



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

Council Chambers
1644 Oak Street
Solvang, CA 93463

August 10, 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, Johnson, and Karen Waite

ABSENT: None

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

A proclamation was presented to Olsen’s Danish Village Bakery celebrating their 50th year anniversary.

a. Monterey Bay Community Power presentation

Jay R. Killigrew, Director of Communications and Outreach representing the Monterey Bay Community Power made a lengthy presentation detailing the business model of the agency.

Tracy Beard, Solvang Chamber of Commerce

- Provided a summary of the activities conducted by the Chamber in partnership with the Economic Development Collaborative and spoke of the distribution of masks, hand sanitizer and other need supplies to help combat the Corona Virus.

2. EXECUTIVE, PIO REPORTS & ADVANCE CALENDAR

City Manager Xenia Bradford provided the following highlights:

- Provided reminders about this being the beginning of the recently adopted financial plan
- Stated that there is an open RFP for the General Plan Update
- Commented that the WWTP Aeration system is in process
- Spoke about the Fifth Street sidewalks project, which is also in process

- Briefed the Council on updated agenda items including the website redesign, water/sewer rate study, general fund fees and cost allocation study, and internal staff recruitments

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

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Agenda as Presented
- b. Approval of Warrant Register/Expenditure Report for July 2020
- c. Approve City Attorney invoices for work performed in June 2020
- d. Receive and File Santa Barbara County Fire Department 2nd Quarter Report
- e. Receive and File Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Report for June 2020

REGULAR BUSINESS AGENDA

4. RESOLUTION NO. 20-1119 IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

Approve resolution of the City Council of the City of Solvang supporting the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of all forms of discrimination against women.

Xenia Bradford, City Manager stated that this is a request from the Commission of Women of Santa Barbara County to support the aforementioned resolution language.

Public Comment

Mayor Toussaint open to public comments at 7:20 p.m.

Karen Steinwechs, Commission of Women of Santa Barbara County

- Thanked the Council for its support and that this is a first step towards an Ordinance that will be presented to the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors

Mayor Toussaint closed to public comments at 7:20 p.m.

Motion made by Council Member Waite to approve item as presented, seconded by Mayor Toussaint, and carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

5. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO APPLY FOR REGIONAL EARLY ACTION PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM

Approve a resolution establishing a Memorandum of Understanding between the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments and Santa Barbara County Association of Governments and the City of Solvang, authorizing application to apply for grant authorized under the Regional Early Action Planning Grant Program (REAP).

Xenia Bradford, City Manager presented a brief report stating that this is a procedural item given staff authority to approve for \$120,000 with funding, which could be directed to the work on the General Plan Council approved recently.

Public comment

Mayor Toussaint open to public comments at 7:23 p.m.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Toussaint closed to public comments at 7:23 p.m.

Motion made by Mayor Toussaint, to approve the item as presented, seconded by Council Member Djernaes, and carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

RECESS AND RECONVENE

Mayor Toussaint called for a recess at 8:05 p.m. The assembly reconvened at 8:15 p.m. with all Council Members, present.

6. COPENHAGEN STREET CLOSURE

Receive and file a staff report regarding Copenhagen Street closure and provide with policy direction as needed.

City Manager, Xenia Bradford provided a brief background about the item stating that Council had approved this closure until end of July; however, with the change in the reopening strategies at the State level, this poses an impact on City operations, as a result, the City has to adjust its policies about allowing outdoor seating and indoor seating when allowed.

Further, City Manager Bradford stated that staff recommendation is to approve the closure of Copenhagen Street until the end of the current fiscal year, meaning that the closure will last until next summer, and to develop a design for longer-term closure including furniture, fencing, and shade structures. Further she stated that considerations need to be made about developing guidelines, City provided funding for common use areas only, and developing a partnership program with businesses.

Public comment

Mayor Toussaint open to public comments at 7:35 p.m.

Jennifer Soni (Comment heard early during meeting)

- Spoke about Copenhagen street closure and the changes taking place
- Stated that the overall opinion of her patrons is extremely favorable and would like to see it continue
- Commented that there is an issue with young people riding skateboard and that the police had to be called

Mary Garvey, Los Angeles Resident

- Commented that she loves outdoor dining, and that she was in favor of keeping Copenhagen closed
- Asked the Council not to give in to the issues of lack of parking because there is plenty of parking in Solvang

Mayor Toussaint closed to public comments at 7:40 p.m.

Council Member Waite stated she is in favor of allowing businesses to rent or purchase the furniture that is already in front of their stores or that the City buys furniture to make the outdoor look more consistent; that she is in favor of retaining the parklets.

Mayor Pro Tem Clarke commented that Copenhagen looks a bit slappy now and wished that there was more continuity and consistent with respect to the outdoor setting, and keeping a cohesive look to the area; further stated that we are spending a lot of money on a few businesses that are located on Copenhagen Street.

Council Member Djernaes stated that he agrees with staff's recommendations; that he is in favor of making Copenhagen more like a promenade with a Danish feel; that we need overall guidelines about the aesthetics of the look of the area meaning that he was in favor of more consistency of the look of the area.

Council Member Johnson expressed concern with the amount of money the City is paying for these items and stated that we need to get the businesses more involved; that we are past the point of the City covering all the cost for the furniture that is out there; also commented that he is in favor of a consistent theme or look for what is out there.

Mayor Toussaint concurred that a lot of the concerns have been addressed in the staff report and agreed with the concerns expressed.

Motion made by Mayor Toussaint directing staff to return the first meeting in September with a resolution to make permanent the Copenhagen Promenade including closure to vehicles and traffic; and continuation of business encroachments making note of renewal of leases coming up in December so tenants and landlords can make viable business decisions; and for the City to procure items to help businesses retain a consistent look, seconded by Council Member Waite, and carried with a roll call vote of 5-0.

7. FISCAL YEAR 2019-20 QUARTER 4 FINANCIAL REPORT

Receive and file Fiscal Year 2019-20 Quarter 4 Financial Report.

City Manager Xenia Bradford presented the Fiscal Year 2019-20 fourth quarter financial report and answered Council's questions.

Public comment

Mayor Toussaint open to public comments at 7:44 p.m.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Toussaint closed to public comments at 7:44 p.m.

No formal motion made to receive and file.

8. AB1234 REPORT OUT, COUNCIL COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

There were no AB1234 reports to announce.

Mayor Pro Tem Clarke asked about the status of the repayment of the microloans with City Manager Xenia Bradford stating that the loans are about 2/3 paid, which is a good thing for everyone.

Council Member Djernaes encouraged anyone who desires to run for office, to do so timely as the deadline is fast approaching.

9. ADJOURNMENT- Mayor Toussaint adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

City of Solvang City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes of August 10, 2020

Minutes Prepared by:

DocuSigned by:

Daryl Betancur

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.