



MINUTES REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

October 25, 2022

City of Watsonville
City Council Chambers

4:30 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Mayor Parker, Mayor Pro Tempore Montesino and Council Members Dutra (arrived at 4:41 p.m.), García, Hurst, and Quiroz-Carter were present. Member Estrada was absent.

1.a. MOTION TO EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBER(S) (If Any)

2. NEW BUSINESS

2.b. FIRST AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT WITH IRWIN IVAN ORTIZ FOR EMPLOYMENT AS CITY CLERK

1) Staff Report by Mayor Pro Tempore Montesino

2) City Council Clarifying & Technical Questions – None

3) Public Comments

Deputy City Clerk Pacheco spoke in support of City Clerk Ortiz's contract amendment.

4) MOTION: It was moved by Member García, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Montesino to approve the resolution listed below.

5) City Council Deliberation on Motion

Member García expressed appreciation for City Clerk Ortiz's responsiveness and availability, his assistance to candidates during the nomination period, and his goals for the department.

Member Hurst thanked City Clerk Ortiz for his work.

Mayor Parker thanked City Clerk Ortiz for the support provided to the Pájaro Valley Health Care District Board of Directors, and his efforts in ensuring residents had access to voting information and materials.

MOTION: The above motion carried by the following vote.

AYES: MEMBERS: García, Hurst, Montesino, Quiroz-Carter, Parker

NOES: MEMBERS: None

ABSENT: MEMBERS: Dutra, Estrada

6) RESOLUTION NO. 210-22

A RESOLUTION APPROVING FIRST AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT WITH IRWIN IVAN ORTIZ FOR EMPLOYMENT AS CITY CLERK

2.a. WATSONVILLE SIGNAGE & WAYFINDING MASTER PLAN

1) Staff Report by Brandon Reeves, Senior Planner, and India Howlett, Design Director, at Selbert Perkins Design

2) City Council Clarifying & Technical Questions

Member Dutra suggested using contrasting colors on signage.

Assistant City Manager Vides, in answering Member Dutra, provided a timeline for starting installation of signage.

In answering Mayor Parker, Assistant City Manager Vides stated the City had allocated American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for implementing the Master Plan, and spoke about other potential funding sources.

Assistant City Manager Vides, in answering Member García, stated the proposed digital gateway signs would be bilingual.

In answering Member García, Assistant City Manager Vides spoke about the cost of installing the various signs suggested in the Master Plan and stated the allocated ARPA funds would cover the cost of one of the proposed digital signs.

Design Director Howlett, in answering Mayor Parker, spoke about the total cost of installing the proposed digital gateway sign and the primary gateway sign on Highway 1.

In answering Mayor Pro Tempore Montesino, Design Director Howlett stated there was potential for partnering with donors to fund signage.

Assistant City Manager Vides spoke about possible organizations that could aid with funding signage.

Senior Planner Reeves, in answering Mayor Parker, spoke about the cost of the digital information sign proposed in the Master Plan.

Member Hurst spoke in support of the Master Plan and partnering with organizations to fund portions of it, and the importance of having adequate signage throughout the City.

In answering Member Hurst, Assistant City Manager Vides stated the existing wayfinding signs would be replaced with new ones, but not all signs in the City were included.

3) Public Comments – None

4) MOTION: It was moved by Mayor Pro Tempore Montesino, seconded by Member Dutra to approve the resolution listed below.

5) City Council Deliberation on Motion

Mayor Parker spoke about the possibility of using ARPA funds for smaller signs and partnering with other organizations to fund the more expensive digital signs.

Member Hurst spoke about the potential of installing a sign with the City's name on the Civic Plaza building due to its visibility at a distance.

MOTION: The above motion carried by the following vote.

AYES: MEMBERS: Dutra, García, Hurst, Montesino, Quiroz-Carter, Parker
NOES: MEMBERS: None
ABSENT: MEMBERS: Estrada

6) RESOLUTION NO. 211-22

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE SIGNAGE & WAYFINDING MASTER PLAN & PROVIDING DIRECTION TO STAFF TO IMPLEMENT A PHASED INSTALLATION PLAN

Mayor Parker recessed the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

6:33 p.m.

