



CITY OF SIERRA MADRE
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL
SUCCESSOR AGENCY AND
PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY

Tuesday, September 14, 2021 - 5:30 pm
Sierra Madre City Hall, City Council Chambers
232 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard, Sierra Madre, CA 91024

Pursuant to the July 16, 2021 Los Angeles County Public Health Officer's Order, everyone in Council Chambers must wear a mask covering their mouth and nose at all times.

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.

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.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Arizmendi called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. City Clerk Aguilar called the roll.

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

Absent: None.

Also Present: Jose Reynoso, Interim City Manager
Miguel Hernandez, Assistant City Manager
Aleks Giragosian, City Attorney
Laura Aguilar, City Clerk/Administrative Services Manager
Hillary Guirola-Leon, Finance Director
Rodrick Armalin, Chief of Police
Lilian Shaw, Police Corporal
Henry Amos, Police
Brent Bartlett, Fire Chief
Chris Cimino, Public Works Director
Steven McGee, Interim Utility Services 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
Tevin Voong, Administrative Analyst

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INSPIRATION

Council Member Parkhurst led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance and after spoke of the events of 9/11 and coming together as a community.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Mayor Arizmendi asked for approval of the agenda.

Council Member Garcia 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, Kriebs, and Parkhurst
Noes: None.
Absent: None.
Abstain: None.

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

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 Kriebs.

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, Kriebs, and Parkhurst
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 MINUTES

Mayor Arizmendi asked for a motion or suggested changes to meeting minutes of the Regular Council meeting of July 27, 2021.

Council Member Kriebs submitted changes that corrected the presenter of Discussion Item 2 to Fire Captain Rich Snyder from Fire Chief Brent Bartlett.

Council Member Parkhurst moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of July 27, 2021 as amended.

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 the meeting minutes of the Regular Council meeting of July 27, 2021, was approved as amended.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Kriebs: attended the Chamber of Commerce meeting. The Chamber is working on planning winter events and planning the 2022 Wistaria Festival. She also attended Sierra Madre Playhouse's performance of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* at Memorial Park and thought it was excellent.

Mayor Pro Tem Goss: Attended the the 9/11 memorial services on Saturday morning at the Sierra Madre Fire Department. It was a poignant and somber occasion. He has two words to share "Never Forget".

Council Member Parkhurst: Planning Commission met three times since the last Council meeting. He also attended the Clean Power Alliance (CPA) meeting. There are programs for bill assistance through CPA.

Council Member Garcia: The Community Services Commission was dark during the month of August. He has nothing new to report.

Mayor Arizmendi: Announced that Senator Portantino and AT&T will be granting the Sierra Madre Playhouse with a grant. The Mayor has spoken to the Senator's Office about SB9, SB10, and other legislation that will impact Sierra Madre.

The Mayor provided an update on the Wistaria Vine and informed the public that the new owners are working to make the Vine ready for the 2022 Festival.

Lastly, the Mayor thanked the Sierra Madre Fire and Police Departments for the 9/11 tribute on Saturday.

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

Nancy Beckham, 337 N. Lima: Made comments on her opposition to the trees to be removed at the Monastery for the proposed development and provided a list of trees and their locations on the property.

Alisha Lopez, 175 N. Euclid Ave. Pasadena, CA 91101: from Day One and requested the Council consider anti-smoking legislation in multi-unit housing.

Colette Monel, 680 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.: Asked the Council to consider anti-smoking legislation in multi-unit housing.

John Doyle, 636 Sierra Madre Blvd.: Asked the Council to ban drifting smoke in multi-unit housing.

Mary Doyle, 636 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.: Asked the Council to ban drifting smoke in multi-unit housing.

Three Emails were received from:

Natalia De Vries: bringing attention to the issue of drifting second-hand smoke in multi-unit housing.

Jeffrey Monohan, 646 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Unit C: Asked the Council to ban drifting smoke in multi-unit housing.

Mary Monohan, 646 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Unit C: Asked the Council to ban drifting smoke in multi-unit housing.

The e-mails and correspondence were acknowledged 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.

