



CITY OF SIERRA MADRE
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, September 12, 2023 - 5:30 pm
Sierra Madre City Hall, City Council Chambers
232 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard, Sierra Madre, CA 91024

THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE MOST CURRENT LOS ANGELES COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER’S ORDER

The Brown Act provides the public with an opportunity to make public comments at any public meeting; As an alternative, public comment may be made by e-mail to PublicComment@CityofSierraMadre.com by 3:00 PM on the day of the meeting. Emails will be acknowledged at the Council meeting, filed into public record and scanned onto the City website for public review.

The meeting will be streamed live on the City’s website at www.cityofsierramadre.com, on Foothills Media website at <http://www.foothillsmedia.org/sierramadre> and broadcast on Government Access Channel 3 (Spectrum)

CODE OF CONDUCT

The purpose of a City Council meeting is to conduct City business. Members of the public that behave in a manner that interrupts or obstructs the Council’s ability to conduct City business may be asked to leave the meeting. Any and all demonstrations which disrupt, interrupt, or obstruct the Council’s ability to conduct City business are prohibited. No signs, posters or other large objects shall be brought into the Council Chambers or other meeting place if doing so would disrupt, disturb or otherwise impede the orderly course of the meeting.

The meeting will be streamed live on the City’s website at www.cityofsierramadre.com, on Foothills Media website at <http://www.foothillsmedia.org/sierramadre> and broadcast on Government Access Channel 3 (Spectrum)

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Garcia called the meeting to order at 5:39; City Clerk Aguilar called the roll.

Present: Mayor Garcia Mayor Pro Tem Kriebs and Council Members Goss, Lowe, and Parkhurst

Absent: None.

Also Present: Jose Reynoso, City Manager
Aleks Giragosian, City Attorney
Miguel Hernandez, Assistant City Manager
Laura Aguilar, Deputy City Manager/City Clerk
Arnulfo Yanez, Civil Engineer Deputy Director of Public Works
Leila Regan, City Librarian
Chris Cimino, Public Works Director
James Carlson, Management Analyst

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INSPIRATION

Mayor Garcia – led the pledge of allegiance. Afterwards he remarked on the 22nd Anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Vote of the City Council to proceed with City business.

Council Member Parkhurst made a motion to approve the agenda.

The motion was seconded by Council Member Lowe.

Mayor Garcia called for a vote of the Council:

- Ayes: Mayor Garcia Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Kriebs and Council Members Goss, Lowe, Parkhurst
- Noes: None.
- Absent: None
- Abstain: None.

The motion to approve the agenda as presented was approved by a unanimous voice vote by all Council Members in attendance.

COUNCIL REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

Report of any action taken in Closed Session from September 12, 2023.

City Attorney Giragosian reported that the City Council met in Closed Session to discuss anticipated litigation. No reputable action was taken.

APPROVAL FOR READING RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Vote of the City Council to read all Ordinances and Resolutions by title only and waive the reading in full.

Mayor Garcia asked for a motion.

A motion to approve the reading of resolutions and ordinances was made by Mayor Pro Tem Kriebs.

The motion was seconded by Council Member Goss.

Mayor Garcia called for a vote of the Council.

- Ayes: Mayor Garcia, Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Kriebs and Council Members Goss, Lowe, and Parkhurst
- Noes: None.
- Absent: None.
- Abstain: None.

The motion to approve the reading of all Ordinances and Resolutions by title only, and waive the reading in full, was passed by a unanimous voice vote by all Council Members in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES.

Approval of July 11, 2023, City Council Regular meeting minutes; and
Approval of August 22, 2023, City Council Regular meeting minutes.

Mayor Garcia asked for amendments to the minutes.

City Clerk Aguilar advised the Mayor that Council Member Parkhurst submitted suggestions via e-mail for alternative language that does not call for substantive changes.

The suggested changes to the July 11, 2023 meeting minutes are:

On page 7 of the July 11 minutes, I recommend you place the sentence "City Clerk Aguilar advised that one e-mail had been received" before "City Clerk Aguilar gave a summary of the e-mail that was received from the Chamber of Commerce."

A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Council Members Lowe and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kriebs.

Mayor Garcia called for a vote of the Council.

Ayes: Mayor Garcia, Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Kriebs and Council Members Goss, Lowe, and Parkhurst
Noes: None.
Absent: None.
Abstain: None.

The motion to approve the July 11, 2023 minutes, as amended, was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

The suggested changes to the August 8, 2023 meeting minutes are:

- “Could you please modify the summary of my inspiration to:
“Council Member Parkhurst led the citizens in the Pledge of Allegiance. Afterwards, he spoke on Tropical Storm Hilary’s historic of 5 inches of rain in less than 24 hours in Sierra Madre, the concerning increase in global temperatures from climate change, and the significant investment in renewable energy and electric vehicles. He encouraged everyone to take more action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.”
- Page 4: I recommend we change “David Gordon Sierra Madre Playhouse: Sierra Madre Playhouse was recognized at Congresswoman Judy Chu’s nonprofit of the year” to “David Gordon Sierra Madre Playhouse: Sierra Madre Playhouse was recognized as Congresswoman Judy Chu’s nonprofit of the year”

A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Council Member Parkhurst and seconded by Council Member Lowe.

