

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC SAFETY, FINANCE AND STRATEGIC SUPPORT COMMITTEE
AND MEETING OF THE WHOLE**

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2021

Consistent with the California Governor's Executive Order No. N-29-20, Resolution No. 79450 from the City of San José and the Santa Clara County Health Officer's March 16, 2020 Shelter in Place Order, the City Council meeting was not physically open to the public. Public comments were accepted via eComment, email, by phone/Webinar or online.

The Committee meeting was teleconferenced from remote locations and convened at 1:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Raul Peralez, Chair; Councilmember Sergio Jimenez, Vice Chair; Vice Mayor Chappie Jones (2:10 p.m.); Councilmember Sylvia Arenas, Members.

ABSENT: Mahan. (Excused)

STAFF: Assistant City Manager Jennifer Maguire; Senior Deputy City Attorney Rosa Tsongtaatarii; Paul Pereira, Mayor's Office; City Clerk Toni Taber, and Deputy City Clerk Ruth Krantz.

(b) Review of Work Plan

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Sergio Jimenez, seconded by Councilmember Raul Peralez and carried unanimously, the Work Plan was accepted. (3-0-2. Absent: Jones, Mahan.)

(c) Consent Calendar

1. Third Quarter Financial Reports for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. (Finance)

Public Comments: Blair Beekman addressed his interpretation of budget issues and his wish to sharpen his understanding of this topic.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Sylvia Arenas, seconded by Councilmember Sergio Jimenez and carried unanimously, the Third Quarter (period ended March 31, 2021) Financial Reports for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 for the following programs: (a) Debt Management (b) Investment Management (c) Revenue Management was accepted. The Third Quarter Financial Reports for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 was referred to the June 8, 2021, City Council Meeting for full adoption. (3-0-2. Absent: Jones, Mahan.)

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

1. **Police Reforms Work Plan: Reimagining Community Safety Status Report.** (City Manager)

Deputy City Manager, Angel Rios, Jr. provided presentation.

Public Comments: Twelve callers spoke regarding the Reimagining Community Safety Advisory Group, including Poncho Guevara, Derrick, William Armaline, Jay Guzman, Sandra Asher, Jaala Robinson, Tiffany Maciel, Sparky Harlan, Reverend Ray Montgomery, Azita Shakid and Marco Antonio expressed concerns, which in some cases have led to resignations from the group. They spoke on police accountability, development of the coalitions' proposals, value of a hybrid process, police response, vacancies in SJPd, the need for more community service officers and reallocation of funds. Proposals were made for a community-led process and demands made by members of their coalition and support of an independent blue ribbon (advisory) commission. A lack of focus was highlighted with the need to break down into steering committees and invest in reimagining public safety. Connecting to people closest to the pain was advised. Scott Largent spoke on police reforms and opined they are 'healing illusions' and criticized process for property releases; Blair Beekman spoke to importance of community; Caller #1: criticized the SJPd, and Robert Aguirre urged representation of the unhoused population.

Vice Mayor Chappie Jones suggested separating the two issues, reimagining community safety and police reform, defining what police reform process looks like (budget, potential roadblocks) and reimagining public safety, including the budget associated with both.

Deputy City Manager, Angel Rios, Jr., Police Chief Anthony Mata and Assistant City Manager Jennifer Maguire responded to questions. Councilmember Sylvia Arenas spoke in favor of integrating all processes and conversations. Councilmember Raul Peralez spoke to keeping the process open till more feedback is available.

Deputy City Manager, Angel Rios, Jr. asked to better define the focus of this work, add more clarification with the four goals as presented for reimagining the Community Safety Advisory Group: (1) Create a shared vision of community safety; (2) Engaging community stakeholders in a dialogue and community process that evaluates and recommends new ways in which the police department and non-law enforcement sectors intervene with social issues and reduce social conflicts that are non-criminal in nature; (3) Carrying out an effective and inclusive community engagement process that is transparent, yields high participation from all sides of the issues, and builds strong sustainable relationships and partnerships between community and police; and (4) Generate recommendations that enable the vision of community safety. Allowing conversation and direction at the June 8 session of Council was noted.

Assistant City Manager Jennifer Maguire additionally noted that budget monies have been already approved for the police reform efforts.

Councilmember Raul Peralez, Councilmember Sergio Jimenez and Councilmember Sylvia Arenas spoke to key decision points, including having our police force as part of the process.

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1. (Cont'd.)

Motion: Vice Mayor Chappie Jones moved to direct staff to come back with different options, give an assessment of what that looks like, and if blue ribbon, steering committee or autonomous and what are ramifications of each strategy. Councilmember Sergio Jimenez seconded the motion.

Councilmember Sylvia Arenas asked to include having stakeholders integrate their concerns/experiences. The amendment to the motion was accepted.

Action: On a call for the question, the motion carried unanimously, the status report on the Police Reforms Work Plan: Reimagining Community Safety work, was accepted with direction to staff to provide options, whether blue ribbon committee, steering committee or autonomous with ramifications of each strategy and give stakeholders an opportunity to integrate their concerns/experiences, with this item cross-referenced to the June 8, 2021 City Council meeting. (4-0-1. Absent: Mahan.)

2. City of San José Disaster Resiliency Annual Report. (City Manager - Emergency Management)

Director of the Office of Emergency Management, Ray Riordan provided a presentation and responded to questions from the Committee.

Public Comments: Caller #1 offered criticism of current state of City. Blair Beekman urged need for disaster preparation.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Sergio Jimenez, seconded by Councilmember Sylvia Arenas and carried unanimously, the annual report on the City of San José's community resiliency in responding to disasters. was accepted. (4-0-1. Absent: Mahan.)

OPEN FORUM

1. Scott Largent spoke to specific acts of police brutality.
2. Blair Beekman addressed community energy reports and preparation for natural disasters.
3. Caller #1: addressed police shortcomings.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Sergio Jimenez adjourned the meeting at 4:28 p.m.

Councilmember Raul Peralez, Chair
Public Safety, Finance and Strategic Support Committee