

**ACTION MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2021  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 215 E. BRANCH STREET  
ARROYO GRANDE, CALIFORNIA**

Given the recent increase in COVID-19 cases in San Luis Obispo County, and in compliance with Assembly Bill (AB) 361, which allows for a deviation of teleconference rules required by the Ralph M. Brown Act, this meeting was held by teleconference.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2. ROLL CALL**

City Council: Council Members Lan George, Kristen Barneich, Keith Storton, Mayor Pro Tem Jimmy Paulding, and Mayor Caren Ray Russom were all present via teleconference.

Staff Present: City Manager Whitney McDonald, Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director Bill Robeson, City Attorney Timothy Carmel, City Clerk Jessica Matson, Administrative Services Director Nicole Valentine, Utilities Manager Shane Taylor.

**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. Update Regarding Countywide COVID-19 Efforts.**

**Recommended Action:** Receive update, accept public comments, discuss, and provide direction, as necessary.

City Manager McDonald provided a brief update on COVID-19 efforts and responded to questions from Council.

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

No action was taken on this item.

**6.b. City Manager Communications.**

**Recommended Action:** Receive correspondence/comments as presented by the City Manager and provide direction, as necessary.

City Manager McDonald provided an update on Halloween events and stated that the Recreation Services Department will be hosting a Halloween Carnival and Haunted Maze and that the Halloween in the Village event will not take place this year.

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

No action was taken on this item.

**6.c. Honorary Proclamation Declaring October 2021 as “Domestic Violence Action Month”.**

Mayor Ray Russom read the Honorary Proclamation Declaring October 2021 as “Domestic Violence Action Month”.

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

No action was taken on this item.

**6.d. Mayor’s Commendation Recognizing the Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters Local Union 805.**

Mayor Ray Russom read the Mayor’s Commendation Recognizing the Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters Local Union. Autumn Brown, and Manley McNinch, accepted the Commendation.

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

No action was taken on this item.

**6.e. Presentation from San Luis Obispo Council of Governments – Commute with Confidence.**

Catalina Hubbard, Rideshare Outreach Coordinator, provided a presentation on the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments campaign, Commute with Confidence.

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

No action was taken on this item.

**7. COMMUNITY COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS**

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. Speaking from the public were Jeff Edwards, Kris Roudebush, Jim Guthrie, Stewart Errico, Francine Errico, Manley McNinch, and Linda Busek. No further public comments were received. Staff responded to questions from Council.

**8. 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 commented on Item 8.f. and staff responded to questions from Council on Item 8.g.

City Manager McDonald acknowledged the Supplemental Information regarding Item 8.h. and requested that the Council continue the item to a date uncertain.

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

**Action:** Council Member Storton moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 8.a. through 8.g., with the recommended courses of action. Council Member George seconded, and the motion passed on the following roll-call vote:

**AYES:** Storton, George, Barneich, Paulding, Ray Russom  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None

**8.a. Consideration of Cash Disbursement Ratification.**

**Action:** Ratified the listing of cash disbursements for the period September 16, 2021 through September 30, 2021.

**8.b. Consideration of Approval of Minutes.**

**Action:** Approved the minutes of the Special and Regular City Council Meetings of September 28, 2021, as submitted.

**8.c. Adoption of a Resolution Declaring a Continued Local Emergency Related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic.**

**Action:** Adopted a Resolution entitled: ***"A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARROYO GRANDE DECLARING A CONTINUED LOCAL EMERGENCY RELATED TO THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC"***.

**8.d. Cancellation of the December 28, 2021 City Council Meeting.**

**Action:** Cancelled the regularly scheduled Council meeting of December 28, 2021 due to the holidays.

**8.e. Consideration to Approve an Agreement for Consultant Services with Salas O'Brien for the Five Cities Fire Authority Station 1 Emergency Generator Replacement Project, PW 2021-09.**

**Action:** 1) Approved an Agreement for Consultant Services with Salas O'Brien in the amount of \$46,780 for design and construction support services of the FCFA Station 1 Emergency Generator Replacement Project; and 2) Approved an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Capital Improvement Program budget to transfer \$4,280 of General Fund from fund balance to the subject project.

**8.f. Consideration of a Resolution Amending the Public Art Guidelines and Public Art Donation Program.**

**Action:** Adopted a Resolution entitled: ***"A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARROYO GRANDE AMENDING THE PUBLIC ART GUIDELINES AND PUBLIC ART DONATION PROGRAM"***.

**8.g. Approve and Authorize the Mayor on Behalf of the City Council to Sign a Letter of Support for the Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Application for an Active Transportation Plan.**

**Action:** Approved and authorized the Mayor to sign the letter of support for the STPG

grant application.

