

JOINT MEETING OF THE EL CAJON CITY COUNCIL/HOUSING AUTHORITY/SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE EL CAJON REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY



MINUTES

CITY OF EL CAJON EL CAJON, CALIFORNIA

December 14, 2021

A Regular Joint Meeting of the El Cajon City Council/Housing Authority/ Successor Agency to the El Cajon Redevelopment Agency, held Tuesday, December 14, 2021, was called to order by Mayor/Chair Bill Wells at 3:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, 200 Civic Center Way, El Cajon, California.

ROLL CALL

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Council/Agencymembers present: | Goble, Metschel, and Ortiz |
| Council/Agencymembers absent: | None |
| Deputy Mayor/Vice Chair present: | Kendrick |
| Mayor/Chair present: | Wells |
| Other Officers present: | Mitchell, City Manager/Executive Director DiMaggio, Assistant City Manager Foley, City Attorney/General Counsel Cortez, City Clerk/Secretary |

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG led by Mayor Wells and MOMENT OF SILENCE. (The Courts have concluded that sectarian prayer, as part of City Council Meetings, is not permitted under the Constitution).

POSTINGS: The City Clerk posted Orders of Adjournment of the November 9, 2021, and November 16, 2021, meetings and the Agenda of the December 14, 2021, meeting in accordance with State Law and El Cajon City/Housing Authority/Successor Agency to the El Cajon Redevelopment Agency Policy.

PRESENTATIONS:

- Presentation: American Camping Association Accreditation
- Commendation: Michael Black

AGENDA CHANGES: None

CONSENT ITEMS: (1 – 10)

1. Minutes of El Cajon City Council/Housing Authority/Successor Agency to the El Cajon Redevelopment Agency Meetings

Approves Minutes of the Re-districting Public Hearing of November 4, 2021, and of the November 9, 2021, and November 16, 2021 Meetings of the El Cajon City Council/Housing Authority/Successor Agency to the El Cajon Redevelopment Agency.

2. Warrants

Approves payment of Warrants as submitted by the Finance Department.

3. Approval of Reading Ordinances by Title only

Approves the reading by title and waives the reading in full of all Ordinances on the Agenda.

PULLED FOR DISCUSSION BY A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC:

4. Fiscal Year 2020-21 El Cajon Housing Authority Annual Report (pursuant to California Health & Safety Code §34176.1)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the El Cajon Housing Authority reviews and accepts the Annual Report, substantially in the form as presented, for fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

DISCUSSION

In answer to a question by Stephanie Harper, City Manager Mitchell clarified that the City can allocate funds to cover administrative cost, such as the staff in the Housing Division. These funds cover a portion of other City staff, utilities, and homeless programs administrative support.

CONSENT ITEMS: (Continued)

5. Minimum Wage Update to City Council Policy A-29

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council approves and authorizes the minimum wage updates in City Council A-29 Policy for the impacted non-represented part-time/seasonal/temporary classifications.

DISCUSSION

Stephanie Harper suggested cutting back on the employee salaries to help the City financially.

City Manager Mitchell clarified that the Item is to update the non-represented part-time/seasonal/temporary classifications.

6. Term Expirations on City Commissions

Approves the timeline for accepting applications and scheduling of interviews for candidates to serve on the City's Personnel Commission and Planning Commission.

Application Period: December 15, 2021 - January 18, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

Interview and Appointment of Applicants: February 8, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

7. July – September 2021 Quarterly Treasurer's Report

Receives the Treasurer's Report for the quarter ending September 30, 2021.

8. 2021 Annual Pension Status Report

1. Receives the Annual Pension Status Report; and
2. Authorizes the deposit of the remaining General Fund Reserve for Unfunded Retirement Obligations balance (\$6.0 million) to Public Agency Retirement Services (PARS) Section 115 Trust.

9. Contract Amendment for Economic Development Strategy Services

Adopts Resolution No. 092-21 to increase the Agreement for Professional Services with The Natelson Dale Group, Inc., for analysis of economic impacts of proposed San Diego County "Working Families" ordinance services in the not-to-exceed amount of \$35,000.

CONSENT ITEMS: (Continued)

10. Agreement for Edible Food Recovery Program Services with Solana Center for Environmental Innovation
 1. Authorizes the City Manager, or designee, to enter into an agreement with Solana Center for Environmental Innovation to meet the requirements of the state-mandated Edible Food Recovery Program (SB 1383) in a not-to-exceed amount of \$30,000 for a one-year term, with an option to renew up to four (4) additional one-year terms.
 2. Increase appropriations, from General Fund reserves, in the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Public Works Administration (150000) Annual Budget by \$30,000.

