



**Wednesday, February 17, 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, February 17, 2016, at 7:30 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 and Khubesrian; Mayor Pro Tem/Agency Vice Chair Cacciotti\*; and Mayor/Agency Chair Mahmud.

\* Mayor Pro Tem/Agency Vice Chair Cacciotti arrived at 8:30 p.m.

**Absent:** Councilmember/Redevelopment Successor Agency Member Schneider.

**City Staff**

**Present:** Sergio Gonzalez, City Manager/Agency Executive Director; Teresa L. Highsmith, City Attorney/Agency Counsel; 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 Khubesrian gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilmember Khubesrian led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS****1. Closed Session Announcements**

The Regular Closed Session of the City Council of February 17, 2016, was called to order by Mayor Mahmud at 6:30 p.m., with all Councilmembers present, except Councilmember Schneider and Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti.

Bobbie Nansen, South Pasadena resident, asserted that during her husband's probation violation hearing, City staff submitted false, omitted, and misleading documentation to the court; noted that the judge remanded her husband and set bail at \$75,000; stated that her husband is in poor health and that he spent over 24 hours in jail due to a paperwork error; urged the City Council to end the prosecution of her husband, noting that he could face up to one year in jail.

Christopher Sutton, Attorney representing the Nansen family, asserted that photos of the Nansen's property taken in 2010 were illegally deleted by the City; advised that he has been corresponding with City Attorney Highsmith regarding a possible error in citing South Pasadena Municipal Code sections in legal documents of which may have been repealed in 2010; urged City Council to instruct the City's Prosecutor to rescind the request for a probation violation hearing and to resolve the matter utilizing civil remedies.

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 – EXISTING LITIGATION, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a):

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. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8:

Property: Northeast corner of El Centro Street and Mound Avenue (APN 5315-003-901)

Agency Negotiators: City Manager Sergio Gonzalez and City Attorney Teresa L. Highsmith

Negotiating Parties: Jonathan Genton, Genton Property Group

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

D. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS,  
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8:

Property: 1503-1507 El Centro Street (APN 5315-003-903 & 5315-003-904); and  
Southwest corner of El Centro Street and Edison Lane (APN 5315-003-902)

Agency Negotiators: City Manager Sergio Gonzalez and City Attorney Teresa L.  
Highsmith

Negotiating Parties: Jonathan Genton, Genton Property Group

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

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

## PRESENTATIONS

2. **Presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation to Outgoing Commissioner Anthony R. George for Volunteer Service on the South Pasadena Planning Commission**

Mayor Mahmud presented a Certificate of Appreciation to outgoing Commissioner Anthony R. George for his volunteer service on the South Pasadena Planning Commission.

3. **Presentation of a Proclamation Supporting the 2016 Free Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program which assists Eligible Taxpayers to Qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit**

Mayor Mahmud presented a Proclamation to Michelle Creencia, representing the Board of Equalization, supporting the 2016 Free Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program which assists eligible taxpayers to qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit.

## COMMUNICATIONS

4. **Councilmembers Communications**

Councilmember Joe reported on the success of the Valentine's Day Senior Luncheon at the South Pasadena Senior Center; expressed gratitude to the South Pasadena Rotary Club and volunteers for assisting with the luncheon.

Councilmember Khubesrian reported on her attendance at the Freeway and Transportation Commission meeting, noting that 20 Cal State Los Angeles students were in attendance to learn about the State Route 710 (SR-710) North Extension; congratulated South Pasadena students for their participation in Youth in Government Day in Sacramento; advised that Glendale Mayor Ara Najarian and herself made a presentation regarding the SR-710 North Extension to the San Gabriel Rotary Club.

Mayor Mahmud expressed gratitude and reported on the success of the Women's Self-Defense Course facilitated by the South Pasadena Police Department; invited the community to participate in the City Council Study Session to discuss the Draft Library Operations Study to be held on March 30, 2016; congratulated Councilmember Khubesrian for being selected as Women of the Year for South Pasadena by Assemblymember Holden.

Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti noted that he was late for tonight's meeting due to his attendance at the Baldwin Park City Council meeting as a representative of the South Coast Air Quality Management District; requested that City Council agendaize consideration of allocating \$200 of his discretionary funds to the South Pasadena Arts Council to provide artwork for the Public Works building on El Centro Street, seconded by Councilmember Khubesrian; reported that the Public Works Commission reiterated that they unanimously recommended installation of marking for left turn pockets at Monterey Road at the intersection with Meridian Avenue and signage restricting left turns on Monterey Road onto Diamond Avenue.

