

**CITY OF SIERRA MADRE**  
**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL**  
**SUCCESSOR AGENCY AND**  
**PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY**

**Tuesday, November 12, 2019 - 6:30 pm**

Sierra Madre City Hall Council Chambers  
 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024



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

Mayor John Harabedian called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. City Clerk Sue Spears called the roll.

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

**Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Gabe Engeland, City Manager  
 Teresa Highsmith, City Attorney  
 Laura Aguilar, Assistant City Clerk, Administrative Services Manager  
 James Carlson, Management Analyst  
 Chris Cimino, Public Works Director  
 Vincent Gonzalez, Planning & Community Preservation Director  
 Hillary Guirrola-Leon, Finance and Budget Manager  
 Miguel Hernandez, Human Resources Manager  
 Jim Hunt, Interim Police Chief  
 Colby Konisek, Finance Director  
 Rebecca Silva-Barron, Community Services Manager  
 Sue Spears, City Clerk

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INSPIRATION:**

Mayor Harabedian led the Pledge of Allegiance and expressed thanks to veterans and those who served. He asked for a moment of silence in memory of Barry Gold, Sierra Madre resident who passed away recently.

**REPORT ON THE CLOSED SESSION - NOVEMBER 12, 2019:**

City Attorney Highsmith reported that the City Council met with the City Attorney in closed session (1) to receive a briefing on a matter of existing litigation, *CETT vs the City of Sierra Madre*, no action was taken, and direction was provided to legal counsel and also met (2) for the annual performance evaluation of the City Manager and direction was provided to the City Attorney and City Manager Engeland.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA:**

Mayor Harabedian asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Mayor Pro Tem Capoccia moved to approve the agenda as presented.

Council Member Goss seconded the motion.

**Ayes:** Mayor John Harabedian, Mayor Pro Tem John Capoccia, and Council Members Rachelle Arizmendi and Gene Goss  
**Noes:** None  
**Absent:** None  
**Abstain:** None

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mayor Harabedian asked for the approval of the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of October 8, 2019, and the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of October 22, 2019.

Mayor Pro Tem Capoccia noted a change needed to the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of October 22, 2019 regarding page 10 of 11 - Discussion Item #4 – Options for Filling City Council Vacancy - "Discussion occurred and there was consensus to ... and the need to "strike item (2) for the need to appoint a replacement".

There were no other changes noted.

Mayor Pro Tem Capoccia moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of October 8, 2019, as presented and the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of October 22, 2019 as amended.

Council Member Arizmendi seconded the motion.

Ayes: Mayor John Harabedian, Mayor Pro Tem John Capoccia, and Council Members Rachelle Arizmendi and Gene Goss  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

The motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of October 8, 2019, as presented and the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of October 22, 2019 as amended was passed by a unanimous vote.

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS:**

A. Mayor John Harabedian (1) reported that the Sierra Madre VFW Post held an event on Sunday for Veteran's Day and (2) recognized the legacy of Barry Gold, who ran for City Council in 2016, as someone who the City Council will miss for his wit and intellect.

B. Mayor Pro Tem John Capoccia (1) reported that he attended the second day of a Conference for the Clean Power Alliance, the power provider that Sierra Madre opted into and (2) thanked De & Pat Alcorn and Gary Hood for their and the Citizens Initiative Committee's efforts in the passing of Measure S by a vote of 81% yes, which is a good thing for Sierra Madre.

C. Council Member Rachelle Arizmendi did not make a report.

D. Council Member Gene Goss reported that (1) the entire City Council attended last Saturday's "Night Under the Stars" celebration honoring our Police and Fire Departments, which was put on by Vic @ Corfu Restaurant, (2) it was a marvelous evening for a great cause, and (3) Vic and Laura Aguilar, Asst. City Clerk, are to be complemented for all of their work and efforts towards this fun event.

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

Mayor Harabedian opened the meeting for Public Comment on items not on the agenda.

- Leslee Hinton, Sierra Madre, spoke against e-cigarettes and urged the City Council to review the City's current ordinance regarding smoke free environments and consider including e-cigarettes and vaping as part of the banned substances in the ordinance.

- John Hiller, Sierra Madre, spoke about the Bahai Faith member's availability for service projects in Sierra Madre.