Mayor Garcia called for a vote of the Council.

Ayes: Mayor Garcia, Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Kriebs and Council Members Goss, Lowe, and Parkhurst
Noes: None.
Absent: None.
Abstain: None.

The motion to approve the August 8, 2023 minutes, as amended, was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Reporting of Council Members' activities related to City business:

Council Member Goss: reported that he attended a meeting of the Transportation Sub- Committee to discuss suggested routes that link Sierra Madre to the Metro Gold Line -No Action was taken. He also attended the 9/11 Ceremony at the Fire Station. Council Member Goss also reported that he attended a meeting of the Foothill Employment Consortium Board; No Action taken.

Council Member Parkhurst: Also attended the 9/11 Remembrance events at the Fire Station and noted that there was a strong showing from the community and Sierra Madre Rotary Club. He also reported that he attended two CPA meetings on August 24 and again on September 7. At the September 7 meeting, Los Angeles County Board Supervisor Horvath spoke with Council Member Parkhurst and encouraged Sierra Madre to participate in Scholas Occurrentes' Pelota de Trapo Program. This program brings together high school students of all backgrounds for sports, educational, and leadership experiences. Council Member Parkhurst also reported that he and the Mayor attended the grand opening of the new Cancer Support Community Center.

Council Member Lowe: Also attended the 9/11 Remembrance events held at the Fire Station. Attended two meetings of the Planning Commission. The Commission discussed a few projects on Lima Avenue and is also considering projects at Stonegate.

Pro Tem Kelly Kriebs: Attended 9/11 Remembrance ceremonies and also National Night Out in August. She announced that Sierra Madre Playhouse was awarded non-profit of year from Congress Woman Judy Chu. Attended meetings with the League of California Cities, Natural Resources Commission, and also attended a meeting with Los Angeles Mayor Bass with Mayor Garcia.

Mayor Garcia: Attended a meeting of the Library Board of Trustees where they discussed the current Meaningful Improvement Project. Mayor Garcia reported that he attended the grand opening of the San

Gabriel Valley Cancer Support Community Group, and attended a meeting with with Los Angeles Mayor Bass. Mayor Garcia announced an upcoming presentation on Living with Wildlife at the Library on Saturday, September 16, 2023 from 12:00-2:00.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION CODE OF CONDUCT

Your participation is welcomed and invited at all City Council meetings. The council requests that participants refrain from making personal, slanderous, profane, or disruptive remarks. A person who continues to disrupt the orderly conduct of the meeting after being warned by the Mayor or designee to cease the disruption may be precluded from further participation in the meeting. No signs, posters or other large objects shall be brought into the Council Chambers or other meeting place if doing so would disrupt, disturb or otherwise impede the orderly course of the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Council will listen to the public on any item on the agenda. In addition, the Council will devote time for public comment on items not on the agenda. Addressing the City Council from the audience is not permitted; all comments addressing the Council must be made from the podium. Only public comment made from the podium will be recognized by the City Council and entered into public record.

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Persons wishing to speak on any item on the agenda will be called during the comment period at the time the agenda item is brought forward. Persons wishing to speak on closed session items have a choice of doing so either immediately prior to the closed session or at the time for comments on items at the open session.

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Time shall be devoted to provide public comments for items not on the agenda. Under the Brown Act, Council is prohibited from taking action on items not on the agenda, but the matter may be referred to staff or to a subsequent meeting.

COMMENTS

1. Any person wishing to provide public comment on matters not on the agenda, or during the comment period for items on the agenda is asked to complete a comment card. Please include your name and address. Each speaker will be limited to up to three continuous minutes, which may not be delegated or deferred.
2. The City provides a podium for public comment. Comments addressed to the Council shall occur during the appropriate time on the agenda and should not be construed as an opportunity for dialogue. Each speaker will be limited to three continuous minutes, which may not be delegated or deferred

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

1. Gus Bisharat- 320 E. Grandview: Bear was in his backyard again. He and his family are afraid to go outside. The common bear interactions have affected their quality of life.
2. Peggy Dallas- 312 ½ Grandview Ave: Bear attempted to break into her house; provided suggestions for dealing with the current bear encounters, including creating a website portal for reporting such interactions.
3. Philip Yao- 513 Sierra Keys Drive. Reported over 20 leaks on his street. Some of the repaired leaks are now beginning to sink. The City needs to fix the leaks instead of patching them up.
4. Joel Goodwin- 340 W. Sierra Madre Blvd: Spectrum services were interrupted for several weeks, creating frustration.

