



CITY OF SIERRA MADRE
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL
SUCCESSOR AGENCY AND
PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY

Tuesday, July 13, 2021 - 4:00 pm

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

As part of the City of Sierra Madre's COVID-19 transmission mitigation efforts, the City Council meeting was 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).

The Brown Act provides the public with an opportunity to make public comments at any public meeting. Public comment was also made by e-mail to PublicComment@CityofSierraMadre.com by 3:00PM on the day of the meeting. Emails were acknowledged at the Council meeting and filed into public record.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Arizmendi called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. City Clerk Aguilar called the roll.

Present: Mayor Rachelle Arizmendi, Mayor Pro Tem Gene Goss, and Council Members Edward Garcia and Robert Parkhurst

Absent: Council Member Kelly Kriebs (arrived 4:09 pm)

Also Present: Jose Reynoso, Director of Utility Services
Miguel Hernandez, Assistant City Manager
Aleks Giragosian, City Attorney
Laura Aguilar, City Clerk/Administrative Services Manager
Rodrick Armalin, Chief of Police
Chris Cimino, Public Works Director
Vincent Gonzalez, Director of Community and Preservation
Clare Lin, Senior Planner
Joshua Wolf, Associate Planner
James Carlson, Management Analyst
Christine Smart, City Librarian
Rebecca Silva-Barron, Community Services Manager
Sophia Kownatzki, Management Analyst
Alondra Reynoso, Management Intern
Oscar Millan, IT Manager
Christian Delgado, Senior Network Administrator

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INSPIRATION

Council Member Garcia led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Mayor Arizmendi asked for approval of the agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Goss made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Council Member Parkhurst seconded the motion.

Mayor Arizmendi called for a vote of the Council to approve the agenda.

Ayes: Mayor Arizmendi, Mayor Pro Tem Goss, and Council Members Garcia and Parkhurst

Noes: None
Absent: Council Member Kriebs
Abstain: None

The motion to approve the agenda as presented was passed by a vote of 4-0-1-0.

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 Arizmendi asked for a motion.

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

The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Goss.

Mayor Arizmendi called for a vote of the Council.

Ayes: Mayor Arizmendi, Mayor Pro Tem Goss, and Council Members Garcia and Parkhurst
Noes: None
Absent: Council Member Kriebs
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 vote of 4-0-1-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Arizmendi asked for a motion or suggested changes to meeting minutes of the Regular Council meeting of June 22, 2021.

City Clerk Aguilar advised that Council Member Parkhurst submitted a recommendation that public comments be elaborated.

Council Member Parkhurst moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of June 22, 2021 as amended.

Mayor Pro Tem Goss seconded the motion.

Mayor Arizmendi called for a vote of the Council.

Ayes: Mayor Arizmendi, Mayor Pro Tem Goss, and Council Members Garcia and Parkhurst
Noes: None
Absent: Council Member Kriebs
Abstain: None

The motion to approve the meeting minutes of the Regular Council meeting of June 22, 2021, as amended, was passed by a vote of 4-0-1-0.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Pro Tem Goss: Praised the 4th of July Committee for all the events. And also remarked that it was good to be back in Council Chambers after being gone for more than one year.

Council Member Parkhurst: Commended organizers and participants of the 5k Firecracker Run. Also, attended the Executive Committee meeting of the Clean Power Alliance meeting last week and had nothing new to report. He also attended an energy meeting.

Council Member Garcia: had nothing new to report.

4:09 pm - Council Member Kriebs arrived to the meeting. Mayor Arizmendi acknowledged her attendance for the record.

Mayor Arizmendi: Applauded City staff, 4th of July Committee, City commissions, SMPD, and SMFD for their roles in organizing and managing the events. The Block Party was great.

Council Member Kriebs: had nothing new to report but commented that seeing the community spirit was a joy.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

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

Gary Hood, N. Baldwin: presented a list of cities and community groups fighting Sacramento on various Senate Bills.

Pat Alcorn: shared her concerns with the letter sent to residents to consider the EIR portion of the Monastery development. The letter was received on the 4th of July weekend and Ms. Alcorn surmised that a number of recipients were away during the holidays and may not have received the notice.

Deb Sheridan, Valley Vista: expressed concern with the public scoping meeting regarding the Monastery property, also inquiring what an "open house format" is and why comments are only accepted in writing. Ms. Sheridan also inquired about the process in submitting written comments and when the previous three scoping meetings occurred as the notice the residents received indicated that the upcoming scoping meeting is the fourth meeting.

