

ACTION MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2019 COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 215 E. BRANCH STREET ARROYO GRANDE, CALIFORNIA

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. ROLL CALL

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

Staff Present: City Manager Jim Bergman, City Attorney Heather Whitham, City Clerk Kelly Wetmore, Director of Public Works Bill Robeson, Director of Community Development Teresa McClish, Director of Administrative Services Shannon Esenwein, Police Chief Beau Pryor, City Engineer Robin Dickerson, and Five Cities Fire Authority Fire Chief Steve Lieberman.

3. MOMENT OF REFLECTION

4. FLAG SALUTE

Billy Mitchell, representing South County Presenters Toastmasters, led the Flag Salute.

5. AGENDA REVIEW

Mayor Ray Russom requested the Council consider moving Item 10.a. up on the Agenda to be heard prior to the consent agenda due to the number of consultants present for the item. Council Member George moved to change the order of agenda items as requested, Council Member Storton seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

5.a. Closed Session Announcements.

None.

5.b. Ordinances Read in Title Only.

Mayor Pro Tem Barneich moved, Council Member Storton seconded, and the motion passed unanimously that all ordinances presented at the meeting shall be read by title only and all further readings be waived.

6. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

6.a. Mayor's Commendation Recognizing Patricia R Loomis Foundation Board of Trustees for Grant Benefitting Camp Arroyo Grande.

Mayor Ray Russom presented a Mayor's Commendation to members of the Patricia R. Loomis Foundation Board of Trustees in recognition of their generous grant of \$10,000 to the Five Cities Community Service Foundation to benefit Camp Arroyo Grande. Members of the Five Cities Community Service Foundation were also present for the Commendation and provided an update on activities occurring at Camp Arroyo Grande.

6.b. Honorary Proclamation Declaring the Month of April 2019 as “Month of the Child” and “Child Abuse Prevention Month” and April 13, 2019 as “Day of the Child”.

Mayor Ray Russom presented an Honorary Proclamation recognizing the month of April 2019 as “Month of the Child” and “Child Abuse Prevention Month” and April 13, 2019 as “Day of the Child”. Lisa Fraser, representing Child Care Planning Council, accepted the Proclamation.

6.c. Presentation by County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services, Child Welfare Services - National Foster Care Month.

Felipe Gonzalez, Program Review Specialist for Foster Care Support, County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services, provided an overview of child welfare services in the County of San Luis Obispo and the City of Arroyo Grande and increasing awareness regarding foster care.

7. COMMUNITY COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. Speaking from the public were: Linda Osty, who offered an invocation; and the following members of the public who spoke in opposition to the proposed homeless services facility to be located at Hillside Church in Grover Beach, citing public safety concerns with the facility being located in a residential neighborhood and within the proximity of area elementary schools: Ben Oakley, Resident, William Ashley, Chris Barrett, Susan Vreeland, Sandra Bixler, Marla Laughton, Kevin Watkins, Paul Hertel, Lee Beckstrom, Sam Oakley, Scott Wall, Nancy Beckstrom, Cody George, Becky Monskofien, Jim Duffin, Ryan Kelly, Steve Oakley, Mark Rose, Tom Radis, Julie Quill, Resident, and Thomas Murray. Also speaking was Patricia Price, who commented on the proposed project and presentation given at the Grover Beach City Council meeting and stated that there are similar successful projects that have been located in other residential neighborhoods. No further public comments were received.

In response to a request by Mayor Ray Russom, City Manager Bergman commented on Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funding the State of California has made available to local organizations that work with homeless individuals to provide emergency aid, application timelines for use of the funds, commented on homelessness and the shelter crisis in South County, and that a project concept is being proposed by the Five Cities Homeless Coalition to obtain HEAP funds through an application to secure a property somewhere in South County. He commented further that a project application has not yet been submitted in Grover Beach; however, he provided a brief explanation of the application and land use review process which would include public notification.

Mayor Ray Russom called for a break at 7:26 p.m. The Council reconvened at 7:33 p.m.

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

10. OLD BUSINESS

10.a. Consideration of a Project Status Update and Recommendation of a Preferred Alternative for the Brisco-Halcyon Road Interchange Modifications Project.

