



**Wednesday, February 5, 2020
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 Joe on Wednesday, February 5, 2020, at 7:43 p.m., in the Council Chamber, located at 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, California.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None

City Staff Present: City Manager DeWolfe; Assistant City Attorney Jared; City Clerk Zneimer; Chief City Clerk Ayala; and Deputy City Clerk Lopez were present at Roll Call. Other staff members presented reports or responded to questions as indicated in the minutes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Marina Khubesrian deferred the leading of the flag salute to Deputy Police Chief Brian Solinsky. Deputy Police Chief Solinsky led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Conference with Real Property Negotiators

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8:

- Properties: 701 La Portada St, South Pasadena, CA 91030
- Stoney between San Pascual and Lohman, South Pasadena, CA 91030
- 815 Mission St, South Pasadena, CA 91030
- 1055 Lohman Rd, South Pasadena, CA 91030-2907

Agency Negotiators: City Manager Stephanie DeWolfe; City Attorney Teresa L.

Highsmith

Negotiating Parties: TowerPoint Acquisitions, LLC

Under Negotiation: Terms of Payment

City Attorney Andrew Jared reported the following:

Item A – City Council discussed the item, no official action was taken by City Council. Direction was provided by City Council to agency negotiators.

PRESENTATIONS

2. Gold Standard Award – South Pasadena Fire Department

Mayor Joe presented Fire Chief Riddle and other members of the Fire Department with the 2019 Gold Standard Plus Award for demonstrating success in applying the most up to date evidence-based treatment guidelines to improve patient care for the citizens of South Pasadena.

COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

3. Authorize Commission Appointments

No public comments.

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

1. Appoint the following resident to a three-year term ending December 31, 2022:
 - Joseph M. Molina, Library Board of Trustees

At this time Mayor Joe announced that Agenda Item No. 16, Ramona Street Neighborhood Traffic Management, is only a *Receive-and-File* item, with no action being considered tonight. He welcomed individuals to make public comment on this item during the general public comment portion of the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Shlomo Nitzani – Reported on having attended the recent Animal Commission meeting; and concerns over traffic issues on Meridian.
- Jonathan Gelman – Reported on concerns over the City’s recent bi-monthly water billing for a water meter designated for a fire hydrant that has zero water usage.

City Manager DeWolfe asked Public Works Director Shahid Abbas to speak with Mr. Gelman before he left for additional assistance.

Councilmember Cacciotti and Mayor Pro Tem Mahmud commented on perhaps considering looking into updating the City's billing policy and/or considering a standby charge.

- Katy Spencer – Expressed concerns over the closing of the Horse Trail, and requests that Council consider reopening.

Councilmember Cacciotti asked for an update on the status of reopening the trail.

City Manager DeWolfe briefly responded on the City's efforts in working towards reopening the trail.

- Janet Logan – Expressed concerns over the closing of the Horse Trail, and adding additional precautionary safety signage.
- Elizabeth Bour – Expressed concerns over the closing of the Horse Trail, and requests that the City be more transparent on the closure of the trail.
- Pamela Perkins – Expressed concerns over the closing of the Horse Trail, and working with the community on reopening of the trail.
- Jan Marshall – Expressed concerns over the lack of communication from the City, the City's Blog, and the City's expenditures on PIO staff and/or services.
- Connie Flanders – Expressed concerns over the closing of the Horse Trail and lack of communication on the closing and reopening.
- John Srebalus – Reported on the recent passing of the housing rental/evictions urgency ordinance; and commented on his pending records requests.
- Alan Ehrlich – Commented on concerns over closing of Horse Trail and risk factors associated with having closed the trail; and requests that updates from the City be provided every two weeks; and also commented on the Closed Session Item from tonight's closed session agenda, and the properties listed and asked that additional information be provided.

Councilmember Cacciotti asked City Manager DeWolfe if the City could provide additional information on Closed Session Item A.

