

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
CONCORD CITY COUNCIL
CONCORD SENIOR CENTER
WISTERIA ROOM
2727 PARKSIDE CIRCLE
CONCORD, CALIFORNIA
SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2017

The Concord City Council met in a special meeting at the Concord Senior Center located at 2727 Parkside Circle at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 1, 2017, with Mayor Hoffmeister presiding. Minutes follow in abbreviated form per Resolution 3361 and Council Minutes of September 26, 1966.

ROLL CALL

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Edi Birsan, Ron Leone, Tim McGallian, Carlyn Obringer, Laura Hoffmeister

STAFF PRESENT: Valerie Barone, City Manager; Susanne Brown, City Attorney; Kathleen Tropa, Assistant City Manager; Joelle Fockler, City Clerk; Chief of Police, Guy Swanger; Victoria Walker, Director of Community and Economic Development; Steve Voorhies, Director of Parks and Recreation; Justin Ezell, Director of Public Works; Karan Reid, Director of Finance; Guy Bjerke, Director of Community Reuse Planning; Jeff Lewis, Director of Information Technology; Elia Bamberger, Director of Human Resources; Leslye Asera, Community Relations Manager

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
WHO ADDRESSED THE COUNCIL: George Fulmore, Concord

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

George Fulmore, Concord, spoke of the City obtaining project management software, funding a \$1 million project at Ellis Lake Park, the state of the roads in Concord, and rent mediation.

WORKSHOP – Establishing Council Priorities for Programs and Projects within the two-year budget cycle in the context of Measure Q's sunset in 2025

Following public comment, Mayor Hoffmeister introduced City Manager Valerie Barone, who reported that the Council was being asked to define priority areas of focus, each with a series of objectives. City Manager Barone noted that it was recommended to combine Long Term Fiscal Stability and Economic Development into one focus area, as economic development is a key objective for long term fiscal stability.

LONG TERM FISCAL STABILITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

It was the consensus of the Council to combine Long Term Fiscal Stability with Economic Development. Council asked clarifying questions about the five recommended major objectives on Long Term Fiscal Stability & Economic Development items proposed by staff, which included:

- Develop long-term funding strategies to address operational and capital budget challenges.

- Coordinate with Central San on the implementation of their infrastructure investment plan and its impacts to Concord.
- Complete negotiations with the Navy for the economic development conveyance of property to the City for the CNWS project and complete the first transfer of land.
- Complete the Specific & Infrastructure Plans for the Base.
- Market and initiate development on the former RDA properties.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to separate the CNWS project out as its own focus area; move medical marijuana and sale of John Muir Hospital as a subset of Develop Long-Term Funding Strategies to address operational and capital budget challenges; explore revitalization of aging shopping centers along Clayton Road and Monument Boulevard; develop long-term funding strategies to address operational and capital budget challenges; and coordinate with Central San on the implementation of their infrastructure investment plan and its impacts to the City.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The Council asked clarifying questions about the three recommended objectives on Public Safety items proposed by staff, which included:

- Implement an enhanced multi-family inspection program (as directed and funded by Council in FY 2016-17.)
- Continue to work towards minimizing the impacts of homelessness within the community by operating an effective PD Community Impact Team and establishing a CORE team in partnership with the City of Walnut Creek.
- Continue to employ all communication channels (traditional and new) to educate the community on falling crime rates and efforts being taken within the City to address community disorder issues.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to move Code Enforcement to Quality of Life with an emphasis on residential; explore the use of technology; look at park safety; and implement all three objectives proposed by staff.

INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANANCE

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to implement all four items proposed by staff, which included:

- Identify grant opportunities to support infrastructure investment, with specific attention paid to obtaining a grant to support the Corridors Plan Project.
- Complete the majority of the Measure Q Lease Revenue Financing Street Repair and Maintenance Projects.
- Implement the approved \$30 million two-year CIP and develop the next two year CIP.
- Develop a five-year schedule and identify the needed \$3.8 million in local match for the implementation of the six OBAG grant projects (staff anticipates receiving these grants; final decisions have not been made).

It was also the consensus of the Council to add enhance/augment pothole repair and broadband and to take the concept of electronic signage to a Council subcommittee.

ORGANIZATIONAL HEALTH & EMPLOYEE SUCCESS

The Council asked clarifying questions about the four recommended objectives (including the addition of use of technology by City Manager Barone) on Organizational Health & Employee Success items proposed by staff, which, in addition to enhance Code Enforcement, included:

- Develop and implement a benefits communication strategy to promote awareness of benefit options and features for full-time employees.
- Continue to focus on employee engagement by implementing a City-wide and City-run employee training program.
- Engage in formal negotiations for successor MOUs for all bargaining units (contracts expire in June 2019).

Following discussion by the Council, it was the consensus of the Council to have the Council Committee on Policy Development & Internal Operations consider a one year mayoral term and have staff report out on the use of interns and research adding "future items" to City Council Agendas.

QUALITY OF LIFE

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to implement all four items proposed by staff, which included:

- Code Enforcement with an emphasis on residential.
- Establish and implement City policy related to marijuana businesses (growing, selling, testing, etc.).
- Implement the rental housing mediation program (staff anticipates that Council will initiate and approve funding for this program this fiscal year).
- Enhance awareness of and participation in Concord's parks and recreation activities through creative marketing and programming.

In addition, it was the consensus of the Council to have a Council Committee review the concept of a BMX park, have staff research and prepare a white paper on the concept of a community fund; and have staff support and enhance an appropriate balance of new affordable housing.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to implement all three items proposed by staff, which included:

- Enhance 24/7 self-service by implementing a new website platform, which will allow for more efficient content management, resident self-serve access to permits, use of interactive maps, and electronic dissemination of information on numerous topics through eBlast lists.
- Implement a new CLASS registration software program to support residents' access to and the management of the City's recreational classes.
- Expand the City's communication strategies to more fully incorporate social media.


The Council also requested the addition of a communication strategy that highlights the City's bilingual options, staff development of a brochure on how to use the Concord Connect APP, and development of an employee award for excellent customer service.


Mayor Hoffmeister opened a public comment period.

George Fulmore, Concord, spoke of the lack of community attendance at the Council workshop, and stated that the idea of cameras in the parks was horrible.

Mayor Hoffmeister closed the public comment period.

By order of the Mayor, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.


LAURA M. HOFFMEISTER
MAYOR


JOELLE FOCKLER, MMC
CITY CLERK