



GRASS VALLEY

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

Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at 6:00 PM

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

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MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 6:03 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of allegiance led by Mayor Hodge.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Councilmember Jan Arbuckle

Councilmember Joe Bonomolo

Councilmember Tom Ivy

Mayor Hilary Hodge

ABSENT

Vice Mayor Haven Caravelli

AGENDA APPROVAL -

Motion to approve agenda as submitted by Councilmember Ivy, Seconded by Councilmember Arbuckle.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Arbuckle, Councilmember Bonomolo, Councilmember Ivy, Mayor Hodge

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

No closed session

INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENT -

Virtual public comment cards are attached.

In-person public comment: Speakers 1 to 6 (changes to speakers #7, 9, 10 were comments on the agenda).

CONSENT ITEMS -

Public comment: Ralph Silberstein, Don Raviens, Jonathan Keen, Barbra Raviens, Matthew Coulter

Motion to approve consent as submitted by Councilmember Arbuckle, Seconded by Councilmember Ivy.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Arbuckle, Councilmember Bonomolo, Councilmember Ivy, Mayor Hodge

1. Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2025

Recommendation: Council approve minutes as submitted.

2. Downtown Street Rehabilitation Project - Authorization to Bid

CEQA: Categorically Exempt - Section 15301 “Existing Facilities”

Recommendation: That Council 1) approve the findings that the project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and 2) authorize the advertisement for bids.

3. Magenta Drain Restoration Project - Professional Services Agreement

CEQA: Exempt - Not a Project

Recommendation Motion: That Council 1) authorize the City Engineer to execute a contract with Dudek, pending legal review, for design and environmental support services, in an amount not to exceed \$119, 708.30, for the Memorial Park Magenta Drain Restoration Project.

4. Loma Rica Open Space Fuels Reduction Project

CEQA: Exempt under CEQA Guideline §15304, Categorical Exemption Class 4 (“Minor Alterations to Land”)

Recommendation: That Council 1) find that the project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and 2) authorize the advertisement for bids for the fuel treatment prescription for the Loma Rica Open Space parcels acquired by the City of Grass Valley and other City owned properties adjacent to the Loma Rica Open Space Parcels.

5. Tablet Command Mobile Incident Command and Response Solution Purchase

CEQA: Not a project

Recommendation: That the Council 1) Approve the Fire Chief to enter into an agreement, subject to legal review, for purchase and integration of Tablet Command for the Fire Services in Nevada County; and 2) authorize the Fire Chief to enter into agreement, subject to legal review, with Peraton for integration into Computer Aided Dispatch System (CAD) and 3) Authorize the Finance Director to execute any necessary budget adjustments or fund transfers to facilitate this process.

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

REORGANIZATION RELATED ITEMS

PUBLIC HEARING

6. Second reading of an ordinance amending Chapter 5.56 of Title 5 of the Grass Valley Municipal Code regulating Tobacco Retailers and adoption of a resolution to set fees related to tobacco retailers.

CEQA: Not a project

Recommendation: That the Council: 1) Hold a second reading by Title Only and adopt Ordinance #833; and, 2) approve Resolution #2025-04 setting fees related to Tobacco Retailers.

Alex Gammelgard, Police Chief, gave the overview presentation to the council.

Public Comment: Matthew Coulter

Motion made to 1) Hold a second reading by Title Only and adopt Ordinance #833; and, 2) approve Resolution #2025-04 setting fees related to Tobacco Retailers by Councilmember Bonomolo, Seconded by Councilmember Arbuckle.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Arbuckle, Councilmember Bonomolo, Councilmember Ivy, Mayor Hodge

7. Introduction of an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Grass Valley amending subsection (C) and adding subsection (D)(7) to Section 17.44.140 of Chapter 17.44 of Title 17 of the Grass Valley Municipal Code to allow eligible mixed-use projects to include up to 10 dwelling units in the Town Core zone pursuant to Government Code Section 65913.5

CEQA: Not a project pursuant to Government Code section 65913.5(a)(3)

Recommendation: That City Council find the Ordinance is not a project for the purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to California Government Code section 65913.5(a)(3), and introduce the attached Ordinance No. 834, waive full reading, and read by Title Only, to amend subsection (c) and add subsection (d)(7) to section 17.44.140 of chapter 17.44 of title 17 of the Grass Valley Municipal Code to allow eligible mixed-use projects to include up to 10 dwelling units in the Town Core zone pursuant to Government Code Section 65913.5

Amy Wolfson, City Planner, gave the overview presentation of this ordinance to the City Council.

