



City of Port Hueneme

City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

April 5, 2021

Port Hueneme City Hall: 250 North Ventura Road
Port Hueneme, CA 93041 (Virtual Meeting Broadcast Live)

6:30 p.m. Regular Meeting

THIS MEETING WAS CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 AND THE ORDERS OF THE VENTURA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER ISSUED MARCH 20, 2020 (STAY WELL AT HOME ORDER)

In order to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the City Hall Council Chamber will be closed to the public until further notice. The following provides information to the public on how to observe and/or participate in City meetings remotely:

- Meetings can be viewed live at: <http://porthuenemeca.suiteonemedia.com/web/Home.aspx>
- Public Comments can be submitted to kbuxkemper@ci.port-hueneme.ca.us and must be received by 5:00p.m. on April 5, 2021 in order to be considered by City Council. All comments will be part of the official record and minutes will notate all submissions
- Additional electronic meeting guidelines can be found [here](#) and at the end of the agenda
- Detailed information and updates about COVID-19, can be found on the City of Port Hueneme's Emergency Website at: www.PortHuenemeEmergency.org

6:30 P.M. CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER / FLAG SALUTE Mayor Gama called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and lead the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Hernandez, Martinez, Perez; Mayor Pro Tem Rollins; and Mayor Gama
Absent: None

INSPIRATION Councilmember Hernandez provided the inspiration.

AGENDA APPROVAL FOR CITY COUNCIL

City Council Agenda Approval

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Rollins seconded by Mayor Gama and unanimously passed to approve the City Council Agenda of April 5, 2021.

AYES: Rollins, Gama, Hernandez, Martinez, Perez

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (via submitted comments to the City Clerk)

There were no members of the public appearing to speak due to the City's response to the Local Emergency Declaration, which required that City Council meeting be closed to the public. Public comments were accepted via email to the City Clerk by 5:00p.m. on the day of the meeting.

General public comments were read into the record and submitted by the following:

- Isabella Lamb

PRESENTATIONS

1. [Future Leaders of America](#)

The Future Leaders of America presented to the City Council regarding the health risks of vaping and the harmful effects to youth who are enticed by flavored tobacco products. The following students advocated for the City Council to continue to explore the City's future options to increase restrictions on vaping products and reduce second-hand smoke:

- Marisol Mendoza
- Brainna del Oro
- Jesus Ramos
- Natalie Leon
- Aiana Perez
- Ernesto Carillo
- Dineh Barragan

2. [Ventura Audubon Society](#)

Ventura Audubon Society Executive Director Cynthia Hartley presented to the City Council regarding Snowy Plovers at Ormond Beach including information regarding nesting, monitoring, habitat protection, volunteers, and outreach. Ms. Hartley answered Council questions.

3. [Arbor Day Proclamation](#)

Principal Engineer Charles Cable read the Arbor Day Proclamation honoring the City's commitment and answered questions from Council.

4. [Autistic Awareness Month Proclamation](#)

Mayor Gama read the Autism Awareness Proclamation and Chief Andrew Salinas commented on the importance of autism awareness and answered Council questions.

5. [COVID-19 Update](#)

Police Chief Andrew Salinas presented a COVID-19 update to the City Council including information regarding the County COVID-19 numbers, the Ventura County vaccination success, eligibility for vaccinations, County metrics, and moving to the Orange Tier detailing the decreasing COVID-19 restrictions.

CONSENT CALENDAR AGENDA

The Mayor read the titles of the items on the Consent Calendar prior to the motion.

6. [Approved Minutes of the City Council for the Regular Meeting of March 15, 2021 and the Special Meeting of March 30, 2021](#)

7. Item Number 7 was pulled by Mayor Gama for discussion. No action was taken at this time on the consent calendar.

CONSENT CALENDAR ROLL CALL VOTE

It was moved by Councilmember Hernandez, seconded by Councilmember Perez and passed unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar Agenda item #6.

AYES: Hernandez, Perez, Martinez, Rollins, Gama

PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

7. [Finance Cash Disbursements from March 9, 2021 through March 29, 2021](#)

This item was pulled from the consent calendar for further discussion. Questions were asked regarding various disbursements and Finance Director Ken McDonald answered Council questions.