- Adrian & Maria Holda, Sierra Madre, spoke about a 911 medical emergency involving their daughter, Alicia, on October 24, 2019, at 5:00 a.m. at which Sierra Madre Paramedics and Police Department personnel responded. They described the incident as harrowing and extended their gratitude to all those who assisted their daughter, who has made a full recovery.

Lou Oronoz, Community Service Officer, introduced those who responded that morning as follows: Police Dispatcher Michelle Huaynate, Firefighters/Paramedics Esteban Estrada and Ryan Tornello, Police Corporal Luis Castillo, and Police Field Training Officer Joe Lazcano.

Mayor Harabedian thanked the entire team for their quick response and service to the community.

- SMFD Sergeant Kyle Bailey & SMFD Captain Brent Bartlett, spoke about (1) the partnership between the SMFD, SMFD, and the City of Hope regarding this November's Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, (2) the "No Shaver Campaign", designed to stimulate conversation/awareness about/prostate cancer (affecting 1 out of 7 men ages 50+ nationwide), (3) the SMFD and SMFD campaign pages with the goal of raising \$5,000 for the City of Hope (100% of proceeds go to the City of Hope), (4) a Doctor of Urology from the City of Hope will be presenting at an open forum on prostate cancer on November 19, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m. and the public is invited to attend, and (5) the community will be invited to vote at the end of the campaign on "Who Wore the Best Beard/Mustache, etc."

Mayor Harabedian asked if anyone else would like to come forward to speak on items not on the agenda. Seeing no one come forward, Mayor Harabedian closed Public Comment.

#### AGENDA ACTION ITEMS:

#### CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE 2021-2029 - Recommendation that the City Council approve a professional services agreement with Karen Warner Associates to prepare the City's 2021-2029 Housing Element Update and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract.

- CONSIDERATION OF URGENCY ORDINANCE 1420-U REPEALING CHAPTER 9.48 OF THE SIERRA MADRE MUNICIPAL CODE - Recommendation that the City Council repeal chapter 9.48 of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code to conform to current California State Law as directed by the California Supreme Court.

- CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 19-58 AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR, AND RECEIPT OF, SB 2 PLANNING GRANTS PROGRAM FUNDS - Recommendation that the City Council approve Resolution 19-58 for authorization to submit a 2019 California Senate Bill 2 Planning Grants Program application and to authorize the receipt of program funds once the City's application is approved.

- CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 19-61 APPROVING CERTAIN DEMANDS - Recommendation that the City Council approve Resolution 19-61 for approval of payment of City warrants in the aggregate amount of \$635,451.90; Sierra Madre Library warrants in the aggregate amount of \$1,738.60; and payroll transfer in the aggregate amount of \$343,471.19; for fiscal year ending June 30, 2019

Mayor Harabedian asked if any Member of the Council had questions on Consent Items 1a – 1d.

#### Regarding Consent Item 1a

- In response to a question regarding the cost of the contract during the last cycle compared to the current estimated cost of \$83,980 and why the large difference, Planning & Community Preservation Director Gonzalez said that (1) the 2014 cycle contract was approximately \$25,000, (2) the City sent out 5 RFPs and 3 recipients declined to respond, (3) the two bids received were similarly priced, and (4) costs have gone up considerably.
- City Attorney Highsmith added that (1) the process is now much more complicated, as the law has changed a lot since the last update of the housing element, (2) there have been a rash of new housing laws since 2017 and they keep coming, (3) this consultant will be required, as part of the analysis, to look over the City's existing housing element and existing ordinances to inform the City what needs to be updated to be compliant, etc., all of which will take more time, as compared to before, and (4) this process is required every eight years.
- Mayor Harabedian noted that the number of estimated hours in the contract is extremely high, as is the number of units the City is required to zone for, which is 10 times last cycle.
- Planning & Community Preservation Director Gonzalez referenced the contract Scope of Work stating that "preliminary numbers released by SCAG show a projected need ranging from 130 (Option 3), to 535 (Option 1), to 625 (Option 2) new units for Sierra Madre, compared to 55 units in the prior housing element cycle in 2014".

There were no other questions asked.

Mayor Harabedian opened the meeting for Public Comment on the Consent Items. Seeing no one, Mayor Harabedian closed Public Comment and brought the matter back to the Council for discussion. No additional discussion occurred.

Council Member Goss made a motion to approve Consent Items 1a – 1d as presented.

Council Member Arizmendi seconded the motion.

