



City of Port Hueneme

City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2021

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

5:30 p.m. Closed Session | 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 March 1, 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

5:30 P.M. – CITY COUNCIL CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Gama called the closed session meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

No Closed Session public comments were received.

CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Deputy City Attorney Kevin Spaulding read the closed session items into the record.

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
Authority: Government Code § 54956.9(d)(1)
City of Port Hueneme v. Dario Pini, et al.
Case No. 56-2019-00533286-CU-PT-VTA
2. CONFERENCE WITH PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
Authority: Government Code section 54956.8
PROPERTIES: The vacant property on the west side of Market Street, between Scott Street and Port Hueneme Road, Port Hueneme, CA (APN 206-0-091-285, -305).
AGENCY NEGOTIATORS: Brad Conners - City Manager; Charles Green - City Attorney; Kevin Spaulding – Deputy City Attorney; Steve Kinney - Consultant Kharis Navigating
NEGOTIATING PARTIES: City of Port Hueneme and Oxnard Harbor District
UNDER NEGOTIATION: Negotiate price and terms of payment

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION The Council recessed to closed session at 5:39 p.m.

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

CALL TO ORDER / FLAG SALUTE Mayor Gama called the meeting to order at 6:56 p.m. and lead the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

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

CLOSED SESSION REPORT Deputy City Attorney Spaulding provided a closed session report indicating there was no reportable action.

INSPIRATION Councilmember Martinez provided the inspiration.

AGENDA APPROVAL FOR CITY COUNCIL

City Council Agenda Approval

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Rollins, seconded by Mayor Gama and passed unanimously to approve the City Council agenda of March 1, 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 provided by the following:

- Mayor Gama

PRESENTATIONS

1. District Attorney Erik Nasarenko Introduction
District Attorney Erik Nasarenko introduced himself to the City Council and spoke regarding: enhancing community involvement; provided a brief background on his previous government experience; expressed his pledge to maintain a safe community and to be fair and reasonable; spoke regarding his desire to create a dedicated mental health unit with established policies and procedures to guide those with mental health disorders; articulated his commitment to increase diversity and inclusion; and the Family Justice Center's efforts to address the increase of cases of domestic violence and/or child abuse during the pandemic. DA Nasarenko answered Council questions, and Council expressed their appreciation for his time and comprehensive presentation.
2. COVID-19 Update
Police Chief Andrew Salinas presented a COVID-19 update to the City Council including the County's current numbers and vaccines and answered Council questions.
3. 2021 Hueneme Beach Festival
Police Chief Andrew Salinas presented on the potential 2021 Hueneme Beach Festival, including the planned festivities, major sponsorships, the draft festival layout, website development, factors considered in potential cancellation or ability to proceed in spite of COVID-19, County needed approval of a social distancing plan, deadline dates, and answered Council questions.

CONSENT CALENDAR AGENDA

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

4. Approved Minutes of the City Council for the Regular Meeting of February 16, 2021

5. Received and Filed the Finance Cash Disbursements for February 9, 2021 through February 23, 2021
6. Conducted a Second Reading, Waiving Full Reading of the Text, and Adopted Ordinance No. 776 of the City Council of the City of Port Hueneme, California, Amending Section 5141 of Part G of Chapter 2 of Article V of the City of Port Hueneme Municipal Code Relating to Fireworks
7. Adopted Resolution No. 4345 Authorizing the Application for Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Grant Funds for Bubbling Spring Park; and Adopted Resolution No. 4346 Authorizing the Application for Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Grant Funds for Bolker Park.

CONSENT CALENDAR ROLL CALL VOTE

It was moved by Councilmember Hernandez, seconded by Councilmember Perez and passed unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar Agenda items #4-7.

AYES: Hernandez, Perez, Martinez, Rollins, Gama

PUBLIC HEARINGS

8. Adoption of Parks and Recreation Master Plan

The Public Hearing was opened at 8:14 p.m.

Mayor Gama questioned whether Councilmembers who live near the parks would be allowed to participate in the Parks Master Plan discussion, or whether there was a need to disclose a conflict of interest for those who lived within 500 feet of a City park. Deputy City Attorney Spaulding clarified that this item falls within the "public generally" section since adoption of the plan would essentially adopt aspects for all parks and the material benefits for Councilmembers would be the same as the public at large.

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.

Mayor Gama clarified that no Councilmembers needed to recuse themselves for this item. Deputy City Attorney Spaulding reiterating that Councilmembers could participate in the parks master plan discussion as nothing was being adopted for individual parks and provided no conflict of interest at this time.

Community Development Director Tony Stewart introduced the item and then turned it over to consultants Genevieve Sharrow, Roxanne Borzo, and Lauren Schmitt, who presented to Council regarding the Parks Master Plan including:

- Public engagement process
- Communities interest in various amenities and improvements to play facilities, sports fields, ADA accessibility, walk ways, community gardens, dog parks, beach park, and the need for programming to support fitness and wellness needs and community events
- Importance of the Junior Lifeguard program to the community
- Processes and strategies of embracing and marketing the beach
- Addition of community public art
- Partnerships as a key focus of participants
- Need to prioritize park maintenance and the upkeep of all parks

- Analysis on the accessibility of parks including residents' proximity, and the need to provide better accessibility to parks for all residents
- System-wide recommendations and site-specific recommendations for Bolker Park, Bubbling Springs Park, Moranda Park, Bubbling Springs Creek and Recreational Corridor, and Hueneme Beach Park

Discussion ensued among Councilmembers with recommendations and analysis of the Parks Master Plan pertaining to each City park.

