



Wednesday, June 1, 2016
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Joint City Council/Redevelopment Successor Agency

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the South Pasadena Joint City Council/Redevelopment Successor Agency was called to order by Mayor Mahmud on Wednesday, June 1, 2016, at 7:40 p.m., in the Amedee O. "Dick" Richards, Jr., Council Chamber, located at 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, California.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers/Redevelopment Successor Agency Members Joe, Khubesrian, and Schneider; Mayor Pro Tem/Agency Vice Chair Cacciotti; and Mayor/Agency Chair Mahmud.

Absent: None.

City Staff

Present: Sergio Gonzalez, City Manager/Agency Executive Director; Teresa L. Highsmith, City Attorney/Agency Counsel; Evelyn G. Zneimer, City Clerk; Anthony J. Mejia, Chief Deputy City Clerk/Chief Deputy Agency Secretary were present at Roll Call. Other staff members presented reports or responded to questions as indicated in the minutes.

INVOCATION

Councilmember Joe gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Christina Taylor and Marissa Starks, Girl Scout Troop No. 14741, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Closed Session Announcements

The Regular Closed Session of the City Council of June 1, 2016, was called to order by Mayor Mahmud at 6:30 p.m., with all Councilmembers present.

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 - PENDING LITIGATION, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1)

Name of Case: Mark Nansen, et al. v. City of South Pasadena, et al. Case No. BC543533

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

Number of Cases: 1

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

Performance Evaluation of City Manager

City Negotiator: Teresa L. Highsmith City Attorney

- D. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1):

Name of Case: City of Gardena. v. Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board and State Water Resources Control Board, et al. Orange County Superior Court Case No. BS156342

City Attorney Highsmith reported that the City Council provided direction to staff regarding the agendaized Closed Session Items, but did not take any reportable action; noted that the City Council continued discussion of the City Manager's Performance Evaluation to a future City Council meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

2. **Announcement of 5th Grade Winners of the Festival of Balloons 4th of July Poster Contest Depicting the Theme "100 Years of the National Park Service: Celebrating Our Urban Forest"**

Joseph Payne, representing the Festival of Balloons 4th of July Committee, described the poster contest depicting the "100 Years of the National Park Service: Celebrating Our Urban Forest" theme and announced the winners; encouraged the community to attend the 4th of July festivities.

3. **Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation to Finley Mullen, Jack Campbell, Nico Salazar, and Elaine Yang, South Pasadena High School Students, and Kelly Conte, Lead Artist, for the Completion of the El Centro Street Community Mural Project**

Mayor Mahmud presented Certificates of Appreciation to Finley Mullen, Jack Campbell, Nico Salazar, and Elaine Yang, South Pasadena High School Students, and Kelly Conte, Lead Artist, for the completion of the El Centro Street Community Mural Project.

4. **Presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation to the Woman's Club of South Pasadena for Operation Cookie 2016**

Mayor Mahmud presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Katie Wiemerslage-Longoria, representing the Woman's Club of South Pasadena, for Operation Cookie 2016 which packaged and delivered cookies to hospitalized, homeless, and special needs veterans.

5. **Introduction of New City of South Pasadena Employees**

City Manager Gonzalez and Police Chief Miller introduced the following newly-hired employees:

- Gilbert Carrillo, Police Officer
- Ryan Hang, Police Officer
- Jennifer Shimmin, Senior Management Analyst
- Brian Wiley, Police Officer
- Patrick Zamora, Police Officer

COMMUNICATIONS

6. **Councilmembers Communications**

Councilmember Joe announced the schedule for the summer concert series, movies in the park, National Night Out, and Shakespeare in the Park and encouraged residents to attend.

Councilmember Khubesrian requested that the City Council agendaize an update regarding a proposal to ban polystyrene products in South Pasadena, seconded by Councilmember Schneider; announced that the South Pasadena Arts Council has released the request for proposals for the second phase of the Utility Box Art Project; noted that the Air Quality Management District recently released a study which links air pollution to obesity; expressed condolences for the victims, and their families, of the shooting at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti reported on his attendance at a meeting with City staff, South Coast Air Quality Management District staff, and US Hybrid Corporation representatives regarding the potential of developing a hybrid fire engine; encouraged residents to participate in the "626 CicLAvia" event on June 26, 2016, and introduced the 626 sasquatch mascot; requested that the City Council agendaize consideration of allocating \$250 of his discretionary funds to Owen Pratt for his Boy Scouts project for the installation of a compost bin at the Community Garden.

