

MINUTES

Agenda - Regular Meeting of the Sierra Madre City Council,
Successor Agency and Public Finance Authority
Tuesday, December 12, 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 Member John Capoccia, Council Member Gene Goss, and Council Member John Harabedian

Absent: None

Also, Present: Gabe Engeland, City Manager
Teresa Highsmith, City Attorney
Melinda Carrillo, City Clerk
Mike Amerio, City Treasurer
James Carlson, Management Analyst
Mike Goth, Acting Fire Chief
Laura Aguilar, Assistant City Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION/INSPIRATION:

Mayor Rachelle Arizmendi led Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Arizmendi expressed surprise in the passing of San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee. Mayor Arizmendi offered Mayor Lee's family and the City of San Francisco prayer and thought. Mayor Arizmendi reported the Thomas Fire is in the top five largest wild fires in California. As of Monday evening it was at 231,000 acres burned. She expressed thanks to all firefighters.

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION:

City Attorney Highsmith reported that the Council met in closed session with the City Attorney to get a briefing on a matter of potential or anticipated litigation. The Council provided staff and the City Attorney with direction, no action was taken.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mayor Rachelle Arizmendi noted that the presentation from Director Tom Love from the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District was cancelled.

Mayor Pro Tem Denise Delmar moved to approve the agenda with the change.

Council Member John Capoccia seconded the motion for approval.

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

Noes: None

Abstain: None

The motion to approve the agenda was passed unanimously.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS:

- 1) Council Member John Harabedian attended the first LACCE (Los Angeles Community Choice Energy) Board meeting. He is looking into the energy options this may provide locally and will possibly join in as a member to represent.
- 2) Council Member Goss reported he attended the Honors Award Dinner and felt all involved did a fabulous job.
- 3) Mayor Pro Tem Denise Delmar also attended and wanted to let all know that the Honoree's and Award Winners are in the Mountain View News as well but she felt the event was a success.

- 4) Mayor Rachelle Arizmendi commented how great the transition of the Honors Dinner was with changing venues, having limited resources and all of the volunteers as well as City Staff, who were involved in making it a successful dinner. She also spoke about being on the California League of Cities Board and their avocation of safety in small cities.
- 5) Council Member John Capoccia had nothing to report.

Mayor Arizmendi opened public comment on items not on the agenda.

AGENDA ACTION ITEMS; CONSENT CALENDAR:

City Manager Engeland gave the following report under the Consent Calendar:

- a) ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 17-67 OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE APPROVING CERTAIN DEMANDS
- b) RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE NOTICE OF COMPLETION FOR THE EMERGENCY REPLACEMENT OF 900 FEET OF WATER MAIN IN MANZANITA AVENUE AND SIERRA PLACE

Mayor Arizmendi brought the matter to the City Council for questions and discussion.

Council Member Capoccia commented on item 1B that he appreciated that the main issue came in at less cost than anticipated which means more funding can go to other main issues.

Council Member Gene Goss commented on item 1B that he knows of residents who are ecstatic on the fix of the main and it is greatly appreciated.

Mayor Arizmendi opened for public comment. Seeing no one come forward Mayor Arizmendi closed public comment on the consent calendar.

Council Member John Capoccia made a motion to approve items 1A and 1B on the consent calendar

The motion to approve items 1A and 1B was seconded by Council Member John Harabedian

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

Noes: None

Abstain: None

The motion to approve consent items 1A and 1B passed unanimously.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

2. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 17-68 APPROVING THE 4TH AMENDMENT TO THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS' JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

Management Analyst James Carlson presented the report.

Mayor Arizmendi brought the matter before the City Council for discussion or questions. Seeing none, Mayor Arizmendi opened the matter for public comment. Seeing no one come forward, Mayor Arizmendi closed public comment on agenda item 2 and brought the matter back to the City Council for discussion.

Council Member John Capoccia had stated that as the COG Representative, he understood that ACE had worked with COG to get all projects done on time and under budget. As ACE is winding down on projects, projects would be given back to local control for project management.

Mayor Rachelle Arizmendi feels that this will provide more objectives that could benefit the City but there are no projects that will directly affect us. Ultimately, the Council's say may not matter but that they will have to go with this joint powering

Council Member John Harabedian is in favor of approval.

