



## MINUTES REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

December 14, 2021

City of Watsonville  
Council Chambers  
275 Main Street, Top Floor

**5:36 p.m.**

### **1. ROLL CALL**

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

Staff members present were City Manager Huffaker, City Attorney Smith, City Clerk Vázquez Flores, Assistant City Manager Vides, Public Works & Utilities Director Di Renzo, Interim Police Chief Sims, Fire Chief Lopez, Administrative Services Director Czerwin, Community Development Director Merriam, Parks & Community Services Director Calubaquib, Interim IT Director Sanders, Library Director Martinez, Airport Director Williams, Deputy City Manager Manning, Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Palmisano, Interim Assistant Police Chief Zamora, Police Sergeant Bailey Assistant City Clerk Ortiz, Executive Assistant Pacheco, and Interpreters Landaverry and Jauregui.

### **1.a. MOTION TO EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBER(S) (None)**

### **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **3. INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### **3.a. REPORT OF DISBURSEMENTS**

#### **3.b. MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS REPORT**

### **4. PRESENTATIONS & ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **4.a. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

María Elena de la Garza, executive director at Community Action Board, thanked Member García and Carmen Herrera-Mansir for coordinating a meeting with various non-profit agencies regarding support for the homeless population. She spoke about potential solutions to address the issue and asked Council to prioritize it.

Sandra Varela, Watsonville Works, spoke about support services and programs offered to the homeless. She requested Council's help in fulfilling housing and supply needs in order to continue offering services.

Patrick Orozco, tribal chairman of Pájaro Valley Ohlone Indian Council, offered a prayer in honor of Member Parker becoming Mayor. He sang a tribal song and spoke about its history.

Deb asked for an update from staff regarding the closure of K-mart and the effects on the shopping center.

Xitlali, District 2, spoke about challenges faced by the unhoused population during winter. She spoke about ways that community members had provided aid. She asked Council to approve an emergency resolution to broaden shelter options and asked for transparency in the approval of Consent Agenda Item 5.I.

Carmen Herrera-Mansir, executive director for El Pájaro Community Development Corporation, asked Council to consider emergency action to provide additional support services to homeless members of the community.

Monike Tone, Pájaro Valley Homeless Union President, requested Council act to prevent homeless encampment clearings of the population living near Pájaro River. She spoke about challenges faced due to displacement, cold weather, and lack of resources. She asked Council to provide aid.

May Bauer asked Council and Police to cease homeless encampment clearings and for restrooms and other facilities to be made available to them. She stated there were many people who required assistance due to their health conditions and spoke about the potential negative impact of separating these members of the community from each other.

Eli, District 7, asked that Police encampment clearings scheduled for the following day be stopped and that the homeless encampment on Bridge Street be allowed to remain. She listed the supply needs for the homeless encampment and requested Council approve an emergency resolution to fund a warming center and expand shelter options.

Julie Guerrero spoke about the needs of the homeless population and asked Council to provide support for them.

Karina, District 5, asked Council to provide support and resources for the unhoused population. She asked the City to ensure local businesses in the Airport area thrived.

Dr. Nancy A. Bilicich, District 7, provided an update regarding Pájaro River Flood Management Agency meetings. She stated impact fees had not yet been established in regards to river levee improvements.

Steve Trujillo, District 7, stated he contacted Assembly Member Rivas to request the ban of spraying of pesticides and listed its negative side effects. He asked Council to support organic farming and to support the homeless community.

#### **4.b. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL**

City Manager Huffaker, in answering Member Montesino, spoke about the homeless encampment located in a publicly owned parking lot on Bridge Street. He stated notice of its clearing had been provided and the intent was to relocate the homeless to shelters.

Member Montesino stated homelessness was a difficult issue to address and thanked members of the community who provided aid and support.

Member Hurst thanked the public for their participation and thanked City staff for their work.

Member García spoke about a meeting she organized to discuss homelessness issues in the downtown area. She spoke about concerns brought forward by attendees and listed

strategies to address them. She spoke about a future steering committee meeting that would help determine how Council could assist. She stated a meeting between department directors and County representatives would be held to identify immediate action.

