

**SONORA CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF SONORA  
June 3, 2019**

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Sonora was opened this date in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 94 North Washington Street, at 5:00 p.m. with the following Members present: Mayor Jim Garaventa, Councilmembers Matt Hawkins, Mark Plummer, Colette Such and Connie Williams; City Administrator Tim Miller, City Attorney Doug White, Administrative Services Director Chris Gorsky, Community Development Director Rachelle Kellogg, Fire Chief Aimee New and Police Chief Turu VanderWiel.

Following the Salute to the Flag the Mayor asked for a moment of silence for Angela Brown

**REPORT ON POSTING OF THE AGENDA**

City Administrator, Tim Miller, advised the Council that at 12:30 p.m. on the 31st day of May, 2019, the Agenda for the City of Sonora Council Meeting was posted outside City Hall for public view.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Councilmember Such** stated there needed to be more time to review the agenda packet. Two members of the public suggested the agenda be available sooner for the public and the newspaper. A member of the public noted the posting requirement is 72 hours and making agenda materials available in advance is not required.

**Motion by Councilmember Williams second by Councilmember Plummer, and carried on a vote of 4-1, with Councilmember Such dissenting, the agenda was approved as posted.**

**PRESENTATIONS**

A proclamation declaring June 15, 2019 as Elder Awareness Day was presented to **Ginger Martin** of the District Attorney's office. A member of the public encouraged the Council to attend the Elder empowerment conference and suggested the Council do more to address the senior's needs. **Ms. Martin** described the services her agency provides.

**Motion by Councilmember Such second by Councilmember Plummer, and carried on a unanimous vote of 5-0, the proclamation was approved as presented.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)**

A member of the public noted that another member of the community, John Rant had also passed away; that the Board of Supervisors will be recognizing Angela Brown at their meeting and the Mother Lode Fair will be holding a flash sale for fair tickets.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Motion by Councilmember Williams second by Councilmember Hawkins, unanimously carried on a vote of 5-0, approval of the Council Study Session minutes of May 6, 2019, previously budgeted expenses and payroll disbursements. There was no public comment.

Administrator Miller noted the minutes of the May 6, 2019 Open Session meeting would be brought back after correction.

Motion by Councilmember Plummer second by Councilmember Such, unanimously carried on a vote of 5-0, approval of the Council Open Session minutes of May 20, 2019, as corrected. There was no public comment.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Consideration to waive the second reading and adopt Ordinance No. 835 regarding defensible space

Chief New introduced the draft ordinance noting there were no changes from the last meeting. Councilmember Plummer thanked Chief New for her work. There was no public comment.

Motion by Councilmember Williams second by Councilmember Plummer, and unanimously carried on a vote of 5-0, to adopt the ordinance as presented.

2. Consideration to waive the second reading and adopt Ordinance No. 854 regarding property maintenance

Director Kellogg introduced the ordinance noting the two minor changes requested by the Council at the previous meeting. There was no public comment.

Motion by Councilmember Such second by Councilmember Williams, and unanimously approved on a vote of 5-0, to adopt the ordinance as presented.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Consideration to approve Resolution No. 06-03-2019-A regarding No Parking Zones for the Mother Lode Fair**

**Chief VanderWiel** reviewed the resolution and the need for the parking restrictions. **Councilmember Such** questioned who provided on site security. The Chief advised the fairgrounds is State property and security is provided by the CHP or a private company. There was no public comment.

**Motion by Councilmember Hawkins second by Councilmember Plummer, and unanimously carried on a vote of 5-0 to adopt the resolution as presented.**

**2. Consideration of design options for the pedestrian crosswalk at Green Street as part of the Stockton-Washington Transit Project**

**Director Kellogg** reviewed the status of the Stockton-Washington Transit project including a recent site visit by CalTrans and the pros and cons of the Hawk system and pedestrian refuge crosswalk alternatives. Prior to public comment, Council members had questions regarding light pole and island design, accident history, CalTrans responsibility and future liability and a crosswalk option without a median.

**Gerald Fuccillo** expressed concerns with turning movement conflicts, reduction in travel lanes, vehicle stacking and related safety concerns and asked the Council to reject the project. The Council discussed vehicle traffic on Green Street, which solution provided more pedestrian safety and the design of the pedestrian island. Administrator Miller advised the Council that this was a preliminary design to solicit Council direction with the details to be addressed if it was the preferred alternative.

**Dave Morgan** suggested the removal of the Stockton travel lane would impact turns onto Green Street that should be addressed before the crosswalk decision.

