

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
CONCORD CITY COUNCIL
CONCORD SENIOR CENTER
2727 PARKSIDE CIRCLE
CONCORD, CALIFORNIA
SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2016

The Concord City Council met in a special meeting in the Concord Senior Center located at 2727 Parkside Circle, on Saturday, April 2, 2016, at 9:35 a.m. with Mayor Hoffmeister presiding. All Councilmembers were present.

Minutes follow in abbreviated form per Resolution 3361 and Council Minutes of September 26, 1966.

ROLL CALL

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Edi Birsan, Dan Helix, Laura Hoffmeister, Ron Leone, Tim Grayson

STAFF PRESENT: Valerie Barone, City Manager; Susanne Brown, Senior Assistant City Attorney; Jovan Grogan, Deputy City Manager; Joelle Fockler, City Clerk; Victoria Walker, Director of Community and Economic Development; Justin Ezell, Director of Public Works; Guy Bjerke, Director of Community Reuse Planning; Karan Reid, Director of Finance; Elia Bamberger, Director of Human Resources; Guy Swanger, Chief of Police; Jeff Lewis, Director of Information Technology; Robert Ovadia, City Engineer; Avis Connolly, Senior Center Program Manager; Janell Hampton, Budget Officer; Bob Hardie, Facilities Maintenance Manager; Leslye Asera, Community Relations Manager

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ADDRESSED THE COUNCIL: Dee Smith, Concord; Casilda Gonzales, Concord; Joe Partansky, Concord; Kathryn Hensick, Concord; George Fulmore, Concord

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no public comment.

CITY COUNCIL
MATTERS

TWO YEAR CAPITAL BUDGET FY 2016-17 AND 2017-18

Deputy City Manager Jovan Grogan presented an overview of the presentation of the two-year Capital Budget.

City Engineer Robert Ovadia, Director of Public Works Justin Ezell, and Director of Information Technology Jeff Lewis presented the process for developing the two-year capital budget, which included Key Council Priority Focus Areas, transitioning from a one-year capital budget to a two-year capital budget, infrastructure needs and challenges, Measure Q status update, stormwater, sewer, staffing, facilities, parks, Diablo Creek Golf Course, Concord Pavilion, and Information Technology.

Mr. Ovadia presented the evaluation criteria for Capital Project Requests and requested Council feedback and suggestions on the evaluation criteria.

The Council provided feedback and requested follow up on the following:

1. Items to be added to the website –
 - CIP projects to highlight current or planned projects with contact information about staff person responsible for project.
 - Traffic control projects.
 - Measure Q funded projects.
2. Fund and restart the speed bump program.
3. Status updates throughout the Capital Improvement budget process.
4. List of completed streets in pavement maintenance – Zone 3.
5. Status of CIP projects coming in spring/summer 2016.
6. Signage and recognition of Measure Q projects continued and expanded with temporary signage on projects being constructed. Sign on Asphalt Zipper stating purchased with Measure Q funds.
7. Appoint someone to coordinate and oversee CIP projects.
8. Add "does the project generate new resources or decrease ongoing costs?" to the CIP project criteria questions.
9. Add traffic control included in evaluation criteria for CIP projects.
10. Expand lobbying support to ensure that the City of Concord is represented in Sacramento and Washington.
11. Grant writing services.
12. Potential sale of the golf course.

Mayor Hoffmeister opened a public comment period.

Dee Smith, Concord, spoke on five general topics including the use of words and what they imply; the need for crosswalks and sidewalks; potential Brown Act violation; a line by line budget; and who is writing grants for the City.

Casilda Gonzales, Concord, requested more handicapped parking in Concord.

Mayor Hoffmeister closed the public comment period.

FY 2015-16, 2016-17 COUNCIL ADOPTED PRIORITY FOCUS AREAS

City Manager Valerie Barone reviewed the current priority focus areas – long term financial stability, economic development, infrastructure maintenance, public safety, organizational health and employee success, quality of life, and customer service.

Council discussed the priority focus areas, and Mayor Hoffmeister opened a public comment period.