Member Estrada stated Council was working to provide support for the homeless population. He stated he would continue speaking with community members and support Member García's initiative to find solutions.

Mayor Pro Tempore Parker spoke about action being taken by Council and staff in Monterey County to provide support and housing for the homeless population. She thanked staff and non-profit organizations for their work.

Mayor Dutra stated newly opened Grace Harbor Women's Center had resources for women needing assistance. He spoke about Santa Cruz County Metropolitan Transit District's collaboration with Toys for Tots for the Stuff the Bus event and spoke about his attendance of the Watsonville Community Band concert.

**4.c. MAYOR'S CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION FOR THE MONTHLY MAYOR'S BIKE RIDE**

**4.d. MAYOR'S CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION FOR MEMBERS OF THE MONTHLY TRASH CLEAN UP GROUP**

**4.e. MAYOR'S CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION FOR MEMBERS OF THE BAY VILLAGE SENIOR COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER LEVEE GARDEN**

**4.f. MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION FOR A.L. LEASE COMPANY**

**4.g. MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION FOR TERESA "TERRY" TAVAREZ DUTRA**

**4.h. MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION FOR FRIENDS OF WATSONVILLE PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**4.i. MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION FOR BEATRIZ VÁZQUEZ FLORES**

**4.j. MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION FOR MATTHEW D. HUFFAKER**

**4.k. MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION FOR ALAN J. SMITH**

City Attorney Smith thanked the Council that hired him in 1994, and various staff and Council members he worked with over the years. He thanked his wife and children for their support.

Jenni Veitch-Olson, District 2, thanked City Clerk Flores, City Attorney Smith, and City Manager Huffaker for their support and work for the City.

Carlos Palacios, Santa Cruz County Administrative Officer, thanked City Attorney Smith, City Clerk Flores, and City Manager Huffaker for their work.

Aurelio González thanked City Clerk Flores, City Attorney Smith, and City Manager Huffaker for their support. He thanked city staff and Council for their work.

Connie Sauer thanked Mayor Dutra for his work in favor of the community throughout his year as Mayor.

Maria Elena de la Garza thanked City Clerk Flores and City Attorney Smith for their work. She thanked City Manager Huffaker for collaborating with local non-profit organizations during his tenure.

## **5. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Aurelio González inquired about the flight path associated with Item 5.g. and expressed concerns regarding aircraft noise near his home.

Karina Moreno, District 5, requested Council discuss Item 5.i separate from the Consent Agenda with the mid-year budget presentation.

Tony Campos thanked City Attorney Smith for his dedication to the City and wished him the best in his future endeavors.

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

In answering Member García, Interim Chief of Police Sims spoke about the reasons Item 5.i. was necessary. He stated Police worked with Finance to ensure it could be done within the current Police budget.

Administrative Services Director Czerwin stated Item 5i. did not involve an increase in the Police budget.

In answering Member Estrada, Community Development Director Merriam spoke about existing City programs that would receive funds through the grant application in Item 5.j.

**MOTION:** The above motion carried by the following vote:

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

### **5.a. MOTION APPROVING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 9 & 30, 2021**

### **5.b. LOCAL APPOINTMENTS LIST FOR COMMISSIONS, BOARDS, & COMMITTEES**

### **5.c. RESOLUTION NO. 315-21 (CM)**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING SECOND AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT WITH BEAR ELECTRICAL SOLUTIONS, INC., UPDATING HOURLY RATES, INCREASING CONTRACT COMPENSATION BY \$200,000, & EXTENDING THE TERM OF THE CONTRACT, TO PROVIDE ROUTINE & EMERGENCY TRAFFIC SIGNAL MAINTENANCE SERVICES**

### **5.d. RESOLUTION NO. 316-21 (CM)**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT WITH ES ENGINEERING SERVICES, LLC., FOR LANDFILL REGULATORY & PHASE III CLOSURE SERVICES, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$300,000 & APPROPRIATING SUCH FUNDS FROM THE SOLID WASTE LANDFILL CLOSURE FUND**

