

CITY OF PASADENA
City Council Minutes
April 17, 2023 – 4:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chamber

OPENING:

Mayor Gordo called the regular meeting to order at 4:37 p.m.
(Absent: Councilmembers Hampton, Madison, Rivas)

**REMOTE
PARTICIPATION
REQUEST**

**APPROVAL OF A REQUEST BY COUNCILMEMBER RIVAS TO
PARTICIPATE REMOTELY DUE TO EMERGENCY
CIRCUMSTANCES**

Mayor Gordo read the following message from Councilmember Rivas: "This is to request that the City Council allow me to participate remotely for the Council meeting, Monday, April 17, 2023, due to emergency circumstances pursuant to Government Code Section 54953 (F)(2)(A)(ii). I am following my physician's order placing me off work for a medical condition that prevents me from attending in person."

It was moved by Vice Mayor Williams, seconded by Councilmember Lyon, to approve the request by Councilmember Rivas to participate remotely in today's City Council meeting due to emergency circumstances as described in her communication to the City Council dated today, April 17, 2023 subject to the requirements of Government Code Section 54953. (Motion unanimously approved)
(Absent: Councilmembers Hampton, Madison, Rivas)

AYES: Councilmembers Jones, Lyon, Masuda, Vice Mayor Williams, Mayor Gordo

NOES: None

ABSENT: Councilmembers Hampton, Madison, Rivas

ABSTAIN: None

CLOSED SESSION

Mark Jomsky, City Clerk, reported that, related to Closed Session Item D, one letter advocating for the City to continue to negotiate with HRI Properties to develop a hotel project on the former YWCA site, was received by the City Clerk's Office, distributed to the City Council, posted on-line, and made part of the public record.

Councilmembers Madison and Rivas arrived at 4:43 p.m.

On the order of the Mayor, the regular meeting recessed at 4:43 p.m. to discuss the following closed session:

Councilmember Hampton arrived at 5:01 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL regarding pending litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) (two cases)

Name of Cases: DC Lake Holdings, LLC v. City of Pasadena

First case number: LASC Case No.: 19STCP04588

Second case number: LASC Case No.: 22STCP04461

**CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL
regarding pending litigation pursuant to Government Code
section 54956.9(d)(1)**

**Name of Case: In re: National Prescription Opiate Litigation
USDC (N.D. Ohio) Case No.: 1:17-md-2804**

The above closed session items were discussed, with no reportable action at this time.

On the order of the Mayor, the regular meeting reconvened at 6:02 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was led by Councilmember Masuda. (Absent: None)

ROLL CALL:

Councilmembers:

Mayor Victor M. Gordo
Vice Mayor Felicia Williams
Councilmember Tyron Hampton
Councilmember Justin Jones
Councilmember Jason Lyon
Councilmember Steve Madison
Councilmember Gene Masuda
Councilmember Jessica Rivas (participated virtually)

Staff:

City Manager Miguel Márquez
City Attorney/City Prosecutor Michele Beal Bagneris
City Clerk Mark Jomsky

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

Jens Weiden, Chief Executive Officer of the Rose Bowl, presented the Pasadena Unified School District with a \$5,000 check from the Rose Bowl Stadium & Legacy Foundation, and thanked the PUSD on their partnership at their annual Turkey Trot.

On behalf of PUSD, Michelle Richardson Bailey expressed her thanks and gratitude to the Rose Bowl and the Legacy Foundation for choosing PUSD as the recipient of the Turkey Trot's charitable donation. Mayor Gordo and Councilmember Madison expressed their appreciation to the Rose Bowl and Legacy Foundation for their great work.

Mayor Gordo presented a proclamation recognizing April 17, 2023 as "Arbor Day" in Pasadena, which was received by Tony Olmos, Director of Public Works, and Lola Osborne, Acting Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services. Mr. Olmos invited the Council and community to the City's Arbor Day Event scheduled for April 29, 2023 at Jefferson Recreation Center at 8:00 a.m.

Emina Darakjy, Street Tree Chairperson/Past President of Pasadena Beautiful, and Greg King, President of Pasadena Beautiful, announced that 28 Ficus trees have been planted recently on Green Street by the Pasadena Beautiful Foundation, and invited everyone to join in the Arbor Day Celebration.

Councilmember Hampton recognized City staff Kenneth Graham, Public Works Superintendent, and Michael King, Program Coordinator II, and expressed a special thanks to Emina Darakjy for her dedication to the City and for handpicking all the trees.

Councilmember Jones and Councilmember Hampton spoke on the passing of Jessica Springfield Valentine, long-time Pasadena resident, and active member of the community, and former City commissioner, and requested that the meeting be adjourned in her memory.

Mayor Gordo spoke in memory of Coach Enrique Reyes Cardenas, long-time Pasadena resident, and 29-year soccer coach at Villa Parke, and expressed condolences to his wife, children, and grandchildren, and requested that the meeting be adjourned in his memory as well.