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

The motion to approve Consent Items 1a – 1d as presented was passed by a unanimous vote.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**AB 1600 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE ACTIVITY**

Mayor Harabedian opened this item for Public Hearing.

Finance Director Konisek reported on this item with the recommendation that the City Council that the City Council receive and file the annual AB1600 Compliance Report for Development Impact Fee Activity for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 in accordance with California Government Code Section 66006.

Per the Staff Report dated 11-12-2019, the following outlines the proposed projects that initiated in FY 2018-19. Some of the projects extended into or did not start until FY 2019-20.

**General Government**

City Hall ADA compliant restrooms.	Description	Cost
Upgrade Council Chambers, general seating, ADA compliant seating accommodation areas, carpeting, and AV Equipment.	Description	\$ 28,000
	Total	\$ 49,390

**Sewer**

Maintenance Yard Office expansion @ 50%.	Description	Cost
		\$ 56,959
	Total	\$ 56,959

**Transportation**

State mandated Traffic Study.	Description	Cost
		\$ 10,453
	Total	\$ 10,453

**Water**

Maintenance Yard Office expansion @ 50%.	Description	Cost
AMI Project (Funds charged).		\$ 56,959
		213,000
	Total	\$ 269,959
	Grant Total, All Projects	\$ 386,761

Per the Staff Report dated 11-12-2019, the following list is of projects that were continued or initiated in FY 2019-20.

**General Government**

Upgrade Council Chambers, general seating, ADA compliant seating accommodation areas, carpeting, and AV Equipment (remaining amount).	Description	Cost
Emergency Operations Room carpet.		9,000
	Total	\$ 17,610

**Parks and Parkland (Quimby)**

Pool improvements.	Description	Cost
		\$ 40,000
	Total	\$ 40,000

Debt Service Funds for fire engine.		\$ 50,000
Description		Cost
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 50,000</b>

**Public Safety**

Construct new fencing and gate at City Yard Spreading Grounds (sewer share).		\$ 50,000
Description		Cost
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 50,000</b>

**Sewer**

State mandated Traffic Study (remaining amount).		\$ 3,547
Road resurfacing.		20,000
Description		Cost
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 23,547</b>

**Transportation**

Construct new fencing and gate at City Yard Spreading Grounds (water share).		\$ 50,000
Description		Cost
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 50,000</b>
<b>Grant Total, All Projects, FY2019-20 (to date)</b>		<b>\$ 206,157</b>

Mayor Harabedian asked if any Member of the Council had questions on this item.

In response to a question regarding future planning, Budget Director Konisek responded that projects are constantly being developed and that, in 2020-21, AB1600 will require that the City complete a 5-year plan.

Mayor Harabedian opened this item Public Comment. Seeing no one, Mayor Harabedian closed Public Comment and brought the matter back to the Council for discussion. No discussion occurred.

Council Member Arizmendi made a motion to receive and file the annual AB1600 Compliance Report for Development Impact Fee Activity for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

Mayor Pro Tem Capoccia seconded the motion.

**Ayes:** Mayor John Harabedian, Mayor Pro Tem John Capoccia, and Council Members Rachelle Arizmendi and Gene Goss  
**Noes:** None  
**Absent:** None  
**Abstain:** None

The motion receive and file the annual AB1600 Compliance Report for Development Impact Fee Activity for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 was passed by a unanimous vote.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**1. KERSTING COURT GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT DESIGN, ADDITIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT, AND ARTS IN PUBLIC PLACES RECOMMENDATION**

Community Services Manager Silva-Barron reported on this item with the recommendation that the City Council (1) approve the Additional Services Agreement from LRM Associates totaling \$32,100 for the additional trades and services necessary to fully complete the design of the project; (2) approve conceptual design for the Kersting Court General Improvements Project; and (3) approve the Community Services Commission recommendation for the Arts in Public Places to fund an environmental art piece.

Bron Ruff, Kersting Court landscape architect and President of LRM Associates Inc., provided the City Council with an animation overview of the Kersting Court Remodel Project.

Mayor Harabedian asked if any Member of the Council had questions on this item.

City Manager Engeland and Public Works Director Cimino responded to the following Council Member questions:

- Why was there a need for change orders? – The City had the consultant do a lot more work than was requested in the original RFP, including additional items, like construction drawings and the 3D design. The whole of Kersting Court was not included in the original

RFP and the project grew to include (1) the pavement areas, requiring more construction drawings, (2) replacing the banner poles, requiring engineering, (3) moving the electrical box, requiring an electrical engineer to move the electrical box and add the electrical to the Kersting Court area, and (4) additional grading.