- 5.e. RESOLUTION NO. 317-21 (CM)**  
**A RESOLUTION AWARDED CONTRACT TO OPENGOV, INC., FOR CITYWIDE BUDGET MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500,000 OVER SIX YEARS; AUTHORIZING A BUDGET APPROPRIATION OF \$291,795 (\$49,022 FROM THE WATER ENTERPRISE FUND, \$38,225 FROM THE WASTEWATER ENTERPRISE FUND, \$26,845 FROM THE SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE FUND, \$6,128 FROM THE AIRPORT ENTERPRISE FUND & \$171,575 FROM THE GENERAL FUND)**
- 5.f. RESOLUTION NO. 318-21(CM)**  
**A RESOLUTION AWARDED CONTRACT TO SELBERT PERKINS DESIGN TO DESIGN A NEW CITYWIDE WAYFINDING SIGNAGE PROGRAM, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$109,000**
- 5.g. RESOLUTION NO. 319-21(CM)**  
**A RESOLUTION APPROVING PERSONAL GUARANTIES, SIDE LETTER & FOUR-YEAR LEASE WITH SKYDIVE SURFCITY, INC., FOR USE OF CITY OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT 160 AVIATION WAY, SUITE B & SUITE C, WATSONVILLE**
- 5.h. RESOLUTION NO. 320-21(CM)**  
**A RESOLUTION RATIFYING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH PUBLIC SAFETY MID-MANAGEMENT UNIT FROM JANUARY 1, 2022 TO DECEMBER 31, 2024**
- 5.i. RESOLUTION NO. 322-21(CM)**  
**A RESOLUTION APPROVING INCREASE OF TWO (2) FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER POSITIONS IN THE WATSONVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET FOR A TOTAL OF 74 SWORN POSITIONS TO MAINTAIN STAFFING LEVELS**
- 5.j. RESOLUTION NO. 321-21(CM)**  
**A RESOLUTION APPROVING FIVE-YEAR PERMANENT LOCAL HOUSING ALLOCATION (PLHA) PLAN & SUBMITTAL OF GRANT APPLICATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,175,090 TO STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOR PERMANENT LOCAL HOUSING ALLOCATION FUNDS & APPROPRIATING SUCH FUNDS TO THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUND**
- 5.k. RESOLUTION NO. 323-21(CM)**  
**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF APPLICATION FOR \$5,000,000 TO THE U.S. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (EDA) AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN GOOD JOBS CHALLENGE PROGRAM TO FUND THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK PROGRAM & APPROPRIATING SUCH FUNDS TO THE SPECIAL GRANTS FUND**

- 5.l. **RESOLUTION NO. 324-21 (CM)**  
**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL GRANT APPLICATION IN AMOUNT OF \$7 MILLION TO STATE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 2021-2022 BUDGET ACT FOR THE RAMSAY PARK REGIONAL SPORTS COMPLEX & APPROPRIATING SUCH FUNDS TO THE SPECIAL GRANTS FUND**
- 5.m. **ORDINANCE NO. 1424-21 (CM)**  
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 14-16.1403 (CONDITIONAL USES) OF PART 14: CNS-NEIGHBORHOOD SHOPPING CENTER DISTRICT OF CHAPTER 14-16 (DISTRICT REGULATIONS) OF TITLE 14 (ZONING) OF THE WATSONVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE ALLOWING MECHANICAL CARWASH (DLU 6341) AS CONDITIONALLY PERMITTED USE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD SHOPPING CENTER ZONING DISTRICT**
6. **ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA (None)**
7. **NEW BUSINESS**
7. a. **CONSIDERATION OF ESTABLISHMENT OF A SISTER CITY PARTNERSHIP WITH VELAS, SÃO JORGE ISLAND, AZORE ISLANDS, PORTUGAL**
- 1) **Oral Report by Nathalie Costa and Lucy Rojas**
- 2) **City Council Clarifying & Technical Questions (None)**
- 3) **Public Input**  
Steve Trujillo spoke in support of establishing a sister city partnership with Velas. He spoke about Portuguese influence in the community.
- 4) **MOTION:** It was moved by Member Hurst, seconded by Member Montesino to approve the resolution listed below.
- 5) **City Council Deliberation on the Motion- None**
- MOTION:** The above motion carried by the following vote:
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|---------|----------|--|
| AYES:   | MEMBERS: | Estrada, García, Hurst, Montesino, Parker, Dutra |
| NOES:   | MEMBERS: | None   |
| ABSENT: | MEMBERS: | None   |
- 6) **RESOLUTION NO. 325-21 (CM)**  
**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A SISTER CITY PARTNERSHIP WITH VELAS, SÃO JORGE ISLAND, AZORES ISLANDS, PORTUGAL**
7. b. **PRESENTATION OF GAVEL TO MAYOR DUTRA BY MEMBER GARCÍA**  
Mayor Dutra spoke about his actions to ensure equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines to South County areas. He spoke about the various issues he addressed during his tenure and events he participated in. He thanked everyone who supported him throughout the year.

