



City of Port Hueneme

City Council Special Meeting Minutes

Cannabis and Smoking Restrictions Workshop

Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.

Port Hueneme City Hall: Large Conference Room
250 North Ventura Road / Port Hueneme, CA 93041 (Broadcast Live)

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, all meetings are closed to the public until further notice. The following provides information to the public on how to observe and/or participate 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 January 13, 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](#).
- Detailed information and updates about COVID-19, can be found on the City of Port Hueneme's Emergency Website at: www.PortHuenemeEmergency.org
- Zoom meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88351189420?pwd=OUtMMTFxejNobG1FSk1RUDg2emxFQT09>

6:00 P.M. – CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER / FLAG SALUTE Mayor Gama called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Hernandez, Martinez, and Perez; Mayor Pro-Tem Rollins; and, Mayor Gama

Absent: None

Mayor Gama welcomed the community to the General Plan workshop.

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

No general public written comments were submitted.

Mayor Gama took a moment to speak during public comment to complimented the Police Department on handling a recent violent crime situation professionally and expressed the Council's gratitude to the entire department for their exemplary service.

City Clerk Buxkemper provided an overview on the different ways to participate in the community workshop virtual zoom meeting and encouraged public participation.

CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEM

1. [Cannabis Community Workshop: Review and Discussion of Policy Options Related to Cannabis Activities in the City of Port Hueneme](#)

Chief Andrew Salinas presented to City Council and the public on the following topics:

- History and current state of Cannabis in Port Hueneme
- Port Hueneme's customized cannabis program
- Elements of the application process to qualify and required Development Agreement
- Requirement for all dispensary employees to get an FBI/DOJ live scan and background check
- Current number of permitted dispensaries and delivery businesses operating in Port Hueneme
- Cannabis gross sales over the past few years
- Total community contributions from dispensaries (1% of gross sales required to be donated to the Community)
- Impacts from neighboring cities (Oxnard and Ventura)
- Consideration of the saturation/excessive concentration of dispensaries
- Responsible cannabis training: A Required 4-hour training course
- City of Port Hueneme best practices and educational material

Chief Salinas opened the floor for discussion to review the state of Cannabis in the City of Port Hueneme and facilitated feedback on ideas and concerns for the future of the City.

Council discussion ensued regarding the different potential options presented; such as a moratorium on land use, an amendment to the City Ordinance, a request for additional staff to assist with cannabis-related duties, and/or the option for no change at all. Chief Salinas answered Council questions.

No written public comments were received and no public participants provided comments.

Consultant Steve Kinney spoke regarding the custom dispensary approval process that is unique to Port Hueneme and Chief Salinas expressed his support in looking at a cap or moratorium.

The City Council unanimously agreed to direct staff to bring back a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis and provide additional information and a scope to help determine whether to put a cap or limit on dispensaries.

The public workshop for Agenda Item #1 closed at 7:42pm.

2. Community Workshop: Consideration of Additional Smoking Restrictions

Deputy City Manager Charles Peretz presented the report then opened the floor to the community workshop to review public and City Council recommendations for new smoking regulation within the City.

Peretz covered the following topics in his presentation:

- Existing regulations and previous City Council approved ordinances
- 7 agencies surveyed: Common primary focus for smoking ordinance was public health and safety
- Most common outdoor prohibitions:
 - Recreational areas (parks, gardens, open spaces)
 - Outdoor dining
 - Public events
 - Property owned/leased by City
 - Proximity to entrances of public buildings
 - Common areas – MUH (Multi-Unit Housing)
- Discussed American Lung Association report card and the City's current grade
- Addressed Council's recent interest in modifying City smoking regulations

- Asked Council for an effective discussion to help articulate a new City ordinance which would identify prohibitions which would be legally defensible.

Written public comments were read into the record by City Clerk Buxkemper and received by the following:

- Marisol Mendoza
- Jesus Ramos
- Aliana Perez

There were no comments from any community workshop public participants.

Council discussion ensued regarding the following:

- Parts of the City where stricter smoking restrictions could be adopted including potential bans or restrictions in the following areas:
 - Public spaces
 - Beach parking lots
 - MUH (Multi-Unit Housing)
 - City Parks
 - City owned properties
 - Outdoor dining areas
- Necessity to promote a safer place for the community and youth
- Harmful effects of second-hand smoke
- Need to provide proper disposal containers for cigarette butts
- Potential to provide smokers with specific designated smoking areas
- Economic impact on local businesses
- Police enforcement for restrictions
- Students vaping at schools
- Increased restrictions on flavored tobacco and e-cigarettes

Deputy City Attorney Spaulding helped clarify what the City would legally be able to enforce in regards to the potential restrictions discussed.


Council unanimously agreed to direct staff to return with a draft ordinance with the primary focus of increasing smoking restrictions to protect public health and safety.

Mayor Pro Tem Rollins motion to adjourn to community workshop.

ADJOURNMENT

The City Council adjourned at 8:55 p.m. to the regular meeting of Tuesday, January 19, 2021, to be held at 6:30 p.m. (broadcast live) from the City Hall Council Chamber.

Minutes approved by City Council: February 1, 2021



Steven A. Gama
Mayor



Kristy Buxkemper
City Clerk