

**MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF CALABASAS, CALIFORNIA
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2024**

CLOSED SESSION

The Council met in Closed Session at 6:00 p.m. with all Councilmembers present, to discuss the following item:

1. Conference with Legal Counsel: Potential for Litigation Against the City Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) & (e)(1)

A point has been reached where, in the opinion of the City Council, on the advice of its legal counsel, based on the below-described existing facts and circumstances, there is a significant exposure to litigation against the City. Facts and circumstances that might result in litigation but which the City believes are not yet known to potential plaintiff or plaintiffs. (Government Code Section 54956.9(e)(1))

Number of Potential Cases: 1.

OPENING MATTERS

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Weintraub called the Regular meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Weintraub, Mayor Pro Tem Kraut, and Councilmembers Albrecht, Bozajian and Shapiro

Staff: City Manager Meik; Deputy City Manager McConville; City Clerk Pope; City Attorney Summers; Chief Financial Officer Ahlers; Community Development Director Klein; Community Services Director Green; City Librarian, Lockwood; Public Works Director Castle; Public Safety Manager Dyer; Planner Rackerby; Assistant Engineer Bezdecny; and Sheriff's Deputy Mason De Mateo

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Girl Scout Troop 3256.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Shapiro moved and Mayor Pro Tem Kraut seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

City Attorney Summers reported that the Council discussed the item on the agenda and took no reportable action.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Pro Tem Kraut announced the Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening of Poppy Bank on October 15, 2024.

Councilmember Bozajian announced the Pumpkin Festival on October 20, 2024.

Councilmember Shapiro congratulated staff on the Grand Reopening of Brandon's Village and on the Calabasas Classic 5K Run/Walk for the Heroes of Childhood Cancer. He announced the Mayor's Youth Council Voter Information Night on October 14, at 6 p.m. and the Green Street Project Ribbon Cutting on October 23.

Councilmember Albrecht commended Community Services on the condition of the tennis courts at the Tennis and Swim Club.

Mayor Weintraub commended staff on the opening of the De Anza Park playground; and the hard work completing nine park projects in the past 10 months.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Levinson announced Poppy Bank opening on October 15 and Chamber Luncheon hosted by Elevated Healing Treatment Center; and introduced the new owner of Mathnasium.

Amirah Meghani, owner of Mathnasium, introduced the services of Mathnasium.

CONSENT ITEMS

Councilmember Shapiro pulled Item No. 3.

Councilmember Bozajian pulled Item No. 6.

Item No. 4 was pulled by the public.

The following items were pulled from the Consent Calendar for individual consideration:

3. Recommendation to Award a Construction Contract for the Bike Lane Striping Project, Specification No. 23-24-06, to Sterndahl Enterprises, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$258,635

In response to Council questions, Assistant Engineer Bezdecny and Public Works Director Castle discussed the proposed timeline; Caltrans permit expiration; and AQMD and Metro grant funds.

6. Consideration of Resolution No. 2024-1929 supporting Proposition 36, The Homeless, Drug Addiction, and Theft Reduction Act

Councilmember Bozajian indicated Proposition 36 was supported by both Cal Cities and California Contract Cities and encouraged a yes vote.

Mayor Weintraub expressed her strong support for Proposition 36.

4. Consideration of adoption of City Council Resolution No. 2024-1927, approving an overall reduction in size and the number of residential units for Site Plan Review 2023-005, Conditional Use Permit Nos. 2023-003, 2023-004 and 2023-005, Scenic Corridor Permit 2023-003 and Tentative Tract Map 2023-002, a mixed-use project located at 4799 Commons Way (APN:2068-003-021) within the Commercial Mixed-Use Zoning District, Scenic Corridor Overlay Zone and Affordable Housing Overlay

Michael Harrison stated the new design was much better but expressed concern with loss of parking. He expressed disappointment with Building A being eight stories tall, only four affordable units located next to the trash area, facing a driveway and cement wall. He suggested staff request Building A be reduced and the color changed.

Councilmember Bozajian thanked the Planning Commission for its review of the project. He indicated the newly proposed project was better; addressed concerns regarding parking and building height, therefore he could support the project.

Mayor Pro Tem Kraut stated the movie theater was removed, therefore, there was adequate parking.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

1. Approve the minutes of the September 25, 2024 Regular Meeting.
2. Receipt of Check Register Report for the period of September 14, 2024 through September 27, 2024.
3. Recommendation to Award a Construction Contract for the Bike Lane Striping Project, Specification No. 23-24-06, to Sterndahl Enterprises, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$258,635
4. Consideration of adoption of City Council Resolution No. 2024-1927, approving an overall reduction in size and the number of residential units for Site Plan Review 2023-005, Conditional Use Permit Nos. 2023-003, 2023-004 and 2023-005, Scenic Corridor Permit 2023-003 and Tentative Tract Map 2023-002, a mixed-use project located at 4799 Commons Way (APN:2068-003-021) within the Commercial Mixed-Use Zoning District, Scenic Corridor Overlay Zone and Affordable Housing Overlay
5. Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-1928 approving Human Resources Guidelines and rescinding Resolution No. 2009-1191
6. Consideration of Resolution No. 2024-1929 supporting Proposition 36, The Homeless, Drug Addiction, and Theft Reduction Act

MOTION

Councilmember Shapiro moved and Mayor Pro Tem Kraut seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

7. Approval of Resolution No. 2024-1930 Terminating Agoura Hills/Calabasas Community Center Joint Powers Agreement to Complete Land Transfer from Agoura Hills to Calabasas for the Community Center

City Attorney Summers presented the staff report.