City Attorney Jared responded the City is not able to provide additional information of the issue. The City is able to disclose that the item is not in relation to the sale of the properties. Councilmember Khubesrian added a contract/sale of the properties would be properly agendaized on an open session agenda and subject to discussion.

Councilmember Cacciotti shared a number of resident concerns over the closing of the Horse Trail, and announced that there is litigation, and briefly shared about the City's efforts over the matter.

City Manager DeWolfe reported that the City is working to correct the situation as soon as possible, the City is dealing with extenuating circumstances related to legal actions.

Mayor Joe asked if it was possible for the City to provide a posting at the trail with more information on the closure.

Mayor Joe asked City Manager to follow-up on the issues that were presented during public comment regarding evictions. City Manager DeWolfe responded accordingly.

COMMUNICATIONS

4. Councilmembers Communications

Councilmember Cacciotti provided photos for his comments regarding: local residents taking the train to work; attended the City's recent General Plan Committee Meeting; residents walking through the neighborhood selling Girl Scout cookies; attended the City's recent Animal Commission meeting; various pictures depicting heavy traffic in various areas of the City; thanked Staff for working on bringing new businesses to town possibly for the former Big Lots location; and also reported on a recent meeting with Almansor ownership regarding opportunities to apply for AQMD grant funding for fuel efficient vehicles.

Councilmember Khubesrian provided photos for her comments regarding: having attended the Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California Annual Conference; train ride to San Diego; having used the Transitions South Pasadena Community Dishes program for a recently hosted event; and her recently installed gray water diverter, also by Transitions South Pasadena Community member.

Councilmember Schneider – No comments at this time.

Mayor Pro Tem Mahmud provided photos for her comments regarding: flyer for City's Free Smart Gardening Workshop; flyer for Leak Detection Workshop; also reported on people speeding through town and posing dangers to pedestrians; reported on people leaving personal items on public property; and encourages everybody to pick up trash if they happen to be out for walks because these items will end up in the City's storm drains.

Mayor Joe reported on having been included with Fire Chief Riddle, other mayors and city leadership in a teleconference regarding Coronavirus hosted by Supervisor Barger, Mayor Garcetti, and leadership from the Department of Public Health. Mayor Joe asked Fire Chief Riddle to provide a brief report from the teleconference.

Chief Riddle provided a brief report on the information provided at the teleconference on the Coronavirus and the Fire Department proactive efforts.

Mayor Joe announced the passing of resident Ted Shaw and asked that tonight's meeting be adjourned in his memory (second provided by Mayor Pro Tem Mahmud). Mayor Joe provided information about services held in Mr. Shaw's memory.

5. City Manager Communications

City Manager DeWolfe reminded the community that the public comment period has been extended for the General Plan. Also provided an informational slide regarding 2020 General Plan and Downtown Specific Plan.

6. Reordering of and Additions to the Agenda

Mayor Joe announced the reordering of Agenda Item Nos. 15 and 16 to be heard prior to the Consent Items.

ACTION/DISCUSSION**15. Approve the First Reading and Introduction of Two Ordinances: 1) Restructure the Freeway and Transportation Commission to Create the Mobility and Transportation Infrastructure Commission with Updated Responsibilities; and 2) Restructure the Public Works Commission with Updated Roles and Responsibilities**

City Manager DeWolfe presented the staff report.

Councilmember Schneider asked that an emailed public comment received by Larry Abelson be included in the meeting's official public record, and be read tonight (second provided by Councilmember Cacciotti).

Mayor Pro Tem Mahmud inquired about enacting an urgency ordinance for the Mobility and Transportation Infrastructure Commission.

City Manager DeWolfe and City Attorney Jared responded accordingly that it was not possible.

Public Comment:

- Kim Hughes – Supports the City maintaining two commissions, had questions regarding the terms for the commission seats, and asked for clarification on which commission would oversee individual streets for repairs.

City Manager DeWolfe provided clarification on the commission charges.

