



REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AND HOUSING AUTHORITY TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2025 - MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER – The Closed Session meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Chavez at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Buley, Council Member Gameros, Council Member Harper, Council Member Reynolds, Mayor Pro Tem, and Mayor Stephens (Arrived at 5:32 p.m.).

Absent: Council Member Marr.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE.

CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION – ONE CASE

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1)

Name of Case: Munoz v. City of Costa Mesa,

United States District Court, Central District of California, Case No 8:23-cv-01959 JWH (ADSx)

City Council recessed at 5:31 p.m. for Closed Session.

Closed Session adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER - The Regular City Council and Housing Authority meeting was called to order by Mayor Stephens at 6:00 p.m.

NATIONAL ANTHEM AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – A video was played of the National Anthem and the mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOMENT OF SOLEMN EXPRESSION – Led by Mayor Stephens.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Buley, Council Member Gameros, Council Member Harper, Council Member Reynolds, Mayor Pro Tem, and Mayor Stephens.

Absent: Council Member Marr.

CITY ATTORNEY CLOSED SESSION REPORT – The City Council gave staff direction, no reportable action.

PRESENTATIONS:

The Mayor presented a proclamation to Gay Royer, President of the Costa Mesa Women's Club in honor of Women's History Month 2025.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

Flo Martin, Costa Mesa, spoke on supporting road and sidewalk safety, requested the Police Department crime log website that supplied crime information and accident reports be made available again.

Urson Russell, Costa Mesa, spoke on the non-turn lanes at 18th Street and Anaheim Avenue needing delineation, and spoke on the Monticello Community potentially participating in the permit parking program due to parking impacts from the Vanguard University sporting events.

Speaker, spoke on problems associated with the Tessa program, and on better communications with the City, spoke on the importance of commissions and committees, spoke on the cannabis tax and the \$400,000 available in the budget.

Speaker, spoke in support of implementing a Trap Neuter Return program.

Alfie Sanchez, Event Director of Majestic Cycling Events, spoke on hosting the Taylor Elizabeth Clifford Memorial Grand Prix, and donating \$1000 to New Directions For Women Recovery, thanked the Police Department for supporting the race, spoke on the race in August for the Master State Championships, spoke on not experiencing issues with Tessa, and spoke on supporting cycling.

James Peters, Costa Mesa, spoke on upholding the California Constitution, spoke on the training room project and requested details of expenses, spoke on voting centers and the numbers of ballots scanned, spoke on votes being diluted and not certifying the election.

Speaker, spoke in support of implementing a Trap Neuter Return program.

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Analese Lee spoke in support of implementing a Trap Neuter Return program.

Speaker, Costa Mesa, spoke in support of implementing a Trap Neuter Return program.

Jenn Tanaka, Costa Mesa, thanked City Council, Police Department, and Fire Department, for attending Costa Mesa Little League opening day, and thanked the Police Department for enforcement of unlawful encampments on Wilson Street, spoke on statistics from the Police Department on the website, and spoke on the role of committees and updating council liaisons to the committees.

Speaker, Costa Mesa, spoke in opposition of implementing a Trap Neuter Return program, spoke on the increase of feral cats, spoke on responsible pet ownership, the problems associated with stray and feral cats, and spoke on the costs of a program.

Lisa Seagull, spoke in support of implementing a Trap Neuter Return program.

Speaker, spoke in support of implementing a Trap Neuter Return program.

Becca Walls, Costa Mesa, spoke in support of implementing a Trap Neuter Return program, spoke in support of a draft ordinance, and spoke on not being able to make a motion at the Animal Services Committee.

Donna Wagner, spoke in support of implementing a Trap Neuter Return program.

Cynthia McDonald, spoke on the lack of available information on the Police Department's website for police and fire calls in the City, and spoke on alerting the residents on current accidents.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS, COMMENTS, AND SUGGESTIONS

Council Member Pettis spoke on a Trap Neuter Return program, spoke on the City receiving an award on the Tessa program, spoke on attending the Little League and Pony League opening day, spoke on receiving an update on parks and that he places a great emphasis on parks, and spoke on the upcoming rains and keeping up on pothole repairs for the streets.

Council Member Buley spoke on attending Little League opening day, spoke on attending the South Coast Metro Alliance meeting, spoke on attending the Orange County Business Council awards banquet, spoke on Tessa, spoke on the Master Plan Agreement with Dudek and complying with the RHNA state requirements, spoke on incurring expenses due to state mandates, and the Planning Commission not being able to consider a lack of parking on projects, spoke on the State overreaching on the City Council governance, spoke on the Cities of Redondo Beach, Torrance and Whittier challenging the implementation of SB9 and requested the City Attorney research and monitor the case, spoke on setting policy and the budget process, and requested a list of items for upcoming agendas.