Karen Rowinsky: Read a statement from Lynne Collman regarding the public scoping meeting for the housing development at the Monastery. Also asked why the Draft EIR has not yet been released and why public comments at the scoping meeting were limited to written only.

Guillermo Arellana: Requested the Council issue a Vote of No Confidence against Los Angeles District Attorney George Gascon.

Nancy Beckham: Advised that she submitted her written comments for the Scoping meeting and expressed her disappointment in the public comment process.

Emails were received from:

Deirdre Murphy: The e-mail was read into record by City Clerk Aguilar and filed as public record.

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

PRESENTATIONS:

UPDATE FROM THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT. Presentation was made by SGVMWD Director Miles Prince.

PRESENTATION ON THE MOUNT WILSON TRAIL ARCH/GATE PROJECT. Presentation was made by Mr. Pete Siberell.

PRESENTATION ON THE YMCA SUMMER PROGRAM. Presentation was made by Devon Corlew, YMCA Senior Branch Executive Director

PRESENTATION ABOUT THE NEW MTA MICRO SERVICE. Presentation made by Adeline and Josh from the MTA

6:26 pm. At this point in the meeting the Mayor called for a brief recess. The meeting resumed at 6:34 pm

AGENDA ACTION ITEMS:

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- a) **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 21-44 APPROVING CERTAIN DEMANDS**
It is recommended that the City Council approve Resolution 21-44, authorizing payment of City Warrants in the aggregate amount of \$920,094.06; Sierra Madre Library Warrants in the aggregate amount of \$16,608.31; and Payroll Transfer in the aggregate amount of \$971,208.36; for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 and 2022.
- b) **APPROVAL OF THE NOTICE OF COMPLETION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT.**

It is recommended that the City Council approve the Notice of Completion for the project and direct staff to file the Notice with the L.A. County Clerk.

c) **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 21-41, DESIGNATION OF VOTING DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE FOR 2021 LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND BUSINESS MEETING**

It is recommended that the City Council adopt Resolution 21-41 designating Council Member Parkhurst as the City's Voting Delegate and Mayor Arizmendi as the Alternate Voting Delegate to the 2021 League of California City's Annual Conference and Expo to be held in Sacramento.

d) **SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 1444 AMENDING SECTION 15.58.040 (APPLICABILITY) OF CHAPTER 15.58 (LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT PLAN) OF TITLE 15 (BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION) OF THE SIERRA MADRE MUNICIPAL CODE TO CLARIFY THE APPLICABILITY OF A LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT PLAN TO DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND MAKING A DRAINAGE PLAN MANDATORY FOR CERTAIN DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

It is recommended that the City Council conduct the second reading of Ordinance 1444 clarifying the applicability of a low impact development plan to development projects and making a drainage plan mandatory for certain development and redevelopment projects.

e) **SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 1443 AMENDING TITLE 12 ("STREETS, SIDEWALKS, AND PUBLIC PLACES") AND TITLE 15 ("BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION") OF THE SIERRA MADRE MUNICIPAL CODE**

It is recommended that the City Council introduce and adopt for second reading, by title only, Ordinance 1443 amending Title 12 ("Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Places") and Title 15 ("Building and Construction") of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code

f) **SECOND AMENDMENT TO GROUND LEASE AND GROUND LESSOR'S ESTOPPEL CERTIFICATE FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 70 ESPERANZA AVENUE, COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE SIERRA VISTA APARTMENTS.**

It is recommended that the City Council approve the Second Amendment to Ground Lease between the City of Sierra Madre, S.M.E. Associates, Ltd., and Sierra Vista Senior Apartments, LP for the property located at 70 Esperanza Avenue, commonly known as the Sierra Vista Apartments.

It is recommended that the City Council execute the Ground Lessor's Estoppel Certificate for the property located at 70 Esperanza Avenue, commonly known as the Sierra Vista Apartments.

g) **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 21-46 MODIFYING EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT AND CONFIDENTIAL-EXEMPT CLASSIFICATION PLAN AND SALARY MATRIX**

It is recommended that City Council approve Resolution 21-46, Amending the Classification Plan and Salary Matrix for the following classifications: Executive Management positions and Confidential-Exempt positions.

Mayor Arizmendi opened the matter for public comment. Seeing no one come forward, Mayor Arizmendi asked if any e-mails had been received. City Clerk Aguilar advised that no e-mails had been received.

The Mayor brought the matter back to the Council for discussion. Hearing no questions from the Council, Mayor Arizmendi called for a motion to approve.

Council Member Parkhurst made a motion to approve Consent Items a-g.

Council Member Kriebs seconded the motion.

Mayor Arizmendi called for a vote of the Council.

