



**MINUTES OF THE
JOINT MEETING OF THE RULES AND OPEN GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE AND
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 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 Council meeting was teleconferenced from remote locations and convened at 2:01 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers - Jones, Peralez, Arenas, Cohen, Davis.

Absent: Councilmembers - All Present.

Staff: City Manager, David Sykes; Office of the City Manager, Chief of Staff, Lee Wilcox; City Attorney, Nora Frimann; City Clerk, Toni Taber; City Manager’s Office, Gloria Schmanek; Mayor’s Office, Henry Smith; and City Clerk’s Office, Yasmin Garcia.

A. City Council (City Clerk)

1. Review February 2, 2021 Final Agenda

Public Comment: (1) Blair Beekman addressed the VTA advertising promoted inside their vehicles and light rails and Covid-19 death rates. (2) Martha O’Connell, from Golden State Manufactured Homeowners League, spoke on Mobile Homeowners and the rent increase freeze.

Action: Upon motion by Sylvia Arenas, seconded by Councilmember Raul Peralez and carried unanimously, the Committee accepted the February 2, 2021 Agenda, as amended, including adds, and with Sunshine Waivers as required, with Item 2.10 to be pulled and moved to Section 5, and with Item 3.3 not to be heard before 4 p.m. (5-0.)

2. Review February 9, 2021 Draft Agenda

Public Comment: (1) Blair Beekman addressed Santa Clara County eviction rates and rent forgiveness. (2) Paul Soto addressed the need for city officials to protect their citizens.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember David Cohen, seconded by Councilmember Dev Davis and carried unanimously, the Committee accepted the February 9, 2021 Draft Agenda, as amended, including adds, and with Sunshine Waivers as required, with Item 10.4 deferred to February 23, 2021. (5-0.)

B. Review of Upcoming Special Meeting Agenda(s)

None provided.

C. Legislative Update

- 1. State**
- 2. Federal**

There were none presented.

D. Meeting Schedules

None provided.

E. The Public Record

None provided.

F. Boards, Commissions and Committees

None provided.

G. Rules Committee Reviews, Recommendations and Approvals

1. Consent Calendar

- a. Approval of Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month Sponsored by Council District 8 as a City Council Sponsored Special Event to Expend City Funds and Accept Donations of Materials and Services for the Event. (Arenas)**

Public Comment: Blair Beekman addressed the Human Services Commission's need to remain active on issues such as domestic violence and women's rights issues.

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G1 (Cont'd.)

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Dev Davis, seconded by Councilmember Sylvia Arenas and carried unanimously, the City Council Sponsored Special Event was approved and placed the item on the February 9, 2021 Council Agenda for action. (5-0.)

2. Urban Greening Implementation Plan. (Davis)

Public Comment: (1) Blair Beekman; Nakita, from Walk San José- California Walks, and Linda, a volunteer with California Native Plant Society (Santa Clara Chapter), urged to support Davis's memorandum and were in favor of the item. (2) Paul Soto spoke to redlining in San José. (3) Joshua, representing Save the Bay, addressed climate risks, collaborations among different departments, and supported the memorandum. (4) Lina, from Santa Clara Open Space Authority, addressed the need for protecting Green Spaces such as Coyote Valley and urged prioritizing the item. (5) Dave suggested adding an educational component to the item and urged to move it forward to the full council. (6) A speaker informed the important role birds have in nature and urged to move the item forward. (7) Rhonda, representing Our City Forest, suggested having additional sources for equity barriers regarding forestry for trees and plants.

Director, Department of Public Works, Matt Cano, addressed Councilmember Davis's funding concerns for items 1-3 on the memorandum and the early consideration form.

Director, Department of Transportation, John Ristow, addressed funding resources.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Dev Davis, seconded by Councilmember David Cohen and carried unanimously, the Committee approved the Urban Greening Implementation Plan along with Councilmember Dev Davis's Memorandum dated January 20, 2021, with items 1-3 in (yellow-light priority setting) and items 4-6 in (green-light setting). (5-0.)

3. Hazard Pay for Retail Food Workers. (Jimenez)

Public Comment: (1) Paul Soto and Blair Beekman thanked Councilmember Jimenez for addressing this item and offered support to his memorandum. (2) Eric spoke to his struggle working at a grocery store during COVID-19, seeing his co-workers from work being affected, and thanked Councilmember Jimenez for his memorandum. (3) John Gomez urged to pass the ordinance and shared the challenges he's faced working at Safeway during the pandemic.

Vice Mayor Chappie Jones requested clarification regarding the urgency ordinance timeline. City Attorney, Nora Frimann offered clarification and stated more time would be needed to compile a completed draft of the urgency ordinance.

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G3 (Cont'd.)

Councilmember Dev Davis addressed her concerns regarding the item.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Raul Peralez, seconded by Councilmember Sylvia Arenas and carried unanimously, the Committee approved the item and placed it on the February 2, 2021 Council Agenda, with the City Attorney to offer further direction and discussion regarding the urgency ordinance. (4-1. Noes: Davis.)

4. GIS Analysis for Emergency Housing on Caltrans Land. (Mayor and Mahan)

Public Comment: (1) Blair Beekman spoke on the eviction moratorium issues. (2) Paul Soto addressed the need for emergency housing.

Director, Department of Public Works, Matt Cano, indicated the citywide GIS Analysis could be completed before the Spring of 2021 and would be submitted as an information memorandum.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Raul Peralez, seconded by Councilmember Dev Davis and carried unanimously, the Committee approved the citywide GIS Analysis in (greenlight setting) and will present the findings of the analysis to the City Council no later than Spring 2021 and seek further Council direction at that time. (5-0.)

H. Review of additions to Council Committee Agendas/Workplans

1. Community and Economic Development Committee

2. Update to the January - June 2021 Neighborhood Services and Education Committee Workplan. (City Manager)

Public Comment: Blair Beekman addressed tenant rent issues during the pandemic and the capitalist system needing to be changed and improved.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Sylvia Arenas, seconded by Councilmember Dev Davis and carried unanimously, the Committee approved the January- June 2021 Update to drop the Annual Action Plan Funding Priorities Report from the scheduled February 11, 2021 meeting. (5-0.)

3. Transportation and Environment Committee Work Plan. (Mayor and Davis)

4. Update to the Public Safety, Finance and Strategic Support Committee Work Plan. (Fire)

5. Joint Meeting of the Rules and Open Government Committee and Committee of the Whole

6. Smart Cities and Service Improvement Committee

I. Open Government

None provided.

J. Open Forum

Blair Beekman stated the importance of the Martin Luther King City Hall Memorial lighting addressing non-violence and peace.

K. Adjournment

Vice Mayor Chappie Jones adjourned the Committee meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Approved via Email

Vice Mayor Chappie Jones, Chair
Rules and Open Government Committee

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