

CITY OF PASADENA
City Council Minutes
August 26, 2024 – 4:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chamber

Teleconference Location:

Stanford Sierra Conference Center
Main Lodge Teleconference Booths
103 Fallen Leaf Road
Fallen Leaf, CA 96150

OPENING:

Mayor Gordo called the regular meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. (Absent: None)

CLOSED SESSION

On the order of the Mayor, the regular meeting recessed at 4:30 p.m. to discuss the following closed session item:

Councilmember Rivas participated in the Closed Session via teleconference.

CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 Properties:

1. 180 Glenarm Street, Pasadena, CA
2. 269 Palmetto Drive, Pasadena, CA
3. 1175 Pasadena Avenue, Pasadena, CA
4. 163 State Street, Pasadena, CA
5. 230 Wigmore Avenue, Pasadena, CA
6. 215 Madeline Drive, Pasadena, CA
7. 218 Madeline Drive, Pasadena, CA
8. 888 Pasadena Avenue, Pasadena, CA
9. 894/894-B Pasadena Avenue, Pasadena, CA
10. 1112 Pasadena Avenue, Pasadena, CA
11. 1200 Pasadena Avenue, Pasadena, CA
12. 584 Saint John Avenue and 230/230-A California Boulevard, Pasadena, CA
13. 696 Saint John Avenue, Pasadena, CA
14. 734 Saint John Avenue, Pasadena, CA
15. 180 State Street, Pasadena, CA
16. 225 State Street, Pasadena, CA
17. 237 State Street, Pasadena, CA

Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment

Agency negotiator: Miguel Márquez

Negotiating parties: State of California, Department of Transportation

SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE PASADENA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8

Property Location: 145 North Raymond Avenue
Agency Negotiator: Miguel Márquez
Negotiating Party: Leslie Ito, Executive Director Armory Center for the Arts
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL regarding significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)/(e)(1) (one potential case)

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

Name of Case: Mark Jomsky, City Clerk v. Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and Dean C. Logan Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. not yet assigned (to be filed before closed session meeting)

Councilmember Rivas left the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

Councilmember Williams left the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

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 6:11 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was led by Councilmember Hampton. (Absent: Councilmembers Rivas, Williams)

ROLL CALL:

Councilmembers:

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

Staff:

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

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

City Clerk Jomsky administered the oath of office to Tunisia Offray, commissioner on the Human Services Commission (District 7) and Ziandry Peralta, commissioner on the Commission on the Status of Women (District 1).

Mayor Gordo requested that meeting be adjourned in memory of Sona Markarian, a former PUSD teacher and Washington Square resident; Michelle Zavala, a volunteer with the Pasadena Police Department and former member of the Commission on the Status of Women; and Kevin Uhrich, longtime Pasadena journalist and former editor of the *Pasadena Weekly*.

Andre Coleman, *Pasadena Now* and former co-worker of Mr. Uhrich, thanked the community for their condolences following Kevin Uhrich's passing, and spoke on his many contributions to the newspaper community and the residents of Pasadena.

Justin Chapman, District 6 Field Liaison, also spoke on the passing of Kevin Uhrich and expressed immense gratitude for his mentorship.

In addition, Vice Mayor Madison requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Wendy Tyler Cobleigh, longtime Pasadena resident and community activist.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON
MATTERS NOT ON THE
AGENDA**

James Maddox, Pasadena resident, advocated for ranked choice voting.

Allen Shay, Pasadena resident, spoke on the need for accountability of Pasadena Police Officers involved in the shooting of Anthony McClain.

Yadi, residence not stated, expressed concerns regarding the potential purchase of an observation tower for the Police Department and a lack of privacy for citizens, and advocated for the City to act intentionally in regard to public safety.

Olden Denham, Pasadena resident, expressed frustrations with the lack of accountability for the Pasadena Police Officers involved in the shooting of Anthony McClain.

Philip Koebel, Pasadena resident, spoke on the passing of Kevin Uhrich, and his ability to identify important issues as newsworthy, expressing his gratitude for Mr. Uhrich's contributions to Pasadena.

CONSENT CALENDAR

**City Manager/ Executive
Director**

Item discussed separately

ADOPT A RESOLUTION DECLARING CITY-OWNED PROPERTY AT 1015 AND 1027 N. LAKE AVENUE AS EXEMPT SURPLUS LAND PURSUANT TO STATE GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54221(f)(1)(F) FOR THE PURPOSE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT (Housing Dept.)

