



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 2, 2023  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 735 ANACAPA STREET**

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## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Randy Rowse called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. (The Finance Committee met at 12:00 p.m. The Ordinance Committee, which ordinarily meets at 12:00 p.m., did not meet this day.)

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Rowse.

## **ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers present: Eric Friedman, Alejandra Gutierrez, Oscar Gutierrez, Meagan Harmon, Mike Jordan, Kristen W. Sneddon, Mayor Randy Rowse.

Councilmembers absent: None.

Staff present: City Administrator Rebecca Bjork, City Attorney Sarah Knecht, City Clerk Services Manager Sarah Gorman.

## **CEREMONIAL ITEMS**

### **1. Subject: Fair Housing Month 2023 (120.04)**

Action: Proclamation presented by Mayor Rowse and received by Rental Housing Mediation Supervisor Andrea Bifano.

### **2. Subject: Employee Recognition – Service Award Pins (120.04)**

Recommendation: That Council authorize the City Administrator to express the City's appreciation to employees who are eligible to receive service award pins for their years of service through May 31, 2023.

Action: City Administrator Bjork read the names of employees who received service award pins for their years of service.

## CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

## CONSENT CALENDAR (Item Nos. 3 – 5, 7).

The titles of the Ordinances and Resolutions were read.

Motion:

Councilmembers Friedman/Sneddon to approve Consent Calendar items 3-5, and 7 as recommended.

Vote:

Unanimous roll call vote.

### 3. **Subject: Minutes**

Recommendation: That Council waive reading and approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 28, 2023; March 21, 2023; and the special meetings of March 9, 2023; April 10, 2023; April 18, 2023.

Action: Approved the recommendation.

### 4. **Subject: Loan Forgiveness for Transition House Homeless Families Shelter Located at 434 East Ortega Street [Ordinance Introduction; Resolution] (660.04)**

Recommendation: That Council:

- A. Approve a request from Transition House, a California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation, for loan forgiveness on property located at 434 East Ortega Street, which is operating as a family homeless shelter;
- B. Introduce and subsequently adopt, by reading of title only, an Ordinance of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Approving a Second Amendment to the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions Imposed on Real Property Located at 434 East Ortega Street to Restart a New 90-Year Term of Use as a Homeless Families Shelter;
- C. Adopt, by reading of title only, a Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Amending Resolution No. 22-059, Adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2023, to Approve an Increase in Fiscal Year 2023 Expenditure Appropriations in the Affordable Housing Fund in the amount of \$460,000 to Record Forgiveness of Loans Receivable; and

- D. Authorize the Community Development Director to execute such documents as necessary to effectuate Amended Covenant and loan forgiveness, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.

Action: Approved the recommendations; Proposed Ordinance; Resolution No. 23-052; (May 2, 2023 Council Agenda Report and any attachments).

**5. Subject: Set a Date for Public Hearing Regarding Renewal of Levy for Fiscal Year 2024 for the Wildland Fire Suppression Assessment District [Resolution] (520.03)**

Recommendation: That Council adopt, by reading of title only, a Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Declaring its Intention to Continue the Wildland Fire Suppression Assessment within the Foothill and Extreme Foothill Zones; Declaring the Work to be of More Than General or Ordinary Benefit and Describing the District to be Assessed to Pay the Costs and Expenses Thereof; Preliminarily Approving the Updated Engineer's Report; Stating Intention to Continue Assessments for Fiscal Year 2024 and Establishing a Time of 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday June 6, 2023, in the City Council Chambers for a Public Hearing on the Wildland Fire Suppression Assessment.

Action: Approved the recommendation; Resolution No. 23-053; (May 2, 2023 Council Agenda Report and any attachments).

**7. Subject: Adoption of Program Year 2023–2024 Annual Action Plan for Submittal to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) (660.01)**

Recommendation: That Council:

- A. Adopt the City's Annual Action Plan for Program Year 2023–2024 for submittal to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and
- B. Authorize the City Administrator to sign all necessary documents to submit the City's Annual Action Plan to HUD.

Action: Approved the recommendations; (May 2, 2023 Council Agenda Report and any attachments).

This concluded the Consent Calendar.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Members of the Public: John Blankenship; Howard Green; Eplanet Thunderstriker; Aron Ashland.

