



Wednesday, October 18, 2017
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 Cacciotti on Wednesday, October 18, 2017, 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 Joe, Khubesrian, and Mahmud; Mayor Pro Tem Schneider; and Mayor Cacciotti.

Absent: None.

City Staff

Present: Elaine Aguilar, Interim City Manager; Teresa L. Highsmith, City Attorney; and Anthony J. Mejia, Chief City Clerk 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 October 18, 2017, was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Schneider at 6:00 p.m.

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 – INITIATION OF LITIGATION, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4):

Number of Cases: 1

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

Name of Case: Green v. City of South Pasadena et al., Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. BC572438

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

Name of Case: Higginson v. Becerra, et al., U.S. District Court Case No. 17CV2032 WQHJLB

- D. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2):

Number of Anticipated Cases: 1

- E. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8

Properties: 1500 El Centro Street (5315-003-901) and easement known as “Edison Lane” (No APN)

Agency Negotiators: Interim City Manager Elaine Aguilar; and City Attorney Teresa L. Highsmith

Negotiating Party: Citizens Business Bank

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms

- F. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – LABOR NEGOTIATIONS, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6:

City Negotiators: Interim City Manager Elaine Aguilar, Human Resources Manager Mariam Lee Ko, City Attorney Teresa L. Highsmith; and Attorney Steve Berliner

Represented Employee

Organizations: Firefighters’ Association (FFA)

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

PRESENTATIONS**2. Presentation of a Certificate of Recognition to Carrie Adrian in Celebration of Her 75th Birthday and for 17 Years of Service on the South Pasadena Finance Commission**

Mayor Cacciotti presented a Certificate of Recognition to Carrie Adrian in celebration of her 75th Birthday and for 17 years of service on the South Pasadena Finance Commission.

3. Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2016-17 Annual Report of the Animal Commission

Erin Fleming, Chair of the Animal Commission, provided the Fiscal Year 2016-17 Animal Commission Annual Report.

The City Council suggested that the Animal Commission assist with efforts to inform residents regarding how to deal with coyotes.

4. Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2016-17 Annual Report of the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission

William Kelly, Chair of the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission (NREC), provided the Fiscal Year 2016-17 NREC Annual Report.

Councilmember Joe requested that the NREC evaluate the Tree Preservation Ordinance to evaluate streamlining the development review process, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Schneider.

5. Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2016-17 Annual Report of the Parks and Recreation Commission

David Beadle, Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC), provided the Fiscal Year 2016-17 PRC Annual Report.

COMMUNICATIONS**6. Councilmembers Communications**

Councilmember Khubesrian announced that the South Coast Air Quality Management District named the City as a model community in recognition of maintaining its parks with emissions free equipment.

Councilmember Joe spoke on the success of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program and expressed gratitude to the Fire Department for their efforts.

Councilmember Mahmud commended Laurie Wheeler, Executive Director of the South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce, for being named a Woman Achiever; advised that the Library Board of Trustees will move forward with a Library Foundation; summarized the activities of the Los Angeles Community Choice Energy Authority; encouraged residents to participate in the upcoming Arts Crawl, Oktoberfest, and Vecinos de South Pasadena events.

Mayor Cacciotti invited residents to participate in a tour of the Garfield Reservoir and other water facilities on October 21, 2017; noted that some restaurants continue to utilize polystyrene food containers, pointing out that the City's prohibition will soon take effect and will be enforced; requested that the Planning Commission consider a linkage fee for affordable housing modeled from the City of Los Angeles ordinance, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Schneider; requested that the City Council agendaize a status update regarding the City's disaster preparedness, seconded by Councilmember Khubesrian.

Councilmember Mahmud noted that the City Council previously directed staff to explore an inclusionary housing ordinance. In response to City Council inquiry, Planning and Building Director Watkins advised that staff will explore affordable housing fee programs once the General Plan update has concluded.

7. City Manager Communications

Public Works Director Toor encouraged residents to attend the Garfield Reservoir Open House & Water Facility Tour, Halloween Spooktacular, and November 21, 2017 Special City Council Meeting regarding the State Route 710 North Extension: Measure R Project List.

8. Merchant Minute

Mayor Cacciotti introduced Craig Watson, of Arroyo Outdoor, who invited the community to visit his business, noting that his store specializes in landscape products, outdoor furniture, and lighting.

