

ACTION MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2020 COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 215 E. BRANCH STREET ARROYO GRANDE, CALIFORNIA

In compliance with the State Shelter at Home Order due to the coronavirus pandemic, and as allowed by the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, which allows for a deviation of teleconference rules required by the Ralph M. Brown Act, this meeting was held by teleconference.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ray Russom called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. via teleconference.

2. ROLL CALL

City Council: Council Members Lan George, Jimmy Paulding, Kristen Barneich, Mayor Pro Tem Keith Storton, and Mayor Caren Ray Russom were all present via teleconference.

Staff Present: Acting City Manager Bill Robeson, Acting Deputy City Manager Whitney McDonald, City Attorney Timothy Carmel, Administrative Services Director Mike Stevens, Accounting Manager Nicole Valentine, Chief of Police Beau Pryor, and Five Cities Fire Authority Fire Chief Steve Lieberman were present via teleconference. Director of Legislative and Information Services/City Clerk Kelly Wetmore and Information Technology Manager Walt Cuzick were present in the Council Chambers.

3. MOMENT OF REFLECTION

4. FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Pro Tem Storton led the flag salute.

5. AGENDA REVIEW

5.a. Closed Session Announcements.

None.

5.b. Ordinances Read in Title Only.

Mayor Ray Russom moved, Council Member George seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by roll-call vote that all ordinances presented at the meeting shall be read by title only and all further readings be waived.

6. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

6.a. Update Regarding Countywide COVID-19 Efforts.

Recommended Action: Receive update, accept public comments, discuss, and provide direction, as necessary.

Acting Deputy City Manager McDonald, provided a brief update on Countywide and Citywide COVID-19 efforts. She reminded the public about the County and City's hotline as well as the

City's email address for questions regarding implementation of the County and State orders.; stated that the County was authorized by the State to move farther into Stage 2 of reopening which will allow retail and in-restaurant dining to open; that the County has instructions and guidelines for businesses on how to reopen on their website at www.readyslo.org and www.emergencyslo.org/reopen; stated that religious services and cultural ceremonies are allowed to occur on a limited basis, and hair salons and barber shops can reopen with safety procedures put in place; and that nail salons, spas, massage providers, gyms, fitness centers, and commercial/public pools are not allowed to open. She noted that the City is trying to accommodate, to the extent possible, restaurants that would like to expand seating capacity by providing outdoor dining services.

Mayor Ray Russom stated that due to the recent holiday, she did not have any updates to share from the County since last week's report. She reminded the public to visit www.readyslo.org for the most updated information regarding COVID-19.

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. No public comments were received.

No action was taken on this item.

6.b. Presentation by Coraggio Group Regarding the 2021-2024 Tourism Strategic Plan for Visit Arroyo Grande.

Holly Leighton, representing South County Chambers of Commerce, stated that due to a family emergency, Jocelyn Brennan, President/CEO, could not attend the meeting tonight. She requested, on behalf of representatives from Coraggio Group, Verdin Marketing, and the South County Chambers of Commerce, that the presentation be continued to a future date so all representatives could be present.

Mayor Ray Russom moved to continue the presentation to a date uncertain. Council Member Barneich seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by roll-call vote.

7. COMMUNITY COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Mayor Ray Russom acknowledged written public comment received from Judi Kodaj regarding fireworks, stated she responded to Ms. Kodaj and provided links to two previous discussions the Council had on this matter.

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. Speaking from the public via teleconference was Jamie Sanbonmatsu, regarding the "We Are The Care Initiative" of San Luis Obispo County to address the local child care crisis and requested the Council appoint a childcare liaison for the community to work with First 5 SLO to support early childhood and childcare. No further public comments were received.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Ray Russom asked the Council if there were any questions or any items to be pulled from the consent agenda for further discussion.

Mayor Ray Russom commented on Item 8.c. (Consideration of Acceptance of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report) acknowledging that the City received an unmodified opinion from the

City's auditors which assures the reader that the information presented in the CAFR fairly represents the financial position of the City.

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment on the Consent Agenda. City Clerk Wetmore read into the record written correspondence received from Vonie Grimm regarding COVID-19 and that the local emergency declaration should be rescinded as soon as possible. No further public comments were received.

Action: Council Member Barneich moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 8.a. through 8.h., with the recommended courses of action. Mayor Pro Tem Storton seconded, and the motion passed on the following roll-call vote:

AYES: Barneich, Storton, Paulding, George, Ray Russom
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

8.a. Consideration of Cash Disbursement Ratification.

Action: Ratified the listing of cash disbursements for the period May 1, 2020 through May 15, 2020.

8.b. Consideration of Statement of Investment Deposits.

Action: Received and filed the attached report listing of investment deposits of the City of Arroyo Grande, as of April 30, 2020 as required by Government Code Section 53646(b).

