



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE SOLVANG CITY COUNCIL**

Council Chambers
1644 Oak Street
Solvang, CA 93463

June 22, 2020
Monday
6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Toussaint called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Mayor Ryan Toussaint, Mayor Pro Tem Robert Clarke, Council Members
Chris Djernaes, Daniel Johnson, and Karen Waite

STAFF: Xenia Bradford, City Manager, Chip Wullbrandt, City Attorney and Matt van
der Linden Public Works Director/City Engineer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Council Member Waite

1. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS – WRITTEN OR VERBAL

City Attorney Chip Wullbrandt commented that he wanted to do a one subsection Brown Act training this evening by reading into the record Section 54954.3 (c) and explained its significance in relation to the public comment period.

Roberto

- Spoke about the terrible housing situation in Solvang that is very expensive and unaffordable
- Stated that there are up to four people living in a one studio apartment without any amenities
- Commented that the law enforcement funding for the City is three times as much as a larger City like Goleta
- Requested that some of the law enforcement budget be redirected to help with housing
- Stated that he would like to see more women and more people of color in the community

Elisha Rogers

- Pointed out that there were no people of color in the room
- Stated she would like that the people who are making the policy-decisions for the City, actually cared about folks of color
- Commented that she sees lack of funding in the police and affordable housing
- Stated that the lack of minority representation in the community in terms of residents reflects the type of conservative white supremacist town that Solvang is
- Stated that Police should be defunded because there are so many and as one of the few people of color in the community, she feels that she is more of a target
- Stated that Solvang is not a comfortable place for people of color

Joanne Clark

- Spoke in favor of the trolley and on the issue of the license renewal
- Stated that the trolley is an important part of Solvang

Terry Harmon

- Commented that she would like the City to keep the Trolley because it adds a lot of value to the town
- Addressed the City Council regarding an encroachment permit that was issued to her tenant without her permission as a landlord

Rena van de Kamp

- Suggested the Council should have more town hall meetings due to the appearance of decision being made behind closed doors
- Commented that the community would like to participate and discuss critical issues

Rose Elives

- Stated that she is present in support of the Black Lives Matter movement
- Commented that she is fed up with how this community treats its minorities and its outsiders
- Stated that she is in favor of defunding the police and invest that money into education and anti-racism education

Unknown

- Spoke about the revocation of one of his business licenses
- Stated that his many requests to meet with the Mayor and City officials went answered
- Commented that if he is not given a fair chance, he will pursue legal action, but that he would rather donate the money to the City of Solvang

Claudia Orona

- Addressed the City Council regarding the renewal of the Trolley license
- Clarified that she has been in communication with the City

Unknown

- Stated that as a white person she sees these horrible things that white people are doing to other races and it is disturbing
- Commented that at her school she sees white students wearing MAGA hats and sporting confederate flags and that these symbols are offensive to minorities

Caseley Saye

- Stated that as a Mayor and a member of the LGBTQ community he has not stand in support of nor seen in solidarity with the Black community
- Commented that the Mayor has not made any public statement in support of the Black Lives Matter movement
- Stated that had it not been for the struggles of Black people during the Civil Rights Movement, the Mayor would not even be allowed to have a husband

Lammy Johnstown (via Zoom)

- Stated that the City of Solvang has done a good job in bringing people together
- Spoke in support of the Trolley and commented it should remain
- Made comments relative to the recall stating that Council Member Djernaes should resign

Letters from John Padfield, Debra Deyette, Denise Rose, Mark and Linda Parsons, Marcia Nelson, Susan Margolies Pearson, and Karen Hazard were read into the record.

