



GRASS VALLEY

City Council Regular Meeting, Capital Improvements Authority and Redevelopment "Successor Agency"

Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Council Chambers, Grass Valley City Hall | 125 East Main Street, Grass Valley, California

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MINUTES

Mayor Jan Arbuckle, Vice Mayor Hilary Hodge, Councilmember Bob Branstrom,
Councilmember Haven Caravelli, Councilmember Tom Ivy

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:04PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of allegiance led by Mayor Arbuckle.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Councilmember Bob Branstrom

Councilmember Haven Caravelli

Councilmember Tom Ivy

Vice Mayor Hilary Hodge

Mayor Jan Arbuckle

AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion to approve the agenda as submitted made by Councilmember Branstrom, Seconded by Vice Mayor Hodge.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Branstrom, Councilmember Caravelli, Councilmember Ivy, Vice Mayor Hodge, Mayor Arbuckle

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

No reportable action on items one and two. Item three was pulled and not considered.

INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robin Galvin-Davies, Karen, Matthew Coulter.

CONSENT ITEMS

Clerical change to item 7.

Motion made to approve the consent as submitted by Vice Mayor Hodge, Seconded by Councilmember Branstrom.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Branstrom, Councilmember Caravelli, Councilmember Ivy, Vice Mayor Hodge, Mayor Arbuckle

1. Approval of the Special Meeting Minutes of September 6, 2023.

Recommendation: Council approve minutes as submitted.

2. Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2023.

Recommendation: Council approve minutes as submitted.

3. Approval of the Special Meeting Minutes of October 3, 2023.

Recommendation: Council approve minutes as submitted.

4. Local Emergency Proclamation (Winter Storm of February 2023)

CEQA: Not a project

Recommendation: To continue the Winter Storm February 24th, 2023 to March 1st, 2023 proclamation declaring a Local State of Emergency

5. Local Emergency Proclamation (Drought Conditions)

CEQA: Not a Project.

Recommendation: Drought Conditions proclamation declaring a Local State of Emergency

6. Resolution to apply for CalRecycle grants including SB 1383 Local Assistance Grant Program

CEQA: Not a Project

Recommendation: Adopt resolution No. 2023-60, which includes the following action: 1) Authorizes the City Manager to submit a SB 1383 Local Assistance Grant Program application and conduct all negotiations, sign and submit all documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, and payment request, which may be necessary for the completion of the Grant Scope.

7. Grass Valley Management & Supervisory Professional & Confidential Employees - Unit 1 - Memorandum of Understanding for July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

CEQA: Not a project

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution No. 2022-61 approving the Labor Memorandum of Understanding for a one-year period beginning July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, between the City of Grass Valley and the Grass Valley Management / Supervisory Professional & Confidential Employees Group (Unit 1).

8. Approval of Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) and Executive Contract Appendix

CEQA: Not a project

Recommendation: That Council 1) approve the a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment for all Executive Contract Employees, an option to pay into State Disability Insurance (SDI), and an adjustment to the Police Chief, Fire Chief, Deputy Administrative Services Director and Deputy Police Chief Salary range; 2) review the proposed Amendment to

the Employment Agreements (including Appendix A) with Department Directors, City Clerk, and Deputy Directors; 3) authorize the City Manager to execute the agreements subject to legal review; 4) authorize the Finance Director or the City Manager's designee to make any necessary budget adjustments and/or amendments to complete this action.

9. 2018 Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Project - Final Acceptance

CEQA: N/A - Project is Complete

Recommendation Motion: That Council 1) accept the 2018 Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Project as complete, 2) authorize the City Engineer to process final payment to the contractor, and 3) Authorize the City Engineer to file a Notice of Completion with the County Recorder.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION OR SEPARATE ACTION AND / OR ANY ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

REORGANIZATION RELATED ITEMS

PUBLIC HEARING

ADMINISTRATIVE

10. Public Works Department Restructuring

CEQA: Not a Project

Recommendation: That Council 1) approve the proposed reorganization of the Public Works Department; and 2) approve the job descriptions and associated salary schedules for the Utilities Superintendent and Treatment Plant Superintendent.

Utilities Director, Trever Van Noort, gave presentation to Council.

Council asked about the necessity of an additional supervisor and asked if this position would help with employee safety.

Public Comment: Matthew Coulter.

Motion made to approve the proposed reorganization of the Public Works Department and approve the job descriptions and associated salary schedules for the Utilities Superintendent and Treatment Plant Superintendent. by Vice Mayor Hodge, Seconded by Councilmember Branstrom.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Branstrom, Councilmember Caravelli, Councilmember Ivy, Vice Mayor Hodge, Mayor Arbuckle

11. A meeting to continue the discussion of Fire Resiliency and Vegetation Management and an acceptable level of risk relating to wildfires and extreme weather conditions.

CEQA: Not a Project.

Recommendation: That Council 1) receive additional information from staff relating to Fire Resiliency and Vegetation Management including responses to some of the questions raised to date; 2) present and receive Council input on the conceptual expenditure plans for a potential sale tax; 3) gain additional input from the Council and community on Fire and Vegetation Management and a potential tax; and 4) review a schedule of next steps with City Council.

City Manager, Tim Kiser, gave brief presentation to Council.

Councilmember Ivy asked to hear from arborists and the Fire Safe Council and stated he felt more comfortable with a November election. Mayor Arbuckle mentioned that Nevada City is putting a special fire tax on the March 2024 ballot and reiterated that if this tax was to be put on the November 2024 ballot, the tax would not go into effect until 2025, losing an entire fire season. Councilmember Hodge did not feel as though there was not enough community engagement or feedback to feel comfortable moving forward with the March 2024 election. Councilmember Caravelli would prefer the .38cent tax.

Public Comment: Robin Galvin-Davies, Karen, Matthew Coulter.

Council decided to move forward with the .38cent tax on the November 2024 ballot and asked Staff to create draft expenditure plans for the interim.

BRIEF REPORTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilmember Ivy attended the Pioneer Community Energy meeting and will be meeting with a Biomass facilities expert. Councilmember Branstrom attended the Food Bank ribbon cutting for their expansion, an ERC meeting, a Penn Valley/Nevada County Consolidated Fire meeting, Locals for Locals event, Sierra Stages "Drowning Girls", Nancy Palmer celebration of life and celebrated 10 years as a Grass Valley resident and his mothers 101st birthday. Councilmember Caravelli met with the Mayor of Nevada City, attended the 60/40 business mixer at Olive Groove, the Sierra Harvest luncheon, ERC Board meeting, and a wreath making class at Lola and Jack. Vice Mayor Hodge attended the Celtic festival, presented a program on Beethoven to 400 school aged children through a grant and Music in the Mountains. Mayor Arbuckle acknowledged breast cancer awareness month and the Pink Patch project. She attended the Food Bank ribbon cutting, Grass Valley Chamber and GVDA meeting, Fleetwood Mac cover band at the Center for the Arts, Swan Levine House plaque, Monday with the Mayor.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 8:27PM.

Jan Arbuckle, Mayor

Taylor Day, City Clerk

Adopted on: _____