MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 24, 2017
City of Watsonville
Council Chambers
275 Main Street, 4th Floor

5:47 P.M.

1. CLOSED SESSION

(City Council Conference Room, 275 Main Street, 4th Floor)
(a) Public Comments regarding the Closed Session agenda were only accepted by the City Council at that time.

(b) Closed Session Announcement
The City Council recessed the regular Council Meeting to discuss those items listed on the Closed Session Statement attached to the Agenda.

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
(Government Code Section 54956.9)

1. Initiation of litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) and (e)(2) of Section 54956.9:
   (Watsonville Pilots Association v. City of Watsonville
   - Pájaro Valley Unified School District Coastal Permit application)

6:38 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL
Mayor Rios, Mayor Pro Tempore Hurst and Council Members Bilicich, Coffman-Gomez, Dutra, Garcia, and Hernandez were present.

Staff members present were City Manager Montoya, City Attorney Smith, City Clerk Vázquez Flores, Public Works & Utilities Director Palmisano, Police Chief Honda, Fire Chief Barreto, Parks & Community Services Director Espinoza, Library Director Heitzig, Acting Community Development Director Merriam, Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez, Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Templeton, Deputy City Manager Manning, Administrative Services Manager Hays, Assistant Police Chief Sims, Project Manager Vides, Environmental Projects Manager Cassel-Shimabukuro, Assistant City Clerk Ortiz, Senior Administrative Analyst Blackwood, Environmental Education Coordinator Kippen, and Interpreter Vazquez-Quintero.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. INFORMATION ITEMS—Written Report(s) Only
A. Report of Disbursements
B. City Council Department Updates
5. CONSENT AGENDA

Public Input on any Consent Agenda Item (None)

Mayor Rios highlighted several items on the Consent Agenda.

MOTION: It was moved by Mayor Pro Tempore Hurst, seconded by Member Garcia and carried by the following vote to approve the Consent Agenda:

AYES: MEMBERS: Bilicich, Coffman-Gomez, Dutra, Garcia, Hernandez, Hurst, Rios
NOES: MEMBERS: None
ABSENT: MEMBERS: None

5.A. RESOLUTION NO. 8-17 (CM):
RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND CALLING FOR BIDS FOR THE CORRALITOS CREEK WATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, NO. W-17-01 (ESTIMATED COST OF $3,002,000 WILL BE FUNDED FROM THE WATER ENTERPRISE FUND [720] AND BE FULLY REIMBURSED BY PROPOSITION 84 INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT 2014 DROUGHT GRANT- PROJECT IS IN CURRENT BUDGET

5.B. RESOLUTION NO. 9-17 (CM):
RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT WITH RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC., A CORPORATION, FOR PRECONSTRUCTION COMPLIANCE SERVICES FOR THE RAIL TRAIL LEE ROAD PROJECT, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $110,904; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SAME; AND AUTHORIZING BUDGET APPROPRIATION OF AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $55,904 FROM STATE GAS TAX FUNDS (FUND 305)

5.C. RESOLUTION NO. 10-17 (CM):
RESOLUTION ACCEPTING $7,000 GRANT FROM THE COMMUNITY SCIENCE WORKSHOP NETWORK TO SUPPORT THE WATSONVILLE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE WORKSHOP PROGRAM PROVIDING HANDS-ON SCIENCE EDUCATION TO YOUTH IN WATSONVILLE; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS; AND APPROPRIATING SUCH FUNDS TO THE GRANT BUDGET

5.D. RESOLUTION NO. 11-17 (CM):
RESOLUTION ACCEPTING ONE-YEAR $36,000 GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL POLICE ACTIVITIES LEAGUE (PAL) FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A YOUTH MENTORING PROGRAM IN THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO AND ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIONAL POLICE ACTIVITIES LEAGUE GRANT PROGRAM FROM DECEMBER 10, 2016, TO DECEMBER 17, 2017; AND APPROPRIATING SUCH FUNDS TO THE GRANTS FUND

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5.E. ORDINANCE NO. 1346-17 (CM): ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 41 (GRAFFITI) OF TITLE 5 (PUBLIC WELFARE, MORALS, & CONDUCT) OF WATSONVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE IMPLEMENTING NEW GRAFFITI ABATEMENT PROCEDURES

6. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA (None)

7. PRESENTATIONS & ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

7.A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC & CITY COUNCIL

Police Chief Honda introduced Assistant Police Chief Thomas Sims to the Council.

Alicia spoke about the struggles undocumented people face.

Melinda Kralj stated that all cities should become sanctuary cities.