3. ROLL CALL

Mayor Parker, Mayor Pro Tempore Montesino and Council Members Dutra, Estrada, García, Hurst, and Quiroz-Carter were present.

Staff members present were City Manager Mendez, City Attorney Zutler, City Clerk Ortiz, Assistant City Manager Vides, Public Works & Utilities Director Di Renzo, Police Chief Zamora, Fire Chief Lopez, Interim Administrative Services Director Duran, IT Director Gill, Parks & Community Services Director Calubaquib, Library Director Martinez, Airport Director Williams, Deputy City Manager Manning, Assistant Police Chief Sims, Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Fontes, Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez, Deputy City Clerk Pacheco, Police Captain Figueroa, Senior Administrative Analyst Padilla, Associate Planner Carmona, Principal Planner Meek, and Interpreter Jauregui.

3.a. MOTION TO EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBER(S) (If any)

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

5.a. REPORT OF DISBURSEMENTS

5.b. MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS REPORT

5.c. WRITTEN REPORTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS REGARDING ACTIONS TAKEN ON THEIR REGIONAL COMMISSIONS/BOARD MEETINGS THAT MAY AFFECT THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE (IF ANY)

6. PRESENTATIONS & ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

6.a. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Daniel J. Hernandez expressed concern with the acknowledgement of Columbus Day at a previous Council meeting and stated it was Indigenous Peoples' Day. He spoke about the contributions made by indigenous peoples to society.

Steve Trujillo, District 7, spoke about contributions made by indigenous people to society and requested Council's support in efforts to rename Cabrillo College. He spoke about the importance of earthquake preparation and expressed concerns with campaign practices conducted by some of the candidates.

Fabian Leonor, District 4, requested Council's support for CEIBA College Preparatory to be allowed to remain at its location.

Marcus Pimentel expressed appreciation for the City's assistance to the Pájaro Valley Health Care District (PVHCD) with the process of purchasing Watsonville Community Hospital. He spoke about the progress made by the PVHCD Board of Directors to increase and improve the Hospital's services to meet community needs.

Marta Bulaich, District 1, stated her concerns with parking availability at CEIBA College Preparatory and with a parking study that was presented to the City's Planning Commission at one of their past meetings. She spoke about additional concerns with information provided at a community meeting held by the City and CEIBA staff in September.

6.b. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL

Member Quiroz-Carter spoke about her attendance at various events over the past weeks. She encouraged the public to reach out to her with any issues or concerns and congratulated the Watsonville Academy graduates.

Member Hurst congratulated the Watsonville Academy graduates and Member Quiroz-Carter for her Halloween decorations. He spoke about his attendance at various events over the past two weeks.

Member García congratulated City Manager Mendez for receiving Monterey Bay Economic Partnership's (MBEP) 2022 Community Impact Award. She spoke about her participation at the MBEP State of the Region, and keynote speakers', Dr. Chris Brenner and Dr. Manuel Pastor's, discussion on solidarity economics. She stated she presented Raley's Food for Families with Santa Cruz County Second Harvest Food Bank's Food Donor of the Year proclamation at their annual awards' ceremony and spoke about her presentation to a Watsonville High School Government class regarding City operations and opportunities for youth involvement in local government.

Member Estrada encouraged the public to vote in the upcoming General Election and stated voting services were available through the City Clerk's office. He invited everyone to attend the Día de los Muertos event at the City Plaza.

Mayor Pro Tempore Montesino thanked Member García for presenting at Watsonville High School and spoke about the positive impact of women in leadership positions in the City.

City Clerk Ortiz spoke about voting services available through the City Clerk's Office, and provided dates and times of operation. He explained the process for same day voter registration.

City Manager Mendez spoke about the multi-jurisdiction efforts to make broadband widely available through a Joint Powers Association during his tenure as City of Gonzales' City Manager, for which he received MBEP's Community Impact Award.

