

## **ACTION MINUTES**

### **SPECIAL AND REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 215 E. BRANCH STREET ARROYO GRANDE, CALIFORNIA**

In compliance with the State Shelter at Home Order due to the coronavirus pandemic, and as allowed by the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, which allows for a deviation of teleconference rules required by the Ralph M. Brown Act, this meeting was held by teleconference.

#### **SPECIAL MEETING 4:30 P.M.**

##### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ray Russom called the Special City Council Meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

##### **2. ROLL CALL**

Council Members Lan George, Keith Storton, Kristen Barneich, Mayor Pro Tem Jimmy Paulding, and Mayor Caren Ray Russom were all present via teleconference.

Staff members present via teleconference were City Manager Whitney McDonald, Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director Bill Robeson, City Attorney Timothy Carmel, and City Clerk Jessica Matson.

##### **3. FLAG SALUTE**

Mayor Ray Russom led the flag salute.

##### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

None.

##### **CLOSED SESSION**

The City Attorney announced that City Council would recess to a closed session for the following:

- a) Conference with Legal Counsel- Existing Litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1):  
Name of Case: Santa Maria Valley Water Conservation District v. City of Santa Maria, et al. and related actions, Santa Clara Superior Court, Case No. CV 770214.

##### **RECONVENE**

The City Council reconvened to open session at 6:00 p.m. in conjunction with the Regular City Council Meeting. Announcements of any reportable action from the closed session were made under Item 5.

#### **REGULAR MEETING 6:00 P.M.**

##### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ray Russom called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

##### **2. ROLL CALL**

City Council: Council Members Lan George, Kristen Barneich, Keith Storton, Mayor Pro Tem Jimmy Paulding, and Mayor Caren Ray Russom were all present via teleconference.

Staff Present: City Manager Whitney McDonald, Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director Bill Robeson, City Attorney Timothy Carmel, City Clerk Jessica Matson, Administrative Services Director Nicole Valentine, Utilities Manager Shane Taylor, and Deputy City Clerk/Communications Coordinator Sarah Lansburgh.

### **3. MOMENT OF REFLECTION**

#### **4. FLAG SALUTE**

Council Member George the flag salute.

#### **5. AGENDA REVIEW**

##### **5.a. Closed Session Announcements.**

Special Meeting of September 14, 2021

- a) Conference with Legal Counsel- Existing Litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1):  
Name of Case: Santa Maria Valley Water Conservation District v. City of Santa Maria, et al. and related actions, Santa Clara Superior Court, Case No. CV 770214.

City Attorney Carmel announced that the City Council discussed the Santa Maria Valley Groundwater case, and that there was no reportable action.

##### **5.b. Ordinances read in title only.**

None.

#### **6. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

##### **6.a. Update Regarding Countywide COVID-19 Efforts.**

**Recommended Action:** Receive update, accept public comments, discuss, and provide direction, as necessary.

City Manager McDonald provided a brief update on COVID-19 efforts and responded to questions from Council.

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. No public comments were received.

No action was taken on this item.

##### **6.b. City Manager Communications.**

**Recommended Action:** Receive correspondence/comments as presented by the City Manager and provide direction, as necessary.

City Manager McDonald highlighted that the Planning Commission considered amendments to the Accessory Dwelling Unit Ordinance and recommended that the Council consider adoption at

a future City Council meeting; the first Public Workshop for the 2022 Districting process will be held virtually September 18, 2021; and that on September 9, 2021 the Mayor sent a letter of support to the Governor to veto SB 9.

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. No public comments were received.

No action was taken on this item.

**6.c. Honorary Proclamation Recognizing September 15 – October 15, 2021 as Hispanic Heritage Month.**

Mayor Ray Russom read the Honorary Proclamation Recognizing September 15 – October 15, 2021 as “Hispanic Heritage Month” in Arroyo Grande. CR Lara, Latino Outreach Council, and Euclides Del Moral, Mexican Consul, accepted the proclamation. Euclides Del Moral presented a Certificate of Recognition to the Council for highlighting the contributions made by the Latino and Mexican community in the City of Arroyo Grande and enhancing and connecting the diverse and multi-racial and multi-cultural mosaic of cultures during Hispanic Heritage Month.

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. No public comments were received.

No action was taken on this item.

**6.d. Introduction of New Employee – Sarah Lansburgh, Deputy City Clerk/Communications Coordinator.**

City Clerk Matson introduced Sarah Lansburgh as the City’s new Deputy City Clerk/Communications Coordinator and highlighted her educational and professional background

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. No public comments were received.

No action was taken on this item.

**7. COMMUNITY COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS**

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. No public comments were received.

**8. CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Ray Russom asked the Council if there were any questions or any items to be pulled from the consent agenda for further discussion.

Council pulled item 8.d. for separate consideration.

Council commented in appreciation of Item 8.f. (Consideration of Request to Rename Police Tribute Park to “Chief Beau D. Pryor Memorial Park”).

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. Speaking from the public was Jim Guthrie. No further public comments were received.

**Action:** Council Member Barneich moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 8.a. through 8.i., with the exception of Item 8.d., with the recommended courses of action. Council Member Storton seconded, and the motion passed on the following roll-call vote:

**AYES:** Barneich, Storton, George, Paulding, Ray Russom  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None

**8.a. Consideration of Cash Disbursement Ratification**

**Action:** Ratified the listing of cash disbursements for the period August 16 2021 through August 31, 2021.

**8.b. Consideration of Approval of Minutes**

**Action:** Approved the minutes of the Special and Regular City Council Meetings of August 24, 2021, as submitted.

**8.c. Adoption of a Resolution Declaring a Continued Local Emergency Related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic.**

**Action:** Adopted a Resolution entitled: ***“A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARROYO GRANDE DECLARING A CONTINUED LOCAL EMERGENCY RELATED TO THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC”***.