Council Member Gameros spoke on Tessa and requested a meeting with staff to address constituents' concerns, spoke on the Trap Neuter Return program, and spoke on the Police Department working together with Priceless Pets on a solution.

Council Member Reynolds spoke on a Trap Neuter Return program, spoke on addressing the non-turn lanes at 18th Street and Anaheim Avenue, spoke on the crime log data and requested easy access for the public, requested a permit parking program update, expressed concern for residents who rely on federally funded services and requested information on resources at risk, and ensuring seniors in the community have access to services needed.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez spoke on a Trap Neuter Return program, spoke on transparency and providing Police Department data, requested a permit parking program update and requested staff to speak with Mr. Russell, requested additional police patrols at the Bank of America parking lot behind El Chinaco, spoke on attending opening day of Little League, spoke on attending the meeting at South Coast Metro Alliance, spoke on addressing Tessa complaints, spoke on meeting with David Haithcock from the Chamber of Commerce, and spoke on Santa Ana's permit processing program.

Mayor Stephens spoke on attending the Little League and Pony League opening day, and that everybody likes the new LED lights and the new mounds, and is looking forward to having batting cages, requested staff to follow up on the Police Department crime statistics on the website, spoke on the cannabis tax first time homebuyers program and addressing after the budget is adopted, requested an update on the monies being put aside for arts, spoke on the Orange County Business Council award for Tessa, spoke on the agenda process and adding items to the agenda, spoke on practicing blameless problem solving and its principles, and spoke on a Trap Neuter Return program and amending the ordinance.

REPORT – CITY MANAGER – Ms. Farrell Harrison spoke on Women In Construction Week, spoke on the Orange County Business Council award for Tessa, spoke on the implementation of the Tessa system, spoke on having Instant Permits, spoke on the “Let’s Go Costa Mesa Rideshare Service”, spoke on the skate park expansion meeting on Wednesday, March 12th, spoke on expanding the use of the Nixle program within the city, spoke on statistics on the Police Department website and the permit parking program and will provide updates, and the information on federal funding will be provided.

REPORT – CITY ATTORNEY – Ms. Hall Barlow reported that the City was successful in being dismissed from the lawsuit Milton v. City of Costa Mesa, and that the city paid no monies in the trip and fall case, received a notice that summary judgement against the City was denied on a claim regarding an intentional power outage of which the City was not notified and that resulted in an automobile accident, responded to Council Member Buley regarding monitoring SB9 litigation, and spoke on federal funding issues in respect to immigration enforcement and that a lawsuit has been filed.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOVED/SECOND: Mayor Pro Tem Chavez/Mayor Stephens

MOTION: Approve the Consent Calendar except for item nos. 5 and 7.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Buley, Council Member Gameros, Council Member Pettis, Council Member Reynolds, Mayor Pro Tem Chavez, and Mayor Stephens.

Nays: None.

Absent: Council Member Marr.

Abstain: Council Member Gameros recused himself on item 3 the Warrant Resolution due to his wife working at Priceless Pets, and Mayor Stephens recused himself on item 3 the Warrant Resolution due to campaign contributions received from Ware Disposal and Everett Dorey.

Motion carried: 6-0

1. PROCEDURAL WAIVER: WAIVE THE FULL READING OF ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ACTION:

City Council and Housing Authority approved the reading by title only and waived further reading of Ordinances and Resolutions.

2. READING FOLDER

ACTION:

City Council received and filed Claims received by the City Clerk and authorized staff to reject any and all Claims: Grant Cody, Stephen Scoles, Shelly Toole.

3. ADOPTION OF WARRANT RESOLUTION

Council Member Gameros recused himself on the item due to his wife working at Priceless Pets.

Mayor Stephens recused himself on the item due to campaign contributions received from Ware Disposal and Everett Dorey.

ACTION:

City Council approved Warrant Resolution No. 2729.

4. MINUTES

ACTION:

City Council approved the minutes of the regular meeting of February 18, 2025.

6. ACCEPTANCE OF THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL MODIFICATION AT BAKER STREET AND BABB STREET PROJECT, CITY PROJECT NO. 24-02

ACTION:

1. City Council accepted the work performed by Crosstown Electrical & Data, Inc., 5454 Diaz Street, Irwindale, CA 91706, for the Traffic Signal Modification at Baker Street and Babb Street Project, City Project No. 24-02, and authorized the City Clerk to file the Notice of Completion.

2. Authorized the City Manager to release the retention monies thirty-five (35) days after the Notice of Completion filing date; release the Labor and Material Bond seven (7) months after the filing date; and release the Faithful Performance Bond one (1) year after the filing date.