9. Reordering of and Additions to the Agenda

The City Council agreed to consider Item Nos. 18 and 19 prior to Item Nos. 16 and 17.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kim Hughes, South Pasadena resident, encouraged residents to support the water rate increase, noting that the local aquifer is at historic low levels and there is a need to purchase supplemental water to recharge the aquifer; pointed out that aquifers in the San Diego region were over-utilized and collapsed.

James Thompson, South Pasadena resident, voiced concern regarding pedestrian safety when crossing Mission Street, between Forest Avenue and Indiana Avenue; suggested that traffic calming devices or crosswalks be installed in the subject area.

Mayor Cacciotti requested that the City staff evaluate Mr. Thompson's suggestions and consider increasing police patrols in the area. Councilmember Joe requested that staff evaluate the intersection of Mission Street and Arroyo Drive, noting that the center line stop sign has needed to be replaced several times.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 5-0, to approve the Consent Calendar Item Nos. 10-13, with Item No. 14 pulled for separate discussion.

10. Minutes of the City Council Meetings of October 4, 2017

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 5-0, to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2017 City Council Meeting.

11. Prepaid Warrants, General City Warrants, and Payroll

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 5-0, to approve the City of South Pasadena Prepaid Warrants Nos. 200124 through 200208 in the amount of \$338,975.68; General City Warrants Nos. 200209 through 200365 in the amount of \$375,982.52; Payroll dated October 6, 2017, in the amount of \$589,943.96. Seated as the Successor Agency to the Community Redevelopment Agency, approve Prepaid Warrants in the amount of \$35,745.88.

12. Monthly Investment Reports for August 2017

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 5-0, to receive and file the Monthly Investment Reports for August 2017.

13. Second Reading and Adoption of an Ordinance Relating to Procedures Concerning Sensitive Information and the Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Ordinance No. 2319 entitled "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of South Pasadena, California, relating to the City's procedures concerning sensitive information and the enforcement of federal immigration law."

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION**14. Award of Construction Contract to E.C. Construction Co. for the Construction of the El Centro Street Improvement Project**

In response to City Council inquiry, Public Works Director Toor advised that the proposed contract does not include construction management and a separate contract will be presented for the City Council's consideration.

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

1. Accept a bid dated October 3, 2017, from E.C. Construction Co. for the construction of the El Centro Street Improvement Project.
2. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with E.C. Construction Co. for an amount not-to-exceed \$774,527.
3. Reject all other bids received.

PUBLIC HEARING**15. Public Hearing and Adoption of a Resolution Amending Master Schedule of Fees for the Community Services Department for Fiscal Year 2017-18**

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

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

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER JOE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Resolution No. 7534 entitled "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Pasadena, California, amending the master schedule of fees for the Community Services Department for Fiscal Year 2017-18."

ACTION/DISCUSSION**16. Discussion of Services Provided by the Housing Rights Center**

Assistant to the City Manager Demirjian introduced Chancela Al-Mansour, Executive Director of the Housing Rights Center (HRC), who reviewed the services provided to South Pasadena residents during Fiscal Year 2016-17.

In response to City Council inquiry, Ms. Al-Mansour reviewed the services provided under the Los Angeles County contract and those services provided under the City's contract. Councilmember Mahmud requested that future annual reports differentiate between the services provided under each contract.

Mayor Cacciotti opened the Public Comment period.

John Srebalus, South Pasadena resident, voiced support for additional outreach and educational events to ensure low income residents are aware of their housing rights; opined that the City Council should separately address the need for rent control, noting that some landlords may retaliate against tenants through rent increases.

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

In response to City Council inquiry, Ms. Al-Mansour advised that there are some apartments in South Pasadena which are in substandard condition and that the HRC will work with the City's Code Enforcement Division to address the situation; advised that the HRC anticipates increasing the number of classes offered to tenants and landlords over the next year.

Councilmember Khubesrian noted that the City Council considered the possibility of enacting rent control and instead determined to offer enhanced services through the HRC.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM SCHNEIDER, CARRIED 5-0, to:

1. Receive and file a final program report from the Housing Rights Center for the Fiscal Year 2016-17 Fair Housing Program.
2. Consider a proposal from the HRC for the FY 2017-18 Fair Housing Program.

17. First Reading and Introduction of an Ordinance to Amend Section 19.55-3 of the South Pasadena Municipal Code to Allow for Overnight Parking at the Mission-Meridian Village Parking Garage and Approval of a Lease Agreement with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

Principal Management Analyst Lin presented the staff report and responded to City Council inquiries.