#### **5. City Manager Communications**

City Manager Gonzalez encouraged residents to register and participate in the CoolCalifornia Challenge, noting that efforts to conserve energy and water could earn the City of South Pasadena the title of being the "coolest" City in California; encouraged residents to participate in a Community Forum on the budget and priorities to be held on March 12, 2016, at the Library Community Room; noted that a City Council Study Session will be held on March 30, 2016, to discuss the Draft Library Operations Study and status of the Community Center.

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

Mayor Mahmud requested that Item No. 18 be reordered and discussed prior to the Consent Calendar.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Christopher Sutton, Attorney representing the Nansen family, noted that Mr. Nansen was required to attend a probation violation hearing and was subsequently jailed for 24 hours; asserted that the City's Prosecutors reference South Pasadena Municipal Code sections which were repealed in 2010; urged City Council to instruct the City's Prosecutors to drop the probation violation hearing and to seek civil remedies if necessary.

Bobbie Nansen, South Pasadena resident, asserted that City representatives' testimony at Mr. Nansen's probation violation hearing were misleading and contained omissions and falsehoods; reported that her husband was jailed for over 24 hours, despite his poor health and long standing as a resident of South Pasadena.

Shlomo Nitzani, South Pasadena resident, voiced concern regarding the wild peacocks in South Pasadena, noting that it is mating season; requested that City Council encourage Southern California Edison (SCE) to accelerate electrical system upgrades for the Monterey Hills area; stated the SCE has not been responsive to his request to repair a broken street light at the corner of Alpha Avenue and Valley View Road; requested a status update regarding his recommendations for left turns at Orange Grove Avenue and Monterey Road.

Councilmember Joe requested that staff contact Mr. Nitzani to discuss his recommendations regarding left turns at Orange Grove Avenue and Monterey Road.

Linda Krausen, South Pasadena resident, encouraged residents to attend the Planning Commission meeting on February 22, 2016, to discuss valet parking; opined that valet parking does not reflect the values of South Pasadena.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **18. First Reading and Introduction of an Ordinance Amending the South Pasadena Municipal Code to Update the City of South Pasadena Historic Preservation Ordinance**

City Manager Gonzalez stated that the proposed ordinance requires additional edits prior to adoption and requested that the City Council continue the matter to the City Council Meeting of April 20, 2016.

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

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER JOE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 3-0, to continue the subject Public Hearing to the City Council Meeting of April 20, 2016.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER JOE, CARRIED 3-0, to approve the Consent Calendar Item Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 16, with Item Nos. 13, 14, and 15 pulled for separate consideration.

### **7. Minutes of the City Council Meeting of February 3, 2016**

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER JOE, CARRIED 3-0, to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2016 Regular City Council Meeting.

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

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER JOE, CARRIED 3-0, to approve the City of South Pasadena Prepaid Warrants Nos. 192019 through 192086 in the amount of \$254,833.05; General City Warrants Nos. 192087 through 192238 in the amount of \$1,627,193.94; and Payroll, dated February 12, 2016, in the amount of \$442,715.91. Seated as the Successor Agency to the Community Redevelopment Agency, approve Payroll, dated February 12, 2016, in the amount of \$5,200.83 (included in the above totals).

**9. Monthly Investment Reports for December 2015**

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER JOE, CARRIED 3-0, to receive and file the Monthly Investment Reports for December 2015.

**10. Discretionary Fund Requests from Councilmember Joe in the Amount of \$200, and Councilmember Schneider in the Amount of \$100 for the Purpose of Purchasing Native Plants for the South Pasadena Nature Park**

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER JOE, CARRIED 3-0, to approve the discretionary fund requests by Councilmember Joe designating \$200, and Councilmember Schneider designating \$100, for the purpose of purchasing native plants for the South Pasadena Nature Park.

**11. Award Contract in the Amount of \$88,762.54 to Creative Bus Sales for the Purchase of a 2016 Ford E-450 CNG Passenger Bus for Dial-A-Ride Program**

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER JOE, CARRIED 3-0, to:

1. Authorize the City Manager to purchase a 2016 Ford E-450 Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Cutaway Passenger Bus from Creative Bus Sales.
2. Transfer \$3,800 additional funds from Proposition A reserves to Account No. 205-8025-8540 (Automotive Equipment).
3. Execute all related documents, for the Dial-A-Ride Program.

