



CITY OF SIERRA MADRE
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL
SUCCESSOR AGENCY AND
PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY

Tuesday, March 17, 2020 - 6:30 pm

Sierra Madre City Hall Council Chambers
232 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard, Sierra Madre, CA 91024

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor John Capoccia called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. City Clerk Sue Spears called the roll.

Present: Mayor John Capoccia, Mayor Pro Tem Rachelle Arizmendi, and Council Members Gene Goss and John Harabedian

Absent: None

Also Present: Gabe Engeland, City Manager
Aleks Giragosian, Deputy City Attorney
Laura Aguilar, Assistant City Clerk/Administrative Services Manager
Henry Amos, Acting Police Chief
James Carlson, Management Analyst
Christian Delgado, Sr. Network Administrator
Oscar Millan, IT Manager
Sue Spears, City Clerk
Kevin Voong, Administrative Aide

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Mayor Capoccia asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Mayor Pro Tem Arizmendi moved to approve the agenda as presented.

Council Member Goss seconded the motion.

Ayes: Mayor John Capoccia, Mayor Pro Tem Rachelle Arizmendi, and Council Members Gene Goss and John Harabedian

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

The motion to approve the agenda as presented was passed by a unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Capoccia opened the meeting for Public Comment on items not on the agenda. Individuals were provided an opportunity to make a comment by calling in to (626) 355-6214 or via the City's Facebook page. Public responses to both were monitored by Assistant City Clerk/Administrative Services Manager Aguilar.

- Representative from Senator Portantino's Office sent a message that they were monitoring the meeting and were available to assist if needed.

Mayor Capoccia asked if anyone else wanted to make a comment on items not on the agenda via the telephone number or through the City's Facebook page. Mayor Capoccia waited two minutes and there were no further response. With no further response, Mayor Capoccia closed Public Comment.

AGENDA ACTION ITEMS:

1. DISCUSSION – CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 20-12 DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY REGARDING NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE TO REQUEST DISASTER RECOVERY ASSISTANCE FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FEMA

City Manager Engeland reported on this item with the recommendation that the City Council adopt Resolution 20-12 declaring a local state of emergency regarding the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and authorizing the City Manager to request assistance from the State of California and FEMA, if necessary. Staff anticipates that expenses directly related to the City's response to the COVID-19 pandemic will be at least \$1 million. This expense was not included in the previously Council-approved FY 2019-2020 budget and Staff is requesting that the Council approve necessary expenditures.

Mayor Capoccia asked if any Council Members had questions on this item. City Manager Engeland responded to Council Member questions as follows:

- What are potential expense items that may be incurred? – Examples include, but are not limited to, employee overtime, additional IT costs, purchase of bleach & cleaning products, purchase of water and fuel, & childcare for employees who need it to enable them to continue to work.
- How long will this last? – It is anticipated to last 10-12 weeks, but it may be much longer.
- Is there help that the State may be offering? – State is offering small business loans. There is talk of a Federal stimulus package.
- When would the City receive reimbursement? – Application for reimbursement could not be submitted until the crisis is over and then, with the large volume of State and municipal requests, review of the reimbursement requests would take a long time. While the City will take the necessary steps to document the expenses and make the request for reimbursement, it is questionable as to whether any actual reimbursement will occur.

Mayor Capoccia opened this item for Public Comment. Individuals were provided an opportunity to make a comment by calling in to (626) 355-6214 or via the City's Facebook page. Public responses to both were monitored by Assistant City Clerk/Administrative Services Manager Aguilar. The following people sent in questions.

- Concepcion Rena
- Kimmy Bullock

Mayor Capoccia asked City Manager Engeland to address issues raised during Public Comment and he did so.

Mayor Capoccia asked if there was anyone else would like to speak on this item via the telephone number or through the City's Facebook page. Mayor Capoccia waited two minutes and there was no further response. With no further response, Mayor Capoccia closed Public Comment and brought the matter back to the Council for discussion.

City Council discussion occurred and there was consensus to approve Resolution 20-12. Council Member comments included: (1) thanks City Manager Engeland for his outstanding leadership, as Sierra Madre is way ahead of the curve in its planning, (2) thanks to City Staff and First Responders for their service during these unprecedented times, (3) we are all adjusting to the new normal, (4) science will dictate the actions required moving forward, (5) residents are encouraged to patronize Sierra Madre businesses hit hard during this crisis, (6) there is a need for flexibility and cooperation, (7) residents should take the need for social distancing and isolation seriously, including for children who are home from school, (8) the purpose of social distancing and isolation is to preserve the capacity of our health care system by slowing down the spread of the virus (lowering the curve), and (9) neighbors need to look out for one another.

Council Member Harabedian made a motion to approve Resolution 20-12 declaring a local state of emergency regarding Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and authorizing the City of Sierra Madre to request disaster recovery assistance from the State of California and FEMA.

Mayor Pro Tem Arizmendi seconded the motion.

Ayes: Mayor John Capoccia, Mayor Pro Tem Rachelle Arizmendi, and Council Members Gene Goss and John Harabedian

Noes: None

Absent: None
Abstain: None

The motion to approve Resolution 20-12 declaring a local state of emergency regarding Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and authorizing the City of Sierra Madre to request disaster recovery assistance from the State of California and FEMA was passed by a unanimous vote.

NEW ITEMS PLACED FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:

Council Members requested the following items related to the pandemic be placed on a future agenda.

- Eviction and foreclosure issue – residential and business
- Potential space identification for remote ICUs, i.e. Community Center
- Restrictions on gatherings over 10 people

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Capoccia asked for a motion to adjourn.

Mayor Pro Tem Arizmendi made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was seconded by Council Member Harabedian.

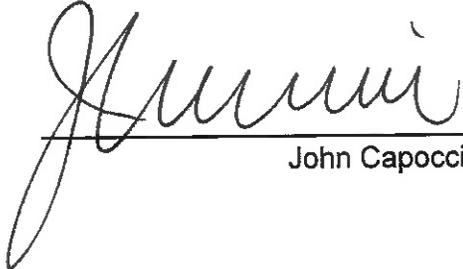
Ayes: Mayor John Capoccia, Mayor Pro Tem Rachelle Arizmendi, and Council Members Gene Goss and John Harabedian

Noes: None

Absent: None

The motion to adjourn was passed by a unanimous vote.

THIS SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING WAS ADJOURNED at 7:16 p.m. to a Regular meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 24, 2020, in the Sierra Madre City Hall Council Chambers.



John Capoccia, Mayor

Minutes taken and prepared by:

Sue Spears, City Clerk

Handwritten signature