



**Wednesday, June 5, 2019**  
**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 Khubesrian on Wednesday, June 5, 2019, at 7:35 p.m., in the Council Chamber, located at 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, California.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**Absent:** None

**City Staff**

**Present:** City Manager DeWolfe; City Attorney Highsmith; Interim Chief City Clerk Lee and Interim Deputy City Clerk Ferrel were present at Roll Call. Other staff members presented reports or responded to questions as indicated in the minutes.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Amber Chen, South Pasadena Resident, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1. CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**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 Attorney

City Negotiators: City Manager Stephanie DeWolfe, Human Resources Manager Mariam Lee Ko, Steve Berliner, Esq, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore

**B. Anticipated Litigation**

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—Anticipated Litigation (Gov.t Code § 54956.9(d)(2) Number of Potential Cases: 1

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

**PRESENTATIONS**

**2. Arts Invocation – South Pasadena Arts Council (SPARC)**

Mayor Khubesrian introduced Valerie Wilcox, who is featured at the SPARC Art Gallery at City Hall. Ms. Wilcox provided comments.

**COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS**

**3. Commission Appointments**

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM JOE, the City Council by consensus, appointed the following to a partial commission term: Phung Huynh to the Public Art Commission (term ending December 31, 2022).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Theresa Lawrence, South Pasadena Resident, shared a video of the strip section of her sidewalk next to the road and asked that the City look into repairing it.

Matt Buck, California Apartment Association, introduced himself as the new representative for his organization in the area.

Cheryl Auger, South Pasadena Resident, discussed ways that the City could reduce their plastic use.

Shlomo Nitzani, South Pasadena Resident, discussed his ongoing issue with peacocks in his neighborhood.

A representative from the South Pasadena Humane Society discussed a County-wide quarantine on wild fowls and responded to City Council inquiries.

Madeline Di Giorgi, South Pasadena Resident, discussed the upcoming Plastics Free Party at Garfield Park on June 16<sup>th</sup>.

Amber Chen, South Pasadena Resident, encouraged the City to engage in sustainability tasks in the upcoming year to increase recycling efforts, food relocation programs, and other environmental projects.

Julia Lorenz, South Pasadena Resident, recommended that the City pass legislation to modify the use of single-use plastic.

Thea McCauley, South Pasadena Resident, discussed banning plastic in the City.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

### **4. Councilmembers Communications**

Councilmember Cacciotti shared a photo of over-turned cars by the 110 freeway; shared a photo of the City golf course closed during the recent Party Gras event; shared a photo of the 70s themed party at the Golf Course; shared a photo of a redwood tree that was planted in the 1920s; shared a photo of a City Council meeting in the City of La Puente; shared a photo of Ace hardware loading inventory into their new store; shared a photo of the newly painted markings on the corner of Mission Street and Marengo Avenue; shared a photo of a baseball game between the police and fire department and special needs children; shared a photo of a City Council meeting in the City of Azusa; shared a photo of a City Council meeting in the City of Alhambra; shared a photo of the Concerts in the Park flyer.

Councilmember Mahmud discussed the upcoming Concerts in the Park; discussed an upcoming event at the South Pasadena Library to honor the “No On 710” group; noted that today is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day; requested that the Mayor adjourn the meeting in memory of those who fought in World War II.

Mayor Pro Tem Joe discussed the recent showing of the film, “To Climb a Gold Mountain” at the South Pasadena Library.

Mayor Khubesrian discussed the upcoming South Pasadena Bites Back event on June 11<sup>th</sup> and introduced San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District General Manager Jared Dever, who discussed the upcoming event. Mr. Dever responded to City Council inquiries.

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

City Manager DeWolfe introduced new South Pasadena Police Officers, Isaac Gutierrez and Catalina Valdez. She also introduced Arpy Kasparian, the new Management Analyst over water conservation and sustainability.

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

Mayor Khubesrian requested to move Item Nos. 16, 17, and 18 to the consent calendar. There were no objections.

