

REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CONCORD CITY COUNCIL/CITY  
COUNCIL SITTING AS THE LOCAL  
REUSE AUTHORITY  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER  
1950 PARKSIDE DRIVE  
CONCORD, CALIFORNIA  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2018

The Concord City Council met in a special meeting in the Council Chamber located at 1950 Parkside Drive at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 6, 2018, with Mayor Birsan presiding. The pledge of allegiance was led by Councilmember Leone. Minutes follow in abbreviated form per Resolution 3361 and Council Minutes of September 26, 1966.

ROLL CALL

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Leone, Tim McGallian, Carlyn Obringer, Edi Birsan, Laura Hoffmeister (Councilmember Hoffmeister arrived at 8:10 p.m.)

STAFF PRESENT: Valerie Barone, City Manager; Susanne Brown, City Attorney; Patti Barsotti, City Treasurer; Kathleen Tropa, Assistant City Manager; Joelle Fockler, City Clerk; Guy Swanger, Chief of Police; Andrea Ouse, Director of Community and Economic Development; Laura Simpson, Planning and Housing Manager; Justin Ezell, Director of Public Works; Steve Voorhies, Director of Parks and Recreation; Bernard Enrile, Associate Engineer; Karan Reid, Director of Finance; Donna Lee, Budget Officer; Chris Rhoades, Budget Analyst; Leslye Asera, Community Relations Manager

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ADDRESSED THE COUNCIL: Natalie; George Fulmore, Concord; Colleen Geraghty, Concord; Debra Bernstein, Monument Impact; William Colin, Concord; Scott Rafferty, Walnut Creek; Hope Johnson, Concord; Harmesh Kumar, Concord; Kenji Yamada, Concord; Mike McDermott, Concord; Tim Carr, Concord; Gregg Colley, Concord Community Alliance; Jeff Koertzen, Concord; Ana Villalobos, Concord; Maimoona Ahmed, Concord; Helen Primus, Concord; Evanne Jordan, Concord; Ajit Kaushal, Concord; Nadisdye Valdes, Concord; Laura Nakamura, Concord; Latoyya Bordelon, Concord; Chris Arnold, Concord; Ady Olvera, Concord; Robin Kuslits, Concord

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Natalie, wanted to bring awareness to cancer and Cancer World Awareness Day.

PRESENTATIONS

GENERAL FUND LONG-RANGE FINANCIAL MODEL

Director of Finance Karan Reid presented a report, explaining that the Council directed staff to begin work on a Fiscal Stability Plan as part of the Biennial Operating Budget for Fiscal Years 2017-18 and 2018-19 that would provide options that could be considered to address a

projected \$13.4 million structural budget deficit by Fiscal Year 2026-27. She clarified that the projected budget gap assumed the expiration of Measure Q in 2025, incorporated projected personnel costs increases, and did not include fully funding all of the City's infrastructure, facility, and equipment needs. Ms. Reid noted that the City hired Management Partners to work with staff on the development of the Fiscal Stability Plan, and a first step in creating the Plan is to update the City's long range financial needs forecasting model, which is intended to incorporate all investment needs, including those not previously incorporated into past City models. She conveyed that the Council was being asked to receive the report and ask questions of staff and the consultant, but no decisions were being requested at the meeting.

Ms. Reid introduced Robert Leland, Management Partners, who presented an overview of the General Fund Long-Range Financial Forecasting Model. Mr. Leland's presentation looked at major elements of financial forecasting, the current fiscal environment, the revenue gap, the next recession, staffing levels, wage and health care cost pressures, the pension cost life cycle, evolution of pension costs, key forecast assumptions, Measure Q sales tax, projected revenues and expenditures, structural imbalance and deficits, three primary causes of a shortfall, alternative outcomes, and budget strategy options.

Councilmember Leone asked about property taxes and why Concord has lower property taxes than other cities.

Vice Mayor Obringer asked why the impact of pay increases declined in the Factors Causing PERS Cost Increases chart and questioned the 2 percent assumption used for wage adjustments.

Councilmember McGallian asked if Measure Q assumptions included the Council adopted policy to cap what could be realized and if impacts of the buildout of the Concord Naval Weapons Station had been considered.

Mayor Birsan asked about the pension cost life cycle and if the percentage of payroll figures included medical costs, and requested that the medical costs be included for the February 24 meeting.

Mayor Birsan opened a public comment period, and upon receiving no public comment, closed the public comment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – none.

#### CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 9, 2018

Motion was made by Obringer and seconded by Leone to approve the minutes from the meeting of January 9, 2018. Motion passed by the following vote of the Council:

AYES: Leone, McGallian, Leone, Obringer NOES: None ABSENT: Hoffmeister

#### AWARD OF CONTRACT – Citywide Accessibility Improvements No. 4, Project No. 2376

Motion was made by Obringer and seconded by Leone to award a construction contract in the amount of \$365,873.05 to Spencon Construction of Danville for the Citywide Accessibility Improvements No. 4, Project No. 2376; authorize staff to utilize the available project contingency for contract change orders up to 9 percent of the contract amount; and authorize the Mayor to execute the contract in a form acceptable to the City Attorney. Motion passed by the following vote of the Council:

AYES: Leone, McGallian, Leone, Obringer NOES: None ABSENT: Hoffmeister

CONFIRMING APPOINTMENTS OF TWO YOUTH MEMBERS TO THE PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION

This item was pulled from the consent calendar by Concord resident George Fulmore who spoke about the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Commission cancelling meetings and the need for more diversity on boards and commissions.

Motion was made by McGallian and seconded by Leone to confirm the appointment of William Kates and Luke Thomas as youth commission members to the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Commission. Motion passed by the following vote of the Council:

AYES: Leone, McGallian, Leone, Obringer NOES: None ABSENT: Hoffmeister

CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION ITEM

APPOINTMENT TO FILL TWO POSITIONS ON THE MEASURE Q OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Motion was made by Obringer and seconded by Birsan to re-appoint Brian Beckon to a resident position and Brandy Leidgen to the business position on the Measure Q Oversight Committee for terms ending December 31, 2021. Motion passed by the following vote of the Council:

AYES: Leone, McGallian, Leone, Obringer NOES: None ABSENT: Hoffmeister

PUBLIC HEARING

THIRD PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE INPUT FROM THE COMMUNITY REGARDING DISTRICTS TO BE ESTABLISHED FOR DISTRICT-BASED ELECTIONS

Planning and Housing Manager Laura Simpson presented a report on Concord City Council redistricting and outlined the Council action requested – 1) hold the third public hearing to receive input on Council voting districts and the first hearing allowing for public comment on four map alternatives showing five Council Districts; 2) provide direction on any preferred configurations and changes to draft maps; and 3) provide direction on district election timing and sequencing. She summarized prior Council direction and the upcoming schedule before introducing Michael Wagaman, Wagaman Strategies, who reviewed four proposed maps with five districts each - Plan Blue, Plan Green, Plan Yellow, and Plan Orange.

Mayor Birsan opened a public comment period.

Natalie, spoke in opposition to a directly elected mayor and in support of rank choice voting.

Colleen Geraghty, Concord, spoke in favor of the orange map, asked the Council to not make any major decisions at this meeting because many Concord residents do not know about district elections, and asked the Council to consider a directly elected mayor for 2020.

Debra Bernstein, Monument Impact, spoke in support of the yellow map with revisions and did not support both BART stations being in the same district.

William Colin, Concord, Central County Regional Group, spoke in support of the yellow map with revisions.

Scott Rafferty, Walnut Creek, spoke to getting more input from the Monument, the turnout in minority districts in mid-term elections, and felt the precinct boundaries should be ignored when drawing the maps.

Hope Johnson, Concord, spoke of having an independent committee set up districts in the future and in support of the yellow map, in opposition to the orange map, and that whatever map is chosen, that the Monument community be allowed to vote in 2018.

Harmesh Kumar, Concord, spoke in support of the yellow map, having an independent commission to draw districts in the future, two-year terms for the first implementation, seven districts, and a directly elected mayor.

Kenji Yamada, Concord, spoke in support of having an independent committee set up districts after the 2020 census, that the Monument district should be able to vote in 2018, and in support of the yellow map.

Mike McDermott, Concord, felt that the determination of district elections should be put to a vote, census blocks should be used to determine districts, and in support of the blue map.

Tim Carr, Concord, spoke in support of the blue map and a rotational mayor with a set rotation.

George Fulmore, Concord, spoke in support of the blue map.

Gregg Colley, Concord Community Alliance, spoke in support of an independent committee to set up districts after each census, that the Monument community should be allowed to vote in 2018, and presented a map for consideration.

Jeff Koertzen, Concord, spoke in favor of getting as close to the Concord Community Alliance map as possible, having an independent commission draw the districts in the future, and having the Monument district elect a representative for an initial two-year term.

Ana Villalobos, Concord, spoke in support of the blue map with revisions to District 3.

