

Minutes

City of Soledad Joint
City Council/Successor Agency
Regular Meeting

November 04, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ledesma called the City Council/Successor Agency Meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Following Councilmembers/Agencymembers were present when the meeting was called to order:

Mayor/Chair	Fred Ledesma
Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chair	Alejandro Chavez
Councilmember/Agencymember	Carla Strobridge Stewart
Councilmember/Agencymember	Marisela Lara
Councilmember/Agencymember	Anna Velazquez

THE FOLLOWING COUNCILMEMBER WAS ABSENT

- None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

- None

MEETING RECESS FOR CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Ledesma recessed to Closed Session at 5:34 p.m.

MEETING RECONVENED

Mayor Ledesma reconvened from Closed Session at approximately 6:12 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

1. The City Council will recess to closed session to meet with its designated representative, the Interim City Manager, regarding labor relations matters pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6. The Employee Organizations are SEIU General, SEIU Mid-Management, SPOA and all unrepresented employees.
2. The City Council will recess to closed session pursuant to Government Code 54956.8 to give instructions to the City's real property negotiator (City Manager) concerning sale/exchange/lease of property located at 31500 San Vicente Road, City of Soledad, APN: 257-081-022. Instructions will include price, terms of payment and other relevant conditions.

CLOSED SESSION REPORTS

1. City Attorney Michael Rodriguez reported with respect to item no. 1, direction was provided to the City's designated representative, the Interim City Manager. No other reportable action was taken.
2. With respect to item no. 2, the council conferred with legal counsel on the property transaction. No other reportable action taken.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Damon Wasson

ADDITIONS/MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

- None

PUBLIC COMMENT

City of Soledad Resident Diego Tinajero asked if there was an update for the residents of Rancho San Vicente regarding the City finding the promissory notes so that the people that own their homes in Rancho San Vicente can make changes to the titles of their homes.

- Attorney Mike Rodriguez said the City is continuing to work on the Issue with CHISPA. There may be a need for the issue to be brought back to the council so they can consider new provisions and modifications to the amendment and resale restriction agreement. All of that will be to circumvent the need to have the original promissory notes. The City has run into too many problems with the issue of not having all the original notes. The City is working on a way to get around not having those to modify the term of the resale restrictions. The issue can probably be brought back to council in December.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Ledesma congratulated Councilmember Strobridge Stewart for continuing as a councilmember and Councilmember Jimenez for successfully because a councilmember. He also congratulated Councilmember Velazquez on winning her campaign and becoming the new Mayor of the City of Soledad.

COUNCILMEMBER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS

Councilmember Velazquez reported 1 item:

1. She attended an MST meeting. MST has received \$8.45 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation for the South County Operations facility. The facility is now expected to be completed by the fall of 2021.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez reported 2 items:

1. On 10/28 he attended the TAMC meeting.
2. He also attended the TAMC Rail Policy meeting on 11/02.

Councilmember Strobridge Stewart reported 3 items:

1. On 10/31 she participated in the community Spookfest.
2. She thanked the Maria and Frank from F&M for organizing the community event. She also thanked the Soledad Youth Council and Soledad Police Department for also helping and participating.
3. On 10/26 SnipBus was here in Soledad. SnipBus will be back on 11/16 and a vaccination clinic on 11/21.

Councilmember Lara reported 1 item:

1. On 10/31 she attended the community Spookfest on 10/31. She also thanked Maria and Frank from F&M for organizing the event.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Interim City Manager Slama presented oral highlights of his written report.

1. The City took possession of the Visitor's Center building.
2. He thanked the community for their support of Measure S.

YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT

Soledad Youth Commissioners Amber Solorio and Marcela Perez gave a brief verbal update.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Soledad Police Chief Damon Wasson gave a brief verbal presentation of the City of Soledad Military Banner Program. On 11/11 there will be a ceremony held on Front Street at the Visitors Center. The event will be Covid-19 compliant with masks and social distancing followed.

2. Spay and Neuter Imperative Project Director Melanie Scherer gave a brief verbal presentation of an animal breeding ordinance that she believes would benefit the City of Soledad.
3. 3CE Analyst Program Administration staff Lena Williams gave a PowerPoint presentation of the annual member agency update.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Councilmember Velazquez made motion to approve items C-1 through C-5. Motion was seconded by Mayor Ledesma and carried by Unanimous vote:

Action:

Ayes: Velazquez, Ledesma, Strobridge Stewart, Lara, and Chavez
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

C-1. Approval of Minutes

- a. Joint City Council/Successor Agency Regular Meeting Minutes of October 21, 2020.