- 6.c. **WATSONVILLE ACADEMY GRADUATION**
- 6.d. **MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING FELIPE HERNANDEZ FOR HIS MILITARY SERVICE**
- 6.e. **MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING BARBARA ANN STRINGARI ADAMSKI FOR HER MILITARY SERVICE**
- 7. **CONSENT AGENDA**

PUBLIC INPUT – None

MOTION: It was moved by Mayor Pro Tempore Montesino, seconded by Member García to approve the Consent Agenda.

In answering Member García, Parks & Community Services Director Calubaquib explained why the fee that would be paid by Pájaro Valley Unified School District (PVUSD) under Item 7.d. was lower than standard fees charged to comparable users, and spoke about the benefits of entering into the facility use contract with PVUSD.

Library Director Martinez, in answering Member García, stated the Creative Café proposed under Item 7.f. would not eliminate any of the Library's existing programs, but would instead expand interactive activity opportunities for the community. She spoke about the cost of the program and future funding sources.

Member García spoke in support of Item 7.h. and requested the resolution be sent to governmental agencies.

Member Hurst spoke in support of Items 7.c., 7.d., 7.e. 7.f., and 7.g.

City Attorney Zutler stated Mayor Parker was an employee of PVUSD, but no conflict of interest existed with Item 7.d.

MOTION: The above motion carried by the following vote.

AYES:	MEMBERS:	Dutra, Estrada, García, Hurst, Montesino, Quiroz-Carter, Parker
NOES:	MEMBERS:	None
ABSENT:	MEMBERS:	None

- 7.a. **MOTION APPROVING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 11, 2022**
- 7.b. **RESOLUTION NO. 212-22 (CM)**
A RESOLUTION APPROVING FIRST AMENDMENT TO LEASE WITH SPECIALIZED HELICOPTERS, INC., FOR THE USE OF 4,042 SQUARE FEET OF ADDITIONAL OFFICE SPACE AND STORAGE SPACE FOR CITY-OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT 150 AVIATION WAY, WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA

- 7.c. **RESOLUTION NO. 213-22 (CM)**
A RESOLUTION APPROVING A FIVE-YEAR LEASE WITH ONE (1) THREE YEAR OPTION TERM WITH LUCIA A. PEREZ, AN INDIVIDUAL, FOR 346 RODRIGUEZ STREET, WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA, & AUTHORIZING & DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SAME & ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO OF A NON SUBSTANTIVE NATURE SUBJECT TO LEGAL APPROVAL
- 7.d. **RESOLUTION NO. 214-22 (CM)**
A RESOLUTION APPROVING A ONE YEAR FACILITY USE CONTRACT WITH PÁJARO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR USE OF CITY PROPERTY LOCATED AT 30 MAPLE AVENUE, (GENE HOULARIS WALDO RODRIGUEZ YOUTH CENTER), TO PROVIDE PROGRAMMING TO STUDENTS OF PVUSD'S SELPA PROGRAM, COMMENCING ON AUGUST 15, 2022, AND ENDING JUNE 2, 2023
- 7.e. **RESOLUTION NO. 215-22 (CM)**
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING & DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE, FOR THE EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,238 TO FUND CRIME ANALYSIS SOFTWARE, TO EXECUTE A STANDARD AGREEMENT AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO AND ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS; AND APPROPRIATING SUCH FUNDS TO THE SPECIAL GRANTS FUND (0260)
- 7.f. **RESOLUTION NO. 216-22 (CM)**
A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A \$12,000 GRANT FROM PACIFIC LIBRARY PARTNERSHIP FOR A CREATIVE CAFE AT THE FREEDOM BRANCH LIBRARY; AUTHORIZING & DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY GRANT DOCUMENTS; AND APPROPRIATING SUCH FUNDS TO THE SPECIAL GRANTS FUND [0260]
- 7.g. **RESOLUTION NO. 217-22 (CM)**
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING & DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$827,853.38 FOR THE URBAN GREENING PROGRAM FOR THE DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION OF GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE NEW EXPLORATION CENTER AT RAMSAY PARK, AND IF AWARDED, TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE ALL AGREEMENTS AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO & ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS WHICH MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT; & APPROPRIATING SUCH FUNDS TO THE SPECIAL GRANTS FUND [0260]
- 7.h. **RESOLUTION NO. 218-22 (CM)**
A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE OF IRAN TO FREE EXPRESSION & STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE WOMEN AND PEOPLE OF IRAN
- 7.i. **FINAL ADOPTION OF ORDINANCES AMENDING WATSONVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE TO IMPLEMENT SENATE BILL 9 (SB 9) THE CALIFORNIA HOUSING OPPORTUNITY & MORE EFFICIENCY (HOME) ACT**