8.c. Consideration of Acceptance of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Action: Received and filed the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019.

8.d. Consideration of Designation of Authorized Agents for State and Federal Disaster Relief Funds.

Action: Adopted a Resolution entitled: "**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARROYO GRANDE DESIGNATING AUTHORIZED AGENTS FOR THE CITY'S APPLICATION(S) FOR STATE AND FEDERAL DISASTER COST RECOVERY ASSISTANCE**".

8.e. Consideration of Approval of Minutes.

Action: Approved the minutes of the Special City Council Meetings of April 23, 2020 and May 5, 2020, the Regular City Council Meeting of May 12, 2020, and the Special City Council Meeting of May 19, 2019, as submitted.

8.f. Consideration of Adoption of Resolution Amending the Citywide Combined Salary Schedule and Approval of Employment Agreements for the Acting City Manager and Acting Deputy City Manager.

Action: Adopted a Resolution entitled: "**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARROYO GRANDE AMENDING THE CITYWIDE COMBINED SALARY SCHEDULE, ESTABLISHING A PAY SCHEDULE FOR THE POSITIONS OF ACTING CITY MANAGER AND ACTING DEPUTY CITY MANAGER**", and approved the Employment Agreements with Bill Robeson as Acting City Manager and Whitney McDonald as Acting Deputy City Manager.

8.g. Adoption of a Resolution Declaring a Continued Local Emergency Related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic.

Action: Adopted a Resolution entitled: "**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARROYO GRANDE DECLARING A CONTINUED LOCAL EMERGENCY RELATED TO THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC**".

8.h. Monthly Water Supply and Demand Update.

Action: Received and filed the monthly Water Supply and Demand Report.

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

9.a. Annual Public Hearing for the Arroyo Grande Tourism Business Improvement District (AGTBID) and Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget.

Acting City Manager Robeson presented the staff report and recommended that the Council: 1) Conduct a public hearing to receive testimony regarding the City Council's intention to continue the AGTBID and levy an annual assessment for Fiscal Year 2020-21; 2) Determine whether a legally sufficient number of protests have been made; 3) If a legally sufficient protest is not made, adopt a Resolution confirming the Advisory Board's report and levying an annual assessment for the AGTBID for the 2020-21 Fiscal Year; and 4) Adopt a Resolution approving the FY 2020-21 budget for the AGTBID.

Holly Leighton, South County Chambers of Commerce, explained that the additional funding is being requested in order to implement the goals of the Strategic Plan, assist lodging operators with the impacts and requirements associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, and work with City staff on short term rental host compliance and tourism events. Staff, Ms. Leighton, and Chelsea Modlin, representing Verdin Marketing, responded to questions from Council regarding the proposed FY 2020-21 AGTBID budget and host compliance programs and enforcement. Mayor Ray Russom noted that the Council had previously directed staff to return to Council with further information regarding host compliance.

Mayor Ray Russom opened the public hearing. Speaking from the public via teleconference was Tim Brown, who expressed concerns about the City spending money due to the financial impacts to the City as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. City Clerk Wetmore noted that no written protests were received. Upon hearing no further comments, Mayor Ray Russom closed the public hearing.

Further comments ensued regarding the pause in marketing activities and programs during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the revenue that is generated for the TBID from the assessment, which is separate from the City's General Fund.

Action: Mayor Ray Russom moved to adopt a Resolution entitled: ***"A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARROYO GRANDE LEVYING AN ANNUAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE ARROYO GRANDE TOURISM BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FOR THE 2020-21 FISCAL YEAR"***. Council Member George seconded, and the motion passed on following roll call vote:

AYES: Ray Russom, George, Barneich, Paulding, Storton
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

Action: Mayor Ray Russom moved to adopt a Resolution entitled: ***"A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARROYO GRANDE ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 BUDGET FOR THE ARROYO GRANDE TOURISM BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT"***, as modified, to approve the budget in the amount of \$212,500, subtracting the additional \$7,500 for event sponsorships, and subtracting the \$30,000 request from the Chamber,

and that a future discussion of the Chamber's request be considered at the same time as the presentation of the Strategic Plan. Council Member George seconded. Brief discussion ensued clarifying the motion as it relates to the modification of funding for event sponsorships. The motion passed on following roll call vote:

AYES: Ray Russom, George, Paulding, Barneich, Storton
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

10. OLD BUSINESS:

None.

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.a. Discussion and Provide Input and/or Direction to Five Cities Fire Authority Board Representative Regarding Successor Memorandum of Understanding with the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 4403.

Acting Deputy City Manager McDonald presented the staff report and recommended the Council discuss and provide input and/or direction to the City's Five Cities Fire Authority Board representative regarding the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Acting Deputy City Manager McDonald and Fire Chief Lieberman responded to extensive questions from Council.