ADOPT A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING ONE NEW CLASSIFICATION AND UPDATING THE SALARIES OF TWENTY EXISTING CLASSIFICATIONS (Human Resources Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:
(1) Find that the proposed action in the agenda report is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) "Common Sense" exemption; and
(2) Adopt a Resolution Establishing One New Classification and Updating the Salaries of Twenty Existing Classifications. (Resolution No. 10085)

Item discussed separately

ADOPT A RESOLUTION UPDATING THE SALARIES OF FIFTEEN EXISTING CLASSIFICATIONS (Human Resources Dept.)

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ROBERT MEYERS STUDIO FOR OUTSOURCED PRINTING – LARGE FORMAT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$1,109,000 (Finance Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the action proposed in the agenda report is not a “project” subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 21065 and within the meaning of Section 15378(b);
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract as the result of the competitive bidding process with Robert Meyers Studio for outsourced printing – large format in an amount not-to-exceed a grand total of \$1,109,000 for six-years, which includes the option for three one-year extensions or an amount not-to-exceed \$554,500 whichever occurs first, at the discretion of the City Manager (Contract No. 33054); and
- (3) Authorize the City Manager to approve no-cost amendments to the subject contract including durational extensions.

AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH SELECT ELECTRIC INC., FOR INSTALLATION OF A TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT ORANGE GROVE BOULEVARD AND CRAIG AVENUE FOR AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$694,249 (Public Works Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find the contract proposed in the agenda report to be categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15301, Class 1 – Existing Facilities, and Section 15303, Class 3 – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, and that there are no features that distinguish this project from others in the exempt class, and therefore, there are no unusual circumstances; and
- (2) Award the contract to lowest and best bid dated July 26, 2024 submitted by Select Electric Inc., in response to the project plans and specifications for the Installation of a Traffic Signal at Orange Grove Boulevard and Craig Avenue, authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract for an amount not-to-exceed \$694,249 which includes the base contract amount of \$603,695 and a contingency of \$90,554 to provide for any necessary change orders. (Contract No. 33052)

FINANCE COMMITTEE: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CORNER KEYSTONE CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION FOR VILLA PARKE COMMUNITY CENTER – ADA IMPROVEMENTS – LOCKER ROOM PROJECT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$687,389 AND AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2025 CIP BUDGET TO APPROPRIATE \$237,389 (Public Works Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

(1) Find the contract proposed in the agenda report to be categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15301, Class 1 – Existing Facilities, and that there are no features that distinguish this project from others in the exempt class, and therefore, there are no unusual circumstances;

(2) Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Corner Keystone Construction Corporation for the Villa Parke Community Center – ADA Improvements – Locker Room project for an amount not-to-exceed \$687,389, which includes the base contract amount of \$597,730 and a contingency of \$89,659 to provide for any necessary change orders (Contract No. 33049); and

(3) Amend the FY 2025 Capital Improvement Program Budget by appropriating \$237,389 in Residential Impact Fee to the Villa Parke Community Center – ADA Improvements – Locker Room and Parking Lot (78072) project. (Budget Amendment No. 2025-4)

FINANCE COMMITTEE: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION FOR \$2M FOR THE RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES PLANNING GRANT FOR THE 710 MASTER PLAN AND SPECIFIC PLAN PROCESS, AND AMEND THE CITY MANAGER’S OFFICE FISCAL YEAR 2025 OPERATING BUDGET (Office of the City Manager)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

(1) Find that the proposed action in the agenda report is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA guidelines Section 15061(b)(3);

(2) Authorize the City Manager or his designee to enter into an agreement with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to receive grant funding for the Reconnecting Communities Planning grant in the amount of \$2,000,000 and execute any subsequent agreements regarding this grant award (Contract No. 24,082); and

(3) Amend the City Manager's Office Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget by recognizing revenue and appropriating \$1,350,000 of the grant award in the General Fund Projects Fund (Fund 105), and also appropriating the grant match of \$2,000,000 in Fund 105 to administer the Reconnecting Pasadena Master Plan and Specific Plan process. (Budget Amendment No. 2025-5)