Joe Partansky, Concord, requested that the Chief of Police have a dedicated portion on prevention in his Police Department updates to Council. Mr. Partansky also requested that articles in the Concord Pioneer written by the Chief of Police be posted on the City website.

Kathryn Hensick, Concord, Concord Art Association, and Concord Community Artists, spoke of economic development and a performing and visual arts center. She would like to see an Arts and Culture Council or an Arts Commission in Concord and to make Concord an arts destination.

Dee Smith, Concord, congratulated the Council on the dog park at Baldwin Park and commented that dog owners act very responsibly. Ms. Smith noted that the Valley Command does good work.

George Fulmore, Concord, spoke of a lack of transparency when staff receives direction from Council. He noted that there should be a better way of monitoring staff's progress.

Mayor Hoffmeister closed the public comment period. The time was now 12 p.m. and a motion was made by Birsan and seconded by Helix to extend the meeting up to 12:30 p.m. if needed. Motion passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

Council continued discussion on the Priority Focus Areas, and a motion was made by Birsan and seconded by Leone at 12:30 p.m. to extend the meeting until 12:45 p.m. Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Birsan, Grayson, Leone, Hoffmeister NOES: Helix ABSTAIN: None

Council discussion determined the following changes to the Council Adopted Priority Focus Areas: (changes reflected in underlined text)

- Long Term Financial Stability
 - ✓ Adopt a balanced two-year operational budget, a two-year capital investment budget, and a 10-year financial forecast that acknowledges unfunded liabilities & deferred maintenance.
 - ✓ Implement the City's Fiscal Stability Ordinance
 - ✓ Explore developing and retaining ownership of commercial property at the Concord Naval Weapons Station to create a long-term revenue stream for the City
- Economic Development
 - ✓ Facilitate the creation of a four-year higher education facility and the development of an educated and skilled workforce on the Concord Reuse Project Area
 - ✓ Maintain a friendly, partnership approach with businesses that results in an efficient development process
 - ✓ Implement strategies that address blighted and/or vacant properties

- ✓ Partner with the Mt. Diablo Unified School District in a way that supports them delivering quality education to the Concord community
- Public Safety
 - ✓ Use technology to support public safety
 - ✓ Reduce criminal activity in Concord – pay special attention to:
 - Homeless related criminal activity,
 - Juvenile related criminal activity, and
 - Gang related criminal activity
 - ✓ Enhance communication and support to crime victims and their families, helping them understand the process
- Infrastructure Maintenance
 - ✓ Employ cost-effective and environmentally friendly technologies and programs to support infrastructure maintenance
- Organizational Strength & Employee Success
 - ✓ Implement programs that support employee and volunteer recognition and networking
 - ✓ Enhance communication to the community and at all levels of the organization

All other Council Priority Focus Areas remain the same.

Council discussion concluded with requested staff follow up on the following:

1. Hold 20-25 acre plot of land on the Base owned by the City to build a shopping center for revenue generation.
2. Scenario educating Council on the implications and ramifications of full amount of annual required contribution of OPEB to be a standing part of the budget and not funded by one-time funds.
3. Preparation of an alternate budget proposal that establishes a path to a balanced budget to exist at the expiration of Measure Q.
4. Create plan for economic development in preparation of the expiration of Measure Q highlighting business friendly environment – initiation and fruition – partnership between the City and the developer that is not only business friendly but also offers economic encouragement.
5. Working with the School District, create a broad objective that Council can stand beside regarding higher education facilities and trade schools that also supports improvements to public schools.
6. Police substation; body cameras; homeless programs.
7. Support technology that enhances public safety.
8. Arts Committee.
9. Explore Business Developer Fee to use towards the Arts.
10. Erect statue of Don Salvio Pacheco.

11. Explore cost effective and environmentally friendly technologies that support infrastructure maintenance.
12. Hold an agendized workshop for strategic initiatives.

By order of the Mayor, the meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.


LAURA M. HOFFMEISTER
MAYOR


JOELLE FOCKLER, MMC
CITY CLERK