Mayor Rios informed the speakers that the Council would be discussing the sanctuary cities which was on the agenda, and the public would be able to speak on the item at a later time.

Seth Smith, Santa Cruz Veterans Alliance, offered to meet with Council to discuss cannabis manufacturing.

Member Hernandez spoke about emergencies due to heavy rain and thanked everyone who worked to help those in need. He spoke about several events he attended over the previous weeks.

Member Garcia spoke about events she attended over the previous weeks and announced that she recently became a grandmother. She thanked Chief Honda for assuring the public that the Police Department would not cooperate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Member Dutra spoke about his attendance at several community events. He stressed the importance of fighting for women’s rights.

Member Coffman-Gomez invited the public to upcoming community events. She spoke about repairs to the levee due to heavy rain. She said there would be a meeting with the Corps of Engineers in March regarding the Pájaro River Levee. She announced that Measure D would be effective on April 1, and there would be public meetings regarding planned road improvements.

Member Bilicich spoke about several community events she attended over the previous weeks and efforts to repair the levee despite the Army Corps of Engineers’ unwillingness to help.

Mayor Pro Tempore Hurst spoke about the Army Corps of Engineer’s lack of responsiveness in regards to the Pájaro River Levee. He spoke about events he attended over the previous weeks and invited the public to upcoming community events.
Mayor Rios commended the Ow Family for their contributions to the community. He announced that Governor Brown had declared the County of Santa Cruz in a state of emergency. He encouraged the public to invite Council Members to local events.

7.B. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION
City Attorney Smith reported that Council discussed the item on the Closed Session Agenda, but took no action.

8. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

8.A. PRESENTATION OF SANTA CRUZ METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DISTRICT’S STATE OF THE UNION BY CEO ALEX CLIFFORD (20 MINUTES)

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS, ORDINANCES, & APPEALS

9.A. CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SPEED LIMITS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ENGINEERING AND TRAFFIC SURVEY

1) Staff Report
The report was given by Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez and Police Captain Magdayo.

2) City Council Questions
Police Captain Magdayo and Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez, answered questions from Member Garcia regarding fines for speeding and changes to speed limits.

Police Captain Magdayo, Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez, and City Manager Montoya answered questions from Member Dutra regarding deaths in 2016 due to speeding, speeding, fines, and ability to change speed limits.

Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez, in answering Member Hernandez, spoke about criteria used to identify areas that need additional safety measures implemented.

In answering Member Bilicich, Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez stated speed limits on Bridge Street would be considered in June.

Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez answered questions from Member Coffman-Gomez regarding accidents at Airport Boulevard and Holm Road, notification to residents around areas where speed limits would change, and implementation of safety measures in unsafe areas.

Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez answered questions from Member Bilicich regarding safety near Watsonville Aptos Adult Education and safety near Nob Hill.

3) Public Hearing
Mayor Rios opened the public hearing.
Ron Buel stated his concerns in increasing speed limits and gave testimony of the dangers of speeding. He asked that Police stop unsafe drivers and gave recommendations on how to improve safety on Ohlone Parkway.

Martha Gonzalez, Second Street resident, spoke about speeding issues on Walker Street and asked that Police enforce speeding laws throughout the City.

Alexander Ramirez stated his concerns with increasing speed limits on unmaintained City roads.

Salvador Lua asked for information regarding notification of residents near areas where speed limits would increase.

Seeing no one else approach the podium, Mayor Rios closed the public hearing.

4) City Manager Comments (None)
City Manager Montoya spoke about staff efforts to implement traffic safety measures.

5) City Council Discussion
In answering Mayor Rios, Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez spoke about the conditions of several City streets.

Police Captain Magdayo answered questions from Member Bilicich regarding students who do not obey traffic lights and signs.

In answering Member Hernandez, Police Captain Magdayo stated Police was pursuing grant funding to implement more pedestrian safety measures.

Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Rodriguez, in answering Member Garcia explained reasons for different speed limits on Airport Boulevard.

Member Dutra stressed the importance of enforcing traffic laws and providing for public safety measures, particularly near schools.

Member Coffman-Gomez asked for safety measures on Airport Boulevard at Holm Road. She stated her concerns regarding the study conducted to address speed limits in the City and asked staff to return to Council with a report on the effectiveness of the speed limit changes.

Member Bilicich thanked staff for their work to improve safety in the City and asked staff to further improve safety.

Mayor Pro Tempore Hurst spoke about speeding issues in the City.

Mayor Rios listed several streets that needed to be improved to prevent speeding.

6) ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION AMENDING ARTICLE 18 (SPEED LIMITS) OF CHAPTER 5 (TRAFFIC) OF TITLE 4 (PUBLIC SAFETY) OF THE WATSONVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE TO ESTABLISH THE SPEED LIMITS IN
MOTION: It was moved by Member Dutra, seconded by Member Bilicich and carried by the following vote to introduce the above ordinance 9.A.6):

AYES: MEMBERS: Bilicich, Coffman-Gomez, Dutra, Garcia, Hernandez, Hurst, Rios
NOES: MEMBERS: None
ABSENT: MEMBERS: None

9.B. CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SAFE DRUG AND SHARPS DISPOSAL PROCEDURES

1) Staff Report
The report was given by Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Templeton.

2) City Council Questions
Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Templeton answered questions from Member Garcia regarding efforts the City was making to reduce littering of needles and the proposed changes to increase proper disposal of needles.

Environmental Education Coordinator Kippen and Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Templeton answered questions from Member Coffman-Gomez regarding proper disposal of needles and medicines.

Environmental Education Coordinator Kippen and Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Templeton answered questions from Member Bilicich regarding disposal sites, options for disposing of medicines and needles, and disposing of items sent to users via mail.

Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Templeton, in answering Member Hernandez, spoke about planned disposal sites and planned outreach to the community.

Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Templeton listed medicine drop off locations at the request of Member Bilicich.

3) Public Hearing
Mayor Rios opened the public hearing and seeing no one approach the podium, he closed the public hearing.

4) City Manager Comments (None)

5) City Council Discussion
Mayor Pro Tempore Hurst spoke in support of staff recommendation.

Assistant Public Works & Utilities Director Templeton, in answering Mayor Rios, spoke about City efforts to address homeless encampments and littering of needles.
Member Dutra spoke about issues involving homeless encampments and littering of needles. He asked that more outdoor needle drop off locations be added.

6) INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 5 (PUBLIC WELFARE, MORALS, AND CONDUCT) BY ADDING A NEW CHAPTER 48 (SAFE DISPOSAL OF DRUGS AND SHARPS) OF WATSONVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE FOR THE DISPOSAL OF SHARPS AND PHARMACEUTICALS

MOTION: It was moved by Member Coffman-Gomez, seconded by Member Bilicich and carried by the following vote to introduce the above ordinance 9.B.6):

AYES: MEMBERS: Bilicich, Coffman-Gomez, Dutra, Garcia, Hernandez, Hurst, Rios
NOES: MEMBERS: None
ABSENT: MEMBERS: None

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.A. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION DECLARING THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE A SANCTUARY FOR LOCAL IMMIGRANTS

1) Oral Report
The report was given by City Manager Montoya.

2) City Council Questions (None)

3) Public Input
The following speakers asked Council to approve a resolution reaffirming the City’s status as a sanctuary city:
Robbie Olson
Alicia de Trinidad
Emanuel Ballesteros
Raymond Cancino
Jennifer Holm
Frances
Soledad Martinez
Antonio Ruiz
Celia Ruiz
Hector Soliz
Melinda Kralj
Mas Hashimoto
Doug Keegan
Esther Solís
Beatriz Solís
Nolia Valentine

The following speakers asked Council to approve a resolution reaffirming the City’s status as a sanctuary city and adopt an ordinance outlining how the City would protect immigrants:
Ernestina Saldaña
Mireya Gomez Contreras, Director of Day Workers Center
Maria Elena de la Garza, Executive Director for Community Action Board, asked Council to form a task force to address immigration issues in Watsonville.

4) City Manager Comments (None)

5) City Council Discussion
Mayor Rios stated the City had been a sanctuary city since 2007 and was considering a reinforced resolution.

Member Hernandez stressed the importance of retaining the City’s sanctuary city status and listed reasons he would support immigrants.

Mayor Pro Tempore Hurst thanked the public for addressing the Council and stressed the importance of maintaining the sanctuary city status and protecting all residents.

Member Dutra spoke about challenges immigrants faced day to day and vowed to help immigrants by working on stronger sanctuary city policies.

Member Coffman-Gomez stressed the importance of unity and embracing the community as a whole.

Member Bilicich spoke about challenges immigrants face and spoke in support of the motion.

6) RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE TO MAINTAIN TRUST AND SAFETY FOR LOCAL IMMIGRANTS IN THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE – Not Approved

MOTION: It was moved by Member Garcia, seconded by Member Hernandez and carried by the following vote to reaffirm the City’s status as a sanctuary city and direct staff to work with Mayor Rios to revise Resolution 98-07 (CM) based on public comments:

AYES: MEMBERS: Bilicich, Coffman-Gomez, Dutra, Garcia, Hernandez, Hurst, Rios

NOES: MEMBERS: None

ABSENT: MEMBERS: None

Mayor Rios asked Council Members Garcia and Hernandez to meet with him and staff to revise and improve Resolution No. 98-07 (CM).
Member Coffman-Gomez left at 10:42 PM.