Callers – None

2. EXECUTIVE, PIO REPORTS & ADVANCE CALENDAR

City Manager Xenia Bradford provided the following highlights:

- That the focus of the June 22 meeting will be on the 2020-2021 Financial Plan
- Spoke about the June 27 workshop at Vets Memorial hall and brief the Council on the logistics of it
- Commented that the purpose of the workshop is to solicit input to be incorporated into a final plan/proposal that will be brought back to the City Council
- Provided an update on Marketing and Tourism
- Stated that the closure of Copenhagen was design to accommodate more customers while providing for social distancing
- Reminded businesses that to expand into the right-of-way, businesses need an encroachment permit

Motion made by Mayor Toussaint to approve the consent calendar as presented, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Clarke, and carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Agenda as Presented.
- b. Approval of Draft Minutes of the June 8, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting
- c. Receive and File Sant Barbara County Sheriff's Office Monthly Report for May 2020
- d. Approval of Warrant Register

REGULAR BUSINESS AGENDA

4. COVID-19 UPDATE

Staff recommends that the City Council receive staff report and provide policy direction as needed.

City Manager Xenia Bradford presented the staff report reminding everyone that the City is still under a modified stage 3 reopening with personal care services remaining closed at this time. She also provided the following highlights:

- Farmer's market temporarily moved to Copenhagen
- Announced that the next Steering Committee meeting will be held on June 25
- Focus is on getting revenues back up
- Reminded businesses that if they want to expand into the right-of-way, that they need to pull an encroachment permit
- City funded \$40,000 for food distribution at Vets Hall
- Reported on the Great Plates Program success
- Stated the City has awarded a contract to People Helping People for \$10,000 this year and another \$20,000 for FY 2020-21
- Representatives from National Development Council (NDC) provided a brief update on their activities on behalf of the City of Solvang

Mayor Toussaint open public comments at 8:38 p.m.

Priscilla Osken (Letter read into the record)

- Thanked the Council for instituting the Great Plates Program and commented that it has been successful for both sides (recipients and restaurants)
- Urged the Council to extend the program

Mayor Toussaint closed public comments at 8:39 p.m.

Motion made by Mayor Toussaint to extend the Great Plates Program until July 10, seconded by Council Member Djernaes, and carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

5. PW061 FIRST STREET SIDEWALK PROJECT – AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

1. Review and reject award protest submitted by V. Lopez Jr. and Sons, Inc. of Santa Maria, California; and
2. Award a Construction Agreement with JJ Fisher Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$335,835.69 and authorize execution of the Agreement by the Mayor; and
3. Authorize the City Manager to execute any change orders if within a contingency amount of \$50,000.

Matt van der Linder, Public Works Director/City Engineer presented the staff report articulating the recommendations included in the staff report.

Mayor Toussaint open public comments at 8:50 p.m.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Toussaint closed public comments at 8:50 p.m.

Motion made by Mayor Toussaint to reject award protest, award construction Agreement to JJ Fisher Corporation, and authorize the City Manager to execute any changes orders if within a contingency amount of \$50,000, seconded by Council Member Waite, and carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

6. COUNCIL INTENT TO CHANGE TO BY-DISTRICT ELECTION SYSTEM

Adopt resolution expressing Council intent to change to by-district election system for the 2022 City Council elections and providing direction to staff to take actions to begin such process coordinated with the availability of 2020 Federal Census Data.

Chip Wullbrandt, City Attorney presented the staff report indicating that at the May 11 meeting the Council engaged in a substantial discussion on this matter and directed staff to come back with a Resolution of intent to change to by District elections and hence this is the recommendation staff is bringing back at this time.

Mayor Toussaint open public comments at 8:56 p.m.

There were no public comments

Mayor Toussaint closed public comments at 8:56 p.m.

Motion made by Mayor Toussaint to accept staff's recommendation, seconded by Council Member Johnson, and carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

7. 2020-22 FINANCIAL PLAN AND 2020-21 BUDGET ADOPTION

1. Review 2020-22 Final Proposed Financial Plan including operating programs and Capital Improvement Program; and
2. Review the City of Solvang Human Services Grant funding agency requests; and
3. Adopt Resolution No. 20-1113, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Solvang, adopting a budget for fiscal year 2020-21.