AGENDA ACTION ITEMS:

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

a) CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 21-51 APPROVING CERTAIN DEMANDS

It is recommended that that the City Council of the City of Sierra Madre does hereby ratify payment of City Warrants in the aggregate amount of \$1,134,782.07; Sierra Madre Library Warrants in aggregate amount of \$5,194.30; and Payroll Transfer in the aggregate amount of \$424,187.27 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 and 2022.

b) CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 21-52 APPROVING CERTAIN DEMANDS

It is recommended that that the City Council of the City of Sierra Madre does hereby ratify payment of City Warrants in the aggregate amount of \$1,999,297.56; Sierra Madre Library Warrants in aggregate amount of \$5,601.61; and Payroll Transfer in the aggregate amount of \$394,003.43 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 and 2022.

c) CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 21-54 APPROVING CERTAIN DEMANDS

It is recommended that the City Council of the City of Sierra Madre does hereby approve payment of City Warrants in the aggregate amount of \$382,179.21; Sierra Madre Library Warrants in the aggregate amount of \$3,416.55; and Payroll Transfer in the aggregate amount of \$403,173.92; for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

d) CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 21-53 ADOPTING THE SEPTEMBER 7, 2021 UPDATE REPORT FOR THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964 COMPLIANCE PROGRAM FOR TRANSPORATION SERVICES

It is recommended that the City Council approve City Council Resolution 21-53 which re-adopts and approves the second update report for the City of Sierra Madre Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 Compliance Program for Transportation Services.

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 a motion to approve.

Council Member Garcia made a motion to approve Consent Items a-d.

Council Member Parkhurst 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

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

PUBLIC HEARING

1. A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 21-40, APPROVING GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT 21-01 (GPA 21-01) AND ZONE CHANGE 21-01 (ZC 21-01): (1) CONSIDERATION OF A GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT 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 SUCH PARCELS; AND (2) CONSIDERATION TO ACHIEVE CONSISTENCY WITH ZONE CHANGES THAT HAVE OCCURRED SINCE THE LAST AMENDMENT TO THE GENERAL PLAN LAND USE MAP, AND A ZONE CHANGE TO MAKE THE ZONING DESIGNATION OF UNIQUE PARCELS CONSISTENT WITH THE GENERAL PLAN LAND USE DESIGNATION AS PROPOSED, AS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW

It is recommended that that the City Council consider and approve City Council Resolution 21-40, 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 state law.

This report was given by Associate Planner Wolf.

Mayor Arizmendi continued the Public Hearing from the July 13, 2021 meeting and requested comments from the public. Council had a discussion regarding the General Plan Public Hearing.

Joyce Kenyon, 220 N. Mountain Trail Ave: opposed to changes in zoning.

Carol Donahey, 685 W. Alegria: opposed to changes in zoning.

Leslie McCall, 125 E. Laurel: opposed to changes in zoning.

Eric Lin, 182 S. Baldwin Ave.: opposed to changes in zoning.

Jim Watson, 150 S. Baldwin Ave.: opposed to changes in zoning.

Kathy Watson, 150 S. Baldwin Ave.: opposed to changes in zoning.

Debra Vass, 20 W. Mira Monte: opposed to changes in zoning.

De Alcorn, 741 E. Grandview: not opposed to changes and understands that these decisions are sometimes necessary.

Mark Lamb, 81 W. Laurel Ave.: opposed to changes in zoning.

Bill Sullivan, 514 San Gabriel Ct.: opposed to changes in zoning.

Nancy Beckham, 337 N. Lima St.: opposed to changes in zoning.

Three e-mails were received from:

Ann McDonald: requested clarification on how the General Plan Amendment will change the zoning or land-use of her property.

Dorothy Lewis: Asked the Council to amend the General Plan to match existing zoning.

Marla Shawn Black, 198 E. Laurel Ave, Unit A: opposed to changes in zoning.

The e-mails and correspondence were acknowledged into record by City Clerk Aguilar and filed as public record.

Seeing no one else from the public come forward to the podium, Mayor Arizmendi closed the public hearing and brought the matter back to the City Council for discussion.

Mayor Arizmendi asked for a motion.

Mayor Arizmendi made a motion to adopt Resolution 21-40, approving General Plan Amendment 21-01 and Zone Change 21-01, eliminating inconsistencies between the 2015 General Plan Land Use Map and the current Zoning Map and direct staff to initiate a General Plan Amendment to address the properties that were designated for a lower density land use by the 2015 General Plan Update.

