

MINUTES

City of Guadalupe
Regular Meeting of the Guadalupe City Council
Tuesday, November 23, 2021, at 6:00 pm
City Hall, 918 Obispo Street, Council Chambers

1. ROLL CALL:

Council Member Liliana Cardenas
Council Member Gilbert Robles
Council Member Eugene Costa Jr.
Mayor Pro Tempore Tony Ramirez
Mayor Ariston Julian

All members were present.

2. MOMENT OF SILENCE

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. AGENDA REVIEW

At this time the City Council will review the order of business to be conducted and receive requests for, or make announcements regarding, any change(s) in the order of business.

5. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION FORUM

Each person will be limited to a discussion of three (3) minutes or as directed by the Mayor. Pursuant to provisions of the Brown Act, no action may be taken on these matters unless they are listed on the agenda, or unless certain emergency or special circumstances exist. City Council may direct staff to investigate and/or schedule certain matters for consideration at a future City Council meeting.

Ms. Jennie Mello commented on the city's lack of interest in supporting this Christian community spirit of Christmas and feels citywide Christmas decorations are needed throughout this community. Mayor Julian indicated that this was something done in the past where non-profit groups picked a point person to spearhead this endeavor.

Also, Ms. Mello asked what the City is going to do with the ugly Squire Foundation Sculptures. Staff stated that Los de Guadalupe has set up a process to auction the sculptures off and donate the proceeds to a non-profit. City Administrator Bodem will follow up on its status.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

The following items are presented for City Council approval without discussion as a single agenda items in order to expedite the meeting. Should a Council Member wish to discuss or disapprove an item, it must be dropped from the blanket motion of approval and considered as a separate item.

- A. Waive the reading in full of all Ordinances and Resolutions. Ordinances on the Consent Calendar will be adopted by the same vote cast as the first meeting, unless City Council indicates otherwise.
- B. Approve payment of warrants for the period ending November 18, 2021.
- C. Approve the Minutes of the City Council special meeting of November 2, 2021, to be ordered filed.
- D. Approve the Minutes of the City Council regular meeting of November 9, 2021, to be ordered filed.
- E. Accept the October 2021 Financial Report.

F. MONTHLY REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS

- 1. Public Safety Department:
 - a. Police Department report for October 2021
 - b. Fire Department report for October 2021
 - c. Code Compliance report for October 2021
- 2. City Treasurer's report for October 2021
- 3. Human Resources report for October 2021

A Motion was made by Councilmember Liliana Cardenas, Seconded by Councilmember Eugene Cost Jr. to approve the Consent calendar, absent Item #F3 that was pulled for discussion and consideration. All Ayes.

Motion passed 5/0

Item F.3 (Human Resources Report) was pulled for discussion. Mayor Julian asked what is the policy on masks and school sporting activities, who monitors to insure compliance? Julian highlighted SPCAG's COVID process and procedures. Staff indicated that they would get back to Council on its current process concerning masks for which facility mask policy was approved by the Recreation and Parks Commission.

Mayor Julian also provided a brief update on the status of the Recreation Services Manager by stating an interview panel group was assembled to include Councilmember Robles, Recreation & Parks Commission Emily Dreiling, Community Representative Alma Hernandez, and Santa Maria Recreation Director Dennis Smitherman. Julian said it is difficult finding applicants and the panel was supposed to interview four (4) applicants; only two (2) applicants showed up. The Mayor and staff offered the finalist a chance to bring his family to Guadalupe to tour our facilities and get to know the Mayor and city staff on December 4, 5, 6.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Tony Ramirez, Seconded by Councilmember Liliana Cardenas to approve Item #F3. All Ayes.

Motion passed 5/0

7. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: (Information Only)

City Administrator Bodem said the State Resources Commission of the Department of Parks and Recreation Office of Historic Preservation; at its next meeting intends to consider and act on the nomination of the Royal Theater to the National Register of Historic Places. The Commission's next meeting is Friday, January 21, 2022. Bodem said he'd draft a letter of support from the City showing our support of this nomination to help bolster its approval.

8. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT: (Information Only)

Public Safety Director Michael Cash reported about a traffic and safety concern discussed at the Joint City/School meeting on November 17, 2021. On December 1, a group of school and city stakeholders/staff are meeting to talk about a school crossing and traffic management plan.

