



Wednesday, June 19, 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 19, 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

Mayor Khubesrian 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. Merchant Minute – Mission Gardens

Mayor Khubesian stated this item will be moved to a future City Council Meeting.

3. South Pasadena Preservation Foundation – Annual Report of Historical Covenants for Caltrans Surplus Properties in June 2019

Mayor Khubesian stated this item will be moved to a future City Council Meeting.

4. Animal Adoption

Mayor Khubesian stated this item will be moved to a future City Council Meeting.

5. South Pasadena Tournament of Roses Presentation of Award and Float Rendering

Courtney Dunlap, South Pasadena Tournament of Roses Committee, presented a framed copy of the 2019 South Pasadena Tournament of Roses float. She also presented the rendering of the 2020 South Pasadena Tournament of roses float called “Victory at Last”.

6. Joint Presentation Regarding School District Development Site

City Manager DeWolfe introduced this item and introduced South Pasadena Unified School District Superintendent, Geoff Yantz.

City Manager DeWolfe and Mr. Yantz made a presentation and responded to City Council inquiries.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Fenske, South Pasadena Resident, expressed concerns over the overgrown weeds on the hillside.

Shlomo Nitzani, South Pasadena Resident, discussed his ongoing issue with peacocks in his neighborhood; expressed his opposition to the sell of the school development site.

Barbara Eisenstein, South Pasadena Resident, discussed restoration money received for Arroyo Seco projects; she encouraged the City to include the Nature Park for funding; encouraged the community to visit the Nature Park.

COMMUNICATIONS

7. Councilmembers Communications

Councilmember Cacciotti shared a photo of a peacock in the community; shared a photo of a coyote on Mission Street; shared a photo of a notice that plastic straws are required to be requested at restaurants; shared a photo of a recent train ride where a South Pasadena Police Officer was present; shared a photo of a recently trimmed tree; shared a photo from a City of South El Monte City Council meeting; shared a photo of himself with the Police Chief from the City of South El Monte; shared a photo of officers coming off a train.

Councilmember Mahmud discussed a recent meeting of the League of California Cities Environmental Policy Committee; discussed the Measure W implementation ordinance; discussed overgrown vegetation on Southern California Edison property; discussed the upcoming South Pasadena Preservation Foundation Annual Meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Joe discussed the recent Wonderful Wednesday Library event.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI to direct staff to develop an ordinance and proposed fees with respect to vacant properties in the City.

Mayor Khubesrian discussed the Juneteenth Independence Day Holiday; discussed representatives from the City of New Orleans who are visiting California; discussed a Certificate of Appreciation that she'll be presenting to Library Director Fjeldsed, who is retiring; shared a PowerPoint slide of effective insect repellents; stated that the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District will have a booth at an upcoming City concert series.

8. City Manager Communications

City Manager DeWolfe stated that City Hall will be closed on July 4th; the farmers market will be closed due to the July 4th holiday; the July 3rd City Council meeting will be cancelled.

Public Information Officer Pope discussed the new brochure that details the amenities at the Arroyo Seco Bike & Pedestrian Trail.

9. Reordering of and Additions to the Agenda

City Manager DeWolfe requested move Item No. 15 to a future City Council meeting.

Councilmember Cacciotti requested photos of the proposed lockers and shelters when the item is brought back to the City Council.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Mahmud noted that additional documents were provided for Item Nos. 13 and 16 with minor changes. She requested that the motion be made to include those revisions.

Councilmember Cacciotti requested to pull Item No. 13 for separate discussion.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, CARRIED 5-0, to approve Consent Calendar Items Nos. 10-12, 14, and 16-18 with the changes recommended by Councilmember Mahmud.

10. Prepaid Warrants, General City Warrants, and Payroll

Approve the City of South Pasadena Prepaid Warrants Nos. 307268 – 307352 in the amount of \$247,738.29; General City Warrants Nos. 307353 – 307429 in the amount of \$147,129.61; Payroll dated May 17, 2019 in the amount of \$582,811.21; Wire Transfers (LAIF) in the amount of \$2,000,000.00; Wire Transfers (Acct #2413) in the amount of \$19,000.00; and Wire Transfers (Acct #1936) in the amount of \$7,000.00.

11. Monthly Investment Reports

It is recommended that the City Council receive and file the monthly investment reports for April, 2019.

12. Second Reading of Ordinance to Modify the Charge of the Public Safety Commission

It is recommended that the City Council read by title only for the second reading, waiving further reading, and adopt an Ordinance amending Chapter 2 (Administration), Article IVB, Section 2.43 of the South Pasadena Municipal Code (SPMC) regarding the charge and duties of the Public Safety Commission (PSC).

