

## **MINUTES**

Agenda - Regular Meeting of the Sierra Madre City Council,  
Successor Agency and Public Finance Authority  
Tuesday, June 13, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.  
City Hall Council Chambers, 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024

### **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, Deputy Director of Public Works  
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 honored the memory of a long-time resident and active member of our community, Barbara Cline, who passed away a few weeks ago. Council Member Capoccia asked for everyone to take a moment of silence in her honor.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED:**

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

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON MAY 09, 2017 AND MAY 23, 2017; AND SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON MAY 09, 2017:**

Moved: Council Member John Capoccia

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) Mayor Pro Tem Delmar had nothing to report.
- 2) Council Member Goss reported that as the liaison for Council, he attended the Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce meeting when Chief Ortiz gave a talk about the changes to the Police Department. Council Member Goss wants to encourage all businesses in town to be active with the Chamber of Commerce and have your voice heard as a business owner in Sierra Madre.
- 3) Council Member Capoccia agreed with Council Member Goss. He further went on to talk about the sub-committee hearing regarding the Hertzberg Bill taking place the following day for which he wrote a letter in opposition; and further stating how it undermines transparency and our ability to gain trust from our constituents when we impose such taxes. Moreover, everyone received an email from the City Manager regarding the COG activities. The restructuring of ACE, Alameda Construction Authority East, is to improve transportation projects funded by Measure M. Lastly, Phil Hawkey is resigning from the COG and his work and dedication is very much appreciated.
- 4) Council Member Harabedian had nothing to report.
- 5) Mayor Arizmendi reported about the Leaf Blower Exchange and a CAQMD will be notifying everyone in July when an email blast will also be sent out. The Mayor announced many new summer activities are coming and encouraged everyone to follow the City's social media and stay informed and active.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Darlene Papa from Lifeline for Pets in Pasadena presented Duke of Earl, a beautiful 5-year-old dog ready to be adopted by a loving family with kids. The Duke came from the organization, For the Love of Animals Rescue, FLA, in Pasadena. Anyone who would like to adopt Duke or other cats from Lifeline for Pets, please get in touch with Darlene Papa at [www.lifelineforpets.org](http://www.lifelineforpets.org).
- Sam Burgess of South Pasadena came to thank the City of Sierra Madre for speaking against the 710 tunnel as part of the 5-City Coalition against the 710 expansion and thank you Council Member John Capoccia for being the voting member.

*Mayor Arizmendi closed public comment.*

## **PRESENTATION:**

- Recognition of Harvey Calkins, an 82-year-old resident of Sierra Madre and an avid hiker of the Mount Wilson Trail, who helped rescue a 29-year-old injured hiker by staying with him for over four hours until Search and Rescue arrived. He was honored by the Mayor, Rachelle Arizmendi.

## **AGENDA ACTION ITEMS:**

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

### **1. CONSENT CALENDAR:**

#### **a) ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 17-30 OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE APPROVING CERTAIN DEMANDS**

Recommendation that the City Council approve Resolution 17-30 for approval of payment of City Warrants in aggregate amount of \$325,708.40; Library warrants in the aggregate amount of \$18,570.00, and payroll transfer in the aggregate amount of \$274,405.73 for fiscal year ending June 2017.

#### **b) AUTHORIZING PERSONNEL CHANGES; CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 17-25 AMENDING THE CLASSIFICATION PLAN AND SALARY MATRIX AND APPROVAL OF THE RECLASSIFICATION OF THE**

ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER POSITION AND ADDING A NEW SALARY RANGE FOR THE FIRE CHIEF POSITION

Recommendation that the City Council adopt Resolution 17-25 amending the Compensation Plan and Salary Matrix adding the salary range for the job classification of Fire Chief and approving the creation of the Assistant City Clerk position.

*Mayor Arizmendi opened for public comment but none was given.*

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Moved: Council Member John Harabedian

Seconded: Mayor Pro Tem Denise Delmar

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. FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS AND CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION OF CONFIRMATION 17-31**

Recommendation that the City Council open a Public Hearing, take public comments, and

1. maintain the same level of assessment with no increases for next fiscal year
2. adopt Resolution of Confirmation 17-31 approving charges for
  - a. Downtown Landscaping (District 3)
  - b. Downtown Parking (District 5)
  - c. Community Facilities District No 1, One Carter
  - d. Bonita Sewer District
  - e. Mira Monte Sewer District
  - f. Downtown Lighting District Zone A
  - g. Downtown Lighting District Zone B
  - h. Santa Anita Lighting District No 1
3. Adopt Resolution of Confirmation 17- 31 approving the charges for 2017-2018
4. Direct staff to initiate a feasibility study for the potential consolidation of Districts 3,5, Zone A, and Zone B (Downtown Landscaping, Parking, Lighting Districts)

*Mayor Arizmendi opened for public comment but none was given.*

**APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO MOVE PUBLIC HEARING ITEM 2 TO THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING ON JUNE 27, 2017:**

Moved: Council Member John Harabedian

Seconded: Mayor Pro Tem Denise Delmar

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. FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 ANNUAL BUDGET CONSIDERATION RESOLUTION 17-27: ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 BUDGET RESOLUTION 17-28: APPROVING GANN APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 RESOLUTION 17-29: APPROVING THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 FEE SCHEDULE PFA RESOLUTION 70: PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 BUDGET

Recommendation that the City Council open a Public Hearing, take public comments, and approve Resolution 17-27 adopting the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget and appropriating the amounts projected; Resolution 17-28 approving 17-28 approving the GANN Appropriation Limits for Fiscal Year 2017-2018; Resolution 17-29 approving the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Fee Schedule; and PFA Resolution 70 adopting the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Public Financing Authority budget

\* Gabriel Engeland, City Manager, and Assistant City Manager, Marcie Medina, presented.