Recommended Action: 1) Receive a project status update for the Brisco-Halcyon Road Interchange modifications project; and 2) Adopt a Resolution selecting one of the

alternatives for the Brisco-Halcyon Road Interchange as the preferred alternative with or without phasing. Recommended options are as follows: 1) Alternative 1 Brisco Ramp Closure with modifications to other ramps, 2) Alternative 4C Relocation of off ramp with a roundabout, 3) Alternative 1 with phasing deferral and/or removal of sound walls and East Grand Avenue southbound off ramp, 4) Alternative 4C with phasing deferral and/or removal of sound walls and East Grand Avenue southbound off ramp.

Community Development Director McClish provided introductory comments and introduced Robin Dickerson, City Engineer, and the following consultants: Mark Rayback and Luke Fuson, representing Wood Rodgers; John Claxan and Emily Creel, representing SWCA Environmental Consultants; and Paul Valadao, Jason Wilkinson, and Lucas Marsalek, representing Caltrans.

Director McClish provided brief background, purpose and need for the project. Mr. Fuson, Wood Rogers, expanded on the purpose and need for the project; reviewed the project alternatives, including the No Build Alternative, Alternative 1, and Alternative 4C; reviewed level of service thresholds; and reviewed various traffic operations at Year 2025. Emily Creel, SWCA, clarified the Council would not be certifying the environmental document tonight; reviewed the CEQA/NEPA Technical Reports that were conducted; reviewed environmental impacts for Alternatives 1 and 4C; and reviewed the number of public comments received from public agencies, organizations, and members of the public. Mr. Fuson reviewed potential Phasing Component 1 (sound walls) and Phasing Component 2 (101 southbound on-ramp realignment at E. Grand Avenue); and reviewed project costs for both alternatives. Robin Dickerson, City Engineer, reviewed the proposed finance plan for both alternatives. Director McClish reviewed considerations for selection of a preferred alternative. City Engineer Dickerson concluded with next steps in the project process.

Staff and the consultants responded to a significant number of questions from Council regarding Alternatives 1 and 4C.

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. Speaking from the public were: Araxie Achadjian, representing Arroyo Grande Shell, in opposition to Alternative 1 due to various impacts that would negatively impact their business; Ashley, Arroyo Grande resident, supported the Brisco ramps staying open; Steve Ross, former Traffic Commissioner and CTAC member, expressed concern with Alternative 1; Claudine Lingo, Grace Lane, expressed concern with impacts to the Grace Lane neighborhood; Jim Guthrie, commented on impacts related to Alternative 4c regarding potential loss of City owned property, the cost, and loss of funding for other City priorities such as street maintenance and repair; Jim Rose, expressed concern regarding the cost of the project; Dave Flynn, County of San Luis Obispo Public Works, expressed concerns regarding access impacts to County facilities with Alternative 4c; however, he acknowledged impacts could be easily mitigated if Alternative 4c were chosen; Teresa Schultz, opposed Alternative 4c; Coleen Kubel, expressed concerns regarding Alternative 4c; Jim Lundquist, supported Alternative 1; Jim DeCecco, representing Bike SLO County, spoke regarding bike and pedestrian safety and hoped that the City would make it a priority to include safety features for bikes and pedestrians; Dennis Lingo, expressed concerns with the roundabout and Alternative 4c and stated his support for Alternative 1; Rob O'Sullivan, opposed Alternative 4c; Mark Mankins, commented that it is time to do what is best for the town and not for just a few people; Frank Bailis, opposed Alternative 4c, stated Alternative 1 would be ok, but supported the No Build Alternative; Danny, opposed Alternative 4c; Bob Perez, opposed Alternative 4c but could support Alternative 1; Alicia Lara, commented on costs and stated that if both alternatives meet the project need, the City should

choose the one with the least impact to the City's budget; Resident, stated there is not enough information to make a good decision; Ken Dewar, asked that the Council consider the businesses on the El Camino side when making a decision and commented on impacts to the businesses if the ramps were closed; Randy Russom, stated that the Council has a difficult decision to make, commented that there are many budget decision coming, and stated a clear funding path for the project should be established before a decision is made; Richard Burg, questioned how the future increase in population/cars was calculated, and expressed concerns with the project costs and that there is not a plan for bicycle traffic; Janice Reid, commented that traffic isn't that bad considering the options before Council, and expressed appreciation for the questions Council asked of staff; Ken McDaniel, preferred Alternative 4c because Alternative 1 may not fully fix the problem; John Gaily, stated that he does not believe that anything really needs to be done and that the focus should be on the City's unfunded liabilities; and Patricia Price, favored the No Build Alternative and expressed concern about the cost of the other Alternatives. No further public comments were received.