Public Comment: Sean Johnson, Unknown, Bob Branstrom, Robin Galvin-Davis, Sarah Meadows, Sherri Speights, Laura McClary, Craig Hamilton, Patrick Johnson, Matthew Coulter

Motion to find the Ordinance is not a project for the purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to California Government Code section 65913.5(a)(3), and introduce the attached Ordinance No. 834, waive full reading, and read by Title Only, to amend subsection (c) and add subsection (d)(7) to section 17.44.140 of chapter 17.44 of title 17 of the Grass Valley Municipal Code to allow eligible mixed-use projects to include up to 10 dwelling units in the Town Core zone pursuant to Government Code Section 65913.5 by Councilmember Arbuckle, Seconded by Councilmember Ivy.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Arbuckle, Councilmember Ivy, Mayor Hodge

Voting Nay: Councilmember Bonomolo

ADMINISTRATIVE

8. A Resolution of the City Council Calling for a Ceasefire and an End to Violence Between Palestine and Israel

CEQA: Not a project as defined by the Public Resources Code section 21065 and CEQA Guidelines section 15378.

Recommendation: That Council discuss and consider the adoption of Resolution 2025-03 Council calling for a ceasefire and an end to violence between Palestine and Israel.

Council discussed questions from each other amongst themselves of the resolution.

Public Comment: There were 35 in-person speakers (the sign-in sheet, which is attached, has 27 names ; there are 8 unnamed speakers). Virtual Public comments are attached.

Council discussed item.

Council member Arbuckle made a motion not to pass the resolution. This motion was not seconded.

Council continued discussion and requested that on the eighth whereas that "including our Arab, Jewish, and Muslim residents" be struck out.

Motion to adoption of Resolution 2025-03 Council calling for a ceasefire and an end to violence between Palestine and Israel, with the redline change to the 8th whereas by Councilmember Ivy, Seconded by Councilmember Bonomolo.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Bonomolo, Councilmember Ivy, Mayor Hodge

Voting Nay: Councilmember Arbuckle

9. Engineering Services - Authorization to Award Contract

CEQA: N/A - Consultant selection is a procedural action. CEQA review will be completed as part of the project work

Recommendation: That Council 1) authorize the City Engineer to execute a contract with GHD pending legal review, for Civil Engineering Design, Project Management and Environmental Services, in an amount not to exceed \$1,449,871.25 for the Downtown Grass Valley Roundabout Project

Bjorn Jones, City Engineer, gave the council an overview presentation of the item.

Public Comment: Sean Johnson, Patrick Johnson, Eden, Salem, Robin Galvin-Davis, Sarah & Virtual public Comments are attached.

Motion made to 1) authorize the City Engineer to execute a contract with GHD pending legal review, for Civil Engineering Design, Project Management and Environmental Services, in an amount not to exceed \$1,449,871.25 for the Downtown Grass Valley Roundabout Project by Councilmember Arbuckle, Seconded by Councilmember Bonomolo.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Arbuckle, Councilmember Bonomolo, Councilmember Ivy, Mayor Hodge

10. Potential Hazard Trees adjacent to Police Department and City Hall Parking Lot

CEQA: Not a Project

Recommendation: That the City Council approve the removal of three redwood trees near the Police Department and three deciduous trees adjacent to City Hall and the City Hall parking lot to mitigate structural and safety risks, ensure compliance with the City’s vegetation ordinance, and support best fire safety practices.

Tim Kiser, City Manager, gave the council an overview of the item.

Public Comment: Sean Johnson, Sherly, Patrick Johnson, Sarah, Robin Galvin-Davis, & Virtual Public comment attached.

Motion to approve the removal of three redwood trees near the Police Department and three deciduous trees adjacent to City Hall and the City Hall parking lot to mitigate structural and safety risks, ensure compliance with the City’s vegetation ordinance, and support best fire safety practices by Councilmember Arbuckle, Seconded by Councilmember Bonomolo.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Arbuckle, Councilmember Bonomolo, Councilmember Ivy, Mayor Hodge

BRIEF REPORTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilmember Bonomolo was sick. Councilmember Ivy had nothing to report. Councilmember Arbuckle attended a Fire wise and Fire Agency Meeting, YMCA youth in government meeting, League of California Cities Board meeting, a Wild Fire response League Committee meeting, WIMG meeting, and received a letter of support from Congressman Kiley for the BRIC Grant the City is applying for. Mayor Hodge attended the LAFCo meeting, a mixer at the Holbrook, and is now hosting Wednesdays with the Mayor from 9 to 11.

CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 11:04 PM

Hilary Hodge, Mayor

Taylor Whittingslow, City Clerk

Adopted on: _____