



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

Tuesday, December 13, 2022 - 5:30 pm
Sierra Madre City Hall, City Council Chambers
232 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard, Sierra Madre, CA 91024

Tele-conference:
Council Member Robert Parkhurst from
Embassy Suites by Hilton
Crystal City National Airport
1393 S Eads St, Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 979-9799

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; or public comment may also be made by e-mail to PublicComment@CityofSierraMadre.com by 3:00PM 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 Goss called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m. City Clerk Aguilar called the roll.

Present: Mayor Gene Goss, Mayor Pro Tem Edward Garcia, and Council Members Rachelle Arizmendi, Kelly Kriebs, and Robert Parkhurst (tele-conference)

Absent: None.

Also Present: Jose Reynoso, City Manager
Miguel Hernandez, Assistant City Manager
Aleks Giragosian, City Attorney
Laura Aguilar, Deputy City Manager/City Clerk
Henry Amos, Acting Police Chief
Brent Bartlett, Fire Chief
Oscar Millan, IT Manager

Hillary Guirola-Leon, Finance Director
Satnam Rait, Finance Manager
Rebecca Silva-Barron, Community Services Manager
Amber Tardif, Deputy City Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INSPIRATION

Council Member Kriebs and read the Scrooges redemption speech from the movie.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Vote of the City Council to proceed with City business.

Council Member Parkhurst made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

The motion was seconded by Council Member Arizmendi.

Mayor Goss called for a roll call vote of the Council:

Ayes: Mayor Gene Goss, Mayor Pro Tem Edward Garcia, and Council Members Arizmendi, Kriebs, and Parkhurst (tele-conference)
Noes: None.
Absent: None.
Abstain: None.

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

REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney provides reportable action from the Closed Session.

City Attorney Giragosian announced that the City Council met in closed session on December 6, 2022 to discuss public employee performance evaluation for City Manager Jose Reynoso and public employee performance evaluation for City Attorney Aleks Giragosian with no reportable action taken.

City Attorney Giragosian announced that the City Council met in closed session on December 13, 2022 to discuss one item of Anticipated Litigation with no reportable action 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 Goss asked for a motion.

A motion to approve the reading of resolutions and ordinances was made by Council Member Arizmendi.

The motion was seconded by Council Member Kriebs.

Mayor Goss called for a vote of the Council.

Ayes: Mayor Goss, Mayor Pro Tem Garcia, and Council Members Arizmendi, Kriebs, and Parkhurst (tele-conference)
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.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Approval of September 20, 2022 City Council Special meeting minutes.
Approval of September 27, 2022 City Council Regular meeting minutes.
Approval of October 11, 2022 City Council Regular meeting minutes.
Approval of November 8, 2022 City Council Regular meeting minutes.

Mayor Goss called for a motion to approve the minutes.

A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Council Member Kriebs.

The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Garcia.

Mayor Goss called for a vote of the Council.

Ayes: Mayor Goss, Mayor Pro Tem Garcia, and Council Members Arizmendi, Kriebs, and Parkhurst(tele-conference)
Noes: None.
Absent: None.
Abstain: None.

The motion to approve the minutes of the Council meetings of September 20, 2022, September 27, 2022, October 11, 2022 and November 8, 2022 were approved by unanimous voice vote.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Reporting of Council Members' activities related to City business.

Robert Parkhurst: attended four Clean Power Alliance meetings with no report. Received a report from Management Analyst Carlson regarding the Natural Resources Committee where they discuss the Urban Tree Management Plan and the minor updates that will be made to the plan. They discussed the climate action list and came up with recommendations on how to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions in the city.

Council Member Arizmendi: stated she is a policy board member for the Foothill Workforce Joint Powers Authority Workforce Development Board between Sierra Madre, Pasadena, Duarte, South Pasadena and Arcadia. Attended a meeting with the Board and advised there was a motion to move the administrative and operational responsibilities to Pasadena City College. After a lot of review and input from stakeholders the board elected not to move and will continue to operate as before. Met with the State Librarian in Sacramento and thanked him on behalf of the City for the Grant received for the Library. Thanked Staff for all of their hard work on the many activities happening throughout the City.