At this time, it was noted that pursuant to Council policy, the Council must vote unanimously to continue the meeting past 11:00 p.m.

Mayor Ray Russom moved to continue the meeting to 11:30 p.m. Council Member Storton seconded the motion. Following brief comments, Mayor Ray Russom amended her motion to continue the meeting to 12:00 a.m. Council Member Storton seconded the motion as amended, and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Extensive Council comments ensued regarding the proposed Alternatives. In summary, Mayor Pro Tem Barneich and Council Member Storton cited concerns with Alternative 1 and provided comments in support of Alternative 4c as the better long term solution. Mayor Ray Russom expressed concerns with both Alternatives relating to impacts to the Shell Station, the businesses on El Camino Real, project costs, and that she did not believe either project solves the existing problem. Council Member Paulding commented on the various impacts of each Alternative, costs that are currently available for the project, and noted that Alternative 4c does not provide a significant improvement of level of service over Alternative 1. Council Member George provided comments in support of Alternative 4c citing public safety, local sales tax funding priorities, commented that businesses in the City provide support to the residents and that the businesses appear to support Alternative 4c.

Action: Council Member Storton moved to adopt a Resolution entitled: **“A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARROYO GRANDE SELECTING ALTERNATIVE 4C WITH PHASING DEFERRAL AND/OR REMOVAL OF SOUND WALLS AND HIGHWAY 101/EAST GRAND AVENUE SOUTHBOUND RAMP ALIGNMENT PROJECT COMPONENTS AS THE LOCALLY PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE FOR THE PROPOSED BRISCO ROAD/HALCYON ROAD INTERCHANGE MODIFICATIONS PROJECT”**. Mayor Pro Tem Barneich seconded the motion, and the motion passed on following roll call vote:

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

8. CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Paulding requested Item 8.g. be pulled.
Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. No public comments were received.

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

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

8.a. Consideration of Cash Disbursement Ratification.

Action: Ratified the listing of cash disbursements for the period March 1, 2019 through March 15, 2019.

8.b. Consideration of Statement of Investment Deposits.

Action: Received and filed the report listing of investment deposits of the City of Arroyo Grande, as of February 28, 2019, as required by Government Code Section 53646(b).

8.c. Consideration of Approval of Cost Allocation Plan.

Action: Approved the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Cost Allocation Plan and amend the budget as appropriate.

8.d. Consideration of Approval of Minutes.

Action: Approved the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of March 12, 2019, as submitted.

8.e. Consideration of the 2018 General Plan Annual Report.

Action: Reviewed and accepted the 2018 General Plan Annual Report and direct staff to forward the report to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research and the Department of Housing and Community Development.

8.f. Consideration Temporary Use Permit No. 18-026; Authorization to Use City Property and Close City Streets for the Annual Arroyo Grande Strawberry Festival and Stampede on May 25 and 26, 2019; Applicant – Arroyo Grande Village Improvement Association; Representative: Bob Lund.

Action: Adopted a Resolution entitled: ***"A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARROYO GRANDE APPROVING TEMPORARY USE PERMIT NO. 18-026; AUTHORIZING THE USE OF CITY PROPERTY AND CLOSURE OF CITY STREETS FOR THE ANNUAL ARROYO GRANDE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL AND STAMPEDE ON MAY 25 AND 26, 2019; APPLIED FOR BY THE ARROYO GRANDE VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION"***.

8.h. Monthly Water Supply and Demand Update

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

ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

8.g. Consideration of Comment Letter to the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments Regarding the El Campo Road/South County Highway Access Modifications – Traffic Diversions Assessment

Recommended Action: Review and authorize the City Manager to sign the comment letter.