MOTION BY WELLS, SECOND BY ORTIZ, to APPROVE Consent Items 1 to 10.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Captain Jeff Lashmet spoke about his retirement from the City. He asks that the Councilmembers create a healthy work environment for City employees.

Mayor Wells and Councilmember Ortiz encouraged Mr. Lashmet to contact them for a private conversation.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

11. Zoning Code Update - Phase I

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council:

1. Opens the public hearing and receives testimony;
2. Closes the public hearing;
3. Moves to INTRODUCE the next ORDINANCE, in order, APPROVING Zoning Code Amendment No. 2021-0002; and
4. Requests that the City Clerk read the ORDINANCE by title only.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: (Item 11 – Continued)

DISCUSSION

Director of Community Development, Anthony Shute, provided detailed information of the Item.

Mayor Wells opened the Public Hearing.

Stephanie Harper spoke in concern for homeless people living in their vehicles.

Rebecca Branstetter, representing the East County Homeless Task Force (ECHTF) asked that the City Council regulate, not prohibit people living in Recreational Vehicles (RV).

Bonnie Baranoff, representing ECHTF spoke in opposition to the Item.

MOTION BY WELLS, SECOND BY METSCHEL, to CLOSE the Public Hearing.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Director of Community Development, Anthony Shute, reminded the City Council that the City Code already prohibits living in an RV.

Discussion ensued among Council and Staff concerning the following:

- Emergency sleeping cabins;
- California law that allows people to sleep in their RVs if parked on private property;
- Private Property Rights;
- Consideration to allow citizens to use an RV in private property for a maximum of 30 days within a 12 month period;
- Request to re-evaluate code, to allow RV living in private property;
- Protecting quality of life for neighborhoods;
- Students living in vehicles; and
- Waiving fee for temporary use permit when a building permit is obtained.

Discussion to exclude Sections 15 and 16 of the proposed Ordinance to approve the rest until this portion of the Item is discussed during the Council Goal Setting Session in January 2022.

MOTION BY GOBLE, SECOND BY ORTIZ, to INTRODUCE the next ORDINANCE, in order, APPROVING Zoning Code Amendment No. 2021-0002, removing Sections 15 and 16, and renumbering the rest of the proposed Ordinance.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: (Continued)

12. Third Amendment to FY 2020-21 One-Year Action Plan to Allocate Available CDBG Funds; and Fourth Amendment to FY 2019-20 One-Year Action Plan to Re-Allocate Available CDBG-CV (CDBG CARES Act) Funds

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council:

1. Opens the public hearing and accepts public testimony for the Third Amendment to FY 2020-21 One-Year Action Plan and Fourth Amendment to FY 2019-20 One-Year Action Plan;
2. Closes the public hearing;
3. Adopts the next Resolution, in order, amending the FY 2020-21 One-Year Action Plan to:
 - a) Allocate and appropriate \$510,000 in available CDBG funds from the unallocated fund balance to the ADA Concrete Improvements project; and
 - b) Make the necessary changes to the One-Year Action Plan, and submit all required documentation to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development;
4. Adopts the next Resolution, in order, amending the FY 2019-20 One-Year Action Plan to:
 - a) Re-allocate \$240,691 in available CDBG-CV funds from completed projects to the Touchless Traffic Signal Pedestrian Push Button Installations project to address the long-term effects of the coronavirus pandemic; and
 - b) Make the necessary changes to the One-Year Action Plan, and submit all required documentation to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

DISCUSSION

Housing Manager, Jamie Van Ravesteyn, provided detailed information of the Item.

Discussion ensued among Council and Staff concerning the following:

- Touchless traffic crosswalk buttons; and
- Restrictions on how CDBG-CV funds can be expended.

No one came forward to speak.

MOTION BY WELLS, SECOND BY KENDRICK, to CLOSE the Public Hearing.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: (Item 12 - Continued)

Councilmember Goble suggested allocating and appropriating the \$510,000 in available CDBG funds but recommended postponing the re-allocation of \$240,691 in available CDBG-CV funds until the item for Safe Parking is heard, as these funds may be used for that Item.