City Clerk Aguilar advised that 0 e-mail had been received for non-agenda items.

PRESENTATION

PRESENTATION BY PUSD BOARD OF TRUSTEE, TINA FREDERICKS GIVING UPDATE ON THE PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT.

Trustee Fredericks gave her report and was also joined by Interim Superintendent Dr. Blanco and both principals for Sierra Madre Elementary and Sierra Madre Middle Schools.

No action was taken.

UPDATE ON LIBRARY MEANINGFUL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The report was presented by Deputy Public Works Director Yanes with additional input from City Librarian Regan.
No action was taken.

Mayor Garcia called for a brief recess at 7:06 pm.
The City Council reconvened their meeting at 7:16 pm.

ACTION ITEMS

CONSENT

City Clerk Aguilar gave the following reports:

- a) **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 23-60 APPROVING CERTAIN DEMANDS**
It is recommended that the City Council approve Resolution 23-60 approving payment of City Warrants in the aggregate amount of \$347,389.86; Sierra Madre Library Warrants in the aggregate amount of \$7,817.05; and Payroll Transfer in the aggregate amount of \$462,515.43; for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.
- b) **AMENDMENT TO LIST OF THE PURCHASE ORDERS OVER \$45,000**
It is recommended that the City Council approve the blanket purchase amendment.
- c) **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 23-61 APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT WITH THE LOS ANGELES REGIONAL AGENCY.**
It is recommended that the City Council adopt Resolution 23-61 approving an amendment to the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) with the Los Angeles Regional Agency (LARA), and authorize the City Manager to execute the JPA.
- d) **CONSIDERATION OF AWARD TO CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR THE 2023 DOWNTOWN WATER MAIN INSTALLATION SIDEWALK ENHANCEMENT AND STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT No. ST82302 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$79,447.96.**
It is recommended that the City Council approve change order #1 for the addition of a traffic safety wall at 110 West Sierra Madre Blvd. for an amount not to exceed \$ 79,447.96

Mayor Garcia brought the matter to the City Council for questions.

Mayor Garcia opened the matter for public comment:

City Clerk Aguilar advised that no e-mails had been received.

Seeing no one come forward, Mayor Garcia brought the matter back to Council for discussion or a motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Kriebs motion to approve Consent Agenda Items a-d.

Council member Parkhurst seconded the motion.

Mayor Garcia called for a vote of the Council.

- Ayes: Mayor Edward Garcia, Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Kriebs and Council Members Goss, Lowe, and Parkhurst
- Noes: None.
- Absent: None.
- Abstain: None.

The motion to approve Consent Items A-D was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

DISCUSSION

- 1. **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 23-62 ADOPTING THE MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE AND THE CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION; AND RESOLUTION 23-63, AMENDING THE CLASSIFICATION PLAN AND SALARY MATRIX**

It is recommended that the City Council approve Resolution 23-62, approving the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Sierra Madre Classified Employees Association; and approving Resolution 23-63, amending the Classification Plan and Salary Matrix.

The report to the City Council was made by Assistant City Manager Miguel Hernandez.

Mayor Garcia opened the matter for public comment.

Seeing no one come forward, Mayor Garcia brought the matter back to Council for discussion or a motion.

City Clerk Aguilar advised that no e-mails had been received for this item.

Council member Parkhurst made a motion to adopt Resolutions 23-62 and 23-63, respectively.

Council member Lowe seconded the motion to adopt Resolutions 23-62 and 23-63.

Mayor Garcia called for a vote of the Council.

Ayes: Mayor Edward Garcia, Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Kriebs and Council Members Goss, Lowe, and Parkhurst

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

The motion to adopt Resolutions 23-62 and 23-63 were approved by a unanimous voice vote.

2. **CONSIDERATION OF DIGITAL EQUITY – SUPPORT FOR ACTION**

It is recommended that the City Council provide staff with direction

The report to the City Council was made by Assistant City Manager Miguel Hernandez.

City Clerk Aguilar advised that 1 e-mail had been received for this item from:
Jorge Rivera with Healing and Justice Center

The Council provided staff with direction and asked them to return with a draft copy of a letter addressed to Los Angeles County Supervisor Barger, supporting digital equity.

FUTURE ITEMS:

Council Member Goss – requested an update on the current situation with bears in our community. Council Member Goss also requested a discussion on after school youth recreational opportunities.

Council Member Parkhurst – an update from the Natural Resources Commission on an electrification plan by February 2024; and requested that staff look into Supervisor Horvath's request to support Pelota de Trapo.

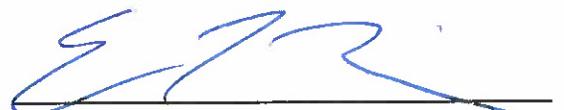
ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Garcia asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

Council member Parkhurst seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m. to a Regular meeting to be held on September 26, 2023.


Edward Garcia, Mayor

Minutes taken and prepared by:


Laura Aguilar, City Clerk