Mayor Cacciotti opened and closed the Public Comment period, there being no one desiring to speak on this item.

In response to City Council inquiry, Shawntelle Phillips and Katie Mac, representing the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, advised that approximately 1,800 employees work in the Alhambra office. The City Council commended the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works for offering a shuttle service to their employees, pointing out that it will reduce traffic impacts on Fremont Avenue.

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

1. Introduce an ordinance entitled “An Ordinance of the City of South Pasadena, California, amending Section 19.55-3 of the South Pasadena Municipal Code to allow for overnight parking at the Mission-Meridian Village Parking Garage.”
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute the lease agreement to allow the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works to park their shuttle vans overnight in the MMV Parking Garage.

18. Receive and File Monterey Road Configuration Project from Pasadena Avenue to Fair Oaks Avenue

Public Works Director Toor and Planning and Building Director Watkins presented the staff report. In response to City Council inquires, Director Watkins advised that the City’s consultant, Nelson\Nygaard, can evaluate the application of the Complete Streets Policy on Monterey Road to develop a baseline level of impacts on traffic circulation.

Mayor Cacciotti opened the Public Comment period.

Kim Hughes, South Pasadena resident, representing the Public Works Commission (PWC), noted that PWC previously considered a “road diet” for Monterey Road and voted against the proposal; pointed out the importance of ensuring traffic remains on major thoroughfares rather than residential streets.

Ron Rosen, South Pasadena resident, voiced opposition to the City Council filing the staff report, asserting that it contains omissions and misinformation; pointed out that the PWC voted against a “road diet” for Monterey Road and the a citizen’s committee was a split vote.

Gayle Glauz, South Pasadena resident, voiced opposition to a “road diet” for Monterey Road, noting that traffic would likely be diverted to residential streets.

Andy Au, South Pasadena resident, opined that Monterey Road should have a “road diet” to accommodate bicycle lanes; suggested that a compromise would be the installation of bicycle sharrows symbols.

Wes Reutimann, South Pasadena resident, distributed a report from the Federal Highway Administration regarding roadway reconfigurations; advised that “road diets” have been proven to improve traffic circulation and enhance pedestrian safety.

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

Following discussion, the City Council directed staff to confirm with Nelson Nygaard whether the application of the Complete Streets Policy on Monterey Road will be evaluated as part of the Environmental Impact Report for the General Plan. If not, the City Council directed staff to return to the City Council with additional options.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER JOE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, CARRIED 5-0, to table this matter.

19. Adoption of a Resolution Modifying the Two Hour Parking Restriction to Four Hours Every Day at the City Owned Parking Lot Located at Hope Street and Mound Avenue

Principal Management Analyst Lin presented the staff report and responded to City Council inquiries.

Mayor Cacciotti opened the Public Comment period.

Ellen Daigle, South Pasadena business owner, voiced support for the proposed amendment; noted that the additional two hours will allow patrons to explore other businesses in the area.

Camille DePedrimi, South Pasadena business owner, expressed support for the amendment, stating that customers will often realize while shopping that they must move their vehicles and leave.

Ellen Main, South Pasadena business owner, advised that she has received several parking tickets despite there being many extra parking spaces; expressed support for the modification.

Kelly Kidd, South Pasadena business owner, conveyed support for the modification, asserting that parking enforcement causes ill will between customers, businesses, and the City.

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

Councilmember Mahmud noted that the parking lot is intended to boost commerce rather than provide parking for employees; suggested that the City Council receive a status report regarding parking utilization rates in six months.

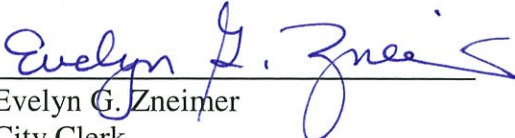
In response to City Council inquiry, Mr. Kidd expressed support for no hourly restrictions during weekends.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER JOE, CARRIED 5-0, to:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 7535 entitled "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Pasadena, California, establishing a four hour parking restriction, from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., every day, at the City owned parking lot located at the corner of Hope Street and Mound Avenue," with the modification to allow for no hourly restrictions during the weekends.
2. Direct staff to provide a six-month update regarding parking utilization at the subject parking lot.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Cacciotti adjourned the City Council Meeting at 10:47 p.m.



Evelyn G. Zneimer
City Clerk



Michael A. Cacciotti
Mayor

Minutes approved by the South Pasadena City Council on November 1, 2017.