• Why were construction drawing not included in the original RFP? – Construction drawings were included in the original RFP, but now the project has expanded to now include the parking lot area of Kersting Court.

• Are there any concerns regarding the timeline and expending the \$360,000? – Staff will work with LA County to extend the timeline on the \$300,000 and the \$60,000 is already in Arts in Public Places the City controls. The construction timeline is estimated to be 6-8 weeks. The timeline for the actual work on Kersting Court will be determined following meetings with the Kersting Court businesses regarding the least impactful time and to not displace some of the City's marquee events downtown. In addition, the Art in Public Places must be layered on top of that, which may or may not move forward at the same time as the construction. There will be multiple timelines as the project moves forward, but there is no reason to believe that the funding will be at issue based on the timeline adopted.

• Was there a financial impact because of the delay in the Community Services Commission decision making? – Staff did have to ask LA County for an extension of the \$300,000 grant award, which was called shovel ready, meaning construction within that fiscal year. Given that the original timeframe has been exceeded, Staff does not believe that a second extension request will be necessary, based on the current design.

• What are the paving stones in the parking area? – The mosaic design of the parking area is actually be a stamped asphalt, not actual paving stones.

• How is a decision going to be made regarding the Art in Public Places? – Staff will work with the consultant to determine exactly what types of materials will be used and then work with the concept or multiple concepts put forward by the CSC that work with that type of construction material. Because the recommendation is a concept, there is a little bit more freedom, but it is also going to be harder to define at this stage exactly how we are moving forward. It is pretty clear what we want to do with the kiosk area. However, some of the other ideas, such as artistic lighting or a different design on the seating is going to come back to what works with the actual construction elements that the consultant is recommending. The likely outcome of this is a little more work as we move forward on the actual construction and a little more work on the Art in Public Places and then come back to the City Council with final recommendations for City Council approval.

• Can the City Council set a deadline for the decision regarding the Art in Public Places? – The decision rests with the City Council and recommendations will come to the City Council for final approval.

• How much of the \$300,000 is remaining and what is the total budget through construction? – There is approximately \$270,000 remaining in the grant plus all of the Art in Public Spaces funds. Final construction costs are to be determined, but if it exceeds the grant amount, monies are available from Quimby or Parks Impact Fees or, potentially, a General Fund Surplus, which is a less likely scenario.

Tom Sullivan, Community Services Commission Chairperson responded to the following Council Member question:

• Why has this process taken so long? – There were differing views among the Community Services Commission members regarding the scope and scale of the Kersting Court remodel, which impacted the timeliness of the deliberations and delayed it coming before the City Council.

Bron Ruf, Kersting Court landscape architect, responded to the following Council Member questions:

• What are raised crosswalks? – Cross walks that are raised just enough so that there is a bump to slow down traffic, except it is flat for a longer time, and it is marked.

• Are the plants depicted in the animation actual? – The plants in the drawings are markers for now, with the plant selection determination to be made during the construction document phase.

Mayor Harabedian opened this item for Public Comment.

- Pat Alcorn, Sierra Madre, spoke about this project taking over seven years and her suggestions for determining the Art in Public Places design.

Mayor Harabedian asked if anyone else would like to come forward to speak Seeing no one, Mayor Harabedian closed Public Comment and brought the matter back to the Council for discussion.

Discussion occurred and Council Members expressed their opinions, which included the following (1) support for the design, with Kersting Court as an epicenter for community events/gatherings, (2) the design provides ADA accessibility and is pedestrian friendly, (3) the walls provide a lot more seating capacity, (4) the outcome is going to be good, (5) timing is critical when looking at the overall project, (6) disappointment that the Arts in Public Places decision is not farther along, as this project started with direction years ago, (7) there is a need to expedite the Arts in Public Places decision, with Staff taking the lead and bringing a recommendation to the City Council for approval, (8) need for plenty of electrical outlets, (9) need for a second water fountain, and (10) appreciation to the Community Services Commission for its hard work on this project.