C-2. Warrants

042390 – 042500

C-3. Resolution No. 5650, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Approving Amendment #1 to the Measure X Master Programs Funding Agreement Between the Transportation Agency for Monterey County and the City of Soledad.

C-4. Resolution No. 5651, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Declaring Surplus Equipment and Authorizing the Sale, Donation or Disposal of Such Property.

C-5. City of Soledad Monthly Department Activity Reports.

PUBLIC HEARING NO. PH-1

- None

BUSINESS

B-1. Design Review Update for Orchard Lane Park Project

Interim City Manager Slama presented the staff report.

BFS Landscape Architects Ran Ran and Beth Matz gave a presentation of the design review update.

Councilmember Velazquez asked if BFS and Soledad are still partnering with the individuals that constructed Tatum's Garden. Also, she recommends we prioritize that the artwork be done by local artist, even though the RFP is going out to Monterey County, please add language so the local artist are prioritized.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez said the designs that he seen in the presentation do not look all-inclusive; he wants to make sure the playground equipment will be inclusive. Regarding the playground, the prehistoric look and the modern look does not seem like they mesh well and he would like the look of the park to go together well.

BFS Landscape Architect Beth Matz said the Tatum's Garden creators are not formally apart of the design team, but they are a great resource. The next step would be to reach out to the Tatum's Garden team and ask them for their input of the park to ensure that everything is as it should be.

Mayor Pro Tem Chavez asked in terms of the landscape that will be in the park; will any of the landscape have a tie-in to the Pinnacles National Park and plant life that grows locally to our area.

Ms. Matz said BFS will look into what local plant life can be included.

Councilmember Strobridge Stewart asked if there is a possibility to look for artists among the local high school teens. She would also like to know how long the synthetic turf lasts.

Ms. Matz said the turf lasts up to 25 years.

Councilmember Velazquez said she thought the consulting with the team from Tatum's Garden was already happening.

Ms. Matz said the consulting with the Tatum's Garden team is happening still early in the process of designing the park. She asked that the City Manager explain further about the relationship between the City and the Tatum's Garden Team.

Interim City Manager Slama said that the City does value the relationship with the Tatum's Garden Team. The City has been allowing BFS, Hartnell and other providers to figure out where every element will go. Now that there is a clearer idea, each element can be looked at in detail and there can be discussion with the Tatum's Garden team.

Councilmember Strobridge Stewart asked if the dog park is one large area or will it be split between large and small dogs. Also, will there be liability signage and surveillance cameras. She does think that every part of the dog park should have cameras because of liability purposes.

Ms. Matz said the parks will be split between large and small dogs. From her understanding there will be camera coverage over every part of the park.

Soledad Youth Commissioner Solorio asked if there would be an amphitheater located in the park as well?

Ms. Matz said there will be an amphitheater.

Soledad Youth Commissioner Perez ask if there was anyway Wi-Fi could also be included into the park.

Ms. Matz said the park will have Wi-Fi.

Motion:

No Action taken for this item

Information was received and direction was given.

B-2. Consideration of the Status of City Parks and Playgrounds

Interim City Manager Slama presented the staff report. Public Works Director Oscar Antillon was also available to answer questions.

Councilmember Velazquez said she is concerned about the sanitation of the parks. She knows the City does not have the staff to be able to sanitize throughout the day but is there a way to contract these types of services.

Public Works Director Oscar Antillon said he can look into contracting the services.

Councilmember Strobridge Stewart asked if the City could get handwashing stations at the park and throughout the City.

Interim City Manager Slama said that he will look into getting handwashing stations.

Councilmember Velazquez asked if C.A.R.E.S. Act money can be used towards things like the handwashing stations.

Interim City Manager Slama said he will certainly explore what money will be used towards putting up signage and moving ahead with handwashing stations and the sanitation of the parks as we move forward with opening the parks.

Motion:

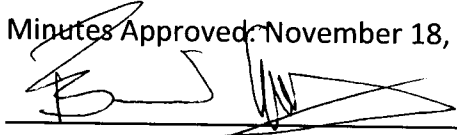
No Action taken for this item

Direction was given and Information was received

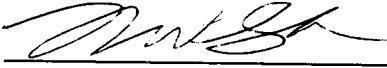
ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Ledesma adjourned the Regular meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Minutes Approved: November 18, 2020



FRED J. LEDESMA, Mayor/Chairman



BRENT SLAMA, Interim City Clerk/Agency Secretary