10.B. CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT OF AN AD HOC COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE SOCIAL SERVICE / COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS

1) Staff Report
   The report was given by Project Manager Vides.

2) City Council Questions (None)

3) Public Input
   Maria Elena de la Garza, Executive Director for Community Action Board, commended the City for not participating in the Core Funding Model. She asked Council to extend current funding levels for social service grants until the City and social service providers meet to discuss the needs of Watsonville.

   Raymond Cancino, Chief Executive Officer for Community Bridges, asked the City to work with other jurisdictions to create one uniform grant application process for social service grants. He added that the Core Funding Model did not involve the public and the City should strive to keep the public included in their discussion.

   Gina Cole, Pájaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance, listed her concerns with priorities of the Core Funding Model and commended Watsonville for not joining. She asked that the City keep the public involved and work to pinpoint the City's needs.

4) City Manager Comments (None)

5) City Council Discussion
   Member Dutra stated his concerns with the Core Funding Model and commended staff for not pursuing those priorities.

   In answering Member Garcia, City Manager Montoya and Assistant City Manager Huffaker listed the reasons staff did not pursue the Core Funding Model.

   Member Hernandez spoke about the importance of flexibility in funding social services and not adopting a model that would hinder an agency's ability to fund organizations.

   Mayor Pro Tempore Hurst spoke about the challenges in allocating resources to so many organizations.

   Mayor Rios asked Members Garcia, Dutra, and Hernandez to be part of the ad hoc committee regarding the social services grants.

6) MOTION: It was moved by Member Dutra, seconded by Member Hernandez and carried by the following vote to direct the Mayor to appoint an ad hoc committee:

   AYES: MEMBERS: Bilicich, Dutra, Garcia, Hernandez, Hurst, Rios
   NOES: MEMBERS: None
ABSENT: MEMBERS: Coffman-Gomez

Member Bilicich left at 11:00 PM.

10.C. REINSTATEMENT OF DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, UTILIZING INCLUSIONARY HOUSING FUNDS TO ASSIST ELIGIBLE LOW TO ABOVE MODERATE INCOME HOME BUYERS TO PURCHASE HOMES IN THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE

1) Staff Report
   The report was given by Senior Administrative Analyst Blackwood.

2) City Council Questions (None)

3) Public Input
   Lupe Rivas spoke in support of the proposed Downpayment Assistance Program.

4) City Manager Comments (None)

5) City Council Discussion
   Senior Administrative Analyst Blackwood and Assistant City Manager Huffaker answered questions from Member Garcia regarding income limits and eligibility requirements.

   Mayor Rios stated downpayment assistance was intended to help first time home buyers.

   Senior Administrative Analyst Blackwood answered questions from Member Hurst regarding resale restrictions.

   Acting Community Development Director Merriam and City Manager Montoya explained why staff was recommending appropriation of $250,000 for the Downpayment Assistance Program.

   In answering Member Garcia, Senior Administrative Analyst Blackwood listed how the public would be notified of the program.

6) RESOLUTION NO. 12-17 (CM):
   RESOLUTION ADOPTING DOWNPAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (DAP) AND APPROVING PROGRAM GUIDELINES TO ASSIST ELIGIBLE LOW TO ABOVE MODERATE INCOME HOME BUYERS TO PURCHASE HOMES IN THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE; AUTHORIZING BUDGET APPROPRIATION IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $250,000 FROM THE INCLUSIONARY HOUSING FUND [0221] FOR FY2016-17; AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER AND/OR HIS DESIGNEE TO MAKE NON-SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES TO THE DAP GUIDELINES AS MAY BECOME NECESSARY

   MOTION: It was moved by Mayor Pro Tempore Hurst, seconded by Member Hernandez and carried by the following vote to approve the above resolution 10.C.6):
AYES: MEMBERS: Dutra, Garcia, Hernandez, Hurst, Rios
NOES: MEMBERS: None
ABSENT: MEMBERS: Bilicich, Coffman-Gomez

11. REQUESTS & SCHEDULING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
Member Garcia asked for a report to Council regarding human trafficking.

12. EMERGENCY ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA

13. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting adjourned at 11:21 PM.

Oscar Rios, Mayor

ATTEST:
Beatriz Vázquez Flores, City Clerk
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