



MINUTES REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

May 25, 2021

City of Watsonville
Teleconference/Remote

4:30 p.m.

1. CLOSED SESSION

**1.a CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
(Government Code Section 54956.9(b))**

Initiation of litigation pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 54956.9:
[2 Cases]

**1.b CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR
(Government Code Section 54957.6)**

Agency negotiator: Nathalie Manning, Matt Huffaker & Mike McDougall

Employee organization: Confidential, Fire Management, IAFF Local 1272 (Fire),
Management, Mid-Management, Police Management,
Service Employees International Union, Local 521
Clerical Technical (SEIU)

CITY COUNCIL RESUMED AT 5:30 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL

Mayor Dutra, Mayor Pro Tempore Parker, and Council Members Estrada, García, González, Hurst and Montesino were present via teleconference through Zoom Webinar.

Staff members present via teleconference through Zoom Webinar were Assistant City Manager Vides (Acting as City Manager), City Attorney Smith, City Clerk Vázquez Flores, Public Works & Utilities Director Palmisano, Fire Chief Lopez, Deputy City Manager Manning, Administrative Services Director Czerwin, Community Development Director Merriam, Innovation & Technology Director Boyes, Parks & Community Services Director Calubaquib, Airport Director Williams, Assistant Public Works & Utilities Directors Di Renzo and Rodriguez, Assistant Police Chief Sims, Assistant Parks & Community Services Director Heistein, Police Captain Zamora, Assistant City Clerk Ortiz, Administrative Analyst Meyer, and Interpreters Landaverry and Vázquez-Quintero.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. INFORMATION ITEMS

4.a REPORT OF DISBURSEMENTS

4.b. MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS REPORT

4.c WRITTEN REPORTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS REGARDING ACTIONS TAKEN ON THEIR REGIONAL COMMISSIONS/BOARD MEETINGS THAT MAY AFFECT THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE (None)

5. PRESENTATIONS & ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

5.a ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Steve Trujillo, District 7, thanked Mayor Dutra for holding a ceremony to raise the Pride Flag on the Civic Plaza's flag pole. He encouraged the public to complete the Policing & Social Equity Survey sent to City residents and requested yearly reports from the Police Department.

Dr. Nancy A. Bilicich spoke about her participation at the Pájaro River Flood Risk Management Project meeting at Atri Park and gave an update on the status of the design agreement for the Pájaro River Levee improvement project.

Madhu Brodkey, District 4, expressed her concerns regarding aircraft noise near her home.

5.b ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL

Member García congratulated Cabrillo College's graduating class, which included over 50% Latino students. She mentioned she awarded the Rebecca J. García Chicano Latino Affairs Council Scholarship to Erica Renteria.

Member Estrada asked for a moment of silence in honor of the one-year anniversary of George Floyd's murder and asked the public to reminisce on its impact on the community.

Member Hurst spoke about events he attended over the previous weeks and thanked Dr. Nancy Bilicich for her work on the Pájaro River Levee Improvement project.

Member Montesino spoke about his participation at Villa Del Mar Apartments' community meeting.

Member González spoke about Pájaro Valley Arts' Pencas del Corazón exhibit and invited the public to attend. He requested that staff reach out to the speaker who expressed concerns with aircraft noise.

Mayor Pro Tempore Parker announced Pájaro Valley Unified School District's school year would be ending and schools were looking to reopen to in-person learning as COVID-19 restrictions eased. She thanked Dr. Nancy A. Bilicich for her work on the Pájaro River Levee project. She encouraged residents to take the COVID-19 vaccine.

Mayor Dutra spoke about the various events he participated in over the previous weeks. He encouraged the public to fill out the Policing and Social Equity Survey and invited all to attend the Pride Flag raising ceremony on May 28.

Gina Cole, Bike Santa Cruz County, thanked Mayor Dutra for hosting the Mayor's Bike Ride and all attendees of Ecology Action's Safe Routes Ride. She spoke about collaboration with the County and Ecology Action to create an active transportation plan for the unincorporated areas of the County. She invited the public to the protected bike lane pop-up event.