Council Member John Capoccia made a motion to approve Resolution 17-68

The motion to approve Resolution 17-68 was seconded by Council Member John Harabedian

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

Noes: None

Abstain: None

The motion to approve Resolution 17-68 was approved unanimously.

3. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT OF SIERRA MADRE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 10.52.030 ON YELLOW AND RED FLAG DAYS

Acting Fire Chief Mike Goth presented the report.

Council Member John Capoccia asked if all three requirements were necessary to declare a Red Flag Days. Acting Fire Chief Goth responded that all three requirements are necessary. Prior to this evening only 4 days would have qualified as Red Flag Days. Council Member Capoccia asked about public education for Red Flag Days.

Council Member John Harabedian asked how notification would go out to residents and where they would park. Fire Chief Goth responded that parking is available on Mountain Trail and Alegria and have SMPD relax enforcement on Mountain Trail and Alegria on Red Flag Days. Residents would be notified via Nixel, social media, e-blast, and a red flag which was done previously so the residents are aware of this method.

Council Member Gene Goss wanted to know if there are regional red flag warnings. Chief Mike Goth responded that it would be regional and not City specific.

Mayor Pro Tem Denise Delmar asked how many residents were contacted during the four days Acting Fire Chief responded that there are currently no enforcement efforts at this time.

Mayor Arizmendi opened the matter for public comment

Natalie Cortez, Skyland Dr. –She is a first responder and has worked some of the recent fires. Ms. Cortez requested Council have some swift and forward thinking to get this into motion to protect these areas of the canyon. Also asked that they survey the area for red curbs and there are not enough in the area.

Barbara Lee Kline feels people are aware enough in Sierra Madre and in the canyon. She thinks residents just need a reminder to be alert.

Mayor Arizmendi asked if anyone else would like to comment on this matter. Seeing no one come forward, Mayor Arizmendi brought the matter back to Council for discussion.

No action was taken. City staff will return to a meeting in January with a draft ordinance for City Council consideration.

4. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 17-69: A RESOLUTION PRESENTING TO VOTERS AN ADVISORY QUESTION AT THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION ON APRIL 10, 201

Assistant City Clerk Laura Aguilar presented the report.

Council Member John Harabedian wanted to know if it is a reasonable solution to return fire suppression to 100% volunteer service if \$2.6 million in General Funds is lost. Hypothetically if the City lost that much revenue would the City be able to fund a fire department?

City Manager Engeland responded that several options were considered but when you add police, fire, library and community services it makes up about 80% of the budget so any cuts will likely come from those departments. With that said, City Manager Engeland has made a note to change the advisory ballot measure language to read 100% volunteer service or outsource.

Council Member Capoccia asked how it is possible to go back to 100% volunteer service? How would you find qualified people to volunteer?

Mayor Arizmendi opened the matter for public comment

Barbara Lee Kline commented that the City should cut services that are not mandated by the City. Looks at cuts in Community Services and also look at selling the back lot at the library. Savings can come elsewhere other than police and fire department.

Mayor Arizmendi asked if anyone else would like to comment on the item. Seeing no one, Mayor Arizmendi closed public comment and brought back to Council for discussion.

Council Member John Harabedian asked what would \$2.6 million be in terms of expenditures? City Manager Engeland responded that it is about a quarter of the City's General Fund.

Mayor Pro Tem Delmar and Council Member Goss would like to amend the presented resolution to remove the words "100% volunteer service."

Council Member Capoccia requested that UUT be spelled out to read Utility Users' Tax.

All Council Members were in favor of educating the public of what the end results are if items or measures are not passed.

Recommendation was made to add the advisory measure with the amended language discussed by Council for the ballot.

Council Member John Harabedian moved to approve Resolution 17-69 as amended, adding an advisory question at the General Municipal Election

The motion to approve was seconded by Mayor Rachelle Arizmendi

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

Noes: None

Abstain: None

The motion to approve Resolution 17-69 as amended passed unanimously.

Mayor Arizmendi asked the Council if there were any requests for new items for future agendas. No new items were presented.

A motion to adjourn the meeting in honor of San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee was made by Council Member John Harabedian

The motion to adjourn was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Denise Delmar

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

Noes: None

Abstain: None

The motion to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm.



Rachelle Arizmendi, Mayor

Minutes taken and typed by:



Assistant City Clerk Laura Aguilar