**12. Adoption of a Resolution to Destroy Expired Records, per the City of South Pasadena Record Retention Schedule**

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER JOE, CARRIED 3-0, to adopt Resolution No. 7449 entitled "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Pasadena, California, approving the destruction of certain City records from the Management Services Department."

**16. Letter of Support for the Los Angeles County Pharmaceuticals and Sharps Collection and Disposal Stewardship Ordinance**

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER JOE, CARRIED 3-0, to authorize the Mayor to execute a Letter of Support for the Los Angeles County Pharmaceuticals and Sharps Collection and Disposal Stewardship Ordinance.

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

**13. Approval of Contract Amendment with DMR Team, Inc., for Additional Engineering Design Services for the Arroyo Seco Golf Course Sanitary Sewer Lift Station and Force Main Project**

Following discussion, MOTION BY MAYOR MAHMUD, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 3-0, to approve, and authorize the City Manager to execute, the first amendment to the contract with DMR Team, Inc., in the amount of \$10,820 (for a new total of \$38,180) for additional engineering design services for the Arroyo Seco Golf Course Sanitary Sewer Lift Station and Force Main Project, subject to the modification that the classification hourly rates be limited to no greater than 10% over the original 2013 rates.

**14. Approval of Contract Amendment with KOA Corporation for Additional Environmental Services for the HSIP-funded In-Roadway Warning Lights Project**

In response to City Council inquiry, Deputy Public Works Director Furukawa advised that subject project will install in-roadway warning lights at the intersections of Mission Street and Fairview Avenue, Mission Street and Diamond Avenue, and Fremont Avenue and Lyndon Street; explained that due to comments from Caltrans, unanticipated environmental studies will need to be conducted in order to proceed with the project.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER JOE, CARRIED 3-0, to approve, and authorize the City Manager to execute, the first amendment to the contract with KOA Corporation in the amount of \$16,717 (for a new total of \$37,347) for additional environmental planning services for the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funded In-Roadway Warning Lights (flashing crosswalks) Project.

**15. Approval of Contract Amendment for Additional Work for the Community Center Feasibility Study by Integrated Consulting Group, Inc. and Appropriate Additional Park Impact Fees**

Mayor Pro Tem Cacciotti arrived at 8:30 p.m.

In response to City Council inquiry, Community Services Director Pautsch explained that the proposed additional work for the Community Center Feasibility Study will include creation of display boards, preparation of a PowerPoint presentation, summary memo to staff, and attendance at the City Council Study Session. City Manager Gonzalez explained that the consultant will review the Ad Hoc Community Center Committee

recommendations and provide various options for a new Community Center for the City Council's consideration.

Following discussion, MOTION BY MAYOR MAHMUD, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 4-0, to approve and authorize the City Manager to execute the first amendment to the contract with Integrated Consulting Group, Inc. (ICG, Inc.) in the amount of \$4,275 (for a new total of \$79,275) for additional work for the Community Center Feasibility Study, subject to the modification that the lump sum amounts be changed to a not-to-exceed amount based on hourly rates.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **17. Public Hearing to Receive Objections or Protests to the Vegetation Management Program Regarding the Abatement of Weeds, Brush, Rubbish and Refuse Upon or In Front of Specified Property in the City and Authorizing by Minute Order the Abatement of Vegetation Fire Hazards**

City Manager Gonzalez and Acting Deputy Fire Chief Zanteson presented the staff report, noting that a property owner was misidentified in the proposed list which has since been remedied.

Mayor Mahmud opened the Public Hearing.

Bobbie Nansen, South Pasadena resident, urged that the City remove poison oak from City-owned properties, citing health concerns for individuals with hyper-sensitivity.

Christopher Sutton, Attorney for the Nansen family, advised that the Nansen family was misidentified as a property owner on the subject list, noting that the Nansen's sold the property in 2014; questioned whether the data source for preparing the abatement list was accurate; spoke on the need for the City to address the fire potential on City-owned vacant lots in the hillsides.

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

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, CARRIED 4-0, to order the abatement of fire hazards identified in Resolution No. 7445.

### **18. First Reading and Introduction of an Ordinance Amending the South Pasadena Municipal Code to Update the City of South Pasadena Historic Preservation Ordinance**

Earlier in the Meeting, City Council considered this item. Please refer to Page 40 of these minutes for that action.