- 7.c. **OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED BY CUAUHTÉMOC MONTESINO TO COUNCIL MEMBER EDUARDO MONTESINO AS MAYOR PRO TEMPORE PURSUANT TO SECTION 500 OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE**
- 7.d. **OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED BY ASSISTANT CITY CLERK ORTIZ TO ARI PARKER AS MAYOR PURSUANT TO SECTION 500 OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE**
- 7.e. **COMMENTS FROM OUTGOING MAYOR DUTRA** (See Presentation of Gavel for comments)
- 7.f. **COMMENTS FROM INCOMING MAYOR PRO TEMPORE MONTESINO**  
Mayor Pro Tempore Montesino thanked his family for their support. He spoke about collaborating with Mayor Parker to address challenges.
- 7.g. **COMMENTS FROM INCOMING MAYOR PARKER**  
Mayor Parker thanked her family for their support. She thanked Patrick Orozco for his previous comments. She spoke about collaborating with Council and City staff in favor of the community. She thanked her appointed commissioners and spoke about the potential of establishing a Native Spirit Commission. She thanked her students for attending the meeting.

## 8. **EMERGENCY ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA**

City Attorney Smith stated an emergency item regarding Congressional District Map proposed by the California Citizens Redistricting Commission would require a motion approved by a 2/3 majority in order to be eligible for discussion.

Member Dutra stated the Congressional District Map proposed by the California Citizens Redistricting Commission would move Watsonville out of the 20<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and spoke about the importance of ensuring Watsonville remained in its current District.

City Clerk Flores, in answering Mayor Parker, stated the proposed map would move Watsonville out of the 20<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Member García, seconded by Member Dutra and carried by the following vote to add an emergency item to the agenda regarding the Congressional District Map proposed by the California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

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

## **PUBLIC INPUT**

Ramon Gomez inquired about the reasons for wanting to move Watsonville to a different Congressional District and requested images of the current maps.

Member Dutra stated he submitted a letter to the State expressing preference of keeping Watsonville in the 20<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.

Peter Radin spoke about the history of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission and stated there was a short time period to appeal to the Commission regarding the proposed district boundaries.

Trina Coffman- Gomez requested Council approve a resolution in support of keeping Watsonville in the 20<sup>th</sup> congressional District.

Dr. Nancy Bilicich, District 7, spoke about the City's collaboration with Congressman Panetta on the Pájaro Levee reconstruction project. She requested Council approve the proposed resolution.

Peter Radin provided suggestions for addressing the California Citizens Redistricting Commission and recommended focusing on communities of interest and connections with other parts of the 20<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Member García, seconded by Member Dutra to approve a resolution declaring opposition to the proposed Congressional District Map.

Member García spoke about Watsonville's communities of interest in Santa Cruz and Monterey counties.

City Clerk Flores encouraged the public to contact the California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

Member Hurst spoke about Watsonville's shared communities of interest in Santa Cruz and Monterey. He encouraged the public to participate in the State's redistricting process.

Member Dutra stated several local leaders had already sent letters opposing the proposed map.

**MOTION:** The above motion carried by the following vote:

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

## **9. REQUESTS & SCHEDULING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

## **13. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Ari Parker, Mayor

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Beatriz Vazquez Flores, City Clerk