

**SPECIAL & REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE SONOMA CITY COUNCIL
&
CONCURRENT REGULAR MEETING OF SONOMA CITY COUNCIL AS THE
SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE DISSOLVED SONOMA COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

Community Meeting Room, 177 First Street West, Sonoma CA



**Monday, September 15, 2014
5:30 p.m. Closed Session (Special Meeting)
6:00 p.m. Regular Meeting**

MINUTES

City Council
Tom Rouse, Mayor
David Cook, Mayor Pro Tem
Steve Barbose
Ken Brown
Laurie Gallian

SPECIAL MEETING - CLOSED SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

At 5:30 p.m. Mayor Rouse called the meeting to order. No one from the public was present to provide public testimony on the closed session item. The Council recessed into closed session with all members present. City Manager Giovanatto and City Attorney Walter were also present.

2. CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-ANTICIPATED LITIGATION. Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph 2 of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: One potential case.

REGULAR MEETING

The City Council reconvened in open session and Mayor Rouse called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Members of the Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 78 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Mayor Rouse and Councilmembers Barbose, Brown, Cook and Gallian
ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Giovanatto, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk Johann, City Attorney Walter, and Public Works Director Takasugi.

REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION – Mayor Rouse reported that there had been no reportable action taken while in closed session.

1. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Tom Conley invited the community to participate in the Peoples Climate March on Sunday September 21, 2014.

Madolyn Agrimonti stated that the Sonoma Community Center had not suffered any serious damage from the recent earthquake and she credited the City-funded seismic upgrade.

Regina Baker complained that customers of a nearby business were taking up residential parking and suggested that there be a rule requiring new businesses to install signage directing customers to appropriate parking spots before being allowed to open. Mayor Rouse offered to speak with the business owner.

Jack Wagner suggested that the City look into funding for a Sonoma Valley shuttle service.

2. MEETING DEDICATIONS - None

3. PRESENTATIONS

Item 3A: Purple Heart City Proclamation

Mayor Rouse read aloud the proclamation declaring the City of Sonoma a Purple Heart City in recognition of the dedication and sacrifice of veterans and those currently serving in the armed forces. Paul Hoffman and members of the Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 78 received the proclamation and thanked the City for its support. Mr. Hoffman stated that they and the American Legion would fund signs to be installed at the entrances into town. The group then carried out their show of appreciation tradition of exchanging a Purple Heart coin for a handshake with the Councilmembers and City staff.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR/AGENDA ORDER – CITY COUNCIL

- Item 4A: Waive Further reading and Authorize Introduction and/or Adoption of Ordinances by Title Only.**
- Item 4B: Approval of the Minutes of the September 3, 2014 Study Session and the September 3, 2014 Regular Meeting.**
- Item 4C: Adoption of Resolution approving and authorizing the City Manager to execute Advanced Life and Basic Life Emergency Medical Services Contracts with Schell Vista Fire Protection District and Glen Ellen Fire District to provide Ambulance Services Under Existing 201 Rights. (Res. No. 45-2014)**
- Item 4D: Adoption of a resolution amending the City of Sonoma Conflict of Interest Code. (Res. No. 46-2014)**
- Item 4E: Acceptance of the 2014 Local Agency Biennial Notice for the Oversight Board to the Dissolved Sonoma Community Development Agency.**
- Item 4F: Approval of the allocation of a free day use at the Sonoma Veteran’s Memorial Building as requested by the Congregation Shir Shalom for the annual Jewish Winemakers Tasting and Nosh on April 12, 2015.**
- Item 4G: Approval and ratification of the reappointment of Pam Personette to the Cultural and Fine Arts Commission.**
- Item 4H: Approval of Amendment No. 2 to Lease Agreement between the City of Sonoma and the Valley of the Moon Petanque Club; and Amendment No. 1 to Lease Agreement with Sonoma Sister Cities Association to add additional Bocce Courts at Depot Park.**
- Item 4I: Approval and Ratification of the Appointment of Kate Schertz to the Cultural and Fine Arts Commission for a two-year term.**
- Item 4J: Adoption of a resolution distributing Growth Management allocations for the 2014-15 development year. (Res. No. 47-2014)**
- Item 4K: Adoption of an ordinance establishing regulations governing the use of the Montini Preserve.**