**ACTION/DISCUSSION****19. First Reading and Introduction of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 2 (Administration) of the Municipal Code to Establish a Finance Commission**

Finance Director Batt presented the staff report.

Mayor Mahmud opened and closed the Public Comment period, there being no one desiring to speak to this issue.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, CARRIED 4-0, to introduce an Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of South Pasadena, California, amending Chapter 2 (Administration) of the South Pasadena Municipal Code, with the addition of a new Article IVI to create the Finance Commission," and waive further reading.

**20. Receive and File the Mid-Year Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2015-16**

Finance Director Batt narrated a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Mid-Year Fiscal Year 2015-16" and responded to City Council inquiries.

Mayor Mahmud opened and closed the Public Comment period, there being no one desiring to speak to this issue.

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 4-0, to receive and file the Mid-Year Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2015-16.

**21. Review and Approval of the City of South Pasadena Co-Sponsorship Policy with City Committees and South Pasadena Nonprofit Organizations**

Community Services Director Pautsch presented the staff report and responded to City Council inquiries. City Manager Gonzalez spoke on the importance of ensuring safety when co-sponsoring events and ensuring that City resources are used for a variety of groups and that all residents can benefit from the programs.

Mayor Mahmud opened and closed the Public Comment period, there being no one desiring to speak to this issue.

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER JOE, CARRIED 4-0, to review and approve the City of South Pasadena Co-Sponsorship Policy.

**22. Discussion and Approval of a Potential Park Project List for Submittal to the Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Park Needs Assessment**

Community Services Director Pautsch presented the staff report and responded to City Council inquiries. City Manager Gonzalez explained if funding for any of the proposed projects becomes available, that staff will move forward as appropriate.

Mayor Mahmud opened the Public Comment period.

Christopher Sutton, Pasadena resident, stated that he represents a number of clients interested in seeing Caltrans sell its surplus properties, including the sites for pocket parks; expressed a desire for more information related to the property negotiations.

Linda Krausen, South Pasadena resident, pointed out that at past community forums, residents expressed a desire to prioritize the community center, pocket parks, and trails; recommended that pocket parks be listed as a higher priority, noting that the Grevelia area is in need of additional park space.

Mayor Mahmud closed the Public Comment period, there being no one desiring to speak to this issue.

City Manager Gonzalez summarized the status of the Arroyo Seco Pedestrian and Bicycle Trail, noting that the City is awaiting the City of Los Angeles to identify funding sources to complete the portion of the trail that are within Los Angeles City limits.

During the course of discussion, City Council agreed to re-prioritize the potential project list as follows:

1. Community Center
2. Arroyo Seco Pedestrian and Bicycle Trail
3. Pocket Park at Berkshire
4. Pocket Park at Grevelia
5. Multi-purpose fields – renovation of sports complex at Arroyo Park
6. Multi-purpose fields – renovation of sports complex at Orange Grove Park
7. New Park at War Memorial /Oaklawn Park
8. Fitness Zones at Arroyo Park and Garfield Park
9. Restrooms at all public parks
10. Gymnasium

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 4-0, to approve the final potential park project list for submittal to the Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Park Needs Assessment.

**23. Consideration of a Change in Appointment to the San Pascual Stables Lease Subcommittee**

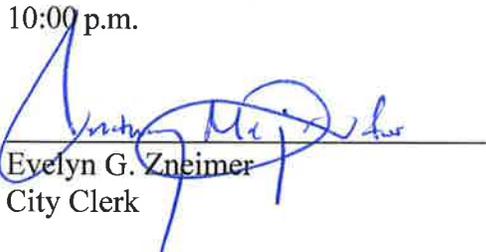
Community Services Director Pautsch presented the staff report and responded to City Council inquiries.

Mayor Mahmud opened and closed the Public Comment period, there being no one desiring to speak to this issue.

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY MAYOR MAHMUD, CARRIED 4-0, to remove the appointment of a current client of the San Pascual Stables and appoint a Member of the Finance Committee to the San Pascual Stables Lease Subcommittee.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Mahmud adjourned the Joint City Council/Redevelopment Successor Agency meeting at 10:00 p.m.

  
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Evelyn G. Zneimer  
City Clerk

  
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Diana Mahmud  
Mayor

Minutes approved by the South Pasadena City Council on March 16, 2016.