- 1) **ORDINANCE NO. 1439-22 (CM)**
AN ORDINANCE ADDING A NEW CHAPTER 13 (URBAN LOT SPLITS) TO TITLE 13 (SUBDIVISIONS AND MAPS) OF THE WATSONVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE TO IMPLEMENT SENATE BILL 9 (SB 9) THE CALIFORNIA HOUSING OPPORTUNITY AND MORE EFFICIENCY (HOME) ACT
 - 2) **ORDINANCE NO. 1440-22 (CM)**
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 14-16 (DISTRICT REGULATIONS) OF TITLE 14 (ZONING) OF THE WATSONVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE TO IMPLEMENT SENATE BILL 9 (SB 9) THE CALIFORNIA HOUSING OPPORTUNITY AND MORE EFFICIENCY (HOME) ACT
 - 3) **ORDINANCE NO. 1441-22 (CM)**
AN ORDINANCE ADDING NEW SECTIONS TO CHAPTER 14-18 (DEFINITIONS), OF TITLE 14 (ZONING) OF THE WATSONVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE TO IMPLEMENT SENATE BILL 9 (SB 9) THE CALIFORNIA HOUSING OPPORTUNITY AND MORE EFFICIENCY (HOME) ACT
 - 4) **ORDINANCE NO. 1442-22 (CM)**
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 14-23.110 (RESTRICTIONS) OF CHAPTER 14-23 (ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS AND JUNIOR ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS) OF TITLE 14 (ZONING) OF THE WATSONVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE TO IMPLEMENT SENATE BILL 9 (SB 9) THE CALIFORNIA HOUSING OPPORTUNITY AND MORE EFFICIENCY (HOME) ACT
 - 5) **ORDINANCE NO. 1443-22 (CM)**
AN ORDINANCE ADDING A NEW CHAPTER 14-54 (TWO-UNIT DEVELOPMENTS) TO TITLE 14 (ZONING) OF THE WATSONVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE TO IMPLEMENT SENATE BILL 9 (SB 9) THE CALIFORNIA HOUSING OPPORTUNITY AND MORE EFFICIENCY (HOME) ACT
- 7.j. FINAL ADOPTION OF BUILDING & FIRE CODES PER THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS INCLUDING CITY OF WATSONVILLE CODE OF REGULATIONS**
- 1) **ORDINANCE NO. 1444-22 (CM)**
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1 (BUILDING AND HOUSING ADMINISTRATIVE CODE) OF TITLE 8 (BUILDING REGULATIONS) OF THE WATSONVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE BY AMENDING SECTION 8-1.101 TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS FOR THE ADOPTED CONSTRUCTION REGULATIONS
 - 2) **ORDINANCE NO. 1445-22 (CM)**
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 8 (BUILDING REGULATIONS) BY ADOPTING CERTAIN CHAPTERS PERTAINING TO THE ADOPTION BY REFERENCE OF THE 2022 EDITION OF THE CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE VOLUMES 1 AND 2 AND AMENDING THIS CODE AS IDENTIFIED HEREIN, THROUGH EXPRESS FINDINGS OF LOCAL NECESSITY IN CHAPTER 2 (BUILDING CODE), CHAPTER 2.5 (RESIDENTIAL CODE), CHAPTER 3 (ELECTRICAL CODE), CHAPTER 4 (MECHANICAL CODE), CHAPTER 5 (PLUMBING CODE), CHAPTER 15 (GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS CODE), CHAPTER 17 (CALIFORNIA ENERGY CODE), CHAPTER 18 (CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL BUILDING CODE) CHAPTER 19