Mayor Mahmud thanked City staff and volunteers for assisting with the coordination of the Memorial Day event; reported on her attendance at the Metro Expo Line dedication event, noting that commuters can now travel through to Santa Monica; requested that the City Council agendaize discussion of establishing a policy to address City membership to outside organizations, seconded by Councilmember Schneider.

7. City Manager Communications

City Manager Gonzalez and Deputy Fire Chief Riddle advised that fire stations throughout Los Angeles County will be teaching residents hands-only CPR techniques on June 2, 2016, encouraging residents to visit the South Pasadena Fire Station.

8. Reordering of and Additions to the Agenda

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ron Rosen, South Pasadena resident, opined that the agenda description related to eligibility requirements for the City's advisory bodies is vague and should include verbiage related to the perceived problem and proposed solutions.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 5-0, to approve the Consent Calendar Item Nos. 9 through 11.

9. Minutes of the City Council Meeting of May 4, 2016

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 5-0, to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2016 City Council Meeting.

10. Prepaid Warrants, General City Warrants, Redevelopment Successor Agency Check Summary, and Payroll

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 5-0, to approve the City of South Pasadena Prepaid Warrants Nos. 193243 through 193278 in the amount of \$678,230.26; General City Warrants Nos. 193279 through 193436 in the amount of \$714,680.13, and Payroll, dated April 22, 2016, in the amount of \$424,430.76. Seated as the Successor Agency to the Community Redevelopment Agency, approve Payroll, dated April 22, 2016, in the amount of \$5,972.35 (included in the above totals).

11. Adoption of a Resolution Determining and Establishing an Appropriations Limit for Fiscal Year 2016-17 in Accordance with Article XIII B of the California Constitution

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Resolution No. 7462 entitled “A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Pasadena, California, determining and establishing an Appropriations Limit for Fiscal Year 2016-17 in accordance with Article XIII B of the California Constitution and Government Code Section 7910.”

PUBLIC HEARINGS

12. Approval of a Resolution Adopting the Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget

Finance Director Batt narrated a PowerPoint presentation entitled “Fiscal Year 2016-17 Proposed Budget” and responded to City Council inquiries.

Mayor Mahmud opened the Public Hearing.

Elizabeth Emirhanian, South Pasadena resident, voiced concerns that the proposed Budget will reduce the undesignated reserves below 30%; noted that the City is projecting a deficit in the future and that the City’s Utility Users Tax could be repealed at a future election.

Kim Hughes, South Pasadena resident, noted that the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission previously suspended the planting of new trees due to the severe drought; suggested that the Tree Replacement Fund should be partially reduced, citing that nurseries will be unlikely able to fill large tree orders and predictions for continued drought; recommended that the City Council address maintaining existing distressed trees through supplemental watering.

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

Mayor Mahmud voiced concern regarding the drawdown of the undesignated reserve, suggesting that the City Council should reduce the allocation to the Tree Replacement Reserve by \$50,000 to help prevent further drawdown of the reserve if unanticipated expenses occur.

Councilmember Schneider conveyed support for reducing the Tree Replacement Reserve by \$50,000, noting that he desires for the City Council to increase the funding amount in future fiscal years, if needed.

Following discussion, MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Resolution No. 7463 entitled “A Resolution the City Council of the City of South Pasadena, California, adopting the Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget,” with an amendment to reduce the Tree Replacement Reserve from \$200,000 to \$150,000.

13. Adoption of a Resolution Confirming an Annual Levy and Collection of Assessments for the Lighting and Landscaping Maintenance District for Fiscal Year 2016-17

Public Works Director Toor presented the staff report and responded to City Council inquiries.

Mayor Mahmud opened and closed the Public Hearing, there being no one desiring to speak on this item.

In response to City Council inquiry, Public Works Director Toor advised that staff will initiate a review of the Lighting and Landscaping Maintenance District for possible adjustment in the future.

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHNEIDER, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Resolution No. 7464 entitled "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Pasadena, California, confirming the Fiscal Year 2016-17 annual levy and collection of assessments certain maintenance in an existing district pursuant to the provisions of Division 15, Part 2 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California."

ACTION/DISCUSSION

14. Provide Direction to Initiate the Annexation Process to the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District

Public Works Director Toor presented the staff report and responded to City Council inquiries.

Mayor Mahmud opened the Public Comment period.

Kim Hughes, South Pasadena resident, voiced opposition to annexing to a mosquito and vector control district, noting that there is a lack of data supporting a citywide need for such services; suggested that the City solicit commercial services for vector control on an as-needed basis.