City Manager, Xenia Bradford presented the staff report stating that a number meetings have been had about the budget and today staff is asking formally presented the budget for adoption in accordance with state law; commented that Council is also being asked to provide policy direction on human services grants funding requests; stated that the theme of this financial plan is transparency and resiliency; that the goal is to estimate revenue and expenditures as close as possible; that the budget clearly presents the goals and projects to be achieved timely over the next two years; that the operating budget is presented together with the Capital Improvement Program focusing on outcomes; commented that fiscal policies are included establishing CIP reserves.

Mayor Toussaint open public comments at 9:24 p.m.

Joan Jamieson (Letter read into the record)

- Expressed concerns about the Council not providing grant funding for any youth-oriented agency now that the Parks are closed
- Urged the Council not to use the COVID-19 pandemic as an excuse not to fund your activities

Karen Brown, Director of Atterdag at Home Village, Pam Nico, Director of the Santa Ynez Valley Senior Citizen Center, and Ellen Albertoni, Director of the Solvang Senior Center spoke about their needs stating:

- Addressed the City Council relative to the increasing needs of their organizations
- Spoke about the specific services they provide such as meals on wheels, providing transportation to seniors and providing other services for seniors to stay in their home
- Spoke about the networking between their agencies and other local non-profit agencies to provide a safety net for the needy seniors in the community
- Stated that transportation is a great need for the Seniors to get to Doctor's appointments

Mayor Toussaint closed public comments at p.m. 9: 35 p.m.

RECESS AND RECONVENE

Mayor Toussaint called for a recess at 9:35 p.m. The assembly reconvened at 9:45 p.m. with all Council Members, present.

A brief discussion ensued relative to the levels of funding for human services providers with Council Members collectively expressing support for agencies that provide a variety of services to seniors in the community.

Motion made by Council Member Djernaes to cut the funding for People Helping People in half and redistribute the funding in the amount of \$2,500 for the Buellton Senior Center and \$5,000 for Atterdag at home, seconded by Council Member Johnson, carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

Motion made by Mayor Toussaint to approve the budget as presented, with the caveat that a request be made for the county to come and present, seconded by Council Member Waite, and carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

8. AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION FOR FY 2020-21 TDA CLAIM

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt Resolution No. 20-1114, a Resolution of the City Council of the

City of Solvang, California, authorizing the City Manager to execute and file an appropriate claim with the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments for Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds for the Santa Ynez Valley Transit System for fiscal year 2020-2021.

Mayor Toussaint open public comments at 10:30 p.m.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Toussaint closed public comments at 10:30 p.m.

Motion made by Mayor Toussaint to accept the report and authorize the Mayor to sign the letter in response to the Grand Jury Report, seconded by Council Member Johnson, and carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

9. AB1234 REPORT OUT, COUNCIL COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

There were no AB1234 reports to announce.

Council Member Johnson commented that he is in full support with comments made by Mr. Clayton Jones earlier regarding the State and County overstepping their boundaries.

Mayor Pro Tem Clarke commented that he too concurs with the comments made by Council Member Johnson and the comments expressed by Mr. Clayton Jones with respect to protecting our freedoms.

Council Member Waite expressed that she is looking forward to the June 27 workshop and hopes that a lot of valley residence show up.

Council Member Djernaes stated that he too agrees with Mr. Jones’s comments and that it is something he has talked about from the beginning; commented that he does not have any conflict of interest with Mr. Ed St. George’s project as it was insinuated earlier by a public speaker. Further, he commented that on the issue of an FPPC violation he was accused of, that matter has been cleared up.

Mayor Toussaint thanked everyone for their hard work on the UGB initiative; commented that he took looks forward to the community workshop on June 27.

10. ADJOURNMENT- Mayor Toussaint adjourned the meeting at 10:37 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by:

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Daryl Betancur
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DARYL A. BETANCUR, MMC
Deputy City Clerk

In accordance with Solvang Municipal Code Section 1-4-16 (Ord. 14-305), minutes of the City Council of the City of Solvang are prepared in action style.