**Barbara Dressler** stated an objection to limiting discussion and relayed she was told there was only one accident at this location. Ms. Dressler supported Mr. Fuccillo's conclusion about safety and congestion concerns and questioned the need for a transit hub at this location since there is a stop at the Heritage Inn.

**Jeff Michaels**, owner of the Sonora Inn, expressed support for the crosswalk with the island to accommodate his customers that

cross Stockton Road and a need for a crosswalk on Green Street between the two hotel properties.

**Elena Linehan** stated there needs to be more notice to the public, that there are better places for tour buses and that the location could be moved further south and smaller buses should be considered.

**Laurie Lehman** reminded the Council of the prior decision to move the transit stops from Washington Street to Stockton Road and the vehicle and pedestrian conflicts on Washington Street.

**Jim Davis** expressed his concerns with reduced travel lanes, problems with vehicle stacking on Washington Street currently, loss of parking spaces, business closures and the overall design.

**Darin Grossi** discussed his transit user profile and their needs, that these transit stops would replace the Courthouse Park transit stop and the flexibility of CalTrans design requirements and context sensitive solutions. Mr. Grossi indicated that fewer lanes narrow the street and shorted the distance for the crossing making it safer for pedestrians and generally preferred the pedestrian refuge design. Mr. Grossi discussed ridership, bus sizes, routes and timeframes in response to questions from Councilmember Such.

**Administrator Miller** reviewed the options for the Council and prior Council direction noting work is proceeding to the 65% design and staff is soliciting direction on this particular issue. **Councilmember Williams** stated safety is a primary consideration, that there are historical impact concerns with the Hawk system and therefore supports the pedestrian refuge design. **Councilmember Plummer** expressed support for the pedestrian refuge and would have liked more information regarding vehicle stacking. **Councilmember Hawkins** recognized the need for a crosswalk in the area but did not support another traffic light and expressed his frustration with the process and could not support the project. **Councilmember Such** felt she was given two bad choices, that this a project that does not work, is not needed given the number of riders and has environmental consequences and she cannot support. **Mayor Garaventa** indicated he did not like the Hawk system but did prefer the pedestrian refuge alternative and the need for a crosswalk at this location. **Director Kellogg** responded to Council questions describing the type of pedestrian crossing signs that would be included in the design and an estimate of \$145,000 in design costs to date.

Motion by Councilmember Plummer second by Councilmember Hawkins, and carried on a vote of 3-2, with Councilmembers Hawkins and Such dissenting, to include the pedestrian refuge in lieu of the Hawk system for the crosswalk design.

### 3. Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2019/20 proposed budget

**Administrator Miller** provided an over view of the budget document. **Director Gorsky** introduced the proposed budget and reviewed the City's total revenue and expenditure estimates noting there were no personnel or service changes and that the general fund was balanced. The increased revenues were noted including sales tax and cannabis fees as well as the offsetting costs including increased medical and PERS. The capital projects were reviewed with Council including the Farmer's Market restroom, Fire Museum, Woods Creek and Police Department improvement projects noting the special funds and general fund allocations for these expenses. In response to a question, **Director Gorsky** reviewed the Measure I funds and Department allocations. Administrator Miller reviewed how the Measure I funds have been and are being used and summarized the operational and special fund sections of the budget and responded to Council questions. The Council did request Staff to include funding for recording and broadcasting the Planning Commission meetings. **Mayor Garaventa** recused himself from this portion of the budget discussion. **Jerry Day** provided information on the services Access Tuolumne would provide. There was no further public comment. Staff indicated they would proceed with the direction from the Council.

### 4. Consideration to approve Resolution No. 06-03-2019-B regarding the CDF Assistance by Hire Agreement

**Chief New** reviewed the need for the agreement and the benefits for the City. There was no public comment.

Motion by Councilmember Williams second by Councilmember Plummer, and unanimously carried on a vote of 5-0, to authorize the execution of the agreement as presented.

#### MONTHLY REPORTS

None

#### VISION SONORA COMMITTEE REPORT

None

#### COMMUNICATIONS

None

**COUNCILMEMBER/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**Chief New** reminded the Council about the Torch Run. **Councilmember Williams** reported that through a Facebook posting \$5,000 had been raised for the Linoberg project bring the total to approximately \$10,500. **Councilmember Such** reported attending a Water Policy meeting. **Councilmember Hawkins** had no report. **Councilmember Plummer** reported attending a merchants meeting and their plan to clean downtown sidewalks. **Mayor Garaventa** reported attending the Chamber Mixer.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

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Colette Such, City Clerk Pro-Tem

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Date

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