Mayor Khubesrian opened the public hearings for Item Nos. 16, 17, and 18.

There being no one desiring to speak on these items, Mayor Khubesrian closed the public hearing.

Mayor Khubserian requested to move Item Nos. 21 and 22 as the next items on the agenda. There were no objections.

## **REPORTS**

### **21. Receive and File the 2018 Fire Department Annual Statistics Report**

Fire Chief Riddle made a presentation and responded to City Council inquiries.

Mayor Khubesrian opened the public comment period.

There being no one desiring to speak on this item, Mayor Khubesrian closed the public comment period.

By consensus, the City Council received and filed the 2018 Fire Department Annual Statistics Report.

### **22. Receive and File the 2018 Police Department's Annual Report**

Police Chief Ortiz made a presentation and responded to City Council inquiries.

Sergeant Robledo provided an update on homelessness in the City and responded to City Council inquiries.

Mayor Khubesrian opened the public comment period.

Eric Ostby, South Pasadena Resident, expressed his concern over packages been stolen from individual's homes.

There being no one else desiring to speak on this item, Mayor Khubesrian closed the public comment period.

The City Council discussed the item and staff answered related questions.

By consensus, the City Council received and filed the 2018 Police Department's Annual Report.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Councilmember Mahmud noted that additional documents were provided for Item Nos. 14 and 15 with minor changes.

Councilmember Mahmud requested to pull Item No. 17 for separate discussion.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, CARRIED 5-0, to approve Consent Calendar Items Nos. 7-16 and 18, with the changes recommended by Councilmember Mahmud.

**7. Prepaid Warrants, General City Warrants, and Payroll**

Approved the City of South Pasadena Prepaid Warrants Nos. 307023 through 307136 in the amount of \$410,084.64; General City Warrants Nos. 307137 through 307267 in the amount of \$759,761.25; and Payroll dated May 17, 2019 in the amount of \$760,625.80.

**8. Approval of City Memberships to Regional, State, and National Organizations**

Approved the City's membership in various regional, State and national organizations for Fiscal Year 2019-20.

**9. Approval of the Second Amendment to the Agreement for Legal Services with Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC, Authorizing Increase in Rates**

Approved the Second Amendment to the contract with Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC, for legal services authorizing an increase in rates.

**10. Discretionary Fund Request from Mayor Khubesrian for \$200 for Library Multi-Media Filming Event**

Approved a Discretionary Fund request by Mayor Khubesrian for \$200, for the purpose of assisting with cost of the Library multi-media filming event.

**11. Discretionary Fund Request from Councilmember Mahmud for \$200 for Library Multi-Media Filming Event**

Approved a Discretionary Fund request by Councilmember Mahmud for \$200, for the purpose of assisting with cost of the Library multi-media filming event.

**12. Discretionary Fund Request from Councilmember Mahmud for \$2,000 for South Pasadena Beautiful**

Approved a Discretionary Fund request by Councilmember Mahmud for \$2,000 for the purpose of assisting South Pasadena Beautiful, a non-profit group, with cost of the re-landscape of the Post Office.

**13. Discretionary Fund Request from Councilmember Mahmud for \$400 for Self Defense Equipment for the Women's Self Defense Classes**

Approved a Discretionary Fund request by Councilmember Mahmud for \$400 for the purpose of assisting with cost of equipment for the Women's Self Defense classes.

**14. Adoption of a Resolution Determining and Establishing an Appropriations Limit for Fiscal year 2019-20 in Accordance with Article XIII B of the California Constitution**

Adopted a resolution setting the City of South Pasadena's Fiscal Year 2019-20 Appropriations Limit.

**15. Adoption of the Public Art Program Review Criteria**

Adopted the Public Art Program Review Criteria.

**16. Adoption of a Resolution Confirming an Annual Levy and Collection of Assessments for the Lighting and Landscaping Maintenance District for Fiscal Year 2019-20**

Adopted a resolution confirming the annual, levy and collection of assessments for the Lighting and Landscaping Maintenance District for Fiscal Year 2019-20.