**8.e. Consideration of Grant Acceptance from the Office of Traffic Safety for Traffic/DUI Enforcement**

**Action:** 1) Adopted a Resolution entitled: ***“A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARROYO GRANDE AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDING FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY PROGRAMS AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES”***; and 2) Approved a Budget Amendment Request for FY 2021-22 in the amount of \$50,000 to department 4209-OTS Special Grant Program.

**8.f. Consideration of Request to Rename Police Tribute Park to “Chief Beau D. Pryor Memorial Park”**

**Action:** Adopted a Resolution entitled: ***“A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARROYO GRANDE RENAMING POLICE TRIBUTE PARK THE “CHIEF BEAU D. PRYOR MEMORIAL PARK”***.

**8.g. Consideration of Approval of an Agreement with GSI Water Solutions, Inc. for the Preparation of the Northern Cities Management Area Annual Report and Monitoring Program for the Years 2021-2023**

**Action:** Approved and authorized the Mayor to execute an Agreement for Consultant Services with GSI Water Solutions, Inc. for the preparation of the 2021, 2022, and 2023 NCMA Annual Report and Monitoring Program.

**8.h. Consideration to Approve Construction Plans & Specifications and California Environmental Exemption for the 2021 Street Repairs Project, PW 2021-01.**

**Action:** 1) Approved a Budget Amendment Request to carryover \$1,696,709 of unexpended funds from FY 2020-21; 2) Approved the construction plans and specifications for the 2021 Street Repairs Project; 3) Authorized the City Clerk to advertise for construction bids; 4) Found that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Guidelines Section 15301(c); and 5) Directed the City Clerk to file a Notice of Exemption.

**8.i. Consideration of Approval of Consultant Services Agreement for Building Division Staff, Plan Review and Inspection Services.**

**Action:** Approved and authorized the Mayor to execute the Agreement for Consultant Services for Building Division staff, plan review and inspection services.

**8. ITEMS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

**8.d. Consideration of Approval of a Resolution Amending the Arroyo Grande Tourism Business Improvement District (AGTBID) Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget to Sponsor 2021 Christmas in the Village Events. (McDONALD)**

**Recommended Action:** Adopt a Resolution approving a Budget Amendment Request to the FY 2021-22 AGTBID budget increasing the use of AGTBID's available fund balance by \$5,000 for sponsorship of 2021 Christmas in the Village Events.

City Manager McDonald and Gaea Powell, AGVIA, responded to questions from Council.

Jocelyn Brennan, South County Chambers of Commerce, provided background information regarding AGTBID funds used for Christmas in the Village and responded to questions from Council.

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. Speaking from the public were Frank Schiro, Sarah Gibbs, and Sheila Blake.

Council concurred to direct staff to obtain quotes for lighting in the Village and identify how many lights the City owns.

No action was taken on this item.

*Mayor Ray Russom called for a brief break at 8:02 p.m. The Council reconvened at 8:07 p.m.*

**9. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None.

**10. OLD BUSINESS:**

**10.a. Consideration of Participation in Central Coast Blue Project and Preliminary Discussion of Water Supply Alternatives.**

City Manager McDonald presented the report and recommended that the Council: 1) Consider authorizing the City Manager to negotiate a cost-sharing agreement and a Joint Powers Agreement governing the City's participation in the Project consistent with the framework provided in Attachment 1; 2) authorize the immediate contribution of \$86,000 to the Project from the Water Availability Fund for pre-construction costs; and 3) receive a preliminary report identifying water supply alternatives that may be available to the City and provide direction to staff regarding further analysis of identified alternatives. City Manager McDonald and Utilities Manager Shane Taylor responded to questions from Council.

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. Speaking from the public were Jeff Edwards, Julie Tacker, Allene Villa, Manley McNinch, Anthony Ventura, Joshua Medrano, David Baldwin, and Autumn Brown. City Clerk Matson read into the record written correspondence received from Jim Guthrie and Julie Tacker. No further comments were received.

**Action:** Council Member Storton moved to: 1) Authorize the City Manager to negotiate a cost-sharing agreement and a Joint Powers Agreement governing the City's participation in the Project consistent with the framework provided in Attachment 1; 2) authorize the immediate contribution of \$86,000 to the Project from the Water Availability Fund for pre-construction costs; and 3) receive a preliminary report identifying water supply alternatives that may be available to the City and provide direction to staff regarding further analysis of identified alternatives. Mayor Pro Tem Paulding seconded, and the motion passed on the following roll-call vote:

**AYES:** Storton, Paulding, Barneich, George, Ray Russom  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None

#### **11. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

#### **12. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

Council Member Barneich commented that she had received a request for a list of approved vacation rentals to be posted on the City website and commented on the increase in deaths due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Council Member George shared information regarding the need for foster families in the community.

Mayor Ray Russom reminded the public of the dedication of the "Chief Beau D. Pryor Memorial Park" on Saturday, September 25, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

#### **13. CLOSED SESSION**

None.

#### **14. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Ray Russom adjourned the meeting at 10:04 p.m.

**/S/Caren Ray Russom, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

**/S/Jessica Matson, City Clerk**

**(Approved at CC Mtg 09/28/2021)**