5.c. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney Smith, in regards to Item 1.a.1, reported that Council authorized filing of a lawsuit against Shawki Deyn Properties, LLC to collect unpaid impact fees on a local subdivision.

5.d. MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION ACKNOWLEDGING THE ZAMORA FAMILY & THEIR BUSINESS PIZZAMIA FOR PROVIDING EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE & EXCELLENT FOOD AT REASONABLE PRICES & WISHING THEM TO CONTINUE BEING PART OF THE COMMUNITY FOR MANY MORE YEARS

5.e. MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING CHRISTINA & RICHARD GONZALES & CELEBRATIONS PARTY & RENTALS FOR SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR OVER 20 YEARS & FOR BEING AN EXAMPLE OF INVOLVEMENT & DEDICATION

5.f. MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING GUILLERMO "YERMO" ARANDA FOR HIS WORK WITH LOCAL YOUTH & CONGRATULATING HIM ON THE COMPLETION OF THE REVITALIZED "SUEÑOS" MURAL THAT WILL INSPIRE GENERATIONS TO COME

6. CONSENT AGENDA

At Mayor Pro Tempore Parker's request, Mayor Dutra removed Item 6.j. to be considered under Item 7

The following speakers spoke in support of Item 7.l.:

Francesca Graziano, Santa Cruz County resident

Dan Diaz

Leslie Chinchilla

Allyne Alina Hammer

MOTION: It was moved by Member Montesino, seconded by Member Hurst and carried by the following vote to approve the Consent Agenda:

AYES: MEMBERS: Estrada, García, González, Hurst, Montesino, Parker, Dutra

NOES: MEMBERS: Montesino (Item 6.b only)

ABSENT: MEMBERS: None

6.a. MOTION APPROVING MINUTES OF MAY 11, 2021

**6.b. RESOLUTION NO. 143-21 (CM):
A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2020-2021 BUDGET TO AUTHORIZE \$1,660,000
BUDGET APPROPRIATION TO VARIOUS FUNDS**

**6.c. RESOLUTION NO. 144-21 (CM):
A RESOLUTION APPROVING ADVANCE PAYABLES (LONG TERM INTERFUND LOANS)
IDENTIFIED IN THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CITY'S
INTERFUND LOAN & TRANSFER POLICY & ACCEPTING IMPACT FEE REPORT FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020**

**6.d. RESOLUTION NO. 145-21 (CM):
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL FUNDS OF \$450,000, FOR FY 2020-2021 &
\$2,000,000 FOR FY 2021-2022 FROM THE SOLID WASTE FUND TO THE MONTEREY
REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT CONTRACT FOR DISPOSAL SERVICES**