**18. Continuation of Public Hearing and Approval of a Resolution Adopting the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Operating Budget**

1. Conducted a Public Hearing;
2. Approved the attached resolution adopting the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Operating Budget; and
3. Authorized the creation of a Vehicle Replacement fund with initial funding of \$100,000.

**ITEMS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR**

**17. Open a Public Hearing and Approve a Resolution Adopting the Capital Improvement Plan for Fiscal Years 2020-2024**

Councilmember Mahmud discussed the proposed list of projects under the Capital Improvement Plan.

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

1. Opened the public hearing to discuss the multi-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for Fiscal Years (FY) 2020-2024;
2. Heard public comment and close the public hearing; and
3. Approved a resolution adopting the multi-year CIP FY 2020-2024.

## **PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS**

All public hearing items were moved to the consent calendar.

## **ACTION/DISCUSSION**

### **19. Appeal of a Decision of the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission for the Removal of Two Non-Native Trees at 1921 Illinois Drive**

Interim Public Works Director Ojeda made a presentation and responded to City Council inquiries.

Mayor Khubesrian opened the public comment period.

Maia Pa, Applicant, presented her case for the appeal to be granted and expressed her disappointment with the permit and appeal process of the City.

Bill Kelly, Natural Resources & Environmental Commissioner, stated that the maintenance of the trees is not a financial hardship.

Madeline Di Giorgi, Natural Resources & Environmental Commissioner, shared photos of the trees at the property and expressed her support to not grant the appeal.

Eric Ostby, South Pasadena Resident, expressed his support for granting the appeal.

Ms. Pa responded to comments made during the public comment period.

There being no one else desiring to speak on this item, Mayor Khubesrian closed the public comment period.

The City Council discussed the item at length and staff answered related questions.

Councilmember Mahmud recommended the following condition to go along with the recommended action: The homeowners work with the City arborist on the placement of the replacement trees and the selection of the type of trees.

**MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY MAYOR KHUBESRIAN CARRIED 4-1 (COUNCILMEMBER SCHNEIDER VOTING NO), to grant the appeal of a decision of the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission for the removal of two non-native trees at 1921 Illinois Drive, with the recommendation made by Councilmember Mahmud.**

### **20. First Reading and Introduction of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 2 (Administration), Article IVB, Section 2.43. Public Safety Commission, of the South Pasadena Municipal Code**

Fire Chief Riddle summarized the staff report and responded to City Council inquiries.

Mayor Khubesrian opened the public comment period.

There being no one desiring to speak on this item, Mayor Khubesrian closed the public comment period.

The City Council discussed the item and staff answered related questions.

Councilmember Mahmud requested that paragraph H from the proposed ordinance be removed. She suggested that a code of ethics language be eventually included in the preamble of the municipal code section for boards and commissions.

City Manager DeWolfe noted that an additional document was provided to the City Council where it removed reference to animal control.

**MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, CARRIED 5-0, to read by title only for the first reading, waiving further reading, and introduce an Ordinance Amending Chapter 2 (Administration), Article IVB, Section 2.43 of the South Pasadena Municipal Code regarding the charge and duties of the Public Safety Commission, with the changes noted by Councilmember Mahmud and City Manager DeWolfe.**

#### **COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS CONTINUED**

Mayor Khubesrian discussed the recent South Pasadena High School graduation.

**MOTION BY MAYOR KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI to place on a future City Council agenda the creation of a City Council Ad-Hoc Committee to work with the Chairs of the Public Works Commission and the Freeway and Transportation Commission to discuss options to sunset both Commissions and to establish a new Commission to focus on the CIP plan and mobility projects.**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, at 10:40 p.m. Mayor Khubesrian adjourned the meeting in memory of the men and women who fought on D-Day.

  
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Evelyn G. Zreimer  
City Clerk

  
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Marina Khubesrian, M.D.  
Mayor