

MINUTES

Agenda - Regular Meeting of the Sierra Madre City Council,
Successor Agency and Public Finance Authority
Tuesday, July 11, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.
City Hall Council Chambers, 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024
and
Council Member Denise Delmar via teleconference from Atherton Park Inn & Suites
2834 El Camino Real, Redwood City, CA 94061

Mayor, Rachelle Arizmendi, opened the Regular Meeting of the Sierra Madre City Council, Successor Agency and Public Finance Authority at 5:30 p.m. The Mayor asked for public comment and there was none, therefore the Mayor immediately recessed to closed session. The City Council returned from closed session at 6:30 p.m. City Clerk, Melinda Carrillo, read the roll, noting that all City Council members were present.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL:

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

Absent: None

Also, Present: Gabe Engeland, City Manager
Teresa Highsmith, City Attorney
Marcie Medina, Assistant City Manager
Vincent Gonzalez, Director of Planning and Community Preservation
Chris Cimino, Director of Public Works
Jose Reynoso, Utility Services Director
Steve Heydorff, Fire Chief
Richard Snyder, Fire Captain
Joe Ortiz, Police Chief
James Carlson, Management Analyst
Miguel Hernandez, HR Manager
Ryan Baker, Director of Library and Community Services
Laura Aguilar, Assistant City Clerk
Melinda Carrillo, City Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION/INSPIRATION:

Council Member John Capoccia, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and shared an excerpt from a commencement speech given by Chief Justice John Roberts to his son's graduating middle school class.

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION:

City Attorney Highsmith reported Council met in closed session with City Attorney to receive a briefing regarding CETT v. City of Sierra Madre, direction was provided but no action was taken. Mayor Rachelle Arizmendi recused herself from that meeting. In addition, council received a briefing from legal counsel regarding a matter of significant exposure in anticipated litigation. Council provided direction but no action was taken.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED:

Moved: Council Member Gene Goss

Seconded: Council Member John Harabedian

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS:

- 1) Council Member Harabedian reported he had an outstanding time at the Sierra Madre July 4th Parade and celebration, and thank you to all the people involved.
- 2) Council Member Capoccia agreed with Council Member Harabedian and added that he enjoyed a great evening out at Concerts in the Park at Memorial Park.
- 3) Council Member Goss reported the July 4th celebration was amazing and everyone involved did a fantastic job. Council Member Goss also reported that the SMLL 11-12 year olds won the District Championships and moved on to Regionals. The head manager for the team was our own City Treasurer, Mike Amerio. Congratulations to all the kids and everyone.
- 4) Mayor Pro Tem Delmar stated that she always feels guilty when she is out of town on business for the meetings, however, the weather in the Bay Area is perfect right now. Thank you to the Fourth of July Committee for a great celebration.
- 5) Mayor Arizmendi thanked the Fourth of July Committee. She reported she is on the California League of Cities Board of Directors and although the Board supported the Herzberg Bill, Sierra Madre remains opposed to it. Mayor Arizmendi added she recently attended an orientation for SCE's Emergency Operations Center which is another emergency help center.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

- David Gordon with the Sierra Madre Playhouse announced the featured plays at the Playhouse and encouraged everyone to go online to get more information about tickets and time schedule.
- Rich Proctor, Member of the Library Board of Trustees, announced the on-going summer activities for everyone at our Library. Please go to the Library, or the City's website, for more information regarding Sierra Madre Library events.

Mayor Arizmendi closed public comment.

PRESENTATIONS:

- Presentation from Bill Carnahan, Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Officer, regarding Los Angeles Community Energy Choice.
- Presentation from Jason Farned of San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control.

AGENDA ACTION ITEMS:

* Gabriel Engeland, City Manager, gave the following report under the Consent Calendar.