In response to Council questions, City Attorney Summers anticipated recordation of the deed before the end of the year.

Councilmember Bozajian suggested an event commemorating the transfer and thanking the City of Agoura Hills.

The Council expressed its excitement for the transfer, thanked the City of Agoura Hills, and thanked the Community Services Department for running the Community Center.

MOTION

Councilmember Bozajian moved and Councilmember Shapiro seconded a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-1930 terminating the Agoura Hills and Calabasas Community Center Joint Powers Authority. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Memorandum of Understanding between Calabasas and Hidden Hills for the Annexation of Craftsman Corner and for Reciprocal Library Access

City Attorney Summers presented the staff report.

The Council indicated support for the agreement.

Hidden Hills Mayor Eniko Gold reaffirmed the partnership between the City of Calabasas and Hidden Hills and looked forward to the City of Hidden Hills' action on Tuesday, October 15.

MOTION

Councilmember Albrecht moved and Councilmember Shapiro seconded a motion to: 1) authorize the City Manager to execute the Memorandum of Understanding Between Calabasas and Hidden Hills for the Annexation of Craftsman Corner and for Reciprocal Library Access ("MOU"), and 2) direct and delegate authority to the City Manager to make minor revisions to the MOU to obtain the approval of the agreement by Hidden Hills, if necessary. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

9. Receive Comments on the Draft application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing grant program

Planner Rackerby presented the staff report.

Mayor Weintraub opened the public hearing.

Michael Harrison expressed concern with the City being asked to approve affordable housing without planning or design review.

Joe Chilco expressed concern regarding fire risk and evacuation traffic; sacrifice of public participation; and objective design standards leading to box ticking due to lack of trust of Planning staff.

There being no additional speakers, Mayor Weintraub closed the public hearing.

In response to Council questions, Community Development Director Klein and City Attorney Summers explained the potential objective design standards and ministerial project approval; option for developers to pursue the normal permitting process; risk of creating objective design standards but retaining legacy code; unique application of the grant and objective design standards to housing; goal for funding to rewrite portions of the General Plan and required rewrite of the Housing Element; and reimbursement for work completed and the ability to amend the grant after award.

The Council indicated support for affordable housing; expressed concern with sacrificing the character of the community, unfettered growth and State mandates; expressed gratitude to staff for finding the grant; recognized the public's concerns; need for community workshops once funds were received; and suggested rewording the section on Page 16 regarding the lack of communities' support for new housing.

MOTION

Councilmember Shapiro moved and Mayor Pro Tem Kraut seconded a motion to receive comments and direct staff to proceed with the grant application. The motion carried unanimously.

RECESS

Mayor Weintraub called a recess at 8:07 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:15 p.m. with all Councilmembers present.

FUTURE INFORMATION/AGENDA ITEMS

10. Direction from Council on requested agenda items

A. Direction to Staff on Development of the 2024 Legislative Platform

Deputy City Manager McConville presented the staff report.

The Council discussed the proposed Legislative Platform.

CONSENSUS

By consensus, the Council provided direction to staff regarding the legislative platform including: retaining a high-level platform; reviewing every two

years; and not allowing the City Manager or Mayor to formally express support or oppose without prior Council review.

B. Discussion on the Procurement of Grant Writing/Lobbyist Services

Deputy City Manager McConville presented the staff report.

The Council discussed the need for a grant writer; primary goal to find sources of money; and issuance of a request for proposals (RFP).

City Manager Meik commended staff for bringing in grant funds through known sources; and discussed the need for outside expertise.

MOTION

Mayor Pro Tem Kraut moved and Councilmember Albrecht seconded a motion to direct staff to issue an RFP for grant writing/lobbyist services. The motion carried unanimously.

11. New Requests for future information/agenda items

Councilmember Albrecht requested consideration of renaming the Calabasas Senior Center.

CONSENSUS

By consensus, the Council referred the matter to the Recreation, Youth and Seniors Task Force.

TASK FORCE REPORTS

Mayor Pro Tem Kraut discussed his participation in the Budget Committee meeting on September 30; Walk to School on October 2; and Brandon's Village Ribbon Cutting.

Councilmember Albrecht stated he attended the Walk to School event; and announced the Valley Economic Alliance meeting on Friday, September 11, at 10 am at Peddler's Fork.

Councilmember Shapiro discussed the recent Sustainability Task Force meetings; Mayor's Youth Council meetings; PFC at Bay Laurel; SCAG meetings; and Valley Economic Alliance meeting. He wished everyone a happy new year.

Mayor Weintraub discussed her participation in the Economic Alliance Mayor's Roundtable, Walk to School Day and Bay Laurel PFC meeting.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Meik discussed the successful Flu Clinic and plaza rental for the October 7 Attack Anniversary event. He commended the City Clerk on implementation of the use of DocuSign and transition to an agenda management system.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

None.

ADJOURN

Mayor Weintraub adjourned the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Lisa Pope, City Clerk