Maimoona Ahmed, Concord, spoke of having two at-large councilmembers and in support of the map submitted by the Concord Community Alliance.

Helen Primus, Concord, spoke in favor of the blue map.

Evanne Jordan, Concord, spoke in support of both the green and orange maps.

Ajit Kaushal, Concord, spoke in support of seven districts and for an independent commission to draw the districts in the future.

Nadisye Valdes, Concord, spoke of one Concord.

Laura Nakamura, Concord, spoke in support of the map shared by Concord Community Alliance, having an independent commission draw the districts in the future, and writing into law the rotation for mayor.

Latoyya Bordelon, Concord, spoke in support of the map submitted by the Concord Community Alliance, having an independent commission draw the districts going forward, implementation in 2018, and a directly elected mayor.

Chris Arnold, spoke in support of three districts on the Presidential election cycle.

Ady Olvera, Concord, spoke in support of the yellow map augmented by the map submitted by the Concord Community Alliance.

Robyn Kuslits, Concord, spoke in support of having an independent commission draw the districts going forward and in support of the map submitted by Concord Communities Alliance.

Mayor Birsan closed the public comment period and called a recess at 8:45 p.m. The meeting resumed at 9:00 p.m.

Mayor Birsan asked City Attorney Susanne Brown to answer the following questions that had been raised during public comment – 1) can the City have a non-voting Mayor; 2) can the ordinance define a mayor rotation; 3) can the Council establish an independent commission; 4) can there be at-large positions; and 4) is there a possibility of doing something other than five districts.

Councilmember Leone spoke in support of the blue map with revisions to split up the Concord Naval Weapons Station into three districts.

Councilmember Hoffmeister asked about dividing the Concord Naval Weapons Station and if it would impact the population or demographic data.

Councilmember McGallian concurred with Councilmember Leone's proposal of the blue map with the Concord Naval Weapons station being divided into three districts. He spoke in support of a directly elected mayor or set rotation for mayor being dealt with at a later time and of a possible two-year term for the district covering the Monument.

Councilmember Hoffmeister spoke in support of Councilmember Leone's proposed map revisions and asked to see a map that keeps the downtown together as a community of interest.

Councilmember McGallian spoke in support of splitting up the Concord Naval Weapons Station into three districts and liked Councilmember Leone's proposed revisions.

Vice Mayor Obringer agreed with keeping the downtown area together as a community of interest and supported Councilmember Leone's proposal, with modifications by Councilmember Hoffmeister, to divide the Concord Naval Weapons Station into three districts and move census blocks to keep the downtown area together.

Mayor Birsan stated his concerns about the four proposed maps.

Motion was made by Hoffmeister and seconded by McGallian to direct staff to move forward with Plan Cobalt, the new version of the original blue map as modified by Councilmembers Leone and Hoffmeister to split the Concord Naval Weapons Station into three districts and keep the downtown area together. Motion passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

Motion was made by Obringer and seconded by Leone to conduct the first district election in 2018. Motion passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

Motion was made by Leone and seconded by Obringer to have Districts 3, 2, and 5 up for election in 2018. Motion passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

Direction was given to staff to draft an ordinance that the City would like to continue with Plan Cobalt for 2018 with Districts 3, 2, and 5 to be renumbered to 1, 3, and 5 and up for election in 2018.

It was the consensus of the Council to have the District 3 councilmember run for a four year term.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Email from Concord resident George Fulmore regarding teacher salaries
- b. City of Concord Long-Term Financial Forecast PowerPoint presentation
- c. Benched correspondence received – Agenda Item No. 7.a
- d. Letter submitted from Lane Shurtleff regarding fines dispute
- e. Map submitted by Gregg Colley, Concord Community Alliance
- f. Letter submitted by Evanne Jordan
- g. Concord City Council Districting PowerPoint Presentation

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmembers shared information on events and activities in which they had participated since the last meeting and commented on items of interest.


Vice Mayor Obringer spoke of a community meeting she attended with presentations from BART and City Reuse Planning staff. She asked that the same presentation be given to the Council and asked that Council have an update regarding the use of Tetra Tech in the clean-up at the Concord Naval Weapons Station.

Hope Johnson, Concord, spoke of the confusion over the noticing of the January 31, 2018, meeting that Vice Mayor Obringer mentioned in her comments.

ADJOURNMENT

By order of the Mayor, the meeting was adjourned at 10 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
EDI E. BIRSAN  
MAYOR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JOELLE FOCKLER, MMC  
CITY CLERK