*Mayor Arizmendi opened for public hearing.*

- Dee Alcorn asked about a rise in the general fund and where did that come from? City Manager, Gabe Engeland explained that it was combining funds together and are not transfers; and it's a different way of accounting.
- Glenn Lambdin stated that we cannot rely on the \$700,000 from water penalties and it is not good public policy. City Manager agreed with Mr. Lambdin. Moreover, Mr. Lambdin asked to please provide clarity about the expenditures in the elected and appointed fund when Public Works has not increased and that budget is a high priority. City Manager explained that the legal fees increased this year in the elected and appointed fund but it is a one-time fee due to legal matters. Further, the new road tax is significant which helps Public Works as well as other passed Measures. We are increasing the Public Works fund as well, and projects that were not completed last year carry over to this year. Mayor Arizmendi continued by stating that infrastructure is a top priority in the budget.

*Mayor Arizmendi closed public hearing.*

**APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 17-27 ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 BUDGET AND APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNTS PROJECTED; RESOLUTION 17-28 APPROVING 17-28 APPROVING THE GANN APPROPRIATION LIMITS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018; RESOLUTION 17-29 APPROVING THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 FEE SCHEDULE; AND PFA RESOLUTION 70 ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY BUDGET:**

Moved: Council Member Gene Goss

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

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

4. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENTS TO THE SENIOR COMMUNITY COMMISSION

Recommendation that the City Council provide staff with direction.

- Council Member John Capoccia asked for this Item to be brought back on June 27, 2017 to give more applicants the opportunity to apply. The three applicants to date are: Patricia Locher, Lani Ridley, and Anita Thompson.

## 5. CONSIDERATION OF FORMATION OF STORM WATER AD HOC SUB-COMMITTEE

Recommendation that the City Council form a Storm Water Ad Hoc Sub-Committee and provide staff with direction on membership and scope of work.

- Chris Cimino, Director of Public Works, presented.

*Mayor Arizmendi opened for public comment but none was given.*

## **APPROVAL FOR CITY COUNCIL TO EXPAND THE WATER SUB-COMMITTEE TO INCLUDE STORM WATER AD HOC:**

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

## 6. WATER RATE MODEL

Recommendation that the City Council provide staff with direction.

- Jose Reynoso, Deputy Director of Public Works, presented.

*Mayor Arizmendi opened for public comment but none was given.*

- Direction was provided to staff by City Council to move forward with the Water Rate Model and 2 Tier Rate Structure.
- Council recessed to a short five-minute break.

## 7. RENT STABILIZATION POLICY

Recommendation that the City Council receive and file.

- Council Member asked for this to be agendized. Vincent Gonzalez, Director of Planning and Community Preservation, presented.

*Mayor Arizmendi opened for public comment.*

- Brian Bratton, resident of Sierra Madre spoke about the research against Rent Control Policy.
- Carol Canterbury, a real estate agent and a resident of Sierra Madre is against rent control in Sierra Madre.
- Jim Macio who is in real estate asked to consider all the flaws in rent control.
- Barry Gold, resident of Sierra Madre stated that the idea of rent control creates affordable housing in theory but the opposite occurs since there are many flaws in Rent Control Policy.
- Paul Copeland reported that he is a landlord in Sierra Madre and makes rent affordable already without any flawed Rent Control Policy needing to be implemented by the City of Sierra Madre.
- Derek Bush is a resident and landlord in Sierra Madre and a builder. His experience has demonstrated that rent control is flawed and doesn't work as originally intended.
- Charlie Kensinger is a resident who does not believe rent control in Sierra Madre is a good idea.
- Sean Kordikian, resident of Sierra Madre, suggest there is no need for another layer of bureaucracy since it is not a solution.
- Sandy a resident on Santa Anita Court and a landlord stated that rent control is a false myth and a short-term solution and is grateful the Mountain View had a write up.

- Ellen Bird, a resident, stated most landlords have not raised rents even when water rates have increased substantially the last years.

*Mayor Arizmendi closed public comment.*

- *City Council received and filed.*

**ITEMS PLACED FOR FUTURE AGENDA:**

- Council Member Goss asked for review of our San Gabriel Valley National Monument which was discussed a couple years ago and Council Member Harabedian agreed.
- Council Member Capoccia asked to discuss the L.A. County utility, to be governed by the Los Angeles Community Choice Energy Authority which goes into effect next year; and the possibility of joining the Board at some point. Los Angeles County will have an alternative way to get their electricity, promising lower bills and easier access to clean-energy options. Customers can choose whether they want power from solar, wind or another clean energy source. Those decisions by customers will influence how much green energy and what kind the county will invests in.

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:26 p.m.**

Moved: Mayor Pro Tem Denise Delmar

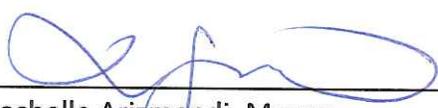
Seconded: Council Member Gene Goss

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rachelle Arizmendi, Mayor

Minutes taken and typed by:



Melinda Carrillo  
City Clerk