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment and acknowledged written correspondence received prior to the meeting and distributed to the Council from Ben Oakley, Art Madson, Tim Brown, and Sharlotte Wilson. Mayor Ray Russom read into the record written correspondence received during the meeting from Wanda Reed. Speaking from the public via teleconference were Tim Brown, stated the Police Officers Association has already forgone raises, acknowledged the City's budget situation, stated that negotiations could be re-opened when circumstances change, and opposed any raises at this time; and Sean McMahan, President, Five Cities Firefighters Local 4403, who referred to the written correspondence the Council received from the Five Cities Firefighters Local 4403 encouraging the City of Arroyo Grande to keep its commitments to the Five Cities Fire Authority, its firefighters and to public safety by honoring the Authority's negotiated contract with Five Cities Firefighters, Local 4403. No further public comments were received.

Council comments ensued regarding the negotiation process; acknowledgment that circumstances have changed due to the COVID-19 pandemic which has resulted in budget impacts; acknowledgement that firefighters are on the front line; that all agencies, including the Five Cities Fire Authority, should be reviewing their budgets and identifying cost cutting measures and cost containment strategies; acknowledgement that all of the City's other labor groups received cost of living adjustments last year; acknowledgement that the negotiations were held in good faith and there is an issue of parity; acknowledgement of the work of firefighters under the current pandemic circumstances; concern that it is a proposed two year agreement and that the other groups may not get an adjustment next year and whether or not the fire fighters union would consider going back to the table for the second year.

No action was taken on this item.

12. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

The City Council provided brief reports from the following committee, commission, board, or other subcommittee meetings that they attended as the City's appointed representative.

- (a) **MAYOR RAY RUSSOM:**
 - (1) California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (CJPIA)
 - (2) South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District (SSLOCSD)
 - (3) Tourism Business Improvement District Advisory Board

- (b) **MAYOR PRO TEM STORTON:**
 - (1) Brisco/Halcyon Interchange Subcommittee
 - (2) Five Cities Fire Authority (FCFA)
 - (3) Integrated Waste Management Authority Board (IWMA)
 - (4) South County Chambers of Commerce Governmental Affairs Committee

- (c) **COUNCIL MEMBER BARNEICH:**
 - (1) Homeless Services Oversight Council (HSOC)
 - (2) South County Homeless Taskforce
 - (3) Zone 3 Water Advisory Board

- (d) **COUNCIL MEMBER PAULDING:**
 - (1) Air Pollution Control District (APCD)
 - (2) Brisco/Halcyon Interchange Subcommittee
 - (3) Council of Governments/Regional Transit Authority (SLOCOG/SLORTA)
 - (4) South County Transit (SCT)

- (e) **COUNCIL MEMBER GEORGE:**
 - (1) Community Action Partnership San Luis Obispo (CAPSLO)
 - (2) County Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC)
 - (3) Regional Water Initiatives
 - (4) Visit SLO CAL Advisory Board

13. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Council Member Paulding requested, and Mayor Ray Russom agreed, to direct staff to place on a future agenda the appointment of a representative to attend Central Coast Blue project meetings.

Council Member Barneich requested, and Mayor Russom agreed, to direct staff to invite Eric Daniels from PG&E to provide a short presentation at a future meeting on Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events as it relates to changes in their program.

Council Member Barneich requested an item be placed on a future agenda an item to discuss closure of Short Street temporarily so restaurants can expand outdoor dining. Mayor Pro Tem Storton stated he would support that request if any restaurants have come forward and made that request.

Council Member Barneich acknowledged Arroyo Grande Police Department Reserve Officer Jim Jolly who was recognized by the International Footprinter Association Chapter 73 for his

outstanding work as a detective in the area of high tech crimes and computer forensics and congratulated him for receiving the Association's Distinguished Service Award.

Mayor Ray Russom requested, and Council Member George agreed, to direct staff to place on a future agenda an item to authorize the City to join the League of California's Coalition to Support Local Recovery and authorize the Mayor to work with the League and to sign related letters.

Mayor Ray Russom referred to a State level program that partners restaurants with people in need, specifically seniors, and stated that the Chamber is working on this program.

Council Member George requested, and Council Member Barneich agreed, to direct staff to place on a future agenda an item to discuss how SB1090 funds will be spent.

14. CLOSED SESSION

- a) **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE EVALUATION** pursuant to Government Code Section 54957:
Titles: Acting City Manager, Acting Deputy City Manager

The Council reconvened to open session at 10:25 p.m. City Attorney Carmel announced that no reportable action was taken.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Ray Russom adjourned the meeting at 10:26 p.m.

/s/Caren Ray Russom, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/Kelly Wetmore, City Clerk

(Approved at CC Mtg 06-09-2020)