9. MAYOR'S REPORT- UPDATES:

Mayor Julian directed the City Council, Staff, and Public to the Mayors report but wanted to add to it and asked City Administrator Bodem to provide an update on the cannabis process and timeline. Bodem said that the City received five (5) commercial cannabis retail applications and that they all received zoning verifications letters. Next step is to have HdL Companies review the applications for completeness. This review has started, and those incomplete applicants will receive a letter going out on November 29, 2021, for which they will have five (5) days to cure. Afterwards, HdL Companies will assist with in the supplemental background checks of owners, principals, managers, and employees associated with cannabis business applications. Then the Planning Department will commence with the Conditional Use Process, that will take about 2-3 months. Lastly, the applicants will work on tenant improvements to remodel the buildings they secured for their retail location that meet the requirements of a favorable cannabis retail storefront. Bodem said it is possible that we may see some doors opening late spring to summer.

Mayor Julian made mention about the Jack O'Connell Playground equipment by which the Public Works Director Shannon Sweeney said there are eight (8) proposers who can showcase their designs. Julian also talked about the tree trimming at Jack O'Connell, horseshoe fencing, etc.

REGULAR BUSINESS

10. Broadband Strategic Plan.

Ms. Marjie Kirn, Executive Director from the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments, provided a brief introduction and overview of the need for a regional broadband strategic plan for Santa Barbara County and specifically for Guadalupe. Ms. Kirn then gave the microphone to Dr. Bill

Simmons, Director, Broadband Consortium Pacific Coast. Dr. Simmons mentioned there was \$6.5 Billion of Broadband monies and other funding that became available where a need was discovered during the Pandemic that shined a light on the need for demand from residential users, not just for businesses and economic development expansion. Originally, it was the Chumash Native Americans who provided an investment of \$50,000 that was a catalyst for them to apply for broadband grant funding in the millions to bring communities together to work on middle to long mile broadband research.

Ms. Kirn said that seven (7) of the eight (8) agencies in the county agreed to participate in a regional broadband strategic planning process and seek financial contribution to that effort. The County of Santa Barbara committed \$200,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. The SBCAG Board of Directors proposed dividing the remaining cost among the eight cities based on the 2021 Department of Finance (DOF) Population Estimate to the cities' population of 307,821 of which the City of Guadalupe is 8,346 or 2.71% of the total population. The City of Guadalupe is being requested to support the regional broadband strategic plan with a financial contribution of \$5,422.63 from its ARPA funds in partnership with SBCAG, the County of Santa Barbara and participating cities in the region. The total estimated cost for this effort is \$400,000, which includes \$300,000 of direct costs with the Broadband Consortium Pacific Coast to develop the strategic plan. The strategic plan is anticipated to be completed in six to nine months and is estimated to begin in early 2022.

Mayor Julian said there is a lot of passion regarding this subject heard about it at SBCAG and appreciate them bringing this back to the City Council for consideration and support of this initiative.

Councilmember Liliana Cardenas asked if this is supporting a private company and is a broadband stakeholders group a part of this process? Dr. Simmons said that this project will 'open the door' for healthy competition between private companies plus allowing local government to play a role; there is a stakeholders group for which the City is 'at the table.'

City Administrator Bodem asked, "what if an agency does not decide to participate financially?" Ms. Kirn replied, this is a voluntary financial request, and the agency would still be a part of the initiative, even if it did not contribute.

A motion was made by Councilmember Eugene Costa Jr., Seconded by Councilmember Tony Ramirez to approve and authorize the Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG), County of Santa Barbara, and the cities of Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, Lompoc, Goleta, Carpinteria, Guadalupe, Solvang, and Buellton to prepare a regional broadband strategic plan and financially contribute \$5,422.63 toward this effort from a portion of the City's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

All Ayes, motion passed 5/0

PUBLIC HEARING

11. Crandall 12th Street Apartments – Design Review Permit (2021-049-DR).

The City Council received a presentation from Contract City Planner Mr. Bill Scott on Mr. Treavor Crandall application who is requesting a Design Review Permit 2021-048-DR to all the development of the 12th Street

Crandall Apartments. This project consists of a two-building 6-unit apartment complex on a 0.34 -acre property in the R-3 (High Density residential) zoning district. The property is located on the northerly corner of Twelfth Street and Olivera Street.

Mr. Scott mentioned that he has a modification to the conditions of approval #47 where he would like to add, "Prior to approval of a Zoning Clearance, the applicant shall work with Planning staff to modify the site plan and landscape plan to provide usable flat surfaces to accommodate additional outdoor seating, seasonal decorations, plotted plants and children's play space."

The Public Hearing opened at 6:53 p.m.

Ms. Jennie Mello expressed her opposition to the project. She also asked what the construction timeframe is. The owner, Mr. Crandall, said it would take about 9 to 12 months to construct.