- Gayle Glauz – Supports the City maintaining two commissions, and asked that the City provide additional clarification on the commission charges.
- Alan Ehrlich – Commented on ordinance language for the commissions that may need further clarification.
- At Mayor's direction, Deputy City Clerk Lopez read the emailed public comment made from Lawrence (Larry) Abelson. (The complete email is also included in the meeting's official final packet record as part of Additional Documents).

Mayor Pro Tem Mahmud announced the edits made to the ordinances that were made a part of the Additional Documents.

City Manager DeWolfe provided additional information on the commissions' oversight.

Council provided support for the two commissions, commented on the clearly defined roles and responsibilities of each, and recommended a few edits under the "Responsibilities" section for each.

Under two responsibility sections, page 15-8, section 2-47-2, cross out term as directed by city council and city manager, and on page 15-12, 2-79-2

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHNEIDER, CARRIED 5-0, to edit the two "Responsibility" sections under each commission and remove the wording "as directed by City Council and City Manager" under sections 2-47-2 and 2-79-2, include the redline edits as provided in the Additional Documents, and:

- 1) Read by title only for first reading, waiving further reading, and introduce an Ordinance to repeal Article IVD (Freeway and Transportation Commission) of Chapter 2 "Administration" of the South Pasadena Municipal Code (SPMC) and add a new Article IVD (Mobility and Transportation Infrastructure Commission) to SPMC Chapter 2 to restructure the Freeway and Transportation Commission (FTC) to create the Mobility and Transportation Infrastructure Commission (MTIC) with updated roles and responsibilities to focus on mobility policy and transportation infrastructure; and
- 2) Read by title only for first reading, waiving further reading, and introduce an Ordinance to repeal Article IVK (Public Works Commission) of SPMC Chapter 2 "Administration" and add a new Article IVK (Public Works Commission) to restructure the Public Works Commission (PWC) with updated roles and responsibilities to focus on non-transportation infrastructure including water, sewer, stormwater, buildings, and City facilities.

16. Receive and File Ramona Street Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan

City Manager DeWolfe prefaced the item and explained the continued work with the residents on Ramona Street.

Public Works Director Shahid Abbas provided the introduction of the item and introduced project managers from consultant firm Nelson/Nygaard, Paul Moore and Karen Chen, who continued the PowerPoint presentation.

City Council had various questions and comments regarding: pedestrian lighting, staggering start times to coordinate with the schools, curb extensions impacting traffic, adequacy of data collection, data regarding traffic accidents, general pedestrian safety, etc.

Mr. Moore responded to questions and comments accordingly.

Public Comment:

- Kim Hughes – Expressed concerns of the plan’s impact on traffic in other areas.
- Alan Ehrlich – Expressed concerns of the plan being shared at the commission levels, and the City’s level of communication about the plan.
- Michelle Hammond – Expressed concerns of morning traffic back-ups, pedestrian safety, and suggests implementing “left turns” in various areas of the plan.

Mayor Pro Tem Mahmud inquired about feasibility of implementation of yellow continental crosswalk and stop signs.

Mayor Joe asked inquired on the next steps of the plan, and it being presented to the appropriate commission.

City Manager DeWolfe responded accordingly, and explained about implementing short term and long term items from the plan, and presenting it to the commission(s).

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI to: receive and file the Ramona Street Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan.

CONSENT CALENDAR

No public comment on Consent Calendar.

Councilmember Cacciotti pulled Agenda Item No. 7 from the Consent Calendar.

Mayor Pro Tem Mahmud announced Additional Documents for Item Nos. 12 and 14.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KHUBESRIAN, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, CARRIED 5-0, to approve Consent Calendar Items Nos. 8 through 14, with revisions as presented in Additional Documents for Items No. 12 and 14 (see item below).

8. Approval of Prepaid Warrants in the Amount of \$448,094.47 less \$645.00 in Voids. General City Warrants in the Amount of \$384,268.08.

City Council approved the warrants as presented.