Council Member Kriebs: attended the San Gabriel Valley sector MTA board where a new representative of the board was elected. During the meeting there was unanimity among all the Cities on the board to push the extension of the Gold Line to Claremont which will be helpful to the transportation community. Commended the Chamber for their winter festivities and all the events they have hosted.

Mayor Pro Tem Garcia: attended two Senior Community Commission meetings. At the first meeting Management Analyst Carlson provided an update on the transportation issues that the City has been working on trying to fill the gap since the MTA lines have been gone. The Nancy Walsh tribute plaque is near completion and will be in the Hart Park House. The Senior Community Commission announced a joint chili cook-off with the Women's Club and it will be held at the Hart Park House.

Attended SCAG's economic summit with the City Manager that was held in downtown Los Angeles. They highlighted that wages are not keeping up with prices and the regional economic outlook, region by region. They launched a regional data platform that might be useful to some of the planning in the City. Spoke to one of the employees and mentioned there are a lot of member cities that are smaller and we would like some applicable items for the summits, and it was well received.

Thanked Michelle Keith for organization and spearheading the tree decorations for the holidays. Commended Bob Spears and Jim Wallsworth for spearheading the work at the post office and all the plants that were planted that day.

Mayor Goss: represented the City Council on Veteran's Day at Memorial Park to Proclaim that day as Ken Anwalt Day. He is a veteran of World War II. He was very brave and it was an important and wonderful experience.

Attended a Los Angeles County Sanitation District meeting on November 14, where they stated they are continuing to track influenza and COVID. Attended the annual Prayer Breakfast on November 16th held by the Women's Club. Commended the Women's Club and the President Veronica Vasquez for putting together such a wonderful event. On Saturday, November 26, the Fire Department gave Santa Clause, the Mayor, and the Rose Float Princes and Princess a ride in their fire trucks down Sierra Madre Blvd. to Kersting Court where Santa Claus and I lit the holiday tree.

Attended the Library Board of Trustees meeting on November 28. Attended the Patsy Cline holiday concert at the Sierra Madre Playhouse and had a wonderful time.

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

Mayor Goss opened the meeting for public comment on items not on the agenda.

Pat Krok: spoke in her capacity as Chairman of the Senior Community Commission and welcomed the new Council members. Mentioned tomorrow is the Senior Holiday luncheon. In January the Senior Commission will begin looking for a recipient for the Older American Award which will be presented in May. The chili cook off has been postponed until Summer.

Catherine Adde: thanked Council and Council Member Arizmendi for all they have done for the City. Spoke in her capacity as a One Book, One City committee member, she thanked the Sierra Madre Community Foundation for granting the committee \$1,000 so that they can pay their speaker next year. Mentioned, "One Book, One City" has choose the next book that will be out in February 2023, and the book will be "Flying Free" by Cecilia Aragon. Thanked the Board and Staff from the Sierra Madre Playhouse for their cooperation and collaboration with the programs for the One Book, One City event. On February 11, 2023 author Cecilia Aragon will come to Sierra Madre to speak.

Robert Bishoff: spoke in his capacity as the President of the Sierra Madre Little League. He stated, the Sierra Madre Little League appreciates the partnership and support from the City. The agreement between the Little League, the Girls Softball League and the Pony League was created under the guidelines of the Youth Master Plan and Sierra Madre Park Usage Guidelines. The fields have begun being used by different age groups in the Pony League and they do not abide by any residency restrictions. It is diminishing the products for Sierra Madre Little League. Asked Council for guidance dealing with changes that are being made to the field.

Russ Meek: spoke on Sierra Madre Little League and how they work together with Girls' Softball to maintain the field and that the space is available for Sierra Madre kids first before other groups. Mentioned new base pegs on Dapper field. Asked Council for direction to make sure they know their roles for the future to build around and how to use the facilities.

Fire Chief Bartlett: Police and Fire will be working in collaboration with the City Manager's office in response to the request from the last Council meeting and the public input. The Fire Department will be hosting a Town Hall meeting on January 18, 2023 to help solicit information and feedback for the Strategic Plan. More information will be posted on Social Media outlets and around town.