**(CALIFORNIA REFERENCED STANDARDS CODE) OF THE WATSONVILLE
MUNICIPAL CODE**

- 3) ORDINANCE NO. 1446-22 (CM)
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 8-9.101 OF CHAPTER 9 (FIRE CODE) OF
TITLE 8 (BUILDING REGULATIONS) OF THE WATSONVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE
PERTAINING TO THE ADOPTION OF THE 2022 EDITION OF THE CALIFORNIA
FIRE CODE**

8. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA – None

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS, ORDINANCES, & APPEALS

**9.a. ACCEPTANCE OF CANNABIS EQUITY ASSESSMENT & MODIFICATION OF CANNABIS
EQUITY PROGRAM ORDINANCE**

**1) Staff Report by Associate Planner Carmona & Community Development Director
Merriam**

2) City Council Clarifying & Technical Questions

Associate Planner Carmona, in answering Member García, spoke about financial challenges faced by one of the cannabis license recipients and stated the recent completion of the Cannabis Equity Assessment and the passing of the proposed ordinance could aid the City in receiving grant funding.

In answering Member García, Associate Planner Carmona spoke about income levels in specific census tracts within the City.

Associate Planner Carmona, in answering Mayor Parker, spoke about eligibility criteria in the Cannabis Equity Assessment.

In answering Member Hurst, Associate Planner Carmona stated current equity applicants would remain eligible with the proposed modifications.

Community Development Director Merriam, in answering Member Hurst, spoke about staff efforts to meet all requirements to be eligible for cannabis equity grant funding.

3) Public Comments – None

4) MOTION: It was moved by Member Quiroz-Carter, seconded by Member Hurst and carried by the following vote to introduce the ordinance listed below.

AYES: MEMBERS: Dutra, Estrada, García, Hurst, Montesino, Quiroz-Carter, Parker
NOES: MEMBERS: None
ABSENT: MEMBERS: None

5) City Council Deliberation on Motion – None

- 6) By motion, introduce for first reading, by title only, waiving the full reading of the text, an ordinance repealing & replacing chapter 2 (sidewalks, driveways, curbs, & gutters) of title 7 (public works) of the Watsonville municipal code regarding maintenance responsibilities & liability for failure to maintain sidewalks, driveways, curbs, & gutters

9.b. ORDINANCE REPEALING & REPLACING CHAPTER 2 (SIDEWALKS, DRIVEWAYS, CURBS, AND GUTTERS) OF TITLE 7 (PUBLIC WORKS) OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE & LIABILITY

1) Staff Report by Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez & Assistant City Manager Vides

2) City Council Clarifying & Technical Questions

In answering Member García, Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez spoke about the potential for Homeowners' Associations to aid with sidewalk repairs.

City Attorney Zutler gave additional explanation regarding property owners' responsibility for sidewalk maintenance. She spoke about scenarios where the sidewalk was shared by two townhomes.

In answering Member García, Assistant City Manager Vides stated the proposed ordinance was intended to set a standard of responsibility for sidewalk repair and spoke about the possibility of providing financial assistance to property owners through the City's General Fund.

City Manager Mendez, in answering Member García, stated staff could look into financial assistance programs for sidewalk repair at Council's direction. He added such language was not usually included in ordinances.

Mayor Parker requested City Manager Mendez to explore potential assistance programs and report back to the Council at a future meeting.

In answering Mayor Pro Tempore Montesino, Assistant City Manager Vides spoke about the importance of passing the ordinance to establish property owner responsibility for sidewalk maintenance and protect the City from potential liability.

Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez, in answering Member Hurst, stated a licensed contractor was required to perform any required sidewalk repairs.

In answering Member Hurst, City Manager Mendez spoke about the reasons a licensed contractor was required to make sidewalk repairs and significant differences in potential liability and responsibility in cities with different infrastructure than Watsonville.

Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez, in answering Mayor Pro Tempore Montesino, spoke about various scenarios where sidewalks could be installed in front of homes and stated the property owners would become responsible for maintenance.