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

The motion to approve Consent Items a-g was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. **A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER RESOLUTION 21-44, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2020 URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN AND DIRECTING THE FILING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN; AND RESOLUTION 21-45 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING THE 2020 WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN AND DIRECTING THE FILING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN**

It is recommended that the City Council adopt City Council Resolution 21-44, adopting the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan, and directing the filing of the implementation of the plan; and,

It is recommended that the City Council adopt City Council Resolution 21-45, adopting the 2020 Water Shortage Contingency Plan and directing the filing and implementation of the plan; and,

It is recommended that the City Council authorize staff to file the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan with the State of California Water Resources Control Board

This report was given by Utility Services Director Jose Reynoso.

Mayor Arizmendi opened the Public Hearing and requested comment from the public.

De Alcorn, Grandview: Asked how aggressive the City intended to get with using recycled water.

Seeing no one else from the public come forward to the podium, Mayor Arizmendi continued the Public Hearing to July 27, 2021.

2. **ORDINANCE 1445 AMENDING CHAPTER 17.32 (R-P RESIDENTIAL-PROFESSIONAL ZONE) OF TITLE 17 (ZONING) OF THE SIERRA MADRE MUNICIPAL CODE**

It is recommended that the City Council introduce, waive reading in full, and authorize reading by title only of Ordinance No. 1445, amending Chapter 17.32 (R-P Residential-Professional Zone).

The report was presented by Associate Planner Joshua Wolf.

Mayor Arizmendi asked if any Council Members had questions. The Council collectively asked various questions which were answered by City staff.

Mayor Arizmendi opened the Public Hearing for public comment and testimony.

Seeing no one come forward and acknowledging that no e-mails had been received, Mayor Arizmendi closed the Public Hearing and brought the matter back to Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Goss said he would make a motion provided that the section listing pharmacies was stricken from the "catch all" for similar small businesses.

Mayor Pro Tem Goss made a motion to approve first reading of Ordinance 1445, striking pharmacies from the list of allowable small businesses.

Council Member Parkhurst seconded the motion.

Mayor Arizmendi called for a vote of the Council.

Ayes: Mayor Arizmendi, Mayor Pro Tem Goss, Council Members Garcia, Kriebs, and Parkhurst

Noes: None

Absent: None.

Abstain: None

The motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 1445 was passed first reading unanimously, as amended.

3. **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 21-40 APPROVING OF GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT 21-01 (GPA 21-01) TO CORRECT THE LAND USE DESIGNATION OF UNIQUE PARCELS IN THE AMENDED 2015 GENERAL PLAN LAND USE MAP TO MATCH THE EXISTING USE OR EXISTING LIMITATIONS ON THESE PARCELS; AND ZONE CHANGE 21-01 (ZC 21-01) TO ACHIEVE CONSISTENCY WITH ZONE**

CHANGES THAT HAVE OCCURRED SINCE THE LAST AMENDMENT TO THE LAND USE MAP, AND A ZONE CHANGE TO MAKE THE ZONING DESIGNATION OF UNIQUE PARCELS TO BE CONSISTENT WITH THE GENERAL PLAN LAND USE DESIGNATION AS PROPOSED, AS REQUIRED BY LAW

It is recommended that the City Council consider and approve City Council Resolution 21-40, included herein as Attachment A, approving General Plan Amendment 21-01 (GPA 21-01), to correct the General Plan Land Use designation of unique parcels in the amended 2015 General Plan Land Use Map to match the existing use or existing limitations on such parcels, and Zone Change 21-01 (ZC 21-01), to achieve consistency with zone changes that have occurred since the last amendment to the General Plan Land Use map, and to make the zoning designation of unique parcels consistent with the General Plan Land Use designation as proposed and as required by law. The approval is contingent upon the approval of Ordinance 1445 (Residential Entrepreneur Overlay Zone).

The report was presented by Associate Planner Joshua Wolf.

Mayor Arizmendi asked if any Council Members had questions. The Council collectively asked various questions which were answered by City staff.

Mayor Arizmendi opened the Public Hearing for public comment and testimony.

Jim Watson, Baldwin Ave.: Indicated that his home is affected by the proposed changes. He expressed his disappointment in the notification process and said it was not clear who was the intended recipient of the notice. Mr. Watson informed the Council that a change in zoning would adversely affect the value of his property.

Kathy Watson, Baldwin Ave.: spoke in opposition to Resolution 21-40 and General Plan Amendment 21-01.

Eric Lin, Baldwin: Advised that he recently purchased his home with the intention of making changes to the property. The change in zoning will affect him financially. He did not receive a notice and only learned of the meeting from his neighbors, the Watsons.