ROLL CALL VOTE

It was moved by Mayor Gama seconded by Councilmember Martinez and passed unanimously to receive and file the Finance Cash Disbursements from March 9, 2021 through March 29, 2021.

AYES: Gama, Martinez, Hernandez, Perez, Rollins

PUBLIC HEARINGS

8. [Adoption of a Resolution Granting Special Use Permit No. 01-21 for the From the Earth Cannabis Farmers Market Event](#)

The Public Hearing was opened at 8:55 p.m. There were no disclosures by Council.

City Clerk Buxkemper affirmed Proof of Publication and a complete set of reports and exhibits were on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

Community Development Director Tony Stewart presented the report to Council and answered City Council questions.

No public comments were submitted from the public.

The public hearing was closed at 9:03 p.m.

Applicant David Moss clarified that they would like to move the event to an alternate date if COVID conditions didn't allow the farmers market to be held as planned. Community Development Director Tony Stewart indicated a condition could be added to the approval that allows for a 30-60 day extension.

ROLL CALL VOTE

It was moved by Councilmember Hernandez, seconded by Councilmember Perez and carried unanimously to approving the following:

1. Adopt an amended Resolution No. 4349 of the City Council of the City of Port Hueneme deeming a temporary event exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act and conditionally approving Special Use Permit No. 01-21 (From the Earth Cannabis Farmers Market Event, located at 550 E. Surfside Drive), amended to add a 30-day extension in the event the initial date is not feasible due to COVID-19 restrictions; and
2. Authorize the Director of Community Development to file a Notice of Exemption for the project in accordance with provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA").

AYES: Hernandez, Perez, Martinez, Rollins, Gama

9. [Planned Development/Conditional Use Permit No. PHCU-885 and Development Agreement No. PHDA-886 PH Investments Group, LLC \(DBA "Element 7 Port Hueneme" Cannabis Dispensary\) – Located at 455 W. Channel Islands Blvd.](#)

The Public Hearing was opened at 9:10 p.m. There were no disclosures by Council.

City Clerk Buxkemper affirmed Proof of Publication and a complete set of reports and exhibits were on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

Community Development Director Tony Stewart presented the report to Council. Element 7 Applicant Josh Black also presented to the City Council and answered Council questions.

Council discussion ensued regarding Element 7's background and other established locations, and addressed the topic of cannabis dispensary saturation point in Port Hueneme.

No public comments were submitted from the public.

The public hearing was closed at 9:48 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE

It was moved by Councilmember Hernandez, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Rollins and carried unanimously to approving the following:

1. Adopt *Resolution No. 4350 of the City Council of the City of Port Hueneme, granting approval of Conditional Use Permit No. PHCU-885* (PH Investments Group, LLC Cannabis Dispensary); and
2. Introduce, by title only waiving full reading, *an Ordinance approving and adopting a development agreement under Government Code Sections 65864 to 65869.5 and Ordinance No. 727 and Ordinance No. 734 of the Port Hueneme Municipal Code relating to the operation of a cannabis facility* for PH Investments Group, LLC (with adoption to follow at the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting).

AYES: Hernandez, Rollins, Perez, Martinez, Gama

BUSINESS ITEMS

10. [Change Order to Existing Agreement with Rincon Consultants, Inc., to Conduct Appropriate Environmental Review Associated with the Bubbling Springs Park Renovation Project and Associated Budget Adjustment](#)

Community Services and Recreation Program Manager Anna Hanely presented to City Council and answered questions.

ROLL CALL VOTE

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Rollins, seconded by Councilmember Hernandez and carried unanimously to:

1. Authorize a change order to the City's agreement with Rincon Consultants for the preparation of the City's CEQA Analysis for the Bubbling Springs Park Renovation Project; and
2. Appropriate \$65,900 from unencumbered capital funds for the work associated with this change order.

AYES: Rollins, Hernandez, Martinez, Perez, Gama

COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Council Members are appointed to various Regional Committees/Agencies/Boards and will report out on their activities with these organizations and put forth any comments in regards to community events at this time.