MOTION BY GOBLE, SECOND BY METSCHEL, to ADOPT Resolution No. 093-21 amending the FY 2020-21 One-Year Action Plan to Allocate and appropriate \$510,000 in available CDBG funds from the unallocated fund balance to the ADA Concrete Improvements project; and Make the necessary changes to the One-Year Action Plan, and submit all required documentation to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

City Attorney Foley recommends that the remainder portion of the item is continued to be considered with Item 25.

MOTION BY GOBLE, SECOND BY METSCHEL, to CONTINUE the consideration to Adopt the next Resolution, in order, amending the FY 2019-20 One-Year Action Plan to: a) Re-allocate \$240,691 in available CDBG-CV funds from completed projects to the Touchless Traffic Signal Pedestrian Push Button Installations project to address the long-term effects of the coronavirus pandemic; and b) Make the necessary changes to the One-Year Action Plan, and submit all required documentation to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to the discussion of Item 25 on the December 14, 2021 Agenda.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

13. Selection of Deputy Mayor

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council selects a Deputy Mayor according to the El Cajon Municipal Code.

DISCUSSION

City Manager Mitchell provided detailed information on the Item, and he showed the rotation for the last four (4) years, and proposed the rotation for the next three (3) years. The recommendation would be for Councilmember Metschel to be the next Deputy Mayor for the 2022 calendar year.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: (Item 13 – Continued)

No one came forward to speak.

MOTION BY GOBLE, SECOND BY KENDRICK, to APPOINT Councilmember Metschel as Deputy Mayor according to the El Cajon Municipal Code for the 2022 Calendar Year.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

14. City Council Action Plan Update

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council receives the report and provides feedback.

DISCUSSION

City Manager Mitchell and Assistant City Manager DiMaggio provided detailed information on the Item.

No one came forward to speak.

Councilmember Goble suggested taking items out of order to accommodate members in the audience.

City Manager Mitchell added that some items on the agenda may be moved to a future meeting.

**Recess called at 4:52 p.m.
Meeting called back to order at 5:00 p.m.**

Mayor Wells recommends reviewing items in the following order: Item 27, 25, 15 and 26. If time allows items 21 through 24 will be reviewed as well.

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ORDINANCES: FIRST READING

27. Amendment to Chapter 8.24 Garbage, Rubbish and Refuse Ordinance

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council considers the attached ordinance amending Chapter 8.24 (Garbage, Rubbish and Refuse) to comply with SB1383 as regulated by CalRecycle and, if approved, takes the following actions:

1. By Motion and Second, introduce the ordinance; and
2. Direct the City Clerk to read the title of the ordinance.

DISCUSSION

Deputy Director of Public Works, Dennis Davies, provided a summary of the Item.

Councilmember Goble praised Mr. Davies on his participation in the Advance Water Purification Committee.

No one came forward to speak.

MOTION BY GOBLE, SECOND BY KENDRICK, to INTRODUCE the Ordinance.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

The City Clerk recited the title of the ordinance for a first reading.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 8.24 OF THE EL CAJON MUNICIPAL CODE TO FURTHER REGULATE THE DISPOSAL OF ORGANIC WASTE FROM RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL SOURCES

JOINT COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS:

25. Safe Parking Program

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council directs staff to report back in 90 days with feedback on sites and partners that can provide a safe parking program in the City.

DISCUSSION

Councilmembers Goble and Metschel provided information on the Item.

JOINT COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS: (Item 25 – Continued)

Susan Naslund, representing Good Shepherd Ministry Center, spoke in support of the Item.

Councilmember Metschel spoke of the services provided at the Good Shepherd Ministry Center.

Rebecca Branstetter stated she supported the Item.

Bonnie Baranoff, representing the ECHTF, spoke in support of the Item.

Teresa Smith, representing Dreams for Change spoke of the services the group can provide for safe parking needs.

Conversation ensued amongst Council and Staff regarding:

- Council not able to select a site for the safe parking program, but rather allow staff to provide such information;
- The City's role in the program;
- Consider the established providers and the resources they bring; and
- Continue conversation during the Council Goal Setting meeting.

MOTION BY WELLS, SECOND BY KENDRICK, to CONTINUE the consideration of a Safe Parking Program during the City Council Goal Setting Session in January 2022.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

City Attorney Foley reminded the City Council that a portion of Item 12, Fourth Amendment to FY 2019-20 One-Year Action Plan to Re-Allocate Available CDBG-CV (CDBG CARES Act) Funds had been previously continued to discuss during Item 25.

After a brief discussion, it was decided the portion of Item 12 would also be discussed at the City Council Goal Setting Session in January 2022.