Public comments were read into the record by the City Clerk and submitted by the following:

- Matthew Lindholm-Guenther
- Jean Allen
- Rob and Aviva Maloney
- Ellen Stewart
- Warren Scharff

The following public comments were notated by name only as they were over the 500-word limit:

- Joint Statement from Mr. and Mrs. Terry Price, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Price, Julia Kozman, and Teri Tsosie
- Dulce Setterfield

The public hearing was closed at 10:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE #1

A motion was made by Mayor Gama to approve the majority of the Parks Master Plan, excluding the Tiny Structure portion for Lot C at the beach. MIG Consultants recommended the removal of the image and to include wording allowing the Council to explore other economic development opportunities. Mayor Gama re-moved his original motion. The motion failed for lack of a second motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE #2

It was moved by Councilmember Hernandez, seconded by Councilmember Perez, and carried by majority vote 4-1 (Mayor Gama negated) to approve the plan in whole acknowledging it is a conceptual plan and the Council would have additional opportunities to explore other development opportunities and the Council's ability to authorize and approve park-specific budget allocations at a later time. Council adopted Resolution No. 4347 of the City Council of the City of Port Hueneme, California, approving the Port Hueneme Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

AYES: Hernandez, Perez, Martinez, Rollins

NOES: Gama

9. [Adopt a Resolution Granting Special Use Permit No. 02-21 for the Wheelhouse Anniversary Cannabis Sales, and Fundraising and Drive-In Movie Event](#)

The Public Hearing was opened at 10:20 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 along with applicant Zahur Lalji answered City Council questions.

No public comments were submitted from the public.

The public hearing was closed at 10:36 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

1. Adopted Resolution No. 4348 of the City Council of the City of Port Hueneme, California, deeming a temporary event exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act and conditionally approving Special Use Permit No. 02-21 (Wheelhouse Anniversary Cannabis Sales, and Fundraising and Drive-in Movie Event – Located at 550 E. Surfside Drive); and
2. Authorized 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: Rollins, Hernandez, Perez, Martinez, Gama

BUSINESS ITEMS - NONE

COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Mayor Gama: Indicated the success of the Hueneme Beach cleanup with over 70 volunteers and the cooperation and coordinated effort of the City of Oxnard reimbursing the cost to cleanup Ormond Lagoon. Expressed his desire to continue to work with the City of Oxnard to make progress. Announced the Sand Summit was an amazing event and spoke regarding the continued challenges of getting the necessary amount of sand each year deposited on the beach.

Mayor Pro Tem Rollins: Congratulated Councilmember Martinez for becoming a representative on the REACH Board and thanked him for volunteering to update the organization's website. Indicated REACH would develop the next date for installation of the bricks, and spoke regarding large group donations which go to various programs. Indicated his participation and upcoming meetings for SCAG, Gold Coast Committee, and VC Regional Transportation Commission.

Councilmember Hernandez: Indicated SCAG orientation slides were available and her upcoming meeting with VRSD, including her desire to hold off on a requested agenda item pertaining to the VRSD. Announced her appointment as Vice-Chair to the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance and expressed the challenges they have to build infrastructure to support energy. Detailed her work with Councilmember Martinez regarding a homeless report and fact finding that would be a future agenda item presentation.

Councilmember Martinez: Announced that REACH approved funds for Reel Guppy, and voted for board positions with Mr. Steve Kinney resuming his role as the organization's President. Indicated he would be assisting with a revision of REACH's website. Detailed his work with Councilmember Hernandez on homelessness issues, with Councilmember Perez on ways to help small businesses, with Mayor Pro Tem Rollins to address City recreation, and with Mayor Gama on community involvement.

Councilmember Perez: Spoke regarding SCAG's Regional Needs Allocation Plan and the consensus to adopt a resolution to engage with the California Department of Housing to address challenges and development requirements. Detailed the EDC's budget meeting. Spoke regarding her mental health initiative and collaborative work with Oxnard, Ventura, and Fillmore. Announced that May is the month for mental health awareness and her efforts to help coordinate a virtual run fundraiser for suicide prevention. Port Hueneme will form a team with the charity event's primary focus to raise money by selling t-shirts, holding a “Coffee with a Cop” event, and creating clips of various first responders talking about what mental health means to them.

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.

Mayor Gama Request: Requested an update on the City's Graffiti Policy.

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

Mayor Gama made an additional motion to schedule a City Council closed session meeting to discuss City Manager Brad Conners' prior employment evaluation with newly elected councilmembers. The motion was voided as Deputy City Attorney Spaulding indicated it was not a qualified closed session as the evaluation had already been completed.

Mayor Pro Tem Rollins Request: Requested a tree city report. No vote was taken as this was a duplicative request originally made on February 16, 2021 and was already scheduled.

Councilmember Martinez Request: Requested an update on ADA Access to the water's edge at the Beach. Motion was rescinded after City Manager Conners briefly spoke regarding ADA access to the beach.

Councilmember Perez Request: Requested an agenda item to discuss the probability of having a One Stop for the community of Port Hueneme to help low-income residents who don't have access to health care. Councilmember Hernandez suggested an amendment to the motion to allow herself and Councilmember Martinez to provide a presentation that would provide information addressing Councilmember Perez' request.

ROLL CALL VOTE: After confirmation of Councilmember Perez' approval of the amended motion it was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Rollins and passed unanimously to add the above requested item.

Councilmember Perez additionally questioned whether there was a study that could be done for the viability of ADA access on the City's beach. City Manager Conners indicated a purchase was already made out of the Community Benefit Fund, and the motion was rescinded.

ADJOURNMENT

The City Council adjourned at 11:07 p.m. to the regular meeting of Monday, March 15, 2021, to be broadcasted at 6:30 p.m. from the City Hall Council Chamber.

Minutes approved by City Council: March 15, 2021



Steven A. Gama, Mayor



Kristy Buxkemper, City Clerk