Mary Carney: spoke in her capacity as a member of the Sierra Madre Women's Club. The Women's Club was founded at the beginning of March 1907. There are currently about 85 members in the Women's Club. Mentioned the many events the Women's Club is involved in throughout the City.

Samantha Soda: spoke on the no overnight parking signs around Mount Wilson Trail and requested Council help get signs in the area.

Seeing no one else come forward, Mayor Goss closed public comment for items not on the agenda.

City Clerk Aguilar advised that 3 e-mails had been received.

PRESENTATION

SIERRA MADRE ROSE FLOAT ASSOCIATION ROYAL COURT:

- Princess Jessica Allen – Pasadena City College**
- Princess Kiera Dean – Alverno Heights Academy**
- Princess Lauren Kong – California School of the Arts**
- Princess Lina Wallgren – Mayfield Senior School**
- Prince Marshall Gluck – Pasadena High School**
- Prince Max Romero – Maranatha High School**

ACTION ITEMS

City Clerk Aguilar gave the following reports under the Consent Calendar:

CONSENT

a) CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 22-71 APPROVING CERTAIN DEMANDS

It is recommended that the City Council approve Resolution 22-71 approving payment of City Warrants in the aggregate amount of \$429,881.93; Sierra Madre Library Warrants in the aggregate amount of \$341.23; and Payroll Transfer in the aggregate amount of \$940,962.27 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

Mayor Goss brought the matter to the City Council for discussion.

Item A – no questions from Council.

Mayor Goss opened the matter for public comment.

City Clerk Aguilar advised that no e-mails had been received.
The Mayor brought the matter back to the Council for comments.

The Mayor brought the matter back to the Council for a motion to approve.

Council Member Arizmendi made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Item A as presented.

Council Member Kriebs seconded the motion.

Mayor Goss called for a vote of the Council.

- Ayes: Mayor Goss, Mayor Pro Tem Garcia, Council Members Arizmendi, Kriebs, and Parkhurst (tele-conference)
- Noes: None.
- Absent: None.
- Abstain: None.

The motion to approve Consent Item A was passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. SIERRA MADRE PLAYOUSE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN APPEAL AND GENERAL FUND OVERVIEW

It is recommended that the City Council provide direction regarding the Sierra Madre Playhouse Capital Campaign Appeal.

Presentation made by Community Services Manager Silva-Barron and Finance Director Guirola-Leon

Presentation made by Playhouse President and Acting CEO David Gordon

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

Council Member Arizmendi: asked what the 8.5 million dollars for that is address in Finance Directors presentation. Finance Director Guirola-Leon responded that the 8.5 million is the latest estimate on the RFP for the Bank of America building for building improvements. Council Member Parkhurst requested clarification on the new amount for the Public Safety remodel. City Manager Reynoso responded that those new estimates are for the existing Public Safety buildings and the new Public Safety building.

Council Member Parkhurst: asked what the largest source of revenue is in the City. Finance Director Guirola-Leon responded that the largest source of revenue in the City comes from property taxes that makes up about 55% of the general fund revenue. Council Member Parkhurst asked how many cents the City received for every dollar of property tax. Finance Director Guirola-Leon responded that the City receives 21 cents for every one dollar of property tax. Council Member Parkhurst asked how many items on the Capital Projects Overview were on the pre-pandemic budget. City Manager Reynoso responded that the vehicles on the list were pre-pandemic and were waited on. He stated, anything that was necessary for the Departments was funded. Council Member Parkhurst requested information on if the Windstorm emergency and the Bobcat emergency created a short-term or long-term financial burden on the City. Finance Director Guirola-Leon responded that the Windstorm created damages worth approximately 600 thousand dollars and having reserves in place helped respond to the emergency. There is a delay in Federal funding coming in and reimbursing the City so the reserves help fund the emergencies when that funding is delayed and some expenditures are not reimbursable, even if they are needed.

Mayor Pro Tem: asked Mr. Gordon if he has an estimate on how much the HVAC will cost and if they have \$250,000 in COVID abatement costs. Mr. Gordon responded that the estimate of the HVAC upgrade is unknown, however the estimate of phase 2 will be \$550,000.