1. CONSENT CALENDAR:

a) ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 17-34 OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE APPROVING CERTAIN DEMANDS

Recommendation that the City Council approve Resolution 17-34 for approval of payment of City Warrants in aggregate amount of \$1,556,971.65; Library warrants in the aggregate amount of \$17,282.30, and payroll transfer in the aggregate amount of \$314,897.29 for fiscal year ending June 2017.

b) FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 BLANKET PURCHASE ORDERS OVER \$25,000

Recommendation that the City Council approve the issuance of Blanket Purchase Orders listed in the agenda report.

c) NOTICE OF COMPLETION: FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 SEWER SYSTEM REPAIR PROJECT

Recommendation that the City Council approve the Notice of Completion for the Sewer System Repair Project and direct staff to file the Notice of Completion with the Los Angeles County Clerk's Office.

d) SECOND READING OF MUNICIPAL CODE TEXT AMENDMENT 17-04 AMENDING CHAPTER 17.08 DEFINITIONS, CHAPTER 17.20 - R-1 ONE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL ZONE, CHAPTER 17.28 - R-3 MULTIPLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL ZONE, CHAPTER 17.30 - R-C RESIDENTIAL CANYON ZONE, CHAPTER 17.60 - VARIANCES AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS, AND CHAPTER 17.72 - SIGNS, AND DELETING CHAPTER 17.76 - CONDOMINIUM AND APARTMENT PROJECTS

Recommendation that the City Council approve Municipal Code Text Amendment 17-04, pursuant to City Council Ordinance 1389 and designate the City Attorney to prepare a summary of Ordinance No. 1389 pursuant to Government Code Section 36933(c)(1).

Mayor Arizmendi opened for public comment but none was given.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR:

Moved: Council Member John Harabedian

Seconded: Council Member Gene Goss

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

PUBLIC HEARING:

2. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 1388 MUNICIPAL CODE TEXT AMENDMENT 17-03 AMENDING CHAPTER 17.10 – MARIJUANA CULTIVATION AND DISPENSARIES

Recommendation that the City Council conduct a Public Hearing, introduce and adopt Municipal Code Text Amendment 17-03 (MCTA 17-03), amending Chapter 17.10 of the City of Sierra Madre Municipal Code, regulating personal marijuana uses and prohibiting commercial marijuana uses, whether for medical or nonmedical purposes, pursuant to Ordinance 1388.

* Vincent Gonzalez, Director of Planning and Community Preservation, presented.

Mayor Arizmendi opened for public hearing.

- John Lopez, resident of Sierra Madre, uses medical Marijuana for his cancer and is against banning delivery of medical marijuana is an injustice to the people who need it for medical purposes.
- Steve McCamman does not believe waiting for further State guidelines is necessary and objects to not allowing delivery of medical marijuana to those in need of it.

Mayor Arizmendi closed public hearing.

APPROVAL OF FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 1388 MUNICIPAL CODE TEXT AMENDMENT 17-03 AMENDING CHAPTER 17.10 – MARIJUANA CULTIVATION AND DISPENSARIES:

Moved: Council Member John Harabedian

Seconded: Council Member John Capoccia

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

3. APPEAL OF PLANNING COMMISSION DECISION DENYING A REQUEST FOR A DISCRETIONARY DEMOLITION PERMIT TO ALLOW THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE ROOF, EXTERIOR WALLS, AND TO COMMENCE A ROOM ADDITION PREVIOUSLY APPROVED THROUGH CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 15-23 OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 126 EAST MIRA MONTE AVENUE.

Recommendation that the City Council conduct a Public Hearing and approve DDP 16-01 pursuant to City Council Resolution 17-34, subject to the findings in the staff report including the recommendations in the Construction Observation Report, as there is substantial evidence in the record to support the finding that the house in its deconstructed condition is not eligible for historic designation and that building a new "copy" of the original using new, but like in kind materials, does not satisfy Secretary of Interior Standards for historic designation.

* Vincent Gonzalez, Director of Planning and Community Preservation, presented.

Mayor Arizmendi opened for public hearing.

- Scott Carlson, attorney for the applicant, spoke for allowing to build a house as a replica of what was there using updated materials without having to leave existing old wood or structures since the house is not a historical home in Sierra Madre.
- Barbara Lee Cline favors replicating the house but not demolishing the house.
- William Kefalas, the applicant, wants to clarify that he does not want to demolish the house but redo the necessary foundations and main structures that requires a house to be built safely.
- Joe Kettle stated to keep specifics such as old shapes but with new wood and in compliance.
- Cheryl Galbraith urges Council to let the project go through.
- William Kefalas plans on keeping the shapes and sizes with new materials and had planned for laser measurements to keep exact to original house.
- Scott Carlson is willing to do the laser to remove the old wood.