14. Adoption of the Long-Term Financial Sustainability Strategy

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the Long-Term Financial Sustainability Strategy.

15. Award of Construction Contract for Bike Lockers, Shelters and Hitches at Various Locations

This item was moved to a future City Council meeting.

16. Adoption of Resolution Approving the Reclassification of the Planning and Building Director, Including a Proposed New Job Description and Salary Range

It is recommended that the City Council adopt a Resolution approving the reclassification of the Planning and Building Director, including a proposed new job description and salary range.

17. Discretionary Fund Request from Councilmember Mahmud for \$350 to Plant a Tree on Library Grounds to Commemorate 13 Years of Service to the City of South Pasadena for Retiring Library Director Steve Fjelsted

It is recommended that the City Council approve a Discretionary Fund request by Councilmember Mahmud for \$350 to plant a tree on the library grounds to commemorate retiring library director Steve Fjelsted.

18. Discretionary Fund Request from Councilmember Mahmud for up to \$300 for a Plaque to Reflect Dedication of Exceptionally Large Tree in City Median

It is recommended that the City Council approve a Discretionary Fund request by Councilmember Mahmud for up to \$300 for a plaque to reflect dedication of exceptionally large tree in City median.

ITEMS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

13. Approval of a Contract for Communications and Community Relations Services

The City Council discussed the dates of the community engagement events and the scope of work for the contract.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM JOE, CARRIED 5-0, to approve a contract with Circlepoint for Communications and Community Relations Services – Housing Feasibility Outreach in a not to exceed amount of \$29,500 in grant funds.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

19. Continued Public Hearing for Adoption of Resolution Amending the Master Schedule of Fees

Finance Director Koehler 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.

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

1. Resume the Public Hearing (continued from May 1, 2019) to review proposed fee adjustments;
2. Adopt a Resolution amending the Master Schedule of Fees for Service (Fee Schedule) commencing July 1, 2019, and establishing annual adjustments by Consumer Price Index (CPI); and
3. Authorize the City Manager to allow for a grace period of 30 days for certain recreational fees to allow for appropriate notification to consumers.

20. Appeal of a Planning Commission Decision – 817 Orange Grove Place (APN: 5315-018-064)

Mayor Khubesrian stated this item will be moved to a future City Council Meeting.

ACTION/DISCUSSION

21. Presentation on Community Opinion Survey Results; Approval of Resolution Declaring a Fiscal Emergency; and Resolution Calling for a Special Municipal Election on November 5, 2019

City Manager DeWolfe summarized the staff report and responded to City Council inquiries.

Timothy McLarney, True North Research, provided a presented pertaining to the community survey results and responded to City Council inquiries.

Mayor Khubesrian opened 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.

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

1. Receive and file a report on the recent Community Opinion Survey conducted by True North Research; and

2. Adopt a Resolution declaring a fiscal emergency by a unanimous vote of the City Council in order to call and give notice of a Special Municipal Election, Tuesday, November 5, 2019, and submitted to the qualified voters a proposed Ordinance to establish a three-quarters percent transaction and use tax, to be administered by the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration.

22. Formation of an Ad Hoc Commission Committee Merger of the Freeway and Transportation Commission and Public Works Commission

Manager of Long Range Planning and Economic Development Lin summarized the staff report and responded to City Council inquiries.

Mayor Khubesrian opened the public comment period.

Kim Hughes, South Pasadena Resident, expressed her support to keep the existing commissions as is.

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.

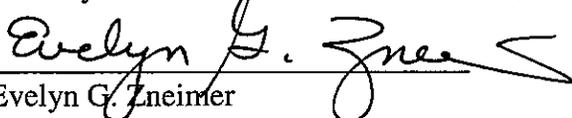
MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHNEIDER, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER MAHMUD, to appoint Councilmember Schneider and Mayor Pro Tem Joe to the Ad Hoc Commission Committee.

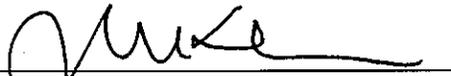
MOTION BY MAYOR KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, CARRIED 5-0, to appoint Mayor Khubesrian and Councilmember Schneider to work with City Staff and the Chairs of the Freeway and Transportation Commission (FTC) and Public Works Commission (PWC) to develop a strategy to sunset the FTC and PWC and create a new Commission that focuses on the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and mobility initiatives.

With the passing of the second motion, the first motion dies.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, at 9:39 p.m. Mayor Khubesrian adjourned the meeting in memory of Officer Kevin Sandoval.


Evelyn G. Zneimer
City Clerk


Marina Khubesrian, M.D.
Mayor