Mayor Goss: asked what is the amount in the General Fund and what is the minimum standard. Finance Director Guirola-Leon responded that the minimum amount in the General Fund is 25% and the current amount is 68%. The minimum reserve keeps the City operating in the short-term in case there is an emergency and anything above that amount is to mitigate risks.

Council Member Kriebs: requested clarification on what Compensated Absences is in the General Fund Overview. Finance Director Guirola-Leon responded that compensated absences are the leave accruals for employees and when an employee cashes out or leaves the City it could be significant to the budget. Mayor Pro Tem Garcia asked if the money giving to the Playhouse could be structured as a forgivable loan. City Attorney Giragosian responded that the money could be structured as a loan.

Mayor Goss opened the matter for public comment.

Diane Sands: spoke in opposition of funding the Playhouse.

Jeff Lapidés: spoke in opposition of funding the Playhouse. Stated he wants the funding to go to City owned property.

Leslie Ziff: spoke in her capacity as the President of the Historical Society and she would like the funding to go to City owned property. Mentioned on Saturday, December 17, there will be an open house at the Museum.

Pamela Winters: stated she is an employee of the Playhouse and read a letter from the Playhouse from September 30, 1998, written by City administration in support of the Playhouse.

Eileen Walker: spoke as a Board Member of the Playhouse and is in support of funding the Playhouse.

Robert Stockily: spoke in opposition of funding the Playhouse.

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

Seeing no one else come forward to the podium, Mayor Goss closed public comment and brought the matter back to Council for discussion and/or a vote.

Mayor Goss asked for a motion.

Council Member Arizmendi made a motion to fund the Sierra Madre Playhouse in the amount \$56,480 from the ARPA Funds.

Council Member Parkhurst seconded the motion.
Mayor Goss called for a roll call vote of the Council.

Ayes: Mayor Goss, Mayor Pro Tem Garcia, and Council Members Arizmendi, Kriebs, and Parkhurst (tele-conference)
Noes: None.
Absent: None.
Abstain: None.

The motion to fund the Sierra Madre Playhouse in the amount \$56,480 from the ARPA Funds was approved by unanimous voice vote.

7:41 p.m. At this time Mayor Goss requested a brief recess.
7:49 p.m. the City Council reconvened their meeting.

2. CORRECTION TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 FEE SCHEDULE

It is recommended that the City Council conduct a Public Hearing to receive testimony and consider approval of the amendment to the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Fee Schedule for the Non-Residential Variable Sewer Rate.

Presentation made by Finance Manager Satnam Rait.

Mayor Goss opened the matter for public comment.

Seeing no one come forward to the podium, Mayor Goss closed public comment and brought the matter back to Council for discussion and/or a vote.

Mayor Goss asked for a motion.

Council Member Arizmendi made a motion to approve the amendment to the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Fee Schedule.

Mayor Pro Tem Garcia seconded the motion.

Mayor Goss called for a roll call vote of the Council.

Ayes: Mayor Goss, Mayor Pro Tem Garcia, and Council Members Arizmendi, Kriebs, and Parkhurst (tele-conference)
Noes: None.
Absent: None.
Abstain: None.

The motion to amend the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Fee Schedule was approved by unanimous voice vote.

DISCUSSION

1. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 22-72 ADOPTING THE MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE AND CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION; SIERRA MADRE PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION; AND POLICE ASSOCIATION, AMENDING THE EMPLOYEE MEDICAL BENEFITS AND ADDING PARAMEDIC LICENSE INCENTIVES FOR SIERRA MADRE PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

It is recommended that the City Council adopt Resolution 22-72 adopting the Memorandums of Understanding between the City of Sierra Madre and Classified Employees Association, Sierra Madre Professional Firefighters Association, and Police Association; amending the employee medical benefits and adding paramedic license incentives for Sierra Madre Professional Firefighters Association.

Assistant City Manager Miguel Hernandez gave the report.
Mayor Goss brought the matter to the City Council for discussion.

Council Member Parkhurst would like Staff to continue the discussion of the paramedic bonus and close the gap between the City of Sierra Madre and other cities.