- 6.e RESOLUTION NO.146-21 (CM):
A RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS & SPECIFICATIONS & CALLING FOR BIDS FOR AIRPORT BLVD. PAVEMENT RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT (ESTIMATED COST OF \$550,000 WILL BE FUNDED FROM THE GAS TAX FUND AND SB1 – GAS TAX FUND)
- 6.f RESOLUTION NO. 147-21 (CM):
A RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 9 WITH GRANITE ROCK COMPANY FOR THE MONTEREY BAY SANCTUARY SCENIC TRAIL SEGMENT 18 – OHLONE PARKWAY TO WATSONVILLE SLOUGH TRAIL TRAILHEAD PROJECT NO. CT-19-02 FOR DISPOSAL OF EXCESS CONTAMINATED MATERIALS, IMPORTING ADDITIONAL AGGREGATE BASE & LABOR, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$137,000.37; AUTHORIZING A BUDGET APPROPRIATION OF \$150,000 FROM THE SPECIAL GRANTS FUND; & AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT \$150,000 FROM THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
- 6.g RESOLUTION NO. 148-21 (CM):
A RESOLUTION AWARDED THREE-YEAR CONTRACT TO TELSTAR INSTRUMENTS FOR WATER, WASTEWATER, & COLLECTION SYSTEM WONDERWARE UPGRADE, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$655,000 (\$195,172 WILL BE FUNDED BY THE WATER ENTERPRISE FUND & \$459,828 WILL BE FUNDED BY THE WASTEWATER ENTERPRISE FUND)
- 6.h RESOLUTION NO. 149-21 (CM)
A RESOLUTION APPROVING THIRD AMENDMENT TO JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY LIBRARY FINANCING AUTHORITY BETWEEN CITY OF WATSONVILLE, COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, CITY OF SANTA CRUZ, CITY OF CAPITOLA, & CITY OF SCOTTS VALLEY ESTABLISHING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FY 2021-22; UPDATING BUDGET PROCESS & DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS; MAINTAINING EXISTING PROCEDURES; EXTENDING TERM THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022; & DELETING SECTION 8.4 (CLOSED SESSIONS) OF ARTICLE VIII - INDEMNIFICATION & INSURANCE
- 6.i RESOLUTION NO. 150-21 (CM)
A RESOLUTION FIXING DATE & TIME AS JUNE 8 & 22, 2021, AT 5:30 P.M. FOR A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO GIVE NOTICE THEREOF
- 6.j A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING SEVEN-MEMBER COMMUNITY REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE & APPOINTING MEMBERS TO SAME – Item removed, see item 7.
- 6.k RESOLUTION NO. 151-21 (CM)
A RESOLUTION GRANTING CONSENT TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ TO RENEW THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY TOURISM MARKETING DISTRICT (TMD)
- 6.l RESOLUTION NO. 152-21 (CM):
A RESOLUTION DECLARING ITS SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 380 AS INTRODUCED ON FEBRUARY 10, 2021, & AMENDED ON APRIL 22, 2021 (EGGMAN) ENTITLED *END OF LIFE*; WOULD KEEP & IMPROVE CALIFORNIA'S END OF LIFE OPTION ACT WHICH

INCLUDES AMENDMENTS TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO THE LAW, ESPECIALLY FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES & UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

7. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

**6.j RESOLUTION NO. 153-21 (CM)
A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING SEVEN-MEMBER COMMUNITY REDISTRICTING
ADVISORY COMMITTEE & APPOINTING MEMBERS TO SAME**

Mayor Pro Tempore Parker requested to extend the application period for District 7 until June 11, 2021.

MOTION: It was moved by Mayor Pro Tempore Parker, seconded by Member García and carried by the following vote to approve Consent Agenda Item 6.j and extend the application deadline for District 7 to June 11:

AYES:	MEMBERS:	Estrada, García, González, Hurst, Montesino, Parker, Dutra
NOES:	MEMBERS:	None
ABSENT:	MEMBERS:	None

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS, ORDINANCES, & APPEALS

**8.a PUBLIC/PROTEST HEARING TO CONSIDER PROPOSED INCREASE OF WATER,
WASTEWATER, & SOLID WASTE UTILITY RATES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2021/22
THROUGH 2025/26**

**1) Staff Report by Public Works & Utilities Director Palmisano & Assistant Public
Works & Utilities Director Di Renzo**

2) City Council Clarifying & Technical Questions

Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Di Renzo answered questions from Member Montesino regarding issues that would arise if Council did not raise the utility rates, sewer pipes replacement efforts, public works fleet, and financial assistance available to seniors for utility charges

In answering Member García, Public Works & Utilities Director Palmisano spoke about funding available to aid those unable to pay their utility bills and safeguards to ensure responsible use of utility revenues.

In answering Mayor Pro Tempore Parker, Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Di Renzo spoke about organic waste disposal requirements with the Monterey Regional Waste Management District imposed by the State. He explained the Council could allocate money from the General Fund to help seniors on fixed income with rate increases.

Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Di Renzo answered questions from Member Estrada regarding need for maintenance and replacement of equipment, potential issues with delaying projects.

Public Works & Utilities Director Palmisano, in answering Member González, spoke about the structural deficit facing the City and the impact Federal funding would have on Capital Improvement Projects.

3) Public/Protest Hearing

Madhu Brodkey expressed her concerns with the state of water and wastewater equipment, but asked Council to consider seniors who live on fixed income.

Steve Trujillo, District 7, suggested restaurants make people aware of costs of being wasteful with food. He inquired about the possibility of establishing a program to provide aid to those who struggle to pay their bills.

Juan Quintana expressed his concerns that the public was not given enough time to provide input.