Vice Mayor Williams and Councilmember Hampton, City-appointed members of the Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport Authority, announced the Commission's unanimous selection of "The Icon" concept for the Terminal Replacement Project. Councilmember Madison expressed his gratitude to Vice Mayor Williams and Councilmember Hampton for their efforts and expressed his excitement for this milestone.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON
MATTERS NOT ON THE
AGENDA

Diane Reeves, Pasadena resident, urged the City of Pasadena to consider constructing a Sports Complex in the City, especially in advance to the 2028 Olympic Games, and recognized the many professional athletes that have come from Pasadena High Schools.

Mayor Gordo asked staff and the Finance Committee to further explore the potential for identifying infrastructure dollars for such an effort in advance of the 2028 Olympic.

Allan Shay, Pasadena resident, reiterated his request that the City Council review and discuss how the City is utilizing bodycam and other video sources as part of the investigative process for critical incidents, such as in the Anthony McClain case, and advocated for police accountability.

Olden Denham, Pasadena resident, spoke on the need for justice for Anthony McClain, as well as the need for accountability and transparency within the Pasadena Police Department (PPD).

Anonymous, residence not stated, thanked the PPD's Strategic Mental Health Division for their assistance when she called for help about her stranded vehicle.

J.D. Wood, representing Sports Facilities Companies, provided information on the business behind constructing sports facilities, and acknowledged his partnership with Ms. Reeves.

The following individuals spoke on the climate crisis and the synthesis report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report; and advocated for Pasadena to support Senate Bill (SB) 252 to mandate California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) and the California State Teachers Retirement System (CalSTRS) refrain from investing in fossil fuel companies by 2030.

Cheryl Auger, Pasadena resident
Susan Dembowski, Pasadena resident
Melissa, Alhambra resident

Heavenly Hughes, representing My TRIBE Rise, congratulated Councilmember Rivas on the birth of her son, invited everyone to the 3rd Annual Dena Juneteenth Celebration on June 17, 2023; advocated for justice for Anthony McClain, and for the leaders of Pasadena to listen to the voices of the people.

Bert Newton, thanked the City Council for the consideration and care in appointing the Rental Board and urged the Council to not appoint Ahni Dodge, Simon Gibbons, and Tyler Werrin, who were plaintiffs in the lawsuit against Measure H.

In response to the public comment, Councilmember Madison, Chair of the Legislative Policy Committee, stated the Committee will review SB 252 and report back to the Council.

Michele Bagneris, City Attorney/City Prosecutor, made a brief announcement, that the Office of Independent Review (OIR) report regarding the Anthony McClain shooting has been completed, and that the City intends to release the report this week, which will include responses from the Pasadena Police Department.

CONSENT CALENDAR

CONTRACT AWARD TO EMANUELS JONES AND ASSOCIATES FOR STATE LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY SERVICES

Allan Shay, Pasadena resident, acknowledged Lola Osborn, Deputy Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Services for her leadership and advocacy to help make sure the community stays a community.

The above item was pulled from the agenda and was not considered.

ACCEPTANCE AND APPROVAL OF DONATION FROM PASADENA AMERICAN LITTLE LEAGUE TO BUILD A BATTING CAGE AT VICTORY PARK (Parks Recreation & Community Service Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the project in the agenda report has been determined to be exempt from environmental review pursuant to the guidelines of the California Environmental Quality City Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code 21080(b)(9); Administrative Code, Title 14, Chapter 3, 15301 (Existing Facilities), and there are no features that distinguish this project from others in the exempt class; therefore, there are no unusual circumstances. Section 15301 exempts projects which involves negligible or no expansion use;
- (2) Accept a donation from Pasadena American Little League (PALL) to build batting cage at Victory Park; and
- (3) Authorize the City Manager to enter into a labor and material contract with Pasadena American Little League to construct a batting cage adjacent to Diamond 2 at Victory Park. (Contract No. 23,839)

Mayor Gordo congratulated and thanked Pasadena American Little League for their contribution to build a new batting cage.

Vice Mayor Williams asked the City Manger to review the policy and process in place for accepting donations from private and non-profit entities.

LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE: AMENDED NAMING OF THE NEW PARK AND THE ASSOCIATED TRAIL, LOCATED AT 1410 WIERFIELD DRIVE (Parks Recreation & Community Services Dept.)

Recommendation of the Recreation and Parks Commission: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the proposed action of naming a City park not a “project” as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Section 21065 and Section 15378(b)(4) and (5) of the State CEQA Guidelines, and as such, is not subject to environmental review; and
- (2) Approve that the new park located at 1410 Wierfield Drive be named “Annandale Canyon Nature Preserve” and the associated trail be named “Yayaaytnga Trail.”

Nina Chomsky, representing Linda Vista-Annandale Association, spoke in support of the recommendation to approve that the new park be named Yayaaytnga Trail.

LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE: PROPOSED CHANGES TO PUBLIC PARK AND RECREATIONAL FACILITY NAMING POLICY (Parks Recreation & Community Services Dept.)

Recommendation of the Recreation and Parks Commission: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the proposed action of naming a City park not a “project” as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Section 21065 and Section 15378(b)(4) and (5) of the State CEQA Guidelines, and as such, is not subject to environmental review; and
- (2) Approve and adopt the proposed changes to the Public Park and Recreational Facility Naming Policy.

Nina Chomsky, representing Linda Vista-Annandale Association, spoke in support of the recommendation to approve the proposed changes to the Public Park and Recreation Facility Naming Policy.

DESIGNATION OF COUNCILMEMBER FELICIA WILLIAMS TO SERVE AS THE CITY’S VOTING DELEGATE AT THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS (SCAG) ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO BE HELD ON MAY 4, 2023, AND MAY 5, 2023

RESIGNATIONS, APPOINTMENTS, & REAPPOINTMENTS

APPOINTMENT OF MARY URTECHO-GARCIA TO THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (District 4 Nomination)

MINUTES APPROVED

March 13, 2023 City Council
 March 13, 2023 Successor Agency to the Pasadena Community Development Commission

CLAIMS RECEIVED

Claim No.	Claimant	Claim Amount
2023-0263	Mark Lacap	1,222.42
2023-0264	Luis Villegas	150.00
2023-0265	Grace J. Wong	157.63
2023-0266	Aram Fodulyan	25,000.00+
2023-0267	Zarouhi Gezalyan	600.00
2023-0268	Daniel Koes	Not stated
2023-0269	Sonia Latchinian	219.45
2023-0270	Michael Jennings	5,412.35
2023-0271	Myra Wofinbarger	25,000.00+
2023-0272	Heather Fraschetti	610.99
2023-0273	Mark Atallah	1,289.00
2023-0274	Michelle L. Sterling	321.62
2023-0275	Mercury Insurance as subrogee of Daniel Dorazi	8,020.83
2023-0276	Diane Ward	477.00

PUBLIC HEARINGS SET

April 24, 2023, 5:30 p.m. – Recommended Capital Improvement Program

May 8, 2023, 5:30 p.m. – Recommended Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2024

May 15, 2023, 5:30 p.m. – Application to Designate 420 South Greenwood as a Landmark

May 22, 2023, 5:30 p.m. – Approval of the Annual Action Plan (2023-2024) and Related Funding Application for the Community Development Block Grant, Home Investment Partnership Act, and Emergency Solutions Grant

As required by Brown Act provisions, Councilmember Rivas reported that no one over 18 years of age is in the room with her.

It was moved by Councilmember Lyon, seconded by Councilmember Hampton, to approve all items on the Consent Calendar. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: None)

AYES: Councilmembers Hampton, Jones, Lyon, Madison, Masuda, Rivas, Vice Mayor Williams, Mayor Gordo
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

CITY ATTORNEY

ORAL REPORT: CITY ATTORNEY MINI-BRIEFING PROVIDING AN UPDATE ON BROWN ACT MEETING RULES

Recommendation: This matter is presented for information only; no action is required.

Michele Bagneris, City Attorney/City Prosecutor, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the item, and responded to questions.

The City Council suggested that the Legislative Policy Committee and the City's legislative advocates work together to consider further revisions and improvements to the current Brown Act provisions, and submit suggested changes to local state representatives.

On the order of the Mayor, and consensus of the City Council, the information was received and filed.

BRIEF REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES/REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Vice Mayor Williams requested that the City Council agendaize an informational report on what a community benefits agreement, or citywide community benefits agreement, could look like for Pasadena, including information on the different structures/models that already exist in other cities.

RECESSED TO CLOSED SESSION

On the order of the Mayor, the regular meeting of the City Council recessed to closed session at 7:27 p.m. (Absent: None)

CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8
Property Location: 85 Holly Street (Pasadena Senior Center)
Agency Negotiator: Miguel Márquez

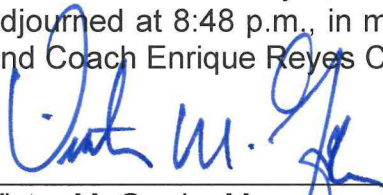
Negotiating Party: Akila Gibbs
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of Payment

CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8
Property: 78 N. Marengo Avenue (Assessor's Parcel No. 5723-026-900 and 5723-026-903), Assessor's Parcel No. 5723-026-902
Agency Negotiator: Miguel Márquez
Negotiating Parties: Michael Coolidge (HRI Properties)
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

The above closed session items were discussed, with no reportable action at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

On order of the Mayor, the regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 8:48 p.m., in memory of Jessica Springfield Valentine and Coach Enrique Reyes Cardenas.



Victor M. Gordo, Mayor
City of Pasadena

ATTEST:



City Clerk