Mayor Arizmendi closed public hearing.

APPROVAL OF THE APPEAL OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION'S DECISION DENYING A REQUEST FOR A DISCRETIONARY DEMOLITION PERMIT TO ALLOW THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE ROOF, EXTERIOR WALLS, AND TO COMMENCE A ROOM ADDITION PREVIOUSLY APPROVED THROUGH CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 15-23 OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 126 EAST MIRA MONTE AVENUE:

Moved: Council Member John Harabedian

Seconded: Council Member Gene Goss

Ayes: Mayor Rachele Arizmendi, Mayor Pro Tem Denise Delmar, Council Members Gene Goss, John Capoccia, and John Harabedian

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

City Council took a short five-minute recess before continuing the meeting.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

4. CONSIDERATION OF SOLID WASTE CONTRACT AMENDMENT AND INSTITUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL FEE

Recommendation that the City Council authorize the City Manager to accept the contract amendment, instituting an Environmental Fee.

* James Carlson, Management Analyst, presented with Athens Waste Management representative, Mr. Chen.

Mayor Arizmendi opened for public comment.

- Barbara Lee Cline disapproves of any tax increase.

Mayor Arizmendi closed public comment.

* Direction was given to Staff to bring back the full contract for approval at the next meeting. City Council was in favor of the solid waste amendment with institution of an environmental fee and will discuss further when Staff returns with the contract.

5. DEVELOPING THE EXISTING RECREATION CENTER IN THE NEW SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTER USING FUNDING DERIVED FROM THE SALE OF EXISTING CITY-OWNED LIBRARY PROPERTY

Recommendation that the City Council accept the recommendations of the Library Board and the Community Services Commission to create a Library and Cultural Center in the existing Recreation Center, and to sell the existing Library property and adjacent City property with proceeds going to fund the project.

* Ryan Baker, Director of Library and Community Services, presented.

Mayor Arizmendi opened for public comment.

- Rich Proctor stated the plan is endorsed by the Library Trustees.
- Barry Ziff with the Board of Library Trustees advocates the new plan for the Library.
- Darren Turcol, a resident, appreciates the YMCA and relies on it for his daughter.
- Patricia Hall with the Board of Library Trustees agrees with the plan proposed.
- Don Watts, a resident, is against the proposal to demolish the Library.
- Shannon King with the Board of Library Trustees is for the new Library plan.
- Rob Spears, member of Board of Library Trustees, stated that the Library is not structurally sound if an earthquake occurred.
- Margaret Quigley with Friends of the Library supports the plan to change the Library.
- Former Mayor wants the public to be informed about the intention to sell the Library land.
- Virginia Forest is against changing the Library and selling the land.
- Director of the YMCA appreciates both organizations and collaborates with the City for the best of our community.
- Leslie Ziff, President of Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society, advocates the new plan to preserve the archives that are not protected now in the present space.
- David Gordon added that the process entails answering and solving a few questions.
- Toni Buckner is supportive of the plan presented because of the lack of money for the Library.
- Henry Young is supportive of the new Library plan.
- Barbara Lee Cline stated she is in support of the plan but added the residents have to vote about selling the Library building.
- Emmett McGuire supports the plan and is excited about it, if we can make it happen.

Mayor Arizmendi closed public comment.

* Direction was given to Staff by Council. Mayor Arizmendi summarized that this is not just a Library issue but a funding priority and the residents do not want to pay additional taxes. This plan was put forward as a solution to the Library problems with its services, space and safety. Council would like the following moving forward:

- Exploration of what it would look like to sell the property
- What it would look like not to sell and what Library services would look like at that point
- Community engagement and open communication

ITEMS PLACED FOR FUTURE AGENDA:

- Council Member Capoccia asked to put the presentation about the community choice aggregation on the agenda for September with more information regarding competitive costs and with the possibility to join to have a voice at the table.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:43 p.m.

Moved: Council Member John Harabedian

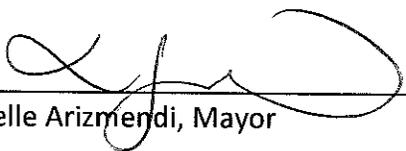
Seconded: Council Member John Capoccia

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None



Rachelle Arizmendi, Mayor

Minutes taken and typed by:



Melinda Carrillo, City Clerk