



ACTION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

February 25, 2025, 6:00 p.m.
Hybrid City Council Chamber/Virtual Zoom Meeting
215 East Branch Street, Arroyo Grande

Council Members Present: Mayor Caren Ray Russom, Mayor Pro Tem Kate Secrest, Council Member Jim Guthrie, Council Member Jamie Maraviglia, Council Member Aileen Loe

Staff Present: City Clerk Jessica Matson, City Attorney Isaac Rosen, City Manager Matthew Downing, Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director Bill Robeson, Administrative Services Director Nicole Valentine, Community Development Director Brian Pedrotti, City Engineer Shannon Sweeney

This meeting was conducted in a hybrid in-person/virtual format.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ray Russom called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

City Clerk Matson took roll call.

3. MOMENT OF REFLECTION

4. FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Ray Russom led the flag salute.

5. AGENDA REVIEW

5.a Closed Session Announcements

None.

5.b Ordinances read in title only

None.

6. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

6.a Honorary Proclamation Declaring March as Women's History Month

Mayor Ray Russom read the Honorary Proclamation declaring March as Women's History Month. Nan Fowler, South County Historical Society, accepted the Proclamation.

No action was taken on this item.

6.b Introduction of New Employee Megan Schotborgh, Accounting Manager

Administrative Services Director Valentine introduced the City's new Accounting Manager, Megan Schotborgh, and highlighted her educational and professional background.

6.c City Manager Communications

City Manager Downing provided information regarding the Police Department attending the Transitions Mental Health Association lunch and learn meeting regarding the unhoused population; Wildfire Preparedness Community Meeting on March 1st; and Traffic Way Bridge Replacement Project communications efforts and project updates.

No action was taken on this item.

7. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

The City Council provided brief reports from the following committee, commission, board, or other subcommittee meetings that they attended as the City's appointed representative.

7.a MAYOR RAY RUSSOM:

1. Audit Committee
2. California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (CJPIA)
3. Five Cities Fire Authority JPA Board
4. San Luis Obispo County Mayor's Meeting
5. South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District (SSLOCSD)
6. Other

7.b MAYOR PRO TEM SECREST:

1. Air Pollution Control District (APCD)
2. Homeless Services Oversight Council (HSOC)
3. South County Chambers of Commerce Governmental Affairs Committee
4. General Plan Citizen's Oversight Committee

7.c COUNCIL MEMBER GUTHRIE:

1. Central Coast Community Energy (CCCE) Policy Board
2. Integrated Waste Management Authority Board (IWMA)

3. REACH Economic Development Roundtable
4. Other

7.d COUNCIL MEMBER MARAVIGLIA:

1. Five Cities Fire Authority JPA Board
2. Visit SLO CAL Advisory Board
3. Other

7.e COUNCIL MEMBER LOE:

1. Council of Governments/Regional Transit Authority (SLOCOG/SLORTA)
2. County Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC)
3. Zone 3 Water Advisory Board
4. Other

8. COMMUNITY COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. Speaking from the public were Jennifer Silva, and Garry Schmidt. No further public comments were received.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Ray Russom asked the Council if there were any questions or any items to be pulled from the consent agenda for further discussion.

Council Member Loe and Mayor Ray Russom commented on Item 9.e., including the General Plan Update effort, project website, PlanArroyoGrande.com, and the need for public participation in the process. Community Development Director Pedrotti responded to questions from Council.

Mayor Ray Russom commented on Item 9.d and current litigation regarding water availability.

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. No public comments were received.

Moved by Council Member Maraviglia
Seconded by Council Member Guthrie

Approve Consent Agenda Items 9.a. through 9.e., with the recommended courses of action.

AYES (5): Council Member Maraviglia, Council Member Guthrie, Council Member Loe, Mayor Pro Tem Secrest, and Mayor Ray Russom

Passed (5 to 0)

9.a Cash Disbursement Ratification

Reviewed and ratified the listing of cash disbursements for the period of January 16 through January 31, 2025.

9.b Resolution to Update Accounting Manager Name for Authorized Personnel for Financial Institutions

1) Adopted a Resolution entitled: ***"A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARROYO GRANDE AUTHORIZING THE DEPOSIT OF CITY FUNDS IN VARIOUS FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND UPDATING THE NAMES OF DESIGNATED EMPLOYEES IN CERTAIN POSITIONS WHO ARE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE DEPOSITS OF CITY FUNDS AND ENTER INTO BANKING OR INVESTMENT ARRANGEMENTS"***; and 2) Determined that adopting a resolution authorizing the deposit of City funds in various financial institutions and updating the names of designated employees in certain positions who are authorized to make deposits of City funds and enter into banking or investment arrangements is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") because it has no potential to result in either a direct, or reasonably foreseeable indirect, physical change in the environment. (State CEQA Guidelines, Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 15060, subd. (c)(2)-(3), 15378.)

9.c Approval of Minutes

Approved the minutes of the Special City Council Meeting of February 10, 2025 and Regular City Council Meeting of February 11, 2025, as submitted.

9.d Monthly Water Supply and Demand Update

Received and filed the Monthly Water Supply and Demand Update.

9.e General Plan Update Progress Report – February 2025

Received and filed a progress report on the Comprehensive General Plan Update.

10. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

11. BUSINESS ITEMS

11.a Halcyon Complete Streets Design Discussion

City Engineer Shannon Sweeney presented the Item and responded to questions from Council.

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. Speaking from the public were No Name Provided, Alexandria Davis, and Jim Dececco. No further public comments were received. City Engineer Sweeney and City Manager Downing responded to questions from the public and Council.

Council discussion ensued regarding the history of the project, narrowed lanes, slowing down traffic, a residential tree plan; and overall support of staff's recommendations.

City Engineer Sweeney responded to additional questions from Council.

City Council expressed support for a Class II Bike Lane with Buffer; adding more trees as part of a residential tree plan; and researching if there are alternatives to the use of green paint for bike lanes.

No action was taken on this item.

11.b Direction on the Establishment of a Measure E-24 Citizen Sales Tax Oversight Committee

City Manager Downing presented the Item. City Manager Downing and Administrative Services Director Valentine responded to questions from Council.

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. Speaking from the public was Melissa Watkins. No further public comments were received.

Council discussion ensued regarding the formation of a Citizens' Sales tax Oversight Committee for Measure E-24 funds.

Mayor Ray Russom requested that recruitment materials not include the statement "Preference would be given to applicants who reflect the diversity of the City and have relevant experience or knowledge in the application process."

Moved by Council Member Loe

Seconded by Council Member Guthrie

Approve the creation of an E-24 Citizen Sales Tax Oversight Committee consistent with staff's recommendation and amend the Recruitment and Appointment Process as stated in the staff report to remove the word "preference" and clarify that the City will seek applicants who reflect the diversity of the community and have relevant experience or knowledge.

AYES (5): Council Member Loe, Council Member Guthrie, Council Member Maraviglia, Mayor Pro Tem Secrest, and Mayor Ray Russom

Passed (5 to 0)

12. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Council Member Maraviglia commented on meeting with 5Cities Homeless Coalition; and the success of Meet the Machines event.

Council Member Loe also commented on a meeting with 5Cities Homeless Coalition regarding their services.

Mayor Pro Tem Secrest commented on the Meet the Machines event; meeting with Bob Lund and Arroyo Grande In Bloom members regarding a proposed project at Oak Park Blvd and E Branch Street.

Mayor Ray Russom commented on the Supervisorial District 4 Town Hall meeting with Supervisor Paulding and herself on February 27th.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Ray Russom adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Caren Ray Russom, Mayor

Jessica Matson, City Clerk