4) MOTION: It was moved by Member Montesino and seconded by Member González to approve the resolution listed below.

5) City Council Deliberation on Motion

Member Hurst spoke about challenges of increasing utility rates and impacts on residents.

Member García spoke about the challenges of increasing utility rates in a low-income community, especially during a pandemic. She stated her support of the rate increases because regardless of payment, water services to homes would continue. She added that increased revenues would ensure continued upgrades and repair of water and sewer infrastructure.

Member Estrada stated his concerns with infrastructure maintenance not being addressed in a timely manner.

Mayor Pro Tempore Parker stated Council would explore financial assistance for low income residents and seniors.

Member González spoke about the potential for establishing a fund to aid those who struggle to pay these utility charges.

Mayor Dutra spoke about potential State and Federal funding that would aid the infrastructure repairs necessary and said he would not support utility rate increases.

MOTION: The above motion carried by the following vote:

AYES:	MEMBERS:	Estrada, García, González, Hurst, Montesino, Parker
NOES:	MEMBERS:	Dutra
ABSENT:	MEMBERS:	None

**6) RESOLUTION NO. 154-21 (CM)
A RESOLUTION OVERRULING PROTESTS, IF ANY, & ADOPTING FEES, RATES, & CHARGES FOR WATER, WASTEWATER, & SOLID WASTE SERVICE**

8.b PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER CONFIRMATION OF DIAGRAMS, ASSESSMENTS, & LEVYING ASSESSMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 FOR GONZALES STREET LLMAD, BAY BREEZE LLMAD, & VISTA MONTAÑA LLMAD

1) Staff Report by Assistant Parks & Community Services Director Heistein

2) City Council Clarifying & Technical Questions

Assistant Parks & Community Services Director Heistein, in answering Member Hurst, explained that homeowners were informed, at the time of purchasing their homes that they would be part of an LLMAD.

In answering Member Montesino, Assistant Parks & Community Services Director Heistein Spoke about the process for dissolving a LLMAD.

Assistant Parks & Community Services Director Heistein, in answering Mayor Pro Tempore Parker, spoke about homeowners who were unaware of what the LLMAD funds were for.

In answering Member Estrada, Assistant Parks & Community Services Director Heistein explained staff responsibilities as part of a LLMAD.

Assistant Parks & Community Services Director Heistein, in answering Member González, explained how the LLMAD was charged for staff time.

3) Public Hearing

Mayor Dutra opened the public hearing. After checking if anyone in the teleconference wanted to speak on the matter and hearing none, Mayor Dutra closed the public hearing.

4) MOTION: It was moved by Member Hurst and seconded by Member Montesino to approve the resolutions listed below:

5) City Council Deliberation on Motion

Mayor Dutra spoke about challenges of managing the LLMADs and the high expectations from home owners.

Mayor Pro Tempore Parker asked staff to explore alternatives to LLMADs.

MOTION: The above motion carried by the following vote:

AYES:	MEMBERS:	Estrada, García, González, Hurst, Montesino, Parker, Dutra
NOES:	MEMBERS:	None
ABSENT:	MEMBERS:	None

**6) RESOLUTION NO. 155-21 (CM)
A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING DIAGRAM & ASSESSMENT & LEVYING ASSESSMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 FOR GONZALES STREET ALLEYWAY LANDSCAPING & LIGHTING MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. PK-94-1**

- 7) **RESOLUTION NO. 156-21 (CM)**
A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING DIAGRAM & ASSESSMENT & LEVYING
ASSESSMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 FOR BAY BREEZE SUBDIVISION
LANDSCAPING & LIGHTING MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. PK-03-
02
- 8) **RESOLUTION NO. 157-21 (CM)**
A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING DIAGRAM & ASSESSMENT & LEVYING
ASSESSMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 FOR VISTA MONTAÑA SUBDIVISION
LANDSCAPING & LIGHTING MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. PK-03-
03

9. EMERGENCY ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA

10. REQUESTS & SCHEDULING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Member Montesino requested staff bring back LLMADs for consideration of potential alternatives to continued management of LLMADs.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Jimmy Dutra, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beatriz Vázquez Flores, City Clerk