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, Kriebs, and Parkhurst
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

The motion to approve Resolutions 21-40 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

7:03 pm: At this time Mayor Arizmendi called for a brief recess.

7:09 pm: The Council reconvened and Mayor Arizmendi called the meeting to order.

2. CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE 1446 AMENDING CHAPTER 13.24 (MANDATORY WATER CONSERVATION PLAN) OF THE SIERRA MADRE MUNICIPAL CODE

It is recommended that the City Council introduce and give first reading of Ordinance 1446 by title only to amend Chapter 13.24 (Mandatory Water Conservation Plan) of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code.

This report was given by Interim Utility Services Director McGee.

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

Pat Alcorn, 741 E. Grandview: asked the Council to consider adding a moratorium on building new swimming pools.

Seeing no one else 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. Council collectively asked questions regarding the proposed changes.

Mayor Pro Tem Goss made a motion to amend Ordinance 1446 to include a winter/summer watering schedule. The motion was seconded by Mayor Arizmendi. The matter was brought back to the Council for discussion after which Mayor Pro Tem withdrew his motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Goss made a new motion to amend Ordinance 1446, section E of the Permanent Water Measures to include a modified watering schedule that will change with Daylight Savings Time and Standard Time. During Daylight Savings the watering schedule will be from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. During Standard Time the watering schedule will be from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm, effective during drought times.

The motion was seconded by Council Member Parkhurst.

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 Ordinance 1446 as amended was approved by unanimous voice vote.

DISCUSSION

1. CONSIDERATION OF ALLOCATION OF ARTS IN PUBLIC PLACES FUNDING FOR THE KERSTING COURT KIOSK DIGITAL DISPLAY AND GLASS ART PROJECT

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the allocation of Arts in Public Places funds for the Kersting Court Kiosk Digital Display and Glass Art Project.

Administrative Analyst Voong gave the report.

Mayor Arizmendi opened the matter for public comment.

Public Works Director Cimino approached the podium. Director Cimino advised the Council that the work of refurbishing the kiosk was done at the time and expense of volunteer Bob Spears.

Seeing no one else come forward, Mayor Arizmendi asked if any e-mails had been received. City Clerk Aguilar advised that no emails had been received.

The Mayor brought the matter back to the Council for discussion and/or a motion to approve.

Council Member Parkhurst made a motion to approve the use of Arts in Public Places Funds for the Kersting Court kiosk digital display and glass art project.

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

The motion to approve the use of Arts in Public Places Funds for the Kersting Court kiosk digital display and glass art project was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

2. A REVIEW OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY GEORGE GASCON'S SPECIAL DIRECTIVES AND THE IMPACT ON THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE'S CASE FILINGS

It is recommended that the City Council direct the Chief of Police to draft a letter to District Attorney Gascon expressing concern with his policies and its impact on the residents of Sierra Madre and request a representative of the DA attend a City Council meeting to explain DA Gascon's intended course of action.

Police Chief Armalin gave the report.

Each Member of the City Council provided asked questions and provided feedback.

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

The Mayor brought the matter back to the Council for discussion and/or a motion to approve.

Mayor Arizmendi made a motion to direct Chief Armalin to draft a letter to DA Gascon expressing concern with his policies and its impact on the residents of Sierra Madre and requested a representative of the DA's Office attend a future City Council meeting to explain DA Gascon's intended course of action.

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, Kriebs, and Parkhurst
Noes: None
Absent: None

The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

FUTURE ITEMS:

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

Council Member Parkhurst asked to agendize Multi Unit Housing smoking.

Council Member Kriebs asked to agendize a list of possible uses of the current budget surplus including improvements to public parks and playgrounds, and broadband wi-fi in the park.

Council Member Garcia asked to agendize fiber infrastructure for a good connection.

ADJOURNMENT:

THIS SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING WAS ADJOURNED at 8:30 p.m. to a Regular Meeting to be held on October 12, 2021.



Rachelle Arizmendi, Mayor

Minutes taken and prepared by:



Laura Aguilar, City Clerk