## **8. ITEMS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

**8.h. Authorize a Resolution to Reduce Penalties for Past Due Water Bills Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic (ROBESON/VALENTINE)**

**Recommended Action:** Adopt a Resolution to allow the City's Administrative Services Director to reduce penalties to 10% of customers' original water bill from May 2020 through November 2021.

**Action:** Mayor Ray Russom moved to continue the item to a date uncertain. Council Member George seconded, and the motion passed on the following roll-call vote:

**AYES:** Ray Russom, George, Barneich, Storton, Paulding  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None

## **9. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**9.a. Continued Consideration of Approval of a Resolution Declaring a Stage 1 Water Shortage Emergency.**

Utilities Manager Shane Taylor presented the item and recommended that the Council: 1) Conduct a Public Hearing in accordance with Water Code Section 350, et seq.; 2) Adopt a Resolution declaring a Stage 1 Water Shortage Emergency and implementing Emergency Water Shortage Restrictions and Regulations in accordance with California Water Code Section 350, et seq., and Arroyo Grande Municipal Code Section 13.07.030(A); and 3) Appropriate \$2,800 from water fund balance and \$1,200 from sewer fund balance for the cost to mail out baseline letters. Staff responded to questions from Council.

Mayor Ray Russom opened the public hearing. Speaking from the public were Jim Guthrie, and Francine Errico. City Clerk Matson read into the record written correspondence received from Patty Welsh. Upon hearing no further comments, Mayor Ray Russom closed the public hearing.

**Action:** Council Member Storton moved to adopt a Resolution entitled: ***"A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Arroyo Grande Declaring a Stage 1 Water Shortage Emergency in Accordance with California Water Code Section 350 and Arroyo Grande Municipal Code Section 13.07.030"***; and Appropriate \$2,800 from water fund balance and \$1,200 from sewer fund balance for the cost to mail out baseline letters. Mayor Pro Tem Paulding seconded, and the motion passed on the following roll-call vote:

**AYES:** Storton, Paulding, Barneich, George, Ray Russom  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None

*Mayor Ray Russom called for a brief break at 8:05 p.m. The Council reconvened at 8:11 p.m.*

**10. OLD BUSINESS:**

**10.a. Discuss and Consider Allocations of Anticipated American Rescue Plan Act Funding Not Previously Allocated by Council.**

City Manager McDonald presented the item and recommended that the Council: 1) Appropriate \$1,254,275 of ARPA Funds to additional Water, Sewer, and Stormwater Infrastructure projects and qualified anticipated City expenditures related to the COVID-19 pandemic as recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee; and 2) Consider and provide direction regarding allocation of the remaining \$552,016 of anticipated ARPA Funds to other qualified uses consistent with US Treasury guidance.

Council discussed the recommended allocations and applications for funding received. Council expressed support for providing an opportunity for non-profit organizations to apply for funding.

Mayor Ray Russom invited public comment. Speaking from the public were Wendy Wendt, Anne Wyatt, Shana Paulson, Ken Dalebout, Jamie Sanbonmatsu, and Marcia Alter. No further comments were received.

**Action:** Mayor Pro Tem Paulding moved to appropriate \$1,254,275 of ARPA Funds to additional Water, Sewer, and Stormwater Infrastructure projects and qualified anticipated City expenditures related to the COVID-19 pandemic as recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee; allocate \$300,000 to the 5Cities Homeless Coalition and direct staff to bring back specific scope for the project; allocate \$114,129 for non-profit assistance/community service grant program to be split between the next two fiscal years; allocate \$100,000 for child care assistance and direct staff to bring back specific scope for the project; and allocate \$37,887 to SmartShare ADU SLO to be used for Arroyo Grande residents and require that the ADU not be converted to a vacation rental. Council Member Barneich seconded, and the motion passed on the following roll-call vote:

**AYES:** Paulding, Barneich, Storton, George, Ray Russom  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**12. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

Mayor Pro Tem Paulding requested that an item regarding vacation rental policies be placed on a future agenda for consideration. Council Member George concurred. Council Member Barneich requested the item include an update on enforcement and for more information to be included on the City website.

Mayor Ray Russom announced that the Mayor's Challenge: Halloween House Decorating Contest will be taking place and urged residents to participate; that those wanting to help fund Arroyo Grande Public Art can join in "Dining with a Purpose" at Rooster Creek on Tuesday, November 16th; and that she will be meeting with Vanessa Carr from Governor Newsom's office and will report back on that meeting.

**13. CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Ray Russom adjourned the meeting at 10:44 p.m.

**/s/Caren Ray Russom, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

**/s/Jessica Matson, City Clerk**

**(Approved at CC Mtg 10-26-2021)**