MOTION BY GOBLE, SECOND BY KENDRICK, to CONTINUE the discussion of the Fourth Amendment to FY 2019-20 One-Year Action Plan to Re-Allocate Available CDBG-CV (CDBG CARES Act) Funds during the City Council Goal Setting Session in January 2022.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

15. Temporary Overstaffing Police Officer Positions

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council authorizes temporarily overstaffing ten Police Officer positions in FY 2021-22.

DISCUSSION

City Manager Mitchell provided detailed information on the Item.

No one came forward to speak.

MOTION BY ORTIZ, SECOND BY METSCHEL, to authorize the temporarily overstaffing of ten Police Officer positions in FY 2021-22.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

JOINT COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS:

26. Consider Resolution Opposing the Proposed SANDAG Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Tax

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council adopts the next Resolution, in order, opposing the Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) tax.

DISCUSSION

Councilmembers Goble provided information on the Item.

No one came forward to speak.

MOTION BY GOBLE, SECOND BY KENDRICK, to ADOPT Resolution No. 094-21 opposing the Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) tax.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

COMMISSION REPORTS: None

ACTIVITIES REPORTS/COMMENTS OF MAYOR WELLS:

20. City Council Assignments

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council approves City Council assignments (as identified in the report) to various boards and commissions representing El Cajon.

DISCUSSION

No one came forward to speak.

MOTION BY WELLS, SECOND BY GOBLE, to APPROVE the City Council assignments (as identified in the report) to various boards and commissions representing El Cajon.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

SANDAG (San Diego Association of Governments) Board of Directors; SANDAG – Audit Committee; LAFCO.

19. Council Activities Report/Comments

Report as submitted.

ACTIVITIES REPORTS OF COUNCILMEMBERS:

21. COUNCILMEMBER STEVE GOBLE

MTS (Metropolitan Transit System Board); East County Advanced Water Purification Joint Powers Authority Board; Chamber of Commerce – Government Affairs Committee; SANDAG – Board of Directors – Alternate; SANDAG Public Safety Committee – Alternate; METRO Commission/Wastewater JPA – Alternate.

Council Activities Report/Comments.

Report as submitted.

22. MAYOR PRO TEM GARY KENDRICK

METRO Commission/Wastewater JPA; Heartland Communications; Heartland Fire Training JPA.

Council Activities Report/Comments.

Report as stated.

ACTIVITIES REPORTS OF COUNCILMEMBERS: (Continued)

23. COUNCILMEMBER MICHELLE METSCHEL
Harry Griffen Park Joint Steering Committee; Heartland Communications – Alternate; Heartland Fire Training JPA – Alternate.

Council Activities Report/Comments.

Report as submitted.

24. COUNCILMEMBER PHIL ORTIZ
League of California Cities, San Diego Division; East County Economic Development Council; MTS (Metropolitan Transit System Board) – Alternate; East County Advanced Water Purification Joint Powers Authority Board – Alternate; Chamber of Commerce – Government Affairs Committee – Alternate.

Council Activities Report/Comments.

Report as submitted.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

17. Microenterprise Home Kitchen Operations – MEHKO

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council accepts the report and directs staff to send a letter to the County Board of Supervisors supporting or opposing the Microenterprise Home Kitchen Operations Authorization Ordinance.

DISCUSSION

Senior Planner, Michael Viglione, provided detailed information on the Item.

Karen Melvin, representing San Diego MEHKO Coalition spoke in support of the Item.

Councilmembers spoke in support of the Item, Mayor Wells spoke against it.

MOTION BY KENDRICK, SECOND BY GOBLE, to SEND a letter to the County Board of Supervisors supporting the Microenterprise Home Kitchen Operations Authorization Ordinance.

**MOTION CARRIED BY 4 - 1 VOTE,
(WELLS – No).**

The following Items were not discussed:

GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

ORDINANCES: FIRST READING

ORDINANCES: SECOND READING AND ADOPTION

CLOSED SESSIONS:

The following Items will be on the January 11, 2022 Agenda:

16. Update on Expenditures Related to the American Rescue Plan Act
18. Downtown El Cajon Business Partners' Annual Report

Adjournment: Mayor Wells adjourned the Regular Joint Meeting of the El Cajon City Council/Housing Authority/Successor Agency to the El Cajon Redevelopment Agency held this 14th day of December, 2021, at 5:57 p.m., to Tuesday, January 11, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.

ANGELA L. CORTEZ, CMC
City Clerk/Secretary