Mayor Gama: Detailed a walkthrough of Bubbling Springs Park with Mayor Pro Tem Rollins and City Manager Conners. Indicated that the fields had been closed for a full year and the Baseball Little League was due to start on May 1st. Expressed the need for the fields to be cleaned up and ready for the players, and placed an emphasis on making the youth the most important persons in our community. Spoke regarding rules and ordinances in place at the Beach and the need to be able to enforce them and expressed a desire to find ways to work with the Audubon Society. Spoke regarding a coral tree that had recently fallen and the risks associated with the trees. Expressed hope that people with mental illnesses can accept assistance to help turn their lives around.

Mayor Pro Tem Rollins: Announced his attendance at the Ventura County Transportation Commission who are exploring making public transportation free of charge. Indicated that there is a reduction of rail use during the week, but an increase on the weekends. Indicated that the Boys and Girls Club wants to make their facilities available to the community for programing. Spoke regarding the City and Recreation Manager Anna Hanley's work towards receiving grants

and the extensive outreach and surveys conducted to see what amenities local residents wanted to see at the parks.

Councilmember Hernandez: Indicated the County's Continuum Care backpack medicine program to assist the homeless, and how an upcoming presentation would detail the results and include a report on how many people were helped. Expressed her continued support for the program and thanked Councilmember Perez for her idea on the backpack supplies. Announced a symposium by United Way with a key note on homeless, and encouraged the Councilmembers to participate. Announced that Premier American Credit Union was asking the community to vote for their favorite charity to which they'll donate up to \$5,000. Indicated many local community organizations, but expressed her support for the Friends of the Library and encouraged others to vote. Requested the meeting be adjourned in honor of Georgia Carpenter. Announced that several Councilmembers assisted the Port of Hueneme at their successful food distribution at Bolker Park and thanked Councilmember Martinez and Councilmember Perez for their participation, and thanked the Port for the event in our neighborhood. Indicated future efforts to clean-up Bolker Park and do more outreach and events there.

Councilmember Martinez: Announced that he had checked out a K-9 unit in Fontana and indicated that if the Port Hueneme Police Department were ever to think about getting a K-9 it was great education to see the good things the dogs can do.

Councilmember Perez: Expressed her appreciation a recent event held at the Port, indicating it was a good turnout and she would love to see more involvement. Indicated her support and how we are here to help our community.

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

All request items to be placed on future agendas require a motion, a second, and a majority vote per adopted Council policies.

Councilmember Hernandez: Request to continue with the Future Leaders of America recommendations and have staff return with a report on the impacts of proposing a prohibition on flavored tobacco in stores and multi-unit housing.

ROLL CALL VOTE: A motion was made by Councilmember Hernandez, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Rollins and passed 4-1 (Mayor Gama declined) to approve the requested item.

Councilmember Martinez:

Request #1: Commented that placing a cap on dispensaries would be helpful. City Manager Conners reminded the Council of the SWAT analysis that will be presented regarding this topic. No vote was conducted.

Request #2: Requested a brief on street vending on the beach. Mayor Pro Tem Rollins amended the motion to include the ability to change any adopted ordinance pertaining to street vending on the beach.

ROLL CALL VOTE: A motion was made by Councilmember Martinez, seconded by Mayor Gama and passed unanimously to approve the requested item.

Request #3: Requested a discussion regarding plastic use in our city and the ability to limit plastics. Mayor Gama amended the motion to include Styrofoam.

ROLL CALL VOTE: A motion was made by Councilmember Martinez, seconded by Mayor Gama and passed 3-2 (Councilmembers Hernandez and Perez declined) to approve the requested item.

Mayor Gama: Propose that we have a discussion on the fate of coral trees in Port Hueneme and an alternative to coral trees. Mayor Pro Tem Rollins amended the motion to look at the City's whole tree policy, including the planting and taking down of trees.

ROLL CALL VOTE: A motion was made by Mayor Gama, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Rollins and passed 4-1 (Councilmember Hernandez declined) to approve the requested item.


ADJOURNMENT

The City Council adjourned in honor of Georgia Carpenter at 10:32 p.m. to the regular meeting of Monday, April 19, 2021, to be broadcasted at 6:30 p.m. from the City Hall Council Chamber.

Minutes approved by City Council: April 19, 2021



Steven A. Gama, Mayor



Kristy Buxkemper, City Clerk