Mayor Goss opened public comment.

Seeing no one else come forward, Mayor Goss closed public comment.

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

The Mayor brought the matter back to the Council for comments.

Council Member Parkhurst made a motion to adopt Resolution 22-72 with reconsideration of the reconsidering the paramedic bonus in 2023.

Mayor Pro Tem Garcia seconded the motion.

Mayor Goss called for a roll call vote of the Council.

Ayes: Mayor Goss, Mayor Pro Tem Garcia, and Council Members Arizmendi, Kriebs, and Parkhurst (tele-conference)
Noes: None.
Absent: None.
Abstain: None.

The motion to adopt Resolution 22-72 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

2. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 22-70, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL RECITING THE FACTS OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD NOVEMBER 8, 2022, DECLARING THE RESULTS AND SUCH MATTERS AS PROVIDED BY LAW

It is recommended that the City Council adopt Resolution 22-70 reciting the facts of the General Municipal Election held on November 8, 2022, declaring the results and such matters as provided by law.

Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Aguilar gave the report.

Mayor Goss brought the matter to the City Council for discussion.

Mayor Goss opened public comment.

Seeing no one come forward, Mayor Goss closed public comment.

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

The Mayor brought the matter back to the Council for comments.

Mayor Goss asked for a motion.

Council Member Kelly Kriebs made a motion to approve Resolution 22-70 reciting the facts of the General Municipal Election held on November 8, 2022.

Council Member Arizmendi seconded the motion.

Mayor Goss called for a roll call vote of the Council.

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

The motion to adopt Resolution 22-70 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

PRESENTATION

1. RECOGNITION OF SERVICE TO MAYOR PRO TEMPORE EDWARD GARCIA

Presented by Mayor Gene Goss

2. RECOGNITION OF SERVICE TO MAYOR GENE GOSS

Presented by Mayor Pro Tem Edward Garcia

3. RECOGNITION OF SERVICE TO OUTGOING COUNCIL MEMBER RACHELLE ARIZMENDI

Presented by Mayor Gene Goss

Presentation by Susan Henderson on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce

DISCUSSION

1. ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE TO COUNCIL MEMBERS ELECTED AT THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD NOVEMBER 8, 2022

For Office of the City Council:

Kristine Lowe, Four (4) year term
Gene Goss, Four (4) year term
Edward Garcia, Four (4) year term

City Clerk Aguilar administered the Oath of Office to all newly elected City Council Members.

2. CITY COUNCIL SELECTION OF MAYOR AND MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

It is recommended that the City Council select a Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem to serve until December 12, 2023.

Mayor Goss opened public comment.

Seeing no one come forward, Mayor Goss closed public comment.

Mayor Goss asked for a motion.

Mayor Goss made a motion to appoint Mayor Pro Tem to Kelly Kriebs and Mayor to Edward Garcia.

Council Member Parkhurst seconded the motion.

Mayor Goss called for a roll call vote of the Council.

Ayes: Mayor Goss, Mayor Pro Tem Garcia, and Council Members Kriebs, Lowe, and Parkhurst (tele-conference)

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: None.

The motion to appoint Kelly Kriebs as Mayor Pro Tem and Edward Garcia as Mayor was approved by unanimous voice vote.

FUTURE ITEMS:

Mayor Goss asked if any Council Member wished to add any items for future meetings.

Council did not have any items to add for future meetings.

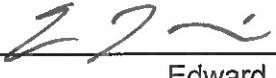
ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Garcia asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

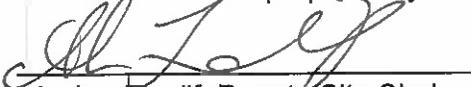
Council Member Goss seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m. to a Regular meeting to be held on January 10, 2023.



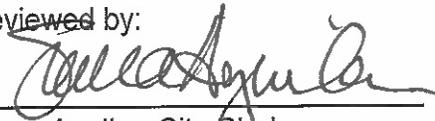
Edward Garcia, Mayor

Minutes taken and prepared by:



Amber Tardif, Deputy City Clerk

Reviewed by:



Laura Aguilar, City Clerk