Mayor Julian stated that he thought it was a good project. Julian also asked Mr. Crandall if there is going to be a fence installed between his property and the neighbor. Mr. Crandall stated that there will be a fence, but he does not plan on blocking access for others to enter his neighbor's property. Both parties are working in harmony.

The Public Hearing closed at 6:57 p.m.

A Motion was made by Councilmember Eugene Costa Jr., Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Tony Ramirez to approve Resolution No. 2021-88 for the major Design Review Permit 2021-049-DR, for the Crandall 12th Street apartment project adding the modification changes to the conditions of approval #47 mentioned above. All ayes.

Motion passed 5/0

12. Edwards Olivera Street Apartments – Design Review Permit (2021-078-DR).

The City Council received a presentation from Contract City Planner Mr. Bill Scott for the Edwards Olivera Apartments (applicants Mr. and Mrs. Todd and Keri Edwards, project developers); a 5-unit multi-family development on a 7,500 square-foot lot property in the R-3 (High Density) residential zoning district. The project site is located on the southeast side of Olivera Street, 150 feet south of Twelfth Street.

Mr. Scott mentioned that he has a modification to the conditions of approval #29 where he would like to add, "The upgrade of the public sewer main may be completed in partnership with other developments that have been similarly conditioned to update the same segment of sewer main on Olivera."

The Public Hearing opened at 7:08

There was no public comment.

The Public Hearing Closed at 7:09 p.m.

A Motion was made by Councilmember Eugene Costa Jr., Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Tony Ramirez to approve Resolution No. 2021-89 for the Design Review Permit 2021-078-DR, for the Edwards Olivera

Street 5-unit multi-family complex adding the modification changes to the conditions of approval #29 mentioned above. All ayes.

Motion passed 5/0

13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Pro-Tem Tony Ramirez asked to add the topic of rent control to a future agenda. He feels that rents are getting out of control, and it is getting too expensive to live in Guadalupe. It takes several families to live in one building to pay their rents.

Councilmember Liliana Cardenas requested that a document be drafted recognizing the good work "Touch of Styles" is doing for the Toys-for-Tots. It was mentioned bringing this group to a future City Council meeting to recognize their good deeds.

Cardenas also would like to show recognition to a youth group who is on a TV talent show. Councilmember Ramirez and Costa Jr. gave a 'shout out' to the public to cast your vote for these talented teenagers.

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS – COUNCIL ACTIVITY/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Julian mentioned a group called, "Restorative Partners" who will be meeting City representatives on December 2, 2021 at 5 p.m. to hear about Restorative Partners' desire to construct a new or to remodel a building in Guadalupe to support woman and children in need. Mayor Pro-Tem Ramirez, Mayor Julian, City Administrator, and the Police Chief will be a part of the meeting.

Chief Cash said he received a call from this group, and they indicated that there was an anonymous doner who gave monies to Restorative Partners for them to develop a plan to provide a safe building and respite for woman and children in abused situations.

Mayor Julian also stated that he attended the North County Jail Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on November 18, 2021 to recognize this impressive facility.

The Mayor also talked about his Cal Vans Board meeting; heard about a briefing on a law suit within Cal Vans.

The Mayor thanked the McKenzie Leo's Club for their food donation and asked the City Council members to sign a 'thank you' letter to be sent to them.

The Mayor reminded everyone about the next food bank distribution on December 2, 2021.

Councilmember Eugene Costa Jr. wanted to thank Kevin Sweeney for his efforts working to design and install a fence around the Horseshoe pit at Jack O'Connell Park. According to Public Works Director, Shannon Sweeney, this was a group effort and wanted to thank her staff, three other eagle scouts, Councilmember Cost Jr., and "Hardscapes" for this collaboration. Costa Jr. now feels the fence will provide safety to the citizens who watch and play horseshoes.

Costa Jr. also wanted everyone to show support for the Righetti Highschool football team who are in the playoffs and keep winning.

Councilmember Gilbert Robles mentioned that a historical book has been written by a Santa Maria man named, Mark Velasquez. The book is about the "Masatani family" and their market which started about 100 years ago. There are about 100 copies printed.

Mayor Pro-Tem Tony Ramirez mentioned that he has been attending several redistricting meetings. The Commission has narrowed down the focus maps to three (3). If anyone would like to attend the next meeting on December 1, 2021, it will be held in Santa Maria.

15. ADJOURNMENT

A Motion was made by Councilmember Eugene Cost Jr., seconded by Councilmember Tony Ramirez to adjourn. 5/0 Passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Prepared by:

Approved by:



Todd Bodem, Deputy City Clerk



Ariston Julian, Mayor