Council Member Paulding requested a modification to a portion of the letter as follows:

~~*Therefore, because this highway modification project results in deteriorated conditions at City intersections, the City of Arroyo Grande will support the approval and implementation of this project, as long as the SLOCOG Board, the County Board of Supervisors, and Caltrans commit to full regional cooperation to mitigate impacts to the City of Arroyo Grande as a result of this project, including, but not limited to: 1) the study, design and implementation of a solution for the anticipated illegal U-turns at the northbound Traffic Way off-ramp; and, 2) immediate high priority programming of a Program Initiation Document for the interchange solution that completes the freeway conversion. as this highway modification project results in deteriorated conditions at City intersections, it should not be supported by the SLOCOG Board and the County Board of Supervisors, or approved and implemented by Caltrans, without acknowledged commitment to: 1) study, design and implementation of a solution for the anticipated illegal U-turns at the northbound Traffic Way off ramp; and, 2) the Program Initiation Document for the interchange solution that completes the freeway conversion.*~~

Council Member George recommended adding language that the project should be funded through SLOCOG with State and regional funds. Council Member Paulding agreed, stating it could be added to the end of the sentence, as follows:

~~*Therefore, because this highway modification project results in deteriorated conditions at City intersections, the City of Arroyo Grande will support the approval and implementation of this project, as long as the SLOCOG Board, the County Board of Supervisors, and Caltrans commit to full regional cooperation to mitigate impacts to the City of Arroyo Grande as a result of this project, including, but not limited to: 1) the study, design and implementation of a solution for the anticipated illegal U-turns at the northbound Traffic Way off-ramp; and, 2) immediate high priority programming of a Program Initiation Document for the interchange solution that completes the freeway conversion, including funding with State and regional funds.*~~

In response to questions from Council Member Storton regarding attachment of the Five Cities Fire Authority letter, Chief Lieberman encouraged the Council to include the letter, and allow him to provide supplemental information explaining that the current draft assessment of the emergency response criteria is inaccurate and that the analysis, which is based on response time by closest fire station, fails to identify that the FCFA does not have jurisdictional responsibility for the El Campo Interchange and that the primary fire station serving that area is coming from Nipomo. He further explained that FCFA is engaged in the Automatic Aid Agreement with the County and would respond to assist when able. Council Member Storton indicated that he would prefer the Fire Chief consolidate the original letter and the additional information provided.

At 12:00 a.m., pursuant to Council policy, Council Member Storton moved to continue the meeting to 12:15 a.m. Mayor Ray Russom seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment on consent agenda item 8.g. Speaking from the public in support of closing the left turn lane at El Campo and Highway 101 were: Janice Reid; Richard Burg; Sheryl Storton; Patricia Price, and Jim Alquist. No further public comments were received.

Five Cities Fire Authority Lieberman commented that he would revise the original letter from the FCFA to make its position more clear.

Action: Council Member Paulding moved to authorize the City Manager to sign the comment letter, as amended, and to modify the signature block to include the Mayor's signature. Council Member Storton seconded, and the motion passed on the following roll-call vote:

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

At 12:15 a.m., Council Member Storton moved to continue the meeting to 12:30 a.m. Council Member George seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

11. NEW BUSINESS

None.

12. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

The Mayor and Council Members 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 BARNEICH:

- (1) Homeless Services Oversight Council (HSOC)
- (2) Zone 3 Water Advisory Board

(c) 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)

(d) COUNCIL MEMBER STORTON:

- (1) Brisco/Halcyon Interchange Subcommittee
- (2) Five Cities Fire Authority (FCFA)
- (3) Integrated Waste Management Authority Board (IWMA)

(e) COUNCIL MEMBER GEORGE:

- (1) Community Action Partnership San Luis Obispo (CAPSLO)
- (2) County Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC)
- (3) Visit SLO CAL Advisory Board

13. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Council Member Paulding stated that the City of Grover Beach had delegated Council Members to the Central Coast Blue project as a subcommittee assignment and suggested the City of Arroyo Grande do the same. City Clerk Wetmore stated that the Council had previously appointed a Council Member representative to attend meetings related to regional water initiatives and that an item could be placed on a future agenda to make new appointments.

Mayor Ray Russom requested an informational item regarding the homeless services project be scheduled on a future agenda to respond to some of the questions and concerns expressed during Public Comment by many members of the public. Council Member Paulding concurred.

Mayor Pro Tem Barneich announced the 2nd Annual We Heart AG event on April 7, 2019 and stated that more volunteers are needed for maintenance activities around the City.

14. CLOSED SESSION

None.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Ray Russom adjourned the meeting at 12:30 a.m.

Caren Ray Russom, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kelly Wetmore, City Clerk

(Approved at CC Mtg _____)