## **PULLED CONSENT ITEMS**

### **6. Subject: Authorization to Amend the Legal Services with Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC for Special Counsel Services [Agreement] (160.03)**

Recommendation: That Council authorize the City Attorney to execute an amended legal services agreement with Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC, to increase the not-to-exceed amount from \$250,000 to \$750,000 for special counsel services related to the P. Boring, et al. v. Cathy Murillo, et al. case.

Documents:

- May 2, 2023 Council Agenda Report and any attachments.

Motion:

Councilmembers Friedman/Sneddon to approve the recommended action.

Vote:

Unanimous roll call vote.

## **REPORT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Finance Committee Chair Friedman reported that the Committee considered the recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2024 on proposed changes to the General Fund fees and staff's proposed Cost Recovery and Revenue Policy.

## **COUNCILMEMBER COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REPORTS**

Councilmember Friedman reported on their attendance at the following events or made the following comments: 1. State of the Zoo; 2. Library Reading Ambassadors program; 3. League of Cities Channel Cities meeting; 4. Earth Day office hours.

Councilmember O. Gutierrez reported on their attendance at the following events or made the following comments: 1. State Street interim operations subcommittee with Councilmembers Jordan and Sneddon; 2. Earth Day Festival; 3. UCSB Alumni program.

Councilmember Sneddon reported on their attendance at the following events or made the following comments: 1. State Street Interim Operations meeting; 2. Joint Housing Meeting with County; 3. Earth Day office hours.

## **CITY COUNCIL ADMINISTRATIVE AND ATTORNEY REPORTS**

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

**8. Subject: OIR Group Audit of Santa Barbara Police Department Policies, Procedures, and Practices (520.01)**

Recommendation: That Council receive a presentation on the findings and recommendations from the OIR Group Audit of Santa Barbara Police Department Policies, Procedures and Practices.

Documents:

- May 2, 2023 Council Agenda Report and any attachment(s)
- PowerPoint presentation prepared and made by staff.

Speakers:

- Staff: Senior Assistant to the City Administrator Barbara Andersen; Police Chief Kelly Gordon.
- Members of the Public: Eplanet Thunderstriker; Lizzie Rodriguez.

Discussion:

- Councilmembers' questions were answered.

SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE

**9. Subject: Extension of Bicycle Share Pilot Program (530.04)**

Recommendation: That Council:

- A. Receive an update on the Bicycle Share Pilot Program; and
- B. Approve a three-year extension of the Bicycle Share Pilot Program.

Documents:

- May 2, 2023 Council Agenda Report and any attachment(s)
- PowerPoint presentation prepared and made by staff.

Speakers:

- Staff: Mobility Coordinator Sam Furtner; Supervising Transportation Planner Jessica Grant.
- Members of the Public: Larry Bickford; Anna Marie Gott, Heather Deutsch.

Discussion:

- Councilmembers' questions were answered.

Motion:

Councilmembers Sneddon/Jordan to approve the recommended action.

Vote:

Unanimous roll call vote.

## **COUNCIL AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

### **COUNCILMEMBER ENGAGEMENTS**

Councilmember O. Gutierrez reported on their attendance at the following events or made the following comments: 1. Earth Day celebrations; 2. Ribbon cutting for piñata business at Casa de la Raza; 3. Latino Business Awards kick-off.

Councilmember Sneddon reported on their attendance at the following events or made the following comments: 1. VADA art reception; 2. Earth Day Festival.

Mayor Rowse reported on their attendance at the following events or made the following comments: 1. Riviera Ridge third grade field trip to Council Chambers; 2. PAL event; 3. Attendance at Anaheim event.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT (IF NECESSARY)**

### **CLOSED SESSIONS**

**10. Subject: Conference with City Attorney – Existing Litigation – Gov. Code §54956.9(d)(1) (160.03)**

Recommendation: That Council hold a closed session to consider pending litigation pursuant to subsection (d)(1) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code and take appropriate action as needed.

The pending litigation is City of Santa Barbara v. Cynthia Dee Howard, et al. SBSC Case No. 22CV02058.

Scheduling: Duration 15 mins; anytime

Report: None anticipated

Document:

- May 2, 2023, report from the City Attorney.

Time:

- 4:12 p.m. – 4:18 p.m.

No report made.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Rowse adjourned the meeting at 4:18 p.m.

Approved and adopted by the City Council of the City of Santa Barbara on May 23, 2023.

SANTA BARBARA CITY COUNCIL

SANTA BARBARA  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RANDY ROWSE  
MAYOR

ATTEST:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
SARAH GORMAN  
CITY CLERK SERVICES MANAGER