9. Acceptance of Donation of \$8,000 for Replacing Computers at the South Pasadena Senior Center from the Senior Citizens Foundation of South Pasadena Incorporated

City Council approved to accept a donation of \$8,000 from the Senior Citizens Foundation of South Pasadena, Inc. for the replacement of seven computer systems for the South Pasadena Senior Center.

10. Award of Construction Contract to Gentry Brothers, Inc., for the Alpha Avenue and Camino Del Sol Street Improvement Project in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$1,868,801

City Council:

1. Accepted a bid dated October 8, 2019, from Gentry Brothers, Inc., for the construction of the Alpha Avenue and Camino Del Sol Street Improvement Project (Project);
2. Authorized the City Manager to enter into a contract with Gentry Brothers, Inc., for the bid amount of \$1,698,910; and
3. Authorized a construction contingency ten percent in the amount of \$169,891 for total amount of \$1,868,801.

11. Adoption of Resolution No. 7640 Authorizing the County of Los Angeles Agriculture Commissioner to Inspect and Abate Weeds, Brush and Native Vegetation Declared to be an Existing or Potential Fire Hazard, and Schedule a Public Hearing to be Held on February 19, 2020 to Hear Objections or Protests to the Vegetation Management Program

City Council adopted the **Resolution No. 7640** authorizing the County of Los Angeles Agriculture Commissioner to inspect and abate weeds, brush and native vegetation declared to be an existing or potential fire hazard, and schedule a Public Hearing to be held on February 19, 2020 to hear objections or protests to the vegetation management program.

12. Adoption of a Resolution No. 7639 Approving a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between the City of South Pasadena and the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LA-RICS) Joint Powers Authority

City Council approved the Item revisions as presented in Additional Documents state the title of the joint powers agreement in the title of the resolution, and describe the term “LTE connectivity”, and:

1. Approved a **Resolution No. 7639** adopting an MOU between the City and the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System Joint Powers Authority (LA-RICS)
2. Delegate authority to the City Manager to approve and execute any future amendments to the MOU up to \$25,000 and make additional clerical revisions.

13. Second Reading and Adoption of an Ordinance No. 2341 Adopting by Reference the 2020 Los Angeles County Building, Residential, Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing and Existing Building Codes with certain amendments, additions and deletions thereto amending Chapter 9 Article 1 of the South Pasadena Municipal Code

City Council approved the adoption of **Ordinance No. 2341** adopting by reference and amending the 2020 Los Angeles County Building, Electrical, Plumbing, Mechanical, Residential and Existing Building Codes thereto amending Chapter 9 Article 1 of the South Pasadena Municipal Code.

14. Second Reading and Adoption of an Ordinance No. 2342 Adopting by Reference the 2019 California Fire Code with Certain Amendments, Additions, and Deletions thereto Chapter 14 of the South Pasadena Municipal Code

City Council approved the adoption of **Ordinance No. 2342** Adopting by Reference the 2019 California Fire Code with Certain Amendments, Additions, and Deletions thereto Chapter 14 of the South Pasadena Municipal Code; and Additional Document correction to correct the word “boarder” to “border” in the staff report and ordinance.

ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT

7. Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting on December 4, 2019

Councilmember Cacciotti asked a correction be made on Page 7-3 under Councilmember Communications for Councilmember Cacciotti, the meeting attended was for “Housing Rights Center”, not “Human Rights Alliance”.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER CACCIOTTI, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER SCHNEIDER, CARRIED 5-0 to: approve Minutes as corrected of the Regular City Council Meeting on December 4, 2019.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Joe adjourned the meeting in Memory of Ted Shaw and shared comments recognizing Mr. Shaw’s accomplishments. Mayor Joe announced the next regular City Council Meeting on February 19th.

There being no further business, at 10:00 p.m. Mayor Joe adjourned the meeting.

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Evelyn G. Zneimer
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Evelyn G. Zneimer
City Clerk

DocuSigned by:
Robert S. Joe
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Robert S. Joe
Mayor