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

In response to public comment, Public Works Director Toor advised that calls for mosquito control services typically spike following rainy seasons or media reports of vector-borne disease outbreaks; stated that commercial vector control services do not provide mosquito control services, noting that local vector control districts, by board policy, are not able to provide on-call services until initiation of annexation proceeds.

In response to City Council inquiries, Public Works Director Toor explained that requests for mosquito control services go unanswered because we do not participate in a vector control district and the lack of commercial mosquito control options; advised that if we annex into a vector control district and in the future desire to de-annex, the City will be required to identify an alternative source for services.

Councilmember Schneider recommended that if the City Council moves forward with initiating annexation into a vector control district, that it revisit its decision in six months to assess the mosquito population and vector-borne disease outbreaks following the summer season.

In response to City Council inquiries, Dr. Ken Fujioka, General Manager of the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District, confirmed that the District provides education, monitoring, disease surveillance, and inspection and control services; explained that vector mosquitos have been detected in the surrounding cities, noting however that diseases such as Chikungunya and Zika virus have not been detected in southern California; advised that in the event that pesticides are administered against adult mosquitos, neighbors would be notified a minimum of 48 hours before application.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, CARRIED 4-0 (COUNCILMEMBER SCHNEIDER ABSTAINING), to direct staff to initiate the annexation process to the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District (SGVCD) and to engage the SGVCD for mosquito surveillance and control on an as-needed basis.

15. Consideration of Modifying Eligibility Requirements for City Boards, Commissions, and Committees

Mayor Mahmud advised that she requested that this matter be re-agendized, noting difficulty in identifying qualified applicants for commissions which require specialized expertise such as the Cultural Heritage Commission; pointed out that there are residents of South Pasadena who desire to participate on the commission level but due to their citizenship status are precluded from being appointed; suggested that the eligibility requirements for commissions be modified to allow up to one non-electors to serve on each commission.

Mayor Mahmud opened the Public Comment period.

Ron Rosen, South Pasadena resident, voiced opposition to allowing non-electors to serve on City commissions; questioned if the City has conducted sufficient outreach to solicit additional applicants; pointed out that commissioners often have aspirations to run for public office and that non-electors would be precluded from doing so.

Kim Hughes, South Pasadena resident, suggested that serving on a City commission could serve as an incentive for residents to become citizens and therefore electors; questioned and recommended whether a non-electors resident could serve in a non-voting capacity such as a special advisor to a particular commission.

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

City Council discussion ensued relative to whether there is a sufficient need to modify the eligibility requirements for City commissions.

Following discussion, MOTION BY MAYOR MAHMUD, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHNEIDER, FAILED 2-3 (COUNCILMEMBERS KHUBESRIAN AND JOE AND MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI VOTING NO), to direct staff to return to City Council with an ordinance to modify commission eligibility requirements to allow up to one (1) non-electoral resident to serve on each City commission.

REPORTS

16. Receive and File a Progress Report on the Renewable Energy Council, Arroyo Seco Golf Course Lease Subcommittee, and the San Pascual Stables Lease Subcommittee

Community Services Director Pautsch presented the staff report and responded to City Council inquiries.

In response to City Council inquiry, Community Services Director Pautsch and City Manager Gonzalez explained that staff does not have sufficient expertise on equestrian center operations and that a consultant is needed to evaluate the existing lease, property valuation, allowable uses, and to assist with the request for proposal process.

Mayor Mahmud opened the Public Comment period.

Ron Rosen, speaking as a member of the San Pasqual Stables Lease Subcommittee, stated that the Subcommittee desires to evaluate whether there is public interest for other uses at the subject site.

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

City Manager Gonzalez explained that the City Council originally agreed that the subject site should remain as an equestrian center but questioned whether there is opportunity for additional recreational uses.

The City Council recommended that the Subcommittee solicit public comment on possible equestrian center improvements and recreational uses at the subject site; requested that a timeline for the issuance of the request for proposals and contract negotiations be provided to the City Council.

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 5-0, to receive and file the progress report on the Renewable Energy Council, Arroyo Seco Golf Course Lease Subcommittee, and the San Pascual Stables Lease Subcommittee.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Mahmud adjourned the Joint City Council/Redevelopment Successor Agency meeting at 10:53 p.m.



Evelyn G. Zneimer
City Clerk



Diana Mahmud
Mayor

Minutes approved by the South Pasadena City Council on June 15, 2016.