ITEMS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

5. ACCEPTANCE OF THE ADAMS AVENUE PAVEMENT REHABILITATION PROJECT, CITY PROJECT NO. 23-07

Public Comments:

Jenn Tanaka, Costa Mesa, spoke on the TeWinkle Park lakes bid and the Community Workforce Agreement, expressed concerns on the lack of local hires, and the cost of the Community Workforce Agreement.

MOVED/SECOND: Council Member Gameros/Mayor Stephens

MOTION: Approve staff recommendation.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Buley, Council Member Gameros, Council Member Reynolds, Mayor Pro Tem Chavez, and Mayor Stephens.

Nays: Council Member Pettis.

Absent: Council Member Marr.

Abstain: None.

Motion carried: 5-1

ACTION:

1. City Council accepted the work performed by All American Asphalt, Inc., 400 East Sixth Street, Corona, CA 92879 for the Adams Avenue Pavement Rehabilitation Project, City Project No. 23-07, and authorized the City Clerk to file the Notice of Completion.
2. Authorized the City Manager to release the retention monies thirty-five (35) days after the Notice of Completion filing date; release the Labor and Material Bond seven (7) months after the filing date; and release the Faithful Performance Bond one (1) year after the filing date.

7. REPLACEMENT OF CHILLER UNITS AT CITY HALL

Public Comments:

Speaker, spoke on diesel generators, the lead time and installation at the end of summer, and being mindful of taxpayers.

Speaker, spoke against the item and on the city debt, and spoke on buying vehicles locally.

MOVED/SECOND: Council Member Reynolds/Mayor Pro Tem Chavez

MOTION: Approve staff recommendation.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Buley, Council Member Gameros, Council Member Pettis, Council Member Reynolds, Mayor Pro Tem Chavez, and Mayor Stephens.

Nays: None.

Absent: Council Member Marr.

Abstain: None.

Motion carried: 6-0

ACTION:

1. City Council authorized the use of Sourcewell's Cooperative Agreement No.070121-SIE with Siemens Industry, Inc.
2. Authorized the purchase of two (2) Trane chillers for \$334,856 from Siemens Industry, Inc., 6141 Katella Ave, Cypress, CA, 90630.
3. Approved an appropriation of \$573,000 in the Capital Improvement Fund (Fund 401) fund balance to purchase the equipment outlined above totaling \$334,856, and provide additional funding for a separate design and installation contract to be brought under separate cover in the future, ensuring sufficient funds are available to complete the project.

-----**END OF CONSENT CALENDAR**-----

PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.

(Pursuant to Resolution No. 05-55, Public Hearings begin at 7:00 p.m.)

OLD BUSINESS: NONE.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STRATEGIC PLAN PHASE II AND ROADMAP FOR THE CITY OF COSTA MESA

Presentation by Mr. Ely, Information Technology Director.

Public Comments:

Speaker, spoke on the priority of community participation and input, spoke on the manpower to go paperless, and supports the VOIP but not an 800 number.

Ralph Taboada, Costa Mesa, supports the Information Technology Strategic Plan, requested a progress report on phase I and the actual costs for phase I, inquired on status reports to council, and going forward to include annual reports to council.

Speaker, spoke on the number of employees and the hiring of consultants, expressed concern on expenditures, requested reports from TESSA, and spoke on key items not being addressed.

Speaker, spoke in support of updating the infrastructure and monitoring equipment.

MOVED/SECOND: Council Member Reynolds/Council Member Gameros

MOTION: Approve staff recommendation with the following change:

- Work with the contractor to adjust the scope and funding allocation to replace any work already completed with activities to collect input from the resident and business community and City Council.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Gameros, Council Member Reynolds, Mayor Pro Tem Chavez, and Mayor Stephens.

Nays: Council Member Buley and Council Member Pettis.

Absent: Council Member Marr.

Abstain: None.

Motion carried: 4-2

ACTION:

1. City Council authorized the use of the County of Marin's cooperative service agreement with Third Wave Corporation.
2. Approved the Professional Services Agreement with ThirdWave Corporation in the amount of \$125,014, for consulting services for the Information Technology Strategic Plan and Roadmap Phase II, effective March 4, 2025 - December 31, 2025.
3. Authorized the City Manager or designee to approve an additional 10% contingency in the amount of \$12,501, if required, to deliver the scope of work identified in the Statement of Work.
4. Directed staff to work with the contractor to adjust the scope and funding allocation to replace any work already completed with activities to collect input from the resident and business community and City Council.

ADDITIONAL COUNCIL/BOARD MEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS, COMMENTS, AND SUGGESTIONS – NONE.

ADJOURNMENT – Mayor Stephens adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Minutes adopted on this 18th day of March, 2025.

John Stephens, Mayor

ATTEST:

Brenda Green, City Clerk

DRAFT