Bill Sullivan: Owner of the Bottle Shop. Spoke in opposition of the zone change stating that it would adversely impact his property.

Mayor Arizmendi asked City Clerk Aguilar if any e-mails had been received. City Clerk Aguilar acknowledged receiving two e-mails from Romelia Parra and Cynthia Gonzales, respectively. Both e-mails were read into record.

Seeing no one else come forward, Mayor Arizmendi closed the Public Hearing and brought the matter back to Council for discussion.

Council discussed the proposed changes and directed staff to return with additional information. The Public Hearing was continued to a date uncertain.

DISCUSSION

1. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICTING TASK FORCE (REDISTRICTING COMMISSION)

It is recommended that the City Council appoint a resident of Sierra Madre to serve on the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) Redistricting Task Force (Redistricting Commission).

Mayor Arizmendi invited the two applicants to speak about their qualifications.

Ann Palmer spoke about her experience as an educator.

Miles Prince spoke about his experience in education and legislation.

Mayor Arizmendi opened the matter to the public for comment.

Seeing no one come forward, Mayor Arizmendi closed public comment and brought the matter back to Council for discussion or a motion.

Each Member of the City Council expressed their preference. After discussion, Mayor Arizmendi selected Miles Prince to serve on the Pasadena Unified School District Redistricting Commission.

2. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 21-42 SETTING REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING TIMES

It is recommended that the City Council provide direction to staff regarding the adoption of City Council Resolution 21-42, setting regular City Council meeting times.

Mayor Arizmendi reported on this item. With the transition from outdoor meetings at 4:00 to indoor meetings, Mayor Arizmendi wanted Council to review the current meeting start time and decide what time would make the most sense for public participation.

Mayor Arizmendi opened the matter for public comment.

Pat Alcorn, Grandview: Provided that her preference was no earlier than 6:00 pm start time.

Seeing no one come forward, Mayor Arizmendi closed public comment and brought the matter back to Council for discussion or a motion.

Each Member of the City Council expressed their preference. After discussion, Mayor Arizmendi called for a motion.

Council Member Parkhurst made a motion to change the Council meeting start time from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm.

Council Member Garcia seconded the motion.

Mayor Arizmendi called for a vote of the Council.

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

The motion to approve Resolution 21-42 setting the regular City Council meeting times to 5:30 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

3. CONSIDERATION OF CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 21-43 APPOINTING AN INTERIM CITY MANAGER

It is recommended that the City Council discuss Resolution 21-43 appointing an interim City Manager and provide staff with direction.

City Attorney Giragosian gave this report.

Mayor Arizmendi opened the matter to the public for comment.

Seeing no one come forward, Mayor Arizmendi closed public comment and brought the matter back to Council for discussion or a motion.

Each Member of the City Council expressed their opinion. After a brief discussion, Mayor Arizmendi called for a motion.

Mayor Arizmendi made a motion to appoint Jose Reynoso as Interim City Manager.

Mayor Goss seconded the motion to appoint Jose Reynoso as Interim City Manager.

Mayor Arizmendi called for a vote of the Council.

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

The motion to appoint Jose Reynoso as Interim City Manager was approved unanimously by voice vote.

4. DIRECTION TO UPDATE SECOND UNITS ORDINANCE

It is recommended the City Council discuss and provide policy direction, including specific financial incentives, to the Planning Commission and to staff to update the Second Units ordinance and to schedule the item for consideration of the Planning Commission.

Associate Planner Wolf gave this report.

Mayor Arizmendi opened the matter to the public for comment.

Seeing no one come forward, Mayor Arizmendi closed public comment and brought the matter back to Council for discussion.

Council discussed options for incentives for ADU applicants.

Council provided staff with the following direction:

- Place this matter with the Planning Commission for input on an amnesty program with a sunset date;
- recommendations for financial incentives for affordable ADUs, especially low-income affordable ADUs;
- cost recovery plan;
- input on Public Facility Fees, in general;
- consideration of ADUs in excess of the primary dwelling;
- The Low and Moderate Housing Fund should be fund dependent and not subsidized by General Funds;
- Consideration to waive fees.

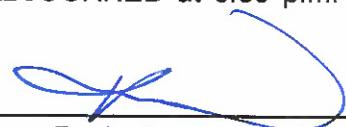
FUTURE ITEMS:

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

Council did not request any future items for discussion.

ADJOURNMENT:

THIS SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING WAS ADJOURNED at 8:39 p.m. to a Regular Meeting to be held on July 27, 2021.



Rachelle Arizmendi, Mayor

Minutes taken and prepared by:



Laura Aguilar, City Clerk