City Clerk/ Secretary

CLAIMS RECEIVED AND FILED

Claim No.	Claimant	Claim Amount
2025-0023	John Anton Latta	\$ 1,225.00
2025-0024	Robert Ruiz	9,999.00
2025-0025	Annette Denise McDaniel	10,000.00+
2025-0026	Santosa Delivery	4,546.21

PUBLIC HEARING SET

SEPTEMBER 23, 2024, 5:30 p.m. – Draft Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (2023-2024 program year) for projects funded from Community Development Block grant, Emergency Solutions grant, and Home Investment Partnership Act

MOTION:

It was moved by Councilmember Lyon, seconded by Councilmember Masuda, to approve all items on the Consent Calendar, with the exception of Items 1 and 3. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: Councilmembers Rivas and Williams)

CONSENT ITEMS DISCUSSED SEPARATELY

Vice Mayor Madison stated a potential conflict of interest with this item, recused himself, and left the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

ADOPT A RESOLUTION DECLARING CITY-OWNED PROPERTY AT 1015 AND 1027 N. LAKE AVENUE AS EXEMPT SURPLUS LAND PURSUANT TO STATE GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54221(f)(1)(F) FOR THE PURPOSE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT (Housing Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the recommended actions in the agenda report do not constitute a “project” subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 21065 of CEQA and Sections 15004(b)(4) and 15378 of the State CEQA Guidelines, and as such, no environmental document pursuant to CEQA is required;
- (2) Adopt the Resolution (attached to the agenda report) declaring the property at 1015 and 1027 N. Lake Avenue as exempt surplus land pursuant to State Government Code Section, 54221(f)(1)(F) (Resolution No. 10083); and
- (3) Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute, on behalf of the City, any documents necessary to effectuate the staff recommendation.

City Clerk Jomsky reported that 1 letter expressing concerns regarding the lack of opportunity for public input on the item and lack of notification within the Washington Square neighborhood was received by the City Clerk’s Office, distributed to the City Council, posted online, and made part of the public record for this item.

MOTION:

It was moved by Councilmember Lyon, seconded by Councilmember Masuda, to approve the staff recommendation. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: Councilmembers Rivas, Williams, and Vice Mayor Madison)

Vice Mayor Madison returned to the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

ADOPT A RESOLUTION UPDATING THE SALARIES OF FIFTEEN EXISTING CLASSIFICATIONS (Human Resources Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the proposed action in the agenda report is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) “Common Sense” exemption; and
- (2) Adopt a Resolution Updating the Salaries of Fifteen Existing Classifications. (Resolution No. 10084)

Mayor Gordo stated a potential conflict of interest with this item, recused himself, and left the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

MOTION:

It was moved by Councilmember Hampton, seconded by Councilmember Masuda, to approve the staff recommendation. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: Councilmembers Rivas, Williams, and Mayor Gordo)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mayor Gordo returned to the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Councilmember Jones stated a potential conflict of interest with this item, recused himself, and left the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED VACATION AND HEAR EVIDENCE OFFERED BY INTERESTED PARTIES AND ADOPT A RESOLUTION ORDERING THE VACATION OF NINA STREET FROM SUNNYSLOPE AVENUE TO ITS EAST TERMINUS
(Public Works Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that on July 15, 2024, the City Council adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Pasadena Rusnak Porsche project, which includes the vacation of Nina Street from Sunnyslope Avenue to East terminus, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA);
- (2) Hold a public hearing on the proposed vacation and hear evidence offered by interested parties;
- (3) Find that the subject portion of land proposed for vacation is consistent with the General Plan Mobility Element and is unnecessary for present or prospective public use for street purposes;
- (4) Declare that the City's existing interest in the subject portion of land proposed for vacation is an easement dedicated for public street purposes; the land is not owned by the City in fee title; and it is not subject to the provisions of Chapter 4.02, Sale of Surplus Real Property, of the Pasadena Municipal Code;
- (5) Adopt a Resolution ordering the vacation of Nina Street from Sunnyslope Avenue to its East terminus, in accordance with the conditions and recommendations contained in this report (Resolution No. 10086); and
- (6) Authorize the City Manager to execute a Condition Satisfaction Contract between the City and the applicant, Rusnak Daimler Chrysler Center Inc., a Delaware Corporation. (Contract No. 24,095)

Recommendation of the Planning Commission: On May 8, 2024, the Planning Commission voted unanimously in support of the City Council approving the vacation of Nina Street from Sunnyslope Avenue to its East terminus subject to fulfillment of the conditions set forth in Exhibit C of the Resolution (attached to the agenda report) for the Order to Vacate. The Commission also found unanimously that the subject portion of land proposed for vacation is consistent with the General Plan Mobility Element and is unnecessary for present or prospective public use for street purposes.