In answering Mayor Parker, Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez spoke about determining responsibility for repairing a damaged sidewalk in a scenario involving a bus stop placed by an outside agency.

Assistant City Manager Vides spoke about various possible avenues for providing assistance to property owners should they require it.

In answering Mayor Parker, City Attorney Zutler spoke about language in the ordinance regarding liability for any work done on sidewalks pursuant to a permit.

Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez, in answering Member García, stated information on sidewalk repair would be included in the monthly Our Town newsletter, which was already mailed to all residents, and that the City had ongoing collaborations with local realtors to relay this information to potential property buyers.

In answering Mayor Parker, Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez stated realtors could be encouraged, but not required, to provide potential buyers information regarding sidewalk and sewer lateral maintenance responsibilities.

3) Public Comments – None

- 4) MOTION:** It was moved by Mayor Pro Tempore Montesino, seconded by Mayor Parker to approve the ordinance listed below.

5) City Council Deliberation on Motion

Member Hurst spoke about the importance of ensuring property owners were well informed of their maintenance responsibility.

MOTION: The above motion carried by the following vote.

AYES: MEMBERS: Dutra, Estrada, García, Hurst, Montesino, Quiroz-Carter, Parker

NOES: MEMBERS: None

ABSENT: MEMBERS: None

6) ORDINANCE NO. 1447-22 (CM)

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING & REPLACING CHAPTER 2 (SIDEWALKS, DRIVEWAYS, CURBS, AND GUTTERS) OF TITLE 7 (PUBLIC WORKS) OF THE WATSONVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITIES & LIABILITY FOR FAILURE TO MAINTAIN SIDEWALKS, DRIVEWAYS, CURBS, & GUTTERS

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.a. UPDATE ON THE DOWNTOWN WATSONVILLE SPECIFIC PLAN & PRELIMINARY FINDINGS ON THE INITIAL STUDY

1) Staff Report by Principal Planner Meek and Simran Malhotra of Raimi & Associates

2) City Council Clarifying & Technical Questions

In answering Mayor Pro Tempore Montesino, Consultant Malhotra spoke about the need for having parking available in the downtown area, and explained the concept of parking one time and then walking to all surrounding businesses.

Principal Planner Meek, in answering Mayor Pro Tempore Montesino spoke about exploring potential for offering free Wi-Fi in the downtown area.

In answering Member García, Consultant Malhotra spoke about inclusion of affordable housing in the Downtown Watsonville Specific Plan (DWSP).

Principal Planner Meek, in answering Member García, stated the DWSP's proposed land use regulations would not require existing second-hand stores to move out of their current locations.

In answering Member Quiroz-Carter, Consultant Malhotra spoke about the concept of residential and commercial uses for the downtown area.

Consultant Malhotra, in answering Member Quiroz-Carter, spoke about the timeline for the proposed road diet and stated one of their consultants was conducting a traffic study on all potential development areas.

3) Public Comments

Maria Perez, District 6, spoke about challenges with obtaining community input on the DWSP. She expressed concerns with ensuring community input was implemented in the DWSP.

- 4) MOTION:** It was moved by Member Quiroz-Carter, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Montesino to approve the resolution listed below.

5) City Council Deliberation on Motion

In answering Member García, Principal Planner Meek spoke about the timeline for completion of the Environmental Impact Report and the final DWSP.

Member Hurst spoke about the importance of creating partnerships between the City, the community, and various organizations to aid in successful implementation of the DWSP.

MOTION: The above motion carried by the following vote.

AYES: MEMBERS: Estrada, García, Hurst, Montesino, Quiroz-Carter, Parker
NOES: MEMBERS: None
ABSENT: MEMBERS: Dutra

- 6) Motion Accepting the Final Draft of the Downtown Watsonville Specific Plan (DWSP) and Directing Staff to Complete the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Downtown Watsonville Specific Plan**

13. EMERGENCY ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA – None

14. REQUESTS & SCHEDULING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Parker requested an item to explore potential sidewalk repair assistance programs for property owners.

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

Ari Parker, Mayor

ATTEST:

Irwin I. Ortiz, City Clerk