The public comment period was opened and closed with none received. It was moved by Clm. Gallian, seconded by Clm. Brown, to approve the consent calendar as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR/AGENDA ORDER – CITY COUNCIL AS SUCCESSOR AGENCY

- Item 5A: Approval of the portions of the Minutes of September 3, 2014 Study Session and the September 3, 2014 Regular Meeting pertaining to the Successor Agency.**

The public comment period was opened and closed with none received. It was moved by Clm. Gallian, seconded by Clm. Cook, to approve the consent calendar as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

6. PUBLIC HEARING – None Scheduled

7. REGULAR CALENDAR – CITY COUNCIL

Item 7A: Conduct of public meeting to allow public testimony regarding the proposed renewal of the Sonoma Tourism Improvement District,

City Manager Giovanatto reported that, pursuant to the Resolution of Intention to Renew the Tourism Improvement District (TID) adopted on August 18, 2014, notices had been mailed to all lodging establishments in the City notifying them of the Public Meeting and the Public Hearing scheduled for October 20, 2014. The renewal of the Sonoma Tourism Improvement District (TID) would be to continue the funding mechanism for marketing of Sonoma as an overnight destination with the intent of increasing occupancy rates, the number of visitors to Sonoma and their length of stay. Giovanatto stated that this public meeting was for the purpose of allowing public testimony regarding the proposed continuation of the assessment of 2% on all overnight stays in the City of Sonoma lodging establishments.

Giovanatto explained that, should the two percent assessment generate more income than needed by the TID, the Council could reduce the amount of the assessment in future years. She reported that the Council could provide input on how the money was spent; however, State law determined the allowable categories of expenditures of funds. She mentioned that the TID had funded improved holiday lighting in and around the Plaza.

Clm. Barbose expressed his preference that the TID be renewed for a five-year period instead of ten years and questioned if that change could be made. City Attorney Walter stated that before a change could be considered the Council would have to entertain a motion to suspend the rules of order to allow a motion to reconsider the previous action followed by a motion to reconsider. If both those motions carried, the City would have to begin the renewal procedure all over again.

Mayor Rouse invited comments from the public. Bill Blum recognized the TID Board Members present and thanked the City Council for its support. He pointed out that Sonoma's Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) increased at a much higher rate than other Sonoma County cities in 2013. Blum reported that the TID had provided grant funding to the Sonoma International Film Festival, Sonoma Valley Museum of Art, Valley of the Moon Certified Farmers Market, and the Vintage Festival this past year and had also reached out the Transcendence Theater company and the Sonoma Community Center regarding providing assistance for their winter programs.

Jack Wagner questioned if the assessment could be increased if there was a decline in revenues. He said that as much oversight as possible was desirable.

David Wells stated that he had worked with the Yountville TID from a marketing standpoint and stated that it was rewarding to see how the town worked with the Visitor Bureau and local businesses. He stated his support for renewal of the TID.

Clm. Brown stated that upon further reflection of the decision to renew the TID for ten years he would entertain a motion to reduce it to five years.

Clm. Gallian stated her continued support for a ten-year renewal and pointed out the ability of the Council to raise or lower the assessment rate. She also pointed out the 96% support from the lodging industry.

Clm. Cook supported the ten-year renewal stating it was good for the marketing plan.

Mayor Rouse supported the ten-year renewal stating continuity was good and the TID Board was doing a great job.

Clm. Barbose stated that he agreed the TID Board was doing a phenomenal job and his support for five-year renewal did not reflect on their performance or success. He said the Council might want to consider reducing the assessment to 1% and raise the TOT by 1% at some point in the future.