City Clerk Jomsky reported that the public hearing notice was mailed on July 29, 2024, published on August 1, 2024 and August 15, 2024 in the Pasadena Press, and posted on August 2, 2024. He reported that no correspondence was received by the City Clerk's Office for this item.

MOTION: It was moved by Councilmember Masuda, seconded by Councilmember Hampton, to close the public hearing. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: Councilmembers Jones, Rivas, and Williams)

MOTION: It was moved by Councilmember Masuda, seconded by Councilmember Hampton, to approve the staff recommendation. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: Councilmembers Jones, Rivas, and Williams)

**REPORTS AND
COMMENTS FROM
COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

Public Safety Committee

Councilmember Jones returned to the meeting at 6:47 p.m.

MILITARY EQUIPMENT ANNUAL REPORT AND RENEWAL OF EXISTING MILITARY EQUIPMENT (Police Dept.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council:

- (1) Find that the project proposed in the agenda report is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), the "Common Sense" exemption that CEQA applies only to projects that may have an effect on the environment;
- (2) Find that each type of military equipment identified in the Pasadena Police Department (PPD) June 2023 to June 2024 Annual Military Equipment Report has complied with the standards for approval set forth in the PPD Military Equipment Policy 711 and Government Code Section 7070 et seq.; and
- (3) Approve the continued use of the currently authorized military equipment by renewing Ordinance No. 7395 pursuant to Government Code Section 7071(e)(1).

Yadi, residence not stated, expressed concerns regarding the ordinance renewal and usage of military equipment to safeguard public welfare. She also advocated for the City Council to work with the Pasadena Police Department and the Community Police Oversight Commission to establish robust usage policies for the equipment.

It was moved by Councilmember Hampton, seconded by Councilmember Masuda, to approve the staff recommendation. (Motion unanimously approved) (Absent: Councilmembers Rivas and Williams)

**ORDINANCE – FIRST
READING**

Conduct first reading of “AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA AMENDING TITLE 2, ARTICLE I, CHAPTER 2.05, SECTION 2.05.060 OF THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE TO CHANGE THE REGULAR MEETING TIMES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL”

Councilmember Jones suggested looking into having City Council meetings on a different day of the week, noting that having City Council meetings on Mondays may hinder the public’s ability to attend meetings since it is at the beginning of the work week. He suggested a pilot program where the City Council meetings could be held on a Thursday.

In response to Councilmember Jones' suggestion, City Clerk Jomsky noted that having meetings on Thursdays would impact other boards/commissions with Thursday meeting schedules.

Councilmember Lyon advocated to include additional language in the proposed ordinance to provide clarification regarding the cancellations of regular City Council meetings due to holidays or as determined by the City Clerk in consultation with the Mayor and City Manager.

In response to Councilmember Lyon's suggestion, City Attorney Bagneris proposed amending the ordinance to state the following: "The city council shall hold regular meetings each Monday at the hour of 5:00 p.m. in Room S249 of the City Hall, 100 North Garfield Avenue, in the city of Pasadena, unless otherwise canceled by the City Clerk in consultation with the Mayor and City Manager. When any Monday falls on a legal holiday, the regular meeting shall be canceled."

Discussion ensued regarding the pros and cons of having a City Council meeting on a Thursday, consideration of other weekdays, and possibly conducting a poll and gathering public input on the matter.

Andre Coleman, residence not stated, expressed concerns that having meetings on Thursdays and publishing agendas for the next meeting on that day may create confusion for the public.

Following discussion, the ordinance was introduced by Councilmember Hampton, as amended and detailed by the City Attorney above:

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

ADJOURNMENT

On order of the Mayor, the regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 7:10 p.m. in memory of Sona Markarian, Michelle Zavala, Wendy Tyler Cobleigh, and Kevin Uhrich.

Victor M. Gordo, Mayor
City of Pasadena

ATTEST:

City Clerk