Council Member Arizmendi made a motion to (1) approve the Additional Services Agreement from LRM Associates totaling \$32,100 for the additional trades and services necessary to fully complete the design of the project; (2) approve conceptual design for the Kersting Court General Improvements Project; and (3) approve the Community Services Commission recommendation for the Arts in Public Places to fund the Arts in Public Places to fund an environmental art piece.

Council Member Goss seconded the motion.

Ayes: Mayor John Harabedian, Mayor Pro Tem Capoccia, and Council Members Rachel Arizmendi and Gene Goss

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

The motion to (1) approve the Additional Services Agreement from LRM Associates totaling \$32,100 for the additional trades and services necessary to fully complete the design of the project; (2) approve conceptual design for the Kersting Court General Improvements Project; and (3) approve the Community Services Commission recommendation for the Arts in Public Places to fund an environmental art piece was passed by a unanimous vote.

Mayor Harabedian thanked the CSC Commissioners for a job well done.

## 2. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 19-60 AMENDING THE GENERAL FUND BALANCE POLICY AND AUTHORIZATION FOR A PRE-PAYMENT OF \$3,000,000 TO CALPERS FOR UNFUNDED ACCRUED LIABILITY (UAL)

Finance & Budget Manager Guirrola-Leon reported on this item with the recommendation that the City Council (1) approve Resolution No. 19-60 amending the General Fund Balance Policy; (2) authorize a lump sum pre-payment of \$3,000,000 (\$3M) to CalPERS for PERS UAL; and (3) the budget amendments necessary to fund the prepayment.

Mayor Harabedian asked if any Member of the Council had questions on this item.

City Manager Engeland responded to the following Council Member questions:

- If the City makes a \$3M payment, what is the rate of return? – (1) Cal PERS provides a tools spreadsheet, which the City uses to determine how the \$3M is allocated, as well as use the spreadsheet to determine the savings. (2) As a recent example, before the \$5M additional discretionary payment that the City Council authorized last year, the City's total unfunded accrued liability over the course of the repayments was \$26M. The principal, if you think of it in loan terms was \$14M. After the City made the prepayment, the principal went down \$5M to \$9M, but the total unfunded accrued liability went down \$12M to \$14M. (3) This is not the same as thinking of annual payments as principal plus interest. (4) If the principal is reduced by, in this case, one-third of the \$9M the City owes, Staff expects a further decline in the City's overall liability, which is amortized over 20 years. (5) The other reason there is a big jump in the payments is when the unfunded accrued liability was first rolled out by CalPERS, payments were calculated over a 30-year window, with negative amortization, where even though the City is paying the principal, it was not enough to cover the liability so costs were expanding every year. (6) The reason for the fluctuating payments is the multiple bases, as well as looking at both principal and liability at the same time. (7) Shortening the window to a 20-year and reverse negative amortization that made the \$5M prepayment with the largest impact in overall liability. (8) At this time, Staff is recommending that the \$3M not be put straight towards the greatest savings, but to put it towards the

greater liability, all of which is complex. (9) At the end, the actuary report shows what is expected at a rate of return on a 60-year time horizon. (10) CalPERS has a total 60-year investment time horizon, even though it amortizes the UAL over 20 years now.

Has the yearly savings been calculated? – The final number will be calculated by CalPERS retroactively, with its report completed one year after the prepayment.

How is the OPEB viewed, as it is carried on the City's books? – OPEB is different because (1) the service provider may be different than CalPERS and cities can set and change their own benefit levels, (2) with CalPERS, a city is either Classic or PEPPA and either Miscellaneous or Public Safety, (3) with OPEB, there is a variety of benefits that change from employer to employer, (4) last year Sierra Madre made an additional payment to keep it at 85% funded, as it had dropped below that, and (5) the total value of the plan is much less, but we plan to treat it similarly to other obligations at 85% or higher, i.e. pension liabilities & healthcare benefit liabilities.

Is the rate of return similar to a fixed income rate of return? – The actuary calculation, though CalPERS calculates it at the discount rate, is actual experience. So when CalPERS has a good year (they beat projections recently, even though they fell short), cities get the actual experience realized, which is why CalPERS waits one year to apply the actuary. Overall, CalPERS is confident that its expanded horizon will earn CalPERS X amount of return every year.

Is it correct to say that Sierra Madre is taking \$3M that would be sitting in reserves (earning less than 2%) and, by paying it to CalPERS, the \$3M will have a return of at least 6% - 7.75% immediately? – That is correct, that is the easiest way to say it. Most cities that have the ability to pre-fund have determined that it is the single best thing to do for sustainability.