Item 7B: Discussion and Consideration to Send Letter to Sonoma County Board of Supervisors Endorsing the Countywide Living Wage Proposal [Requested by Clm. Brown]

City Manager Giovanatto reported that Councilmember Brown requested Council consideration to direct staff to prepare a letter to the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors endorsing the proposal to establish a Countywide living wage ordinance.

Item 7B: Countywide Living Wage, Continued

Mayor Rouse invited comments from the public. Jack Wagner stated that the proposal would be good for the whole county.

Susy Hart, Renaissance Lodge, expressed concern about the potential impact on businesses. Clm. Barbose stated that the proposal would not affect her business.

Rachel Hundley stated it was an opportunity for government to set an example for businesses.

Clm. Brown stated the ordinance would only affect those doing business with the County. It was moved by Clm. Barbose, seconded by Clm. Gallian, to direct staff to prepare a letter of support to be sent to the County. The motion carried unanimously.

Item 7C: Discussion, consideration and possible action to adopt a resolution in support of the Protection of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act / Prevention of Antibiotic Resistance Act [requested by Councilmember Brown]

City Manager Giovanatto reported that Councilmember Brown requested Council consideration of adoption of a resolution calling for a ban on the misuse of antibiotics on factory farms. She stated that information regarding the matter had been provided by Brianne Hodson of the Food & Water Watch.

The public comment period was opened and closed with none received.

Clm. Brown stated he had met with Ms. Hodson and it was an important issue for him as he was poisoned at one time and he did not want others to be exposed. Clm. Cook stated he also met with Ms. Hodson but would not support the resolution because he did not have enough knowledge on the matter. Clm. Barbose stated he supported the resolution and felt that the State and Federal regulators needed to hear from local government.

It was moved by Clm. Barbose, seconded by Clm. Brown, to adopt the resolution entitled A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Sonoma in Support of the Protection of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act and the Prevention of Antibiotic Resistance Act. Clm. Gallian stated she would not support the motion because she felt there needed to be a more collaborative discussion and vetting of the subject. The motion carried with the following vote: AYES: Barbose, Brown, Rouse. NOES: Cook, Gallian. ABSENT: None.

8. REGULAR CALENDAR – CITY COUNCIL AS THE SUCCESSOR AGENCY

9. COUNCILMEMBERS’ REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Clm. Brown reported attendance at the 9/11 recognition of Fire and Police personnel, got a free pizza on Freedom Day, and attended the Mexican Independence Day celebration, Oversight Board and CSEC meetings.

Clm. Cook announced he would cancel his office hour the next two weeks because of grape harvest.

Clm. Barbose asked the Council candidates to send him their responses to The Sun questionnaire. He reported that the Sonoma Valley Heath and Recreation Association escrow had been extended to the end of October and that an outside attorney had been contracted to amend the loan documents.

Clm. Gallian reported attendance at the Sonoma County Transportation Authority and the 9/11 Police and Fire recognition.

10. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS INCLUDING ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM SUCCESSOR AGENCY STAFF

City Manager Giovanatto stated that the Tobacco Retail License ordinance would be on the October 20 agenda and she expected the Smoking Limitation Ordinance to be on a November agenda. She wished her daughter Dawn a Happy Birthday and the Mayor led everyone in singing Happy Birthday to Dawn.

11. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Madolyn Agrimonti stated that the SVHRA escrow extension was at the seller's request.

Jack Wagner stated that the Sonoma Municipal Code should be revised to include gender-neutral references.

Rachel Hundley stated that she was campaigning at Farmers Market and had been knocking on doors. One topic of concern that came up a lot was the unavailability of affordable housing.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing minutes were duly and regularly adopted at a regular meeting of the Sonoma City Council on the 20th day of October 2014.

Gay Johann
Assistant City Manager / City Clerk