro to Repurpose the City’s Cycle 3 Open Streets Grant Award for “ArroyoFest” to Support Pandemic Recovery

Mayor Mahmud announced written comment was received by the Chamber of Commerce on this item. She noted there were two additional documents for the item and requested any motion made for approval reference the revised documents. City Council concurred.

Planning and Community Development Director Joanna Hankamer introduced Wes Reutimann from Active San Gabriel Valley. Mr. Reutimann provided a brief overview of the Metro Open Streets Program and noted the inaugural event took place on March 5, 2017.

Mr. Reutimann reported the Metro Board of Directors authorized Open Streets grantees to repurpose existing grant awards to support COVID-19 Response/Recovery measures in the public right of way in June 2020 and provided a brief overview of eligible project types. He provided an overview of the submission process and reported the deadline to spend funds was June 30, 2021, but has been extended to December 31, 2021. He provided a brief overview of local examples of repurposing from adjacent municipalities.

Mr. Reutimann reported the current proposal for South Pasadena would be to utilize funds to create and support safer outdoor business and vending opportunities and slow streets. He provided samples of signage from other cities. Lastly, he reported Metro should hold another Request for Event Proposals for Cycle 4 and held possibly in Fall 2021 which would make the event time from 2022 to 2023.

Chief City Clerk Ayala announced the names of those who submitted public comment via e-mail (these comments were not read, but are added to the official final record of the meeting and are available under the meeting’s Additional Documents):

- Laurie Wheeler

Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti thanked Mr. Reutimann for meeting with him to provide a detailed overview of the process.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER ZNEIMER, SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, CARRIED 5-0 to authorize the Interim City Manager to request authorization from Metro to repurpose the City’s \$420,000 Cycle 3 Open Streets grant award for “ArroyoFest” to support pandemic recovery through the Al Fresco Program and Implementation of Slow Streets with amendment as per additional documents.

PUBLIC HEARING

17. ~~Project No. 2171-CUP/DRX/TTM/TRP — Seven Patios Mixed-Use Residential and Commercial Project at 845/899 El Centro Street~~

The item was continued to the Regular Meeting of the South Pasadena City Council on March 3, 2021.


ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

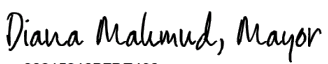
ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Mahmud announced the next Regular City Council meeting on February 17, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

There being no further business, at 8:46 p.m. Mayor Mahmud adjourned the meeting in honor of Liliana Torres.

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Maria E. Ayala
 Chief City Clerk

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Diana Mahmud
 Mayor