Mayor Harabedian moved the agenda to the report on Discussion Item #3.

### 3. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 19-59 APPROVING A PENSION AND OPEB FUNDING POLICY

Finance & Budget Manager Guirrola-Leon reported on this item with the recommendation that the City Council approve Resolution No. 19-59 approving a Pension and Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Funding Policy.

Mayor Harabedian asked if any Member of the Council had questions on this item. Council Members did not ask any questions.

Mayor Harabedian opened Discussion Item #2 and Discussion Item #3 for Public Comment. Seeing no one, Mayor Harabedian closed Public Comment and brought the matter back to the Council for discussion.

Discussion occurred and City Council Members expressed their opinions, which included the following: (1) the Pension and OPEB Funding Policy is a really great policy, (2) City Council Members are proud to be able to implement this policy, (2) it makes the City Council more accountable to address this issue now and not let it get out of control and leave it for future generations to figure out, (3) Sierra Madre is in the top tier of fiscal management and this is one of the reasons why, (4) 100% funding as a target is the goal and now there is progress towards doing just that, (5) it is important to get on top of the finances of this because it will be devastating if not addressed now, (6) Sierra Madre is taking money from its own General Fund and Reserves to do this, as there are no property tax or other assessments being levied on taxpayers for this, (7) credit and congratulations to City Manager Engeland and the entire Financial Team for being bold and creative in developing these policies and doing the right thing on behalf of Sierra Madre residents and taxpayers, and (8) Sierra Madre taxpayers will not be on the hook 10-15 years from now regarding pension funds.

Council Member Goss made a motion to (1) approve Resolution No. 19-59 Approving a Pension and OPEB Funding Policy, (2) approve Resolution No. 19-60 amending the General Fund Balance Policy, and (3) authorize a lump sum pre-payment of \$3,000,000 to CalPERS for PERS UAL and the budget amendments necessary to fund the prepayment.

Council Member Arizmendi seconded the motion.

Ayes: Mayor John Harabedian, Mayor Pro Tem Capoccia, and Council Members Rachel Arizmendi and Gene Goss  
 Noes: None  
 Absent: None



Abstain: None

The motion to (1) approve Resolution No. 19-59 Approving a Pension and OPFB Funding Policy, (2) approve Resolution No. 19-60 amending the General Fund Balance Policy, and (3) authorize a lump sum pre-payment of \$3,000,000 to CalPERS for PERS UAL and the budget amendments necessary to fund the prepayment was passed by a unanimous vote.

**4. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 19-62 AMENDING THE CITY'S CLASSIFICATION PLAN AND SALARY MATRIX FOR EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT AND CONFIDENTIAL-EXEMPT POSITIONS**

Human Resources Manager Hernandez reported on this item with the recommendation that the City Council approve Resolution 19-62, Amending the Classification Plan and Salary Matrix for the following classifications: Executive Management positions and Confidential-Exempt positions (not previously included in the 2.1% Cost of Living increase) and approve a COLA increase for the Police Lieutenant position.

Mayor Harabedian asked if any Member of the Council had questions on this item. City Council Members did not ask any questions.

Mayor Harabedian opened this item for Public Comment. Seeing no one, Mayor Harabedian closed Public Comment and brought the matter back to the Council for discussion.

Discussion occurred that there was consensus to approve Resolution 19-62 as presented.

Mayor Pro Tem Capoccia made a motion to approve Resolution 19-62 as presented.

Council Member Goss seconded the motion.

Ayes: Mayor John Harabedian, Mayor Pro Tem Capoccia, and Council Members Rachel Arizmeni and Gene Goss

Noes: None  
 Absent: None  
 Abstain: None

The motion to (1) approve Resolution 19-62 as presented was passed by a unanimous vote.

**5. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 19-63 CALLING AND GIVING NOTICE OF THE HOLDING OF A GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020, FOR THE ELECTION OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AS REQUIRED BY THE PROVISION OF THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA RELATING TO GENERAL LAW CITIES; AND CONSIDERATION OF URGENT ORDINANCE NO. 1419-U REPEALING SECTION 2.04.090 OF THE SIERRA MADRE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO "PROCEDURE FOR FILLING A CITY COUNCIL MEMBER VACANCY."**

Assistant City Clerk Aguilar reported on this item with the recommendation that the City Council (1) approve Resolution 19-63 calling and giving notice of a general municipal election to be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 for the election of certain officers as required by the provision of laws of the State of California relating to general law cities and (2) adopt Urgent Ordinance 1419-U repealing Section 2.04.090 of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code relating to "Procedure for Filling a City Council Member Vacancy."

Mayor Harabedian clarified that the only issues to be decided tonight are (1) to set the election date and (2) repeal the existing ordinance regarding appointment to a City Council vacancy and not to decide a process to appoint a replacement for Council Member Delmar's vacant position.

Mayor Harabedian asked if any Member of the Council had questions on this item.

City Attorney Highsmith responded to the following Council Member question:

- What makes it an urgency ordinance versus a regular ordinance? – An urgency ordinance (1) requires a 4/5ths vote, or unanimous in this case, (2) is introduced, adopted, and goes into effect all on the same night, and (3) requires urgency findings to preserve the health, safety, and welfare. Urgency findings for this ordinance may be to provide the maximum opportunity for the City Council to consider, if it chooses to consider an appointment, as the field of candidates would be wider. Otherwise, the City Council would have to do a first reading, a second reading, and another 30 days, which makes it 60 days to get to the point where the City Council might decide whether or not to appoint and what the process would be.

Mayor Harabedian opened this item for Public Comment. Seeing no one, Mayor Harabedian closed Public Comment and brought the matter back to the Council for discussion.

Discussion occurred that there was consensus to (1) approve Resolution 19-63, (2) adopt Urgency Ordinance 1419-U, and (3) the City Council would like as much flexibility as possible, as the current ordinance is too restrictive and does not serve the best interest of the community.

Council Member Arizmendi made a motion to (1) approve Resolution 19-63 calling and giving notice of the holding of a general municipal election to be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 for the election of certain officers as required by the provision of laws of the State of California relating to general law cities and (2) adopt Urgency Ordinance 1419-U repealing Section 2.04.090 of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code relating to "Procedure for Filling a City Council Member Vacancy."

Council Member Goss seconded the motion.

Ayes: Mayor John Harabedian, Mayor Pro Tem Capoccia, and Council Members Rachel Arizmendi and Gene Goss  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

The motion to (1) approve Resolution 19-63 calling and giving notice of the holding of a general municipal election to be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 for the election of certain officers as required by the provision of laws of the State of California relating to general law cities and (2) adopt Urgency Ordinance 1419-U repealing Section 2.04.090 of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code relating to "Procedure for Filling a City Council Member Vacancy" was passed by a unanimous vote.

**NEW ITEMS PLACED FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:**

Mayor Harabedian announced that there will be no City Council Meeting on Tuesday, November 26, 2019, because of Thanksgiving and only one City Council Meeting in December. He asked the members of the City Council if there are any new items for meeting agendas in the new year (2020). Mayor Pro Tem Capoccia suggested that the City Council discuss whether to fill Council Member Delmar's vacant position at a future meeting. Mayor Harabedian concurred.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Harabedian asked for a motion to adjourn.

Council Member Goss made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

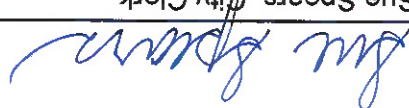
The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Capoccia.

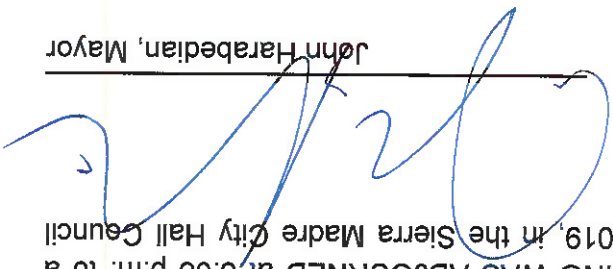
Ayes: Mayor John Harabedian, Mayor Pro Tem Capoccia, and Council Members Rachel Arizmendi and Gene Goss  
Noes: None  
Absent: None

The motion to adjourn was passed by a unanimous vote.

THIS SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING WAS ADJOURNED at 8:08 p.m. to a Regular meeting to be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, in the Sierra Madre City Hall Council Chambers.

Minutes taken and prepared